Machinists reject Boeing proposal

67 percent say ‘no’ to deal to guarantee 777X while changing pay and benefits

Machinists voted by a 2-to-1 margin on Nov. 13 to reject a Boeing Co. proposal that would have guaranteed that the 777X would be built in Puget Sound.

Members of District 751 in Puget Sound and IAM District W-24 in Portland who work for Boeing voted 67 percent to reject the proposed eight-year extension to the current contract.

The vote affected some 33,000 Machinists who work for Boeing across Washington and Oregon.

The vote showed that one of the Machinists Union’s greatest strengths – the fact that the members always have the final say – is fully intact, said District 751 President Tom Wrobiewski.

“The democratic process worked and our members made the decision not to accept the company’s proposal,” he said following the vote.

The Boeing proposal would have guaranteed that the company would do final assembly of its new 777X in a new million-square-foot manufacturing building, while also fabricating the new plane’s composite wings in a second new building here in Puget Sound.

In exchange, Boeing sought to extend the current union contract until 2024, while also calling for major changes in pay scales, health care and retirement benefits for future hires.

With the vote to reject, the current contract with Boeing remains in effect until September 2016.

Machinists “preserved something sacred” by rejecting the Boeing offer, Wrobiewski said, and that’s pensions.

“We’ve held on to our pensions and that’s big,” he said. “At a time when financial planners are talking about a retirement crisis in America, we have preserved a tool that will help our members retire with more comfort and dignity.”

The day after the union vote, Boeing sent teams of executives to meet with other states that potentially could host 777X final assembly. At the Dubai Air Show, a few days later, Boeing formally launched the program with orders for 259 777Xs worth $101 billion at list prices – a record launch order for the company.

Boeing still will consider Washington as a potential site as it weighs its other options, executives said at Dubai.

If Boeing does keep the 777X in Washington, it would ensure that it and the state’s other aerospace companies would benefit from an $8.7 billion tax break that the Washington Legislature approved during a special session in November. The state also agreed to spend another $8 million to increase aerospace workforce training programs, if Boeing committed to doing the work here.

District 751 had sent a 10-member delegation to Olympia to lobby in support of that legislation.

Wrobiewski said he and other Machinists Union leaders will continue to make the case that Boeing’s best option is to build the 777X here.

“We represent the best aerospace workforce in the world,” he said. “Boeing should not discard our skills when looking to place the 777X.”

Union wins vacation fight at JBLM

Arbitrator orders URS Corp. to compensate ex-workers

Some 350 current and former Machinists Union members who worked for defense contractor URS Corp. are getting credited and paid for long-overdue vacation time, after District 751 fought and won an arbitration case on their behalf.

The Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service in October ruled in favor of the union, saying that the company had violated the terms of its collective bargaining agreement with the workers.

District 751 had taken the case to the federal arbitrators in August.

The issue involves Machinists Union members at Joint Base Lewis-McChord who work on U.S. Army helicopters and do site maintenance. The workers joined District 751 in 2011, when they were employed by URS.

One of the top priorities for the workers in their first round of contract talks was changing the procedure for how vacation time was accrued. URS had moved to a system whereby vacation time was paid

Volunteers check identification and hand out eligibility cards at the Everett Union Hall to members who work at Boeing on Nov. 13.

Volunteers count the ballots after Machinists working at AIM Aerospace in Sumner voted on a strike sanction measure.

Strong Solidarity

Solidarity with grocery workers defeats takeover proposals and delivers big win

Choosing Your Plan at Boeing

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Aerospace in Sumner voted on a strike sanction authorization with a 90 percent yes vote.

This strong show of solidarity strengthens the union’s position at the bargaining table, said Business Rep Brett Coty, who is leading the Machinists Union negotiating team.

“This sends a clear message that our members at AIM are ready to do what it takes to get a good contract,” he said. A strike sanction vote does not mean a strike is imminent. However, it does show the union’s membership is solidly behind the bargaining team and willing to strike to negotiate a fair contract.

The vote was held Nov. 13.

The union and company have been negotiating since September on a first union contract for the workers at AIM’s plant in Sumner. The workers there voted in July to join District 751 and the Machinists Union.

Coty said they’ve made good progress in negotiating benefits and working conditions, but the two sides remain far apart on wages.

“We’re going to keep working at it,” he said. “Our members at AIM do high-quality work that’s vital to the success of not only their own company, but of Boeing.”

Sumner Machinists approve strike sanction

Members who work at AIM Aerospace in Sumner approved a strike sanction authorization with a 90 percent yes vote.

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NAS Whidbey workers vote to join IAM 751

Military aircraft refueling specialists who work at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station have voted to join District 751. Employees of Doss Aviation at NAS Whidbey voted by a 2-to-1 margin on Nov. 19. The National Labor Relations Board was expected to certify the election, as the Aero Mechanic went to press.

The vote affects roughly two dozen Doss workers at NAS Whidbey. District 751 has represented Doss Aviation employees who work at Joint Base Lewis-McChord since 2009. In their current contract, ratified in 2011, they won annual pay increases, increased company contributions into an IAM pension fund, and a number of other improvements – including getting the Friday after Thanksgiving back as a holiday.

“The Doss workers at Whidbey have decided to join IAM 751. We may disagree passionately about what we think are the best ways to achieve our goals – but none of us ever need doubt our shared commitment to justice on the job and service to our communities.

This shared commitment that binds us together must be stronger than any lingering resentment that may drive us apart. That’s why I’m hungrily asking you to join me in asking forgiveness of anyone you may have offended, and granting forgiveness to anyone who asks it of you.

We have a very proud 78-year tradition at District 751. We are the best aerospace workers in the world, and some of the best trade unionists in America. We can build on that foundation to create a future that benefits ourselves, our industries, our communities and our future, but to succeed in this quest, we must come back together as one.

Union wins fight over vacations at JBLM

Continued from Page 1

out yearly on a person’s anniversary date; now that URS is gone, our union is able to negotiate a new contract.

Workers at Doss Aviation at Whidbey Island Naval Air Station voted to join IAM District 751 on Nov. 19. The workers serve as aircraft refueling specialists and maintenance technicians, as well as dispatchers. District 751 has represented Doss Aviation employees working at JBLM since 2009.

Once the contract went to DS2, URS managers quit making vacation “dumps” altogether. Instead of paying the workers for the vacation time they’d earned in 2012, URS tried to pocket the cash that it had already received from the government to cover Machinists Union members’ vacation time.

The federal arbitrator ruled that the language in the union contract was “clear and unambiguous” and ordered URS to compensate its former employees for the vacation time they’d earned while working for the company.

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Legislature’s 777X package the result of years of work

By LARRY BROWN
District 751 Legislative Director

On Nov. 7, Gov. Jay Inslee hastily called for a special session for the 2013 Washington State Legislature. The objective for this session was to pass sweeping bills designed to convince Boeing that Washington State is the right place to produce the 777X and the new carbon fiber wing.

While the Governor may have rushed into this special session, your union -- along with many others in our state -- has been focused on this objective for the last several years.

In 2003, with the backing of the Machinists Union, the Legislature passed a $3.2 billion preferential tax incentive package, which at the time was the largest state tax incentive package of its kind in the nation. Those tax incentives were due to expire in 2023.

Additionally, infrastructure investments were made by the state including creating a pier for Boeing near the Everett facility. A training facility was built in Everett and training programs such as the Washington Aerospace Training and Research Center were built. More training programs were created, modernized and boosted across the Community and Technical College system. At the urging of the Machinists, our state created the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee, which now has hundreds of students working at aerospace employers across the state.

Since 2009 the Machinists have held a position on the board of directors for the Washington Aerospace Partnership or WAP.

WAP is co-chaired by business, labor and government and has been dedicated to enacting public policy recommendations that would help grow aerospace jobs in our state.

In 2016, with the financial backing of both the Machinists and SPEEA, WAP commissioned a study on aerospace competitiveness designed by Accenture Consulting. That study identified numerous suggestions for improving our state’s competitiveness and to help us retain and attract aerospace jobs.

For most of these suggestions the state has acted. We have made greater investments in aerospace specific workforce training programs. (As a matter of fact, Washington has five times more people currently in the aerospace training pipeline than South Carolina has aerospace workers).

Those training programs have been more closely aligned to industry needs. Snohomish County is now the site of a new WSU engineering center.

Regulatory issues have been addressed including savings in Workers Comp costs.

In 2011, the Machinists secured the building of the 737 MAX airplane program by agreeing to a historic contract extension. But that probably would not have been possible without our state pulling together to create the most attractive place in the world to manufacture these great planes.

After landing the 737 MAX the Machinists Union, WAP and our state have not sat on our laurels. We have continued to generate ideas and make changes to keep our state competitive.

In 2013, Inslee designated the 777X effort as a “Project of Statewide Significance,” freeing state agencies from bureaucratic red tape.

WAP commissioned a follow-on aerospace competitiveness study, which was also paid for in part by the Machinists and SPEEA. This study was conducted by Revel Consulting in preparation for our state competing for the 777X. That study made further recommendations for the Legislature to act upon.

So on Nov. 9 the Legislature, acting on the Governor’s request, approved two key pieces of legislation that had been recommended by the Revel study.

In exchange for the Boeing Co. agreeing to put 777X final assembly and wing assembly here in Washington, the state agreed to:

- Extend preferential aerospace tax incentives to 2040 worth $8.7 billion
- Expand a sales-and-use tax exemption for construction of buildings used to manufacture airplanes
- Invest $8 million for 1,000 additional high demand aerospace slots in our community and technical system
- Streamline permitting and siting of aircraft manufacturing facilities

During the special session there was also a desire by some to pass the long-delayed transportation packaging, which is also important to Boeing. However, there was not enough agreement on transportation to make passage possible during the very short special session.

It is expected that transportation will be a topic of the next regular session of the Legislature in January 2014.

Right to Work facts

“Right to Work” States Spend Less on Education

Right-to-Work states spend $2,671 less per pupil on elementary and secondary education than free-bargaining states.

“Right to Work” States Have Higher Workplace Fatality Rates

According to data from the Bureau of Labor Statistics, the rate of workplace deaths is 0.9 percent higher in states with Right-to-Work laws.

“Right to Work” Laws Don’t Improve Living Standards – Unions Improve Living Standards

Overall, union members earn 28 percent ($198) more per week than nonunion workers.

78 percent of private sector union workers have access to medical insurance through their jobs, compared with 51 percent of nonunion workers. And 77 percent of private sector union workers are protected by a guaranteed defined retirement plan through their jobs, compared with just 20 percent of nonunion workers.

-- Minnesota AFL-CIO

Spokane Legislator continues push for Right to Worse

Sen. Michael Baumgartner

you lower the pay of each of them by $7,000 a year, it would drop the income of state workers by $26.6 billion a year.

That’s not some fancy “economic multiplier.” That’s just $26.6 billion taken directly out of the wallets of working people statewide.

That kind of loss would be similar in scale to the Great Recession of 2008. It would lead to less spending at Main Street business – and less tax revenue for local and state governments, who would be less able to provide even basic services.

Right to Worse laws wouldn’t help keep aerospace jobs in Washington.

Kansans, for example, have been a Right to Work state for more than 50 years. It also has been home to a strong aerospace industry for all this time.

But in recent years, Boeing has pulled more than 15,000 jobs out of Kansas, while other companies --- like Hawker Beechcraft --- also have moved jobs out of state, despite of state subsidies designed to keep them there.

Clearly, Right to Worse laws haven’t helped Kansas.

Despite their name, state “right to work” laws don’t grant workers any rights they don’t already have under federal labor law. All they do is force unions to provide services to people who aren’t dues-paying members.

In fact, the Idaho State Supreme Court once ruled that the phrase “right to work” was so misleading that it banned its use on a statewide ballot measure.


Baumgartner will be challenged in the 2014 elections by Democrat Rich Cowan, a Spokane businessman who says Baumgartner is too extreme for the voters in his district.

Baumgartner represents Washington’s 45th Legislative District, which includes the northern and southern parts of the city of Spokane, along with the suburbs of Airway Heights, Cheney and Medical Lake.
District 751 members working at Boeing will be asked to select their health and dental insurance coverage for 2014 during the annual enrollment period, which runs Nov. 8 through Dec. 3.

This is the only time you can make routine changes to your health care. If you select a new medical or dental plan, changes take effect Jan. 1.

IAM members at Boeing and Puget Sound can choose from the following medical plans:
- Selections Coordinated Care Plan (CCP)
  - Group Health Cooperative HMO
  - Traditional Medical Plan (TMP)

If you don’t take action during open enrollment, your current benefit choices will continue automatically and the new monthly contributions will apply.

2014 contribution rates for Puget Sound are noted in the table below:

<table>
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<th>Coverage Level</th>
<th>TMP</th>
<th>CCP</th>
<th>Group Health</th>
<th>Kaiser Permanente HMO</th>
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<td>$148.50</td>
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</tr>
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*Amounts reflect completion of health assessment questionnaire.

Our contract with Boeing spells out your health care benefits, including deductibles, office co-pays and prescription coverage. You should be aware of several items that may change:

- Complete the Health Assessment Questionnaire to avoid additional paycheck contributions in 2014 (NOTE: you must complete assessment each year to avoid additional charges in the following year). Taking the questionnaire is not mandatory, but it is a choice members and/or their covered spouse or domestic partner need to make to avoid additional monthly payroll contributions. Members can take the IAM Health Assessment Questionnaire until Dec. 20 by logging into TotalAccess and clicking “My Well Being” (progress must visit www.webmdhealth.com/boeing). Please note that when taking the Health Assessment Questionnaire, you can always select “Don’t Know” if you prefer not to answer a question, or enter “0” if you choose on applicable questions. There are also a number of questions that are optional and marked as such.
- Express Scripts (Medco) has a change for those on Express Scripts/Medco pharmacy network.
- If you make a mistake on your choice and need to make a correction, you’ll have until Dec. 20 to report it by calling TotalAccess at 866-473-2016.
- Remember: You must have your Boeing TotalAccess password to enroll online, at home or by phone. If you’ve misplaced it, log on to Boeing TotalAccess, click My Profile, click TotalAccess Password.
- In your union recommendation you study the plans carefully before selecting coverage, review how different plans affect your out-of-pocket costs and check lists of network providers to see which networks your doctor is in.

Benefits Resources” through Boeing TotalAccess to help you in reviewing your plan choices, including plan comparisons and provider lists.

Again, no action is required unless you want to change coverage plans.

However, even if you are not planning to make a change to your benefits, you can take this opportunity to:
- Review your Health Care Cost Summary (review of out-of-pocket costs)
- Estimate your medical costs for next year
- Compare plan details
- Research hospitals and providers; and
- Decide whether to complete the online Health Assessment Questionnaire to avoid additional paycheck contributions.

If that's the case, you will work with the company to review your benefits and minimum health insurance coverage. If you are in a group plan, the company may review your benefits and determine whether you need to make any changes.

Members at Boeing have options for flu shots, including retail pharmacies

District 751 members who work at Boeing have several options to get flu shots for themselves and members of their families.

Flu shots are available at work at most Boeing locations in the U.S. throughout early work at most Boeing locations themselves and members of their families who are covered on their health insurance plans can also get flu shots from their regular doctor or health care provider. Union members and dependents who are enrolled in Boeing’s Traditional Medical Plan or Selections – which are the Boeing pharmacy plans administered by Medco (now Express Scripts) – can get coverage up to $25 for flu shots at retail clinics or local pharmacies within the Express Scripts/Medco pharmacy network.

Employees and dependents with other pharmacy benefit coverage may also be able to get coverage for flu shots at retail locations – just check with your medical insurance carrier for a list of covered locations.

Whatever location you choose to get a flu shot, you should be prepared to present either your Express Scripts/Medco prescription drug ID card or your medical plan ID card. If you’re one of those who covered on your health insurance – pays for a flu shot out of pocket, you can submit a claim for reimbursement.
CHOOSING YOUR COVERAGE AT BOEING

Group Health puts a priority on convenience and ease of use

When it comes to your health care, you can never have too much of a good thing. Check out the positive changes, advantages, and conveniences you get as a Group Health member.

Call it easy to get to
With our 25 Group Health Medical Center locations statewide, there’s probably one close to you. Like our new Puyallup medical center. It’s a model for the future, created with the help of our patients. We asked them what they wanted to make care more convenient and more personalized. The entire facility was designed around their needs. And we hope to be making similar changes throughout all our locations.

Want more choice? Select from any of our 9,000 community providers.*

*And there’s more big news. We’re excited to welcome The Everett Clinic into our provider network, effective Jan. 1, 2014. That means 16 more convenient locations for you to access care at any of their facilities as easily as any Group Health clinic.

Expert care from Top Docs
Group Health Physicians recently received Top Doc honors in 43 specialties.** What makes this recognition so significant is that it came from specialists all around the region. Other doctors who said that these are the doctors they would use to care for their own family. It’s a validation of the expert care Group Health patients receive everyday—for even the most serious medical conditions.

We simplified how you pay
Group Health care means predictable costs. There’s no pile of bills to tackle. Members pay one low co-pay for each office visit. Preventive care is covered in full. There’s no figuring out how much of your deductible you paid before your health plan fully kicks in because there is no deductible.

You’re busy and we know it
You want to save time? No one does it better than Group Health Medical Centers. Office visits, lab, and pharmacy are all under one roof. You shouldn’t have to wait longer than 15 minutes to see your doctor, but you’ll usually be seen a lot sooner. If you need to see a specialist, there’s a good chance he or she is right in your clinic. And with our coordinated care, your prescription could be ready before you even reach the on-site pharmacy.

Online convenience that makes a world of difference
Imagine emailing your doctor as easily as you do a friend. You can start as a Group Health Medical Center patient. Want to see your online medical record or your test results? You can do it, anytime, day or night. Need a prescription refillerd? Do it online and get free delivery right to your home. Make an appointment, check your after-visit summaries, or your immunizations. Even your child’s, up to age 12.

Our free mobile app lets you do all that, plus look up pharmacy wait times in our clinics, get clinic directions, and find out what ails you. All in the palm of your hand.

We figure it this way: If your health plan is easier to use, chances are you’re more likely to use it. And the more you use your health plan, the healthier you’ll be. And that’s the shared goal we all have at Group Health: better health for everyone.

To see just how Group Health can help you live a better life, visit ghc.org/onegoal.

*Source: OIC Network Provider Form A **ghc.org/topics. Coverage provided by Group Health Cooperative

Slight health care reform changes ahead in 2014 for BCBSIL administered medical plans

At BlueShield of Illinois (BCBSIL) we strive to provide you with the information you need to make the best health decisions for yourself and your family. As you may know, we are the administrator of the Selections and Traditional Medical Plans for IAM members at the Boeing Co. With open enrollment upon us we wanted to advise you of upcoming plan changes which may affect you. In addition, we want to inform you of the BCBSIL online and telephonic resources available to you at no cost to help better manage your benefits and get the most out of your plan.

There will be a few changes for 2014 coming to the Selections and Traditional Medical Plans as a result of Health Care Reform. For both plans, there will no longer be dollar limitations for certain benefit categories in accordance with the Affordable Care Act. Additionally, the Selections Plan will include an out-of-pocket maximum of $6,350 for individuals and $12,700 for families for In Network services. (NOTE: This plan currently has no limit on the amount you pay for covered network expenses and coverage is at 100 percent. However, Health care reform requires the introduction of this limit—intended to provide you new protection against catastrophic expenses.)

The Primary Nurse Program provides members access to a registered nurse who can assist with managing health care needs. You can call your primary nurse when you want to ask questions or just need some information about a medication your doctor prescribed, or regarding a newly diagnosed medical condition for you or someone in your family. Your primary nurse will serve as a member of your healthcare team and your single point of contact at BCBSIL to help you navigate through the complex world of healthcare.

Working with a primary nurse is confidential and included in your medical benefits package. There is no extra cost to you for this program.

BCBSIL continues to upgrade the web and mobile services to empower Boeing members to make educated decisions on their health care. Through Blue Access for Members (BAM), the secure portion of the www.bcbsil.com/boeing website, a member can easily check the status of a claim, chat live with customer service, or estimate the cost of a procedure ahead of time.

You can also access the Provider Finder tool using any smart phone, with a Boeing specific Blackberry application recently available including turn-by-turn directions.

If you have any questions on the web or mobile tools, call Boeing Member Services at 888-802-8776 to speak to a Health Advocate.

As always, a Health Advocate is available to talk with at 888-802-8776 from the hours of 5 a.m. to 5 p.m. Pacific Time.

Imagine emailing your doctor as easily as a friend or being able to see your online medical record or test results day or night. You can as a Group Health Medical Center patient.

Taking health assessment will avoid added monthly costs
IAM members (and their covered spouses/partners) working at Boeing who do not complete the health assessment questionnaire by the end of open enrollment on Dec. 3 will have until Dec. 20 to avoid higher monthly paycheck contributions for health care in 2014.

Any members who do not complete the health assessment by Dec. 20 will face an additional $20-a-month paycheck deduction for health care in 2014. If a spouse or partner fails to complete the assessment by Dec. 20, there will be an additional $20 a month.

The questionnaires are available online at TotalAccess. Members can fill them out at work by logging on to the TotalAccess site and clicking the “My Well Being” tab. To answer the questionnaire at home, members can log on to TotalAccess by going to www.boeing.com/express, then entering their BEMS ID number and TotalAccess password, then clicking “My Well Being.”

*Source: OIC Network Provider Form A
**ghc.org/topics. Coverage provided by Group Health Cooperative

Union members who’d rather not answer the questionnaire online have the option of calling TotalAccess at (866) 473-8776 to request a paper form be mailed to them or have a TotalAccess representative ask them the questions by phone.

Keep in mind that on the Health Assessment Questionnaire, you can always select “Don’t Know” if you prefer not to answer a question. Also health screenings are strictly voluntary. Your decision and/or your covered spouse or domestic partner’s decision to participate in the Health Assessment Questionnaire only will affect your 2014 contributions for medical coverage.
751 members turned out in force for this year’s Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, Oct. 6. Above just a few who gathered for the group photo prior to the walk. Many more took part in the walk for this worthwhile charity.

751 makes strides for breast cancer

Team 751 had a great turnout at the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk on Sunday, Oct. 6. Members not only took part in the walk, but helped with setup and served as route marshals. The 751 Women’s Committee, who organized Team 751, noted this is more than just a walk. It was about celebrating the progress we’re making together to fight this disease, to provide comfort and hope to those who need it, and to save lives from breast cancer.

For many on Team 751, who have survived cancer, the walk is very personal and has become an annual event.

Machinists purchase, prepare and serve Mission dinner

Local 751-C stepped up and purchased food, prepared and served several hundred meals to ensure those in need get a hot Sunday dinner in October at the Rescue Mission in Tacoma.

Machinists cooked a full turkey dinner, complete with salad, cranberries, mashed potatoes, stuffing, vegetables, and dessert. For years, District 751 MVPs have helped prepare and serve breakfast on weekends at the Tacoma mission. Over the past couple years, however, the MVP committee has also made dinner at the mission a few times a year, often digging into their own pockets to pay for the food they cook and serve. “We want to make sure these folks get a hot meal at night too,” said Rob Curran, an MVP committee who is one of the leaders of the Tacoma mission volunteer efforts.

Sweet donation for local kids

Among the 751 volunteers preparing and serving dinner at The Mission L to R: Stephanie Lloyd-Agnew, Dallas Anderson, Ron Coen, Tricia Fromong, Clark Fromong, Vennie Murphy, George Baum, Chris Louie, Anna Truong, Thong Trang, Brenda Brammer and Rob Curran.

Volunteers dig in for new Everett park

Everett Machinist volunteers helped clear a new park in the Evergreen and Madison/ViewRidge neighborhoods in early October. Volunteers spent the day digging out small holly and blackberry plants, as well as cutting out morning glories and other invasive plants. Over the past couple years, however, the MVP committee has also made dinner at the mission a few times a year, often digging into their own pockets to pay for the food they cook and serve. “We want to make sure these folks get a hot meal at night too,” said Rob Curran, an MVP committee who is one of the leaders of the Tacoma mission volunteer efforts.

L to R: Machinists Union District Lodge 751 Business Reps Chuck Craft, Tommy Wilson and Rich McCabe load the more than 400 pounds of candy collected by Machinists Union members during their Halloween candy drive. The candy was donated to the Salvation Army of White Center for its annual Halloween party.

Volunteers helped clear a new park in Everett in early October.

Brian Butler digs out invasive plants for a park in Everett.

Local Lodge presidents Wilson “Fergy” Ferguson (l) and Ron Coen (r) got into the spirit wearing pink tutus as part of a dare to raise additional funds. Local F Vice President Robley Evans and Dallas Anderson also took part.
Community Service

Volunteers construct playground for Auburn kids

On Saturday, Oct. 19, a group of Machinists Union volunteers turned out in Auburn at Brannan Park and put their skills to work for the community.

Our dedicated crew joined other volunteers and put in a full eight hours on the project. Our union volunteers included: Brenda Brammer, George Braun, Paul Burton, Tristin Burton, Sidney Chounla, Ron Coen, Rob Curran, George Eliasen, Clark Fromong, Tricia Fromong, Stephanie Lloyd-Agnew, Terri Myette and Tim Sibbett.

Volunteers built benches, assembled playground equipment and hauled and distributed bark to transform the empty lot into a beautiful playground and park for the community. Organizers were impressed with the precision and expertise of our volunteers, who made sure all parts were there before starting to assemble the structure.

The Auburn parks director noted: “Thank you Auburn volunteers! Your hard work and volunteer efforts created a beautiful and fantastic new playspace for Brannan Park. The new playground will provide hundreds of children in the Auburn community with a safe place to play.”

Volunteers needed for Hometeam Harvest

District 751 is once again preparing to do its part in the fight against hunger. MVPs are collecting donations of food and cash for KING-TV’s annual Hometeam Harvest food drive to benefit Northwest Harvest. Donations can be left at any Union Hall in Puget Sound.

In addition, as many as 150 District 751 volunteers are expected to be on hand for the Dec. 7 food drive to load semi-trailers with donations of food. Volunteers are needed to work two-hour shifts at three locations on Dec. 7: the Everett, Northgate and Tacoma malls.

To sign up, call the Seattle Union Hall at (206) 764-0335 or send an email to kaym@iam751.org.

“Hunger is no game,” said Robley Evans, the MVP chairman. “We see it all too often, through our volunteer work at homeless shelters and at the Northwest Harvest warehouse in Kent.”

According to a recent report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, 14.6 percent of Washington families — nearly 1 in 7 — struggle to put food on the table, and 6.1 percent of Washington families regularly go hungry.

Northwest Harvest supplies food banks across Washington, which support 700,000 people a month.

This will be the 11th year that District 751 volunteers will take part in KING-TV’s annual winter food drive.

“Truly, the aerospace machinists union has become as much a part of Hometeam Harvest as anyone else,” said Betsy Roberson, the community relations manager for the TV station. “You’re the ones out there directing traffic and carrying those big bags of food from trunks to trucks.”

Stocking the South Park Food Bank freezer

Hamburger and hot dogs left from membership barbecues were donated to the South Park food bank, which had been robbed of $4,000 worth of meat. L to R: Ed Lutgen, Susan Palmer, Dwyane Johnson, Ron Coen, Wilson “Fergie” Ferguson, Loren Guzzone, and Paige Collins, manager of the Regina Providence House, unload the food. The house serves residents of the South Park community.
Solidarity brings big contract win for grocery workers

Grocery store workers across Stuohomish, King, Pierce, Thurston, Mason and Kitsap counties voted by an overwhelming majority in early November to approve a new contract.

The final proposal by the big national chains dramatically changed in the final hours of negotiations and a tentative agreement was reached less than two hours before a strike would have gone into effect at 7 p.m. Oct. 21.

“Workers, shoppers and community supporters all across the region stood together against the drastic proposals by big national chains and won a contract with increased wages for all workers, protected health benefits with no increases in costs to workers’ premiums or deductibles, and secured pensions,” said Tom Geiger, spokesman for the union grocery store workers.

Three unions bargained jointly in the negotiations – UFCW Local 21, UFCW Local 367 and Teamsters Local 38. The big national chains are Safeway, Albertsons and Kroger (which operates both Fred Meyer and QFC).

“I started working in the grocery business over 40 years ago. The proposals we saw this time from the employers were some of the worst I have ever seen,” said Dave Schmitz, the president of UFCW 21. “They tried to turn us into WalMart. They did not succeed.”

District 751 members and leaders showed solidarity by sending letters to the CEOs of the grocery chains, attending rallies for the workers and showing support each time they shopped at area stores.

Despite the thin profit margin that grocery chains operate on, the unions through solidarity were able to ensure that the contract had no concessions.

Some of the significant provisions in the new agreement include:

**HEALTH CARE** – Workers retained high quality affordable healthcare with no cuts to workers’ benefits and no increases to premiums, deductibles, or out of pocket expenses. This makes the total contribution from the employers $4.86 for each hour each worker works.

**PENSION** – Grocery stores agreed to pay tens of millions to secure pension plans for meat department and grocery store workers, ensuring they will still have a pension.

**PAY** – Grocery workers get a modest wage increase for workers at the top rates of pay, and the contract also provides pay increases for workers at the lowest rates. There are also pay rate increases for the second and third years of the contract.

In addition, a bonus payment was made to all workers (25 cents for journey rates and 15 cents for apprentice rates on each of the hours they worked over the last 12 months). Just as significant as the positives achieved, was the fact that the unions defeated numerous takeaway proposals that included:

- HEALTH CARE – Defeated a proposal to cut health care coverage for all part-time workers in an industry that is increasingly part time.

- Defeated a proposal to dramatically increase what workers would have to pay for health care and also defeated cuts to the health-care benefits.

**PAY** – Grocery workers get a modest wage increase

- Defeated a proposal to flat-out eliminate health care coverage for all part-time workers in an industry that is increasingly part time.

- Defeated a proposal to cut holiday pay that would have forced workers on holidays to be away from their families and get paid less.

- Defeated a proposal to essentially freeze the pay for grocery store workers for three years.

- Defeated a proposal to cut the “dime above minimum wage” guarantee for the lowest-paid employees.

All totaled, these takeaway proposals would have been a giant money grab by the employers, taking tens of millions of dollars from Puget Sound grocery store workers. Again, thanks to solidarity of the workers, other unions and the community, there were no concessions.

Like any negotiations, the unions did not get everything they wanted. But the workers were able to beat back proposals that were strike issues. All these issues remained until the end of the contract negotiations, many until just hours before a strike.

“This campaign was not just about defeating proposals that would drive these jobs into Walmart type jobs,” said Geiger. “We are working to make things better, not just keep them from getting worse.”

**AJAC partners to launch aerospace machining shop at Enumclaw High**

Adults and teenagers alike who live in the Enumclaw area now have opportunities to train for careers in the aerospace industry, thanks to a partnership that includes the Machinists Union.

The partners – including the Aerospace Joint Apprenticeship Committee, which is strongly supported by District 751 – celebrated the launch of the new aerospace machining shop at Enumclaw High School on Sept. 24.

During the day, Enumclaw High School students will learn how to operate the basic machines used by workers in the aerospace industry. They’ll train on new machines purchased by AJAC, using federal grant money, and on others donated by local companies.

Then at night, more than two dozen aerospace apprentices working at manufacturing companies in Enumclaw and Black Diamond will train on the machines, as they prepare to move up from entry-level work to become journeymen machinists who are masters at their trade.

The combination will help meet the high demand for workers with the skills aerospace companies need, said Laura Hopkins, who is AJAC’s executive director and a member of District 751.

“It’s huge,” she said. “You say anything about having experience and employers are jumping on you. They can’t find anybody with experience.”

This is AJAC’s second such partnership. The first launched in Arlington last year. The Enumclaw partnership came together over the past 12 months. It grew out of a basic need: There are 26 apprentices working for Enumclaw-area companies through AJAC, but until now they’ve had to travel to either Renton or Tacoma to do their classroom training at night.

At the same time, the machining shops at Renton Technical College and Bates Technical College in Tacoma were stuffed to the seams with workers training for aerospace and other manufacturing jobs.

The obvious solution: Create a new training shop in Enumclaw to serve both local apprentices and high school students.

“This machine shop will enable us to grow our business,” said Harry Logan, the human resources director at Helac, an Enumclaw manufacturer that fabricates actuators used in solar power areas, heavy construction equipment and military vehicles. “It’s really important for us to train people.”

Enumclaw School Board member Corey Cassell – himself a journeyman machinist – agreed. “Manufacturing employers are desperate for the kinds of skills our students will gain through this program,” he said.

Trevor Sawyer, an Enumclaw High School grad now working as an apprentice at Hill Aerospace, said that along with the job skills he’s gained, he’s also learned that he will “always have a stable job.”

“There’s good pay,” he told the crowd at the ceremony. “We will always need parts, whether it’s for replacements or new parts.”

The training partnerships in Enumclaw and Arlington are likely to be followed by more, said Jesse Cote, the District 751 staff member who is AJAC’s chairman.

They’re essential if Washington is to maintain its global leadership in aerospace, Cote said.

“This is where the workforce is,” he said. “Wherever you go in the world, they compare themselves to Puget Sound, and there’s a reason why: We got it and they want it.”
Retired Club meeting minutes November

By RUTH RENDER
Retired Club Secretary

The meeting was called to order by President T.J. Seibert. President T.J. Seibert then led the attendees in the Lord’s Prayer followed by the flag salute and the singing of God Bless America.

Roll Call of Officers: All officers were present.

The October minutes will be read at the January meeting.

Financial Report: The financial report was not available. It will be read at the January meeting.

The regular order of business was suspended for a special Recognition of Veterans. John Guevarra requested all veterans to stand in front of the podium. Pictures were taken by Jackie Boschok and John Guevarra and the veterans were given a round of applause.

Return to regular order of business.


Roll Call of Veterans: John Guevarra and the veterans were


Health & Welfare: Helen Pompeo gave the report for October. A moment of silence was observed for the two deceased members: Everett H. Brown, David Crowder, Melva V. Dale. Sympathy cards were sent to the next of kin.

Legislative Report: Carl Schwartz stated District 751 is in the midst of deciding whether to accept a proposal from Boeing. Ron McGaha noted that we have fought 75 years to get a pension plan and we are concerned. We hope the pension plan is saved. Carl noted that retirees will be impacted to some degree if the pension plan is discontinued.

Carl also noted that we will be sending eight delegates to the Machinists National Retiree Conference in Las Vegas.

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AD RULES
Each ad must be 25 words or less. Use a separate piece of paper or ad blank for each ad as they are pre-classified physically. Ads are free only to members - active, laid-off, or retired. For best response, include phone number. Members’ “cottage industries” will be OK in ads, but no commercial ads. When writing ad, use paper ads, include information required on regular ad blank.
Deadline For Next Issue Dec. 13th

MOTHER-IN-LAW APART-
MENT for rent, prefer single per. More info 253-234-1634

TWO DISABLED, with service ani-
mals, need 2 bedroom house in county. South King County or North Pierce Coun-
ty. Our sleeping in truck. 253-854-3580

CONCRETE HOME, $55k, as is, 2 bdrms, 1 bath, living room, dining room, woodstove & elec-

PHOENIX AREA VACATION RENTAL in city of Surprise, close to lots of golfing and baseball spring training, 3 bdrms, 2 bath homes with pool. Call for rates. 425-271-8789

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7 CEMETARY PLOTS, Holy Road photos side by side, plus interment, vault & vault placement. $4.00 each plot. 426-006-0277

TWO CEMETARY PLOTS in Floral Hills Cemetery, Lynnwood, WA. $1500 each plot. Call 425-983-0065 or 480-286-1877

RECREATIONAL VEHICLES

250CC HONDA. This is a great start bike, short commute, or for a girl. Make offer, owner, owner, owner, owner, owner. Call 206-248-1278.

CONVERTED SNOWMOBILE TRAIL-
er, 80 inch cut. Sleds include Polaris and a 4 place. Excellent home-made trailer, will make offer. 206-248-1278.


2002 HONDA CIVIC EX, silver/ blak interior, very nice condition. Call for details $5,500 obo. Also have 5th wheel hitch for $300. 425-350-1944

2006 PT CRUISER TURBO, 107,500 miles, 4 door, sun roof, spoiler, automatic, 6 disk CD, air, 1 man owner/ non-smoking, color: Cool Vanilla/Grey. Remote lock/unlock, power seats/windows/mirrors. Rear seat folds down, Ext. war to 2014. $6000. 425-271-8348

2001 CHEVY SILVERADO, 124,000 miles. Needs new tires. Good condition. $4,000. 425-319-2605

Boats
1988 BAYLINER 4 cylinder Volvo Penta & trailer, new canvas top. Runs great. $1,495 obo. 2000 Olde Alfa-
ro 4 cylinder. $1,950. 206-783-1111

Cottage Industries
H2O GUTTER CONTROL, licensed & bonded, continuous aluminum gutters & downspout installation, repair & gutter cleaning. Gary the owner/operator has 37 plus years experience. License #IZGOU/24372. 253-536-7966 (office). 253-722-1149 (cell)

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size. I can help. Call or text or email to cprov@comcast.net. 425-359-0165 or vonprov@com.com.

Housing
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Circle One: ANIMALS | AUTO PARTS & ACCESSORIES | BOATS | CABINS | CARAVANS | CARAVAN PARTS & ACCESSORIES | COTTAGE INDUSTRIES | DEALERS | DOCKS | ELECTRONICS | ENTERTAINMENT | FURNITURE & APPLIANCES | HOUSING | MISCELLANEOUS | RECREATIONAL VEHICLES | SPORTING GOODS

Ad (25 word limit. Please print)

Vehicles
2003 HONDA CIVIC EX, silver/ black interior, very nice condition. Call for details $5,500 obo. Also have 5th wheel hitch for $300. 425-350-1944

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Labor History Calendar $5
You can get your labor history all year long by purchasing a 2014 Labor History Calendar for just $5. Almost every day on this coil-calender features photos of events from labor’s history.

Call 425-773-2259

Wanted
WANTED: REASONABLY PRICED ELLIPTICAL TRAINE-
er to use. Call 206-755-8575
2014 IAM Scholarship competition now open

The IAM Scholarship Competition is open each year to members of the IAM and their children throughout the United States and Canada.

Awards to members are $2,000 per academic year. They are granted for a specific period from one to four years leading to a bachelor’s degree or a two-year vocational/technical certification.

 Awards to Children of Members are:
College: $1,000 per academic year. All awards are renewable each year, until a bachelor’s degree is obtained or for a maximum of four years, whichever occurs first.

Vocational/Technical School: $2,000 per year until certification is reached for a maximum of two years, whichever occurs first.

Eligibility for Competition
Any applicant must be either:
• an IAM member, or
• the son, daughter, stepchild or legally adopted child of an IAM member.
Child of a Member Applicant:
• Must have one living parent with two years of continuous good-standing membership up to and including the closing date of Feb. 28, 2014.

• Must be planning to graduate during the winter or by the end of the spring 2014 school year (i.e., normally a high school senior);
• Must plan to take a regular college or vocational/technical program on a full-time basis, maintaining qualifying grades;
• Will be eligible if the parent died after the son or daughter entered high school, if the parent had two years of "continuous good-standing membership" at the time of death;
• "Continuous good-standing membership" is understood to be a period of membership during which the member continuously has paid monthly dues uninterrupted by withdrawal cards;
• The IAM member must maintain continuous good-standing membership throughout the life of the award.

For information on rules of eligibility or to obtain an application form, visit www.goiam.org/iamscholarship. NOTE: Completed Application Packets must be postmarked no later than Feb. 28, 2014.

Retired Club November meeting minutes

Continued from page 9
Vegas, November 19-23. He said topics of discussion will include Social Security and Medicare and strategy for the 2014 elections for congress will also be on the agenda.

Good and Welfare:
John Guevarra spoke of how proud Mark Blondin was of this union.

Terry Holt said take aways from this contract should not be allowed.

Communications:
Ruth Render said the Retiree Club received a request from the Salvation Army to help with costs for Thanksgiving dinner. The club approved a donation of $50 for the Salvation Army.

Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Old Business: none
New Business: The club welcomed special guest Suzette Rogers and her mother Dortha Rogers. President’s Report: T.J. Seibert spoke about the Machinists National Retiree Conference that he will be attending along with other Retiree Club members in November and also reminded everyone about the upcoming Christmas dinner on Monday, December 9 at the Seattle Hall.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at 11:50 a.m.
M/S/P

Retired Club October meeting minutes

Continued from page 9
of membership to the Washington State branch of the Alliance for Retired Americans. Everyone who attends our meetings is a member. John read a portion of the ARA mission statement:

The Mission: to advance public policy that protects the health and economic security of older Americans. Our Goal: to educate, energize and mobilize seniors to make a difference through activism. The Alliance for Retired Americans fights for: affordable and accessible prescription drugs, health care seniors can depend on through Medicare, Social Security system that will provide guaranteed benefits and protect families for life.

Senior citizens can and do make a difference.

T.J. said he met with Tom Lux, Sue Palmer, Jackie Boschok and Betty Ness regarding updating the By-Laws.

Robin Guevarra said she has talked to Sue Palmer about next year’s Senior Lobby Day in Olympia to request a bus to transport seniors to the event.

Mike Keller spoke about a meeting he attended at his local fire station on the west hill of Renton. They said they have to hold special levys for funding. They said 15 to 20 percent of the people they serve do not have health insurance. If they get health insurance and access to preventative care it might prevent the need for emergency care.

Betty Ness said the club has an 18-month CD for $9,101.92 with Bank of America which will come due near the end of the year. She will check with BECU to find out if she can get a better return rate with them.

Adjournment: A motion was made to adjourn at noon.
M/S/P
Unanimous ratification at Durham School Services

Machinists who maintain Spokane School District buses voted unanimously to approve a new three-year contract on Oct. 25.

The negotiating committee made gains in the areas where members had expressed concern.

Highlights of the new contract included:

• Wages: The new agreement included a 40 cent wage increase each year with the first increase being retroactive back to Oct. 1.
• Classification Reviews: New hires will be hired at 90 percent of the technician classification rate. After successful completion of the probationary period plus an additional three months of discipline free performance, the technician would move to 95 percent of the technician classification rate. After six months of discipline free performance, the technician would move to 100 percent of the technician classification rate.
• Tool Allowance: Mechanics will be provided an annual tool allowance of $100 payable upon the provision of a receipt. Tool allowances must be claimed prior to Dec. 1 of each year. Newly purchased tools must be added to the mechanic’s tool inventory.

Correction from October Aero

On the front page of the October Aero Mechanic, the story regarding the member getting his vacation somehow had the wrong name of the member. The correct name should be Juan Westwood, not Juan Williams. We apologize for any confusion this might have caused. The online version has been corrected.

Terry ‘Caveman’ Henderson goes green with innovative Auburn rain garden

District 751 member Terry “Caveman” Henderson continually looks for ways to help others. For the last few years, Caveman has been active in rototilling and planting crops in community gardens – giving the food grown to area food banks which typically do not get fresh vegetables. He has developed a real “green thumb.” This spring when he heard people talking about Earth Day and recycling events, he searched for a project. He saw an opportunity to use his green thumb to start a garden on the west side of the 17-10 Building, which could take advantage of the western exposure sun.

With permission from his manager, he used boxes from the wood shop. He then devised a container for the rain water out of a five-gallon bucket with a faucet. Using his innovative skills, he created a water collection system to use recycled rain water from the downspouts to keep the garden growing. He planted string beans, zucchini, peppers, champignon radishes, sparkle radishes and cherry tomatoes. Employees at the Auburn plant watched the garden grow throughout the summer and enjoyed many of the vegetables. Caveman also donated many of the vegetables to members of the 751 Retired Club, as well as to area food banks.

At the end of the season, Auburn site manager Mark Ross took time to visit Caveman’s garden – impressed with the fruits of his labor and congratulated his successful Earth Day project.

IAM backs stronger ‘Buy American’ requirements

In a Nov. 19 letter to all U.S. Senators, IAM International President Tom Buffenbarger urged support for an important amendment to strengthen “Buy American” requirements for U.S. Department of Defense procurement contracts.

The amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act is sponsored by Connecticut Democratic Sen. Chris Murphy and would ensure that U.S. tax dollars are used to support American employers and jobs by requiring the DoD to weigh the amount of domestic jobs that a contract would create or maintain.

“For far too long we have neglected to take into consideration the impact of defense procurement on America’s defense industrial base and, consequently, on the U.S. economy,” wrote Buffenbarger.

“While Americans understand intuitively that our tax dollars should be used to support U.S. firms and employ Americans, particularly when it comes to our national defense, we have not tracked the impact of over $700 billion spent by the Department of Defense on manufactured goods over the last five years,” he added.

Sumner Machinists approve strike sanction

Continued from Page 1

many of the major players in the aerospace industry, including Boeing. They deserve a contract that reflects that.

District 751 represents more than 250 hourly workers at the AIM plant in Sumner. The company is a tier-one supplier to both the Boeing Co. and Airbus, and it also supplies other aerospace companies like Spirit AeroSystems.

The workers at AIM build a number of composite components for commercial airplanes, including ventilation systems.

Business Rep Brett Coty gives AIM Aerospace workers from Sumner an update on negotiations. Members voted to approve strike sanction by 90 percent.

NAS Whidbey workers vote to join IAM

Continued from Page 1

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