

the DUTU Newsletter

November 2010

REMINDER

Don't forget to enroll for health insurance by

Nov. 10th

Enrollment Assistance still available at:

355 Chicago St

Nov. 8th Room 340

2:30 – 4:30 p.m.

<https://benefits.u-46.org>

**If you ignore insurance enrollment your insurance will default to PPO High Deductible*

IMPORTANT NOTE:

W2's will be mailed out to the address that you have on file in January and you will also be able to view your W2 online at:

<https://ipay.adp.com>

***If you need to update your address now is the time!!*

CLEAN CLEAN CLEAN

We need to please be considerate of everyone and clean up after ourselves. Especially in the bathrooms.

Keep it clean!!!

Also, please respect everyone's belongings in the refrigerators

FOOD FOOD FOOD

Social Committee is holding a Luncheon to raise money towards a new refrigerator.

- Nov 16th
- 9:30 til Noon (or until food lasts)
- Bari Italian Beef, Cookie, Chips
- ONLY \$5.00

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From your new VP...

Thank you to all of you who believe in me. I appreciate your confidence in me and I won't let you down. I KNOW, that ALL of us, working TOGETHER, can make this a strong and effective union. It will take TEAMWORK!!!

Now if you need to talk to me, I will be in the break room, most days, from 12:15 till 1:20 or after 4 pm. Leave me a note if you need me to stay after work to meet with you. Or you can leave a message on www.mydutu.org and it will be redirected to me.

I'm looking forward to working with everyone.

Sincerely,
Donna Frey, vice-president, DUTU



National School Bus Safety Award

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Tuesday morning, October 26th is what District U-46 drivers refer to as a “character builder”.

We had heavy winds and rain, power lines down, tree branches blocking the streets, traffic lights out, and oh yes, a tornado siren going off. But the drivers did not run and hide. They stayed on their routes because their students were waiting for them at the bus-stops. They knew their driver would come. We always do. Our students and their parents depend on us and we don't want to let them down. We get them to school, safely, as always. Ok, maybe some of the buses were a little late because of the obstacles in their way. BUT, we did get them to school safely! Safely. It is such an important word to us. And we wanted to share that with you and with our fellow drivers, assistant, dispatchers and mechanics. We are SO proud to work with them, and proud also to drive the students here in School District U-46.

Donna Frey Vice President, and Lyle Moseman President of the District U-46 Transportation Union. (DUTU)

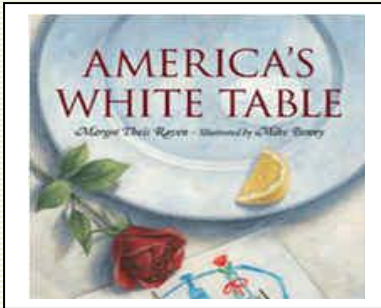
SOMETHING TO THINK ABOUT

There was a blind girl who hated herself because she was blind. She hated everyone, except her loving boyfriend. He was always there for her. She told her boyfriend, “If I could only see the world, I will marry you.” One day, someone donated a pair of eyes to her. When the bandages came off, she was able to see everything, including her boyfriend. He asked her, “Now that you can see the world, will you marry me?” The girl looked at her boyfriend and saw that he was blind. The sight of his closed eyelids shocked her. She hadn't expected that. The thought of looking at them the rest of her life led her to refuse to marry him. Her boyfriend left in tears and days later wrote a note to her saying: “Take good care of your eyes, my dear, for before they were yours, they were mine.” This is how the human brain often works when our status changes.

Only a very few remember what life was like before, and who was always by their side in the most painful situations.. Life is a gift! Today before you say an unkind word - Think of someone who can't speak. Before you complain about the taste of your food - Think of someone who has nothing to eat.. Before you complain about your husband or wife - Think of someone who's crying out to GOD for a companion. Today before you complain about life - Think of someone who went too early to heaven... Before whining about the distance you drive think of someone who walks the same distance with their feet. And when you are tired and complain about your job - think of the unemployed, the disabled, and those who wish they had your job. And when depressing thoughts seem to get you down - put a smile on your face and think: you're alive and still around...

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Honoring Our Veterans

In many schools throughout U-46, Veterans Day is more than just a day off school. A special effort is being made to encourage students to consider the people left behind this special day and the sacrifices they have made.

Some examples from our elementary schools provide a snapshot of what is taking place across the district. At Hawk Hollow Elementary they will be hosting a morning assembly for invited military veterans on November 5th. The veterans will then visit several classrooms to talk to students.

Wayne Elementary is holding its first "Visit with a Veteran" on November 10th. Veterans have been invited to the school for a special morning. They will be served breakfast, be recognized by the school and then visit classrooms where they will share stories and memorabilia with students. Students will also be sending letters and items to soldiers and veterans.

During the week of November 1st, Mrs. Dutton, library paraeducator, will be reading the story America's White Table by Margot Theis Raven to students at Sunnydale and Lords Park Elementary. This picture book explores a little known tradition often called MIA/POW Remembrance Table that originated on Veteran's Day to remember those serving in the Armed Forces. Each item on the table symbolizes something to honor our veterans and fallen heroes:

- *The white table cloth – a soldier's pure heart*
- *A lemon slice and salt – a soldier's bitter fate and tears*
- *An empty chair – a missing soldier*
- *A black napkin – sorrow of captivity*
- *A turned over glass – a meal that will not be eaten*
- *A white candle – peace*
- *A red rose in a vase tied w/red ribbon – hope that our missing will return someday*

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Here is a list of cards that were given on behalf of our union.

September 2010

Debi Jones – get well

Paul & Diane Wetherbe – sympathy

Al Riefler – get well

Wardell Scruggs – get well

Carol Collins – sympathy

Marianne Clyde - sympathy

October 2010

Richard & Henrietta Johnson – sympathy

Andy Martin – bosses day



QUESTION

If a work place has 452 employees with some getting paid a different hourly rate and every single employee decides that it is okay to punch into work 5 minutes early every day for 180 workings day what will it cost the employer.

PAY CHART

32 employees at \$15.75

12 employees at 18.71

24 employees at \$19.81

384 employees at \$22.01

(all numbers are estimated)

- A. \$4,023.24
- B. \$40,023.24
- C. \$90,697.20
- D. \$120,697.20



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Health and Safety Committee

Betty Skyles, Jennifer Toy, Raul Saldana, Tammy Ortiz

Job Stress- Job stress can be reduced by adding exercise as part of our health program. Snap Fitness 24/7 has given U-46 Transportation employees a special deal. The regular price is \$34.00 for monthly payments or \$240.00 for the year in 1 payment plus \$20.00 for the swipe card and a sign up fee. For us it is a one pay of \$180.00 for 9 months (you can do 12 months for \$240.00 and still get the other discounts) just \$10.00 for the card and no sign up fee. Stop in and check it out lots of machines, 2 showers and bathrooms.

Raul attended the IEA/NEA conference and brought back stress reducing tips that we will be passing along later.

Coloring Book Fundraiser- This year we will be doing a fundraiser to bring back the bus safety coloring books for the 2011/2012 school year. Here is how it will work. Business size cards will be printed to be given as a thank you to people for a donation of \$2.00, much like the poppies at the intersections. We will check out any number of cards and will be responsible to return \$2.00 for each card taken. If not all cards are used they can be returned. The cards have been approved and are being printed. If everyone took and used just 10 cards we would have all the necessary money. The plan is to have these ready just before the Thanksgiving week with a target of early Jan. to be finished.

Clean Air Affair- Coming soon. There will be information in the driver's room about the problems with fuel emissions and the benefits of clean air. The 3 main costs to the district are money, health and the environment. The district has already done all of the recommended things to address these issues. They include block heaters, ultra-low sulfur fuels and fuel filters. Now it's up to us to do our part. Let's talk about the money first. If each bus idles just 12 minutes a day the cost to the district is \$500.00 a week with gas prices @ \$2.50 per gal. That is just 4 minutes for each warm up morning, midday and afternoon! Now let's talk about health. There are two issues with emissions. CO2 and particulate matter. This is the fine particles (less than 10 micrometers) that get deep into the lungs and may even get into the blood stream. These can cause a lot of nasty health problems including asthma, chronic bronchitis, and irregular heartbeat, even premature death for people with heart and lung disease. Then there is the damage to the environment. The particulate matter land in the water, on the food crops and in the forests. These facts are from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.



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Governing Council

Members:

PRESIDENT: Lyle Moseman

VICE PRESIDENT: Donna Frey

SECRETARY: Brenda DelHotal

TREASURER: Carol Gunn

Bargaining Team:

Bill Ryan

Brenda DelHotal

Jim Burns

Heather Bayer

Sue Hamm

Jay Niehus

Roxanne Laurence

Ed Comizza

Lyle Moseman

Labor Management Team

Lyle Moseman

Heather Bayer

Bill Ryan

Jay Niehus

Brenda DelHotal

COMMITTEE CHAIRPERSONS

HEALTH & SAFETY: Betty Skyles

NEWSLETTER: Heather Bayer

SUNSHINE: Sue Olson

STAFF DEVELOPMENT: Janet Lewandowski

MEMBERSHIP: Tammy Clinton

BY LAWS & LEGISLATION: Liz Mole

AUDIT: Linda Turnquist

FIELD TRIPS: Dan Umbach

DECORATING & SOCIAL: Sara Rodriguez

GRIEVANCE:

ACCIDENT REVIEW: Cindy Moseman

ELECTION: Ruth Saldana

BENEFIT RESOURCES: Laura Taets

STUDENT DISCIPLINE: Sue Hamm





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GOING GREEN

By Donna Frey

Attention Environmentalists, Eco-Warriors, [Tree Huggers](#) and all around concerned citizens of [planet Earth](#)! I am in need of YOUR help. Have you looked into the [trash cans](#) lately at the Transportation Dept? Alas, our co-workers are NOT doing all they can to recycle the plastic bottles and cans! (both aluminum and steel cans) It is disheartening. The recycling containers are not even a step away from the trash and yet....people will not make the small effort to put their cans and bottles in the right place. But, I still have hope that they will come around and BELIEVE in the power of recycling!!! And I want YOU to remind our friends that this is important to ALL of us. This first small step can become a GOOD habit for each of us. And remember everyone, WE teach our children by OUR example.

FACT: [Recycling Aluminum cans](#) saves **95%** of the energy used to make cans from virgin ore.

FACT: Recycling diverted **1.7 BILLION** pounds from landfills!!

FACT: Recycling one aluminum can saves enough energy to run a television for **THREE** hours!

FACT: The energy saved each year through recycled cans could light the city of Washington, DC for **3.7 YEARS**!

FACT: Recycling a **single plastic bottle** can conserve enough energy to **light a 60-watt light bulb for up to six hours**.

FACT: Recycled bottles provide an environmentally friendly source for making new products and substitutes recycled materials for new plastic. [Recycled plastic bottles](#) make hundreds of everyday products, including **fleece jackets, carpeting, and lumber for outdoor decking**.

Reduce

Re-use

Recycle

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Wellness Inc. Program Details

Transportation Department – Break Room

Saturday, November 13, 2010

7:00 am – 11:30 am

Bartlett High School – Room A307

Saturday, November 20, 2010

7:00 am – 11:30 am

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Wayne Elementary – Multi- purpose Room

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Larkin High School – Black Box Theatre

Thursday, December 2, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Larkin High School – Auditorium

Saturday, December 4, 2010

7:00 am – 11:30 am

Elgin High School – Room 110

Thursday, December 2, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Saturday, December 4, 2010

7:00 am – 11:30 am

Educational Services Center – Room 239

Friday, December 3, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Abbott Middle School – Auxiliary Gym

Friday, December 3, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Kenyon Woods Middle School – Library

Tuesday, December 7, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

South Elgin High School – room F101

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

6:30 am – 10:00 am

Streamwood High School – Gym

Thursday, December 9, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Eastview Middle School – Library

Friday, December 10, 2010

6:30 am – 10:30 am

Sign-Up Online at:
<http://register.wellness-inc.com/u46>

or call the Wellness
Hotline at: 630/723-0175