



# Union Messenger

April 2008

## Local 571 VP Testifies at State Budget Hearing

Local 571 Vice President Alice Kautsky recently provided testimony before the Illinois House of Representatives Regional Budget Hearing held at Morton Community College on March 19. Kautsky serves as the Cicero Council President, and is an IFT Vice President.

Kautsky's concerns mirrored those of South Suburban College Professor Bill Naegele, who argued that community college funding must be a priority. Naegele reported that state support for community colleges helps keep tuition affordable.

Under the leadership of State Representative Lisa Hernandez (D-24, Cicero) the hearing at Morton's Jedlicka Performing Arts Center was one of a series of meetings at locations across the state.

Reflecting on funding issues directly affecting the Cicero Elementary School District, Kautsky questioned how NCLB goals could be met con-



*Alice Kautsky prepares testimony with IFT Vice President Bill Naegele before the regional budget hearing at Morton Community College. (Photo: Bob Blackwood, Local 1600)*

sistently with district pre-K through first grade classrooms assigned 28 or more children. Kautsky cited research showing how small class sizes, especially during the early

grades, produces positive educational results. In addition, although some state money has been spent to build some Cicero schools, century-old buildings must be replaced.

Kautsky concluded her comments by presenting a letter from IFT President Ed Geppert supporting Senate Bill 2288 to Representative Hernandez. Speaking for the IFT's 95,000 members, Geppert's letter sees SB 2288, although not perfect, as a long-term solution for addressing the state's financial situation.

The bill provides funding, which translates into billions for new schools, roads, and mass transit needs. Other revenue would allow the state to pay down the pension debt. It frees up current revenue

*(Kautsky Testifies continued on page 4)*

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### April 30 is IFT Lobby Day

Local 571 members join other IFT locals in Springfield on Wednesday, April 30 to meet with their state representatives, senators, and legislative staff. A kick-off briefing by IFT legislative staff means a 6 a.m. departure from the Robert M. Healey Center.

The Higher Education Legislative Coalition (HELCO) Lobby Day was held April 9, focusing on education issues faced by post-secondary students, educators, and institutions.

Complete information for participants can be found on the IFT web site:

<http://www.ift-aft.org>

### Federal Budget Update

Last month, the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives passed budget blueprints that chart a better course for working families than the one proposed in President Bush's budget. The Senate and House budget blueprints, respectively, offer approximately \$22 billion and \$25 billion in discretionary spending over President Bush's budget.

The Senate adopted its budget blueprint by a vote of 51-44, the House of Representatives by a vote of 212-207.

*(Budget Update Continued on page 4)*

# State Student Learning Standards Being “Put to the Test”

from your president

When the spring 2008 issue of the *AFT American Educator* arrived I quickly turned to the article by E.D. Hirsch because I had heard about his views on state learning standards. Dr. Hirsch suggests that “we make all grade-by-grade content standards more specific.” He believes this would “allow us to create more equitable tests.” Further, he writes this “would induce... a major change in our schools and a major improvement in the achievement of our students.” Hirsch’s bold statements are backed by compelling examples, all at a time when state learning standards, Illinois included, have been in use for a decade.

In an article by AFT assistant director of Teachers’ Education Issues, Heidi Glidden, student learning standards for all states are reviewed and “graded.” Only Virginia meets the AFT criteria in all categories.

Georgia, Indiana, North Carolina, and Washington D.C. standards met all criteria but one. Seven states were in the category “standards did not meet criteria.” These were Colorado, **Illinois**, Montana, Nebraska, Pennsylvania, Wisconsin, and Wyoming. Glidden’s article includes a table showing these seven states with 0% strong standards.

## A Short History of Illinois Learning Standards

The Standards Project, begun in 1995, was a result of contributions of educators, parents, business people, and other working professionals. In 1997, the *Illinois Learning Standards* (ILS) were adopted by the Illinois State Board of Education. Illinois was among the first states to develop and adopt standards. The ILS contain 30 goals, 98 standards, and over 1000 benchmarks. These “standards for all” were developed as a basis for education reform, a means for measuring progress, creating accountability for student learning and ultimately improving the education system. The ISBE website, [www.isbe.net](http://www.isbe.net), includes a standards framework for seven learning areas:

English Language Arts	Fine Arts
Foreign Languages	Mathematics
Physical Development and Health	
Science	Social Science

Teachers have had frustrations implementing and working with the ILS within their curricula. The state’s annual student exams use the ILS as the criteria for building test questions. What should Illinois now do about the standards? Is it time to carefully review these as the authors mentioned above would suggest? Can Illinois’ standards be made more meaningful for teachers, students and test developers? Such an effort may help guide better teacher

preparation programs and improved textbooks. Is it possible that more meaningful standards will help students and their schools make Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP), the nemesis of No Child Left Behind?

## No Museum Left Behind

While the education community grapples with apparently deficient student learning standards, another group of educators met in Chicago on March 14 for a “No Museum Left Behind” seminar. Education representatives from Midwest museums discussed how museum attendance by school children has taken a downturn. Participants appeared less interested in remarks from the Department of Education’s Region V director than those of classroom teachers. Teachers reported hardships regarding school field trips as a result of NCLB. It appeared obvious to museum educators that many school administrators believe out-of-school experiences are secondary to classroom work in preparation for annual state testing.

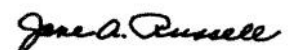
The Kansas Historical Society (KHS), as well as many other Midwest museums, have developed wonderful student learning materials based on their collections using the state’s student learning standards. The KHS hired a reading teacher/consultant to help create lessons for students of all ages aligned to standards and using research-based reading strategies in each of the lessons.

Museum educators in Illinois are creating materials for students and teachers using the ILS so that lessons can be taught “outside” the classroom and still cover material on the ISAT or PSAE. The museums hope to see increased attendance and use by students and their teachers.

## Another DOE Pilot Program

U.S. Education Secretary Margaret Spellings announced a pilot program for up to 10 states allowing leeway for intervening in schools that do not meet NCLB goals. AFT Executive Vice President Antonia Cortese, minced no words when she stated that NCLB “is in need of dramatic overhaul and cannot be patched with band-aids and pilot programs.” With frustration over the law’s overemphasis on testing, the AFT Teachers Program and Policy Council “expressed concern about reauthorization of NCLB.” There will be considerable discussion at the July AFT Convention in Chicago about NCLB reauthorization as well as strengthening state learning standards, the foundation upon which all is built.

In unity,



Local 571 President

# Charter School Reality Check

By Bonnie Saracco

In his 1988 speech to the National Press Club, the late AFT President Albert Shanker proposed creating charter schools, designed by teachers, to improve education for all students.

His vision for charter schools was a closely monitored, continuous progress model which would free teachers and administrators from unnecessary red tape and encourage innovation. Teacher organizations would play a major role.

Unfortunately, in the twenty years since Shanker's proposal, charter schools of a very different nature have developed based on what AFT calls "the rhetoric of reform by choice and competition."

More than 2,100 charter schools now serve over 500,000 students in 37 states and the District of Columbia. Many believe that these charter schools drain resources from other schools, neglect students with special needs, are no more accountable or innovative than other schools, and exploit teachers by relying on low-paid, unqualified labor.

Charter schools are now a pressing issue in Illinois due to Renaissance 2010, a plan by the Chicago Public Schools to institute 100 new charter schools. It is time to take a hard look at the charter school track record.



AFT has put together a report on charter school effectiveness, based on National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP) data, the gold standard for such comparisons. For the first time, the 2005 NAEP included enough charter school students to produce a statistically reliable analysis of charter school effectiveness.

The 2005 NAEP data revealed that "charter school students, on average, scored the same or lower in almost every comparison with public school students."

By eighth grade, the charter school students scored 10 points lower in math and 5 points lower in reading. Because 10 scale score points represent about one year of learning, the differences are substantial.

Amazingly, shortly after the release of this AFT report, Secretary of Education Margaret Spellings, who characterized our public schools last month as needing "triage," requested funds from Congress to expand the number of charter schools.

House Bill (HB) 4913 is a common-sense bill that would require, rather than permit, a revocation of charters for several reasons. These include failure to make reasonable student progress, failure to meet generally accepted standards of fiscal management, and violation of legal provisions from which the charter school has been exempted.

HB 4913 passed out of the House Elementary and Secondary Education Committee on March 12. The IFT is working for charter school accountability by supporting this needed law.

## Announcing Summer 2008 ER&D Courses

### Instructional Strategies

August 4-8 +1 September Saturday TBA

### Foundations of Effective Teaching

August 11-15 + Saturday, September 13

- ★ Join your West Suburban colleagues
  - ★ Taught by Local 571 Master Teachers
  - ★ Conveniently at the Westmont Robert M. Healey Conference Center
  - ★ CPDU and PTP awarded
- Credit Hours available for an additional fee

Additional information with registration forms are planned for May's *Union Messenger* and the [wstu571.org](http://wstu571.org) web site. Council presidents will be provided flyers for distribution at school sites.

## Spring Reading Comprehension ER&D Course Concludes



Completing this semester's Local 571 ER&D Reading Comprehension Class are (standing) course instructor Jane Russell, Nancy Bensfield, Erika Willis, Sheila Elliott, Sandy Poole, Alison Krolikowski, Eileen Messino, Marilyn Buttry, Kathy Lustgarten, Judith Lee; (seated) Lillian Boyd, Sharyn Mihalik, Marie Garcia-Tristan, Suzanne Anderson, Laura Hosteny, Emily Rehn, Bridget White, and Harry Kamry.



## Need a break?

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## AFT PSRPs Share Priorities with U.S. Congress

Welcomed by springlike weather, AFT members from around the country participated in the annual legislative conference of the American Association of Classified School Employees in Washington, D.C. Participants learned the nuts and bolts of education funding, as well as the specifics of important legislative work on Head Start, school building conditions and transportation. They also spent nearly an hour with members of the National Association of Attorneys General talking about school security concerns.

Armed with facts and figures, and their own personal experiences, participants descended on Capitol Hill for meetings at congressional offices on both the House and Senate sides of the Capitol. "In some ways, I was probably preaching to the choir about education with my visits, but I know that my voice was heard," said Joanne Colombo of Brewster, New York, who had meetings in the offices of Rep. John Hall (D-NY) and Sen. Charles Schumer (D-NY). "It felt good to talk about these issues from the perspective of a school payroll clerk." Tish Olshefski AFT Leadernet

*(Budget Update, continued from page 1)*

This victory was no easy task and was achieved in great part through member efforts—more than 1,000 AFT e-Activists sent over 3,000 letters to Capitol Hill! As the budget process moves forward, Congress will begin to propose funding levels for specific programs.

We continue to need help to assure programs that are AFT priorities are properly funded.

Past member efforts have been effective and appreciated. Let's continue to press for the funding that our schools need.

To see online how your representative and senator voted go to:

<http://clerk.house.gov/evs/2008/roll141.xml>

[http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll\\_call\\_lists/](http://www.senate.gov/legislative/LIS/roll_call_lists/)



Tools for teachers:

[www.t-source.org](http://www.t-source.org)

*(Kautsky Testifies, continued from page 1)*

growth for state service needs such as health care.

The Governor's budget for FY 2009, based on current revenue sources, proposes for schools half the amount the General Assembly and Governor approved for the 2007-2008 school year. The budget cuts \$11 million from higher education, extending a trend that is making college less affordable.

Geppert argues that short term fixes such as selling the state lottery and selling the tobacco revenue stream are not solutions to the state's continuing needs. These needs are seen as so pressing that the IFT and IEA developed a coordinated plan to provide witness testimony at all nineteen regional budget hearings.

Before testimony began, Naegele noted that Senate Bill 2288, which both he and Kautsky praised, will raise state income taxes 2%. Noting that the bill will reduce property taxes, he believes Illinois residents will accept a tax increase **if** the money goes where it is supposed to go.

Naegele remarked "We want (our students) to compete in the global economy, but they can't do that without a 21<sup>st</sup> century education."

## FMLA Under Attack

We are witnessing another Bush administration attack on working Americans. In an attempt to roll back or undo the Family and Medical Leave Act's (FMLA) hard-won worker protections, the Department of Labor (DOL) in February proposed changes to FMLA regulations that will make it more difficult for workers to use FMLA if needed.

The AFT will be signing on to the AFL-CIO's detailed comments on the specific changes, but we need to make the DOL aware that its actions will affect real people. Share your personal story of how you have used FMLA leave to help you or your family through a time of illness, care for a newborn or provide long-term care for a loved one. The AFT will compile your comments and send them to the DOL.

I have needed to use FMLA twice in the last five years. Once, when I had a nearly fatal heart attack and another time when my father lay in a coma and I needed to leave work immediately and go to his bedside. In both cases, without FMLA, I would have been left without pay and not able to pay my monthly debts. FMLA was the reason I was able to get well and continue to be a contributing member to the economy.  
-- Michael Beasley, AFT member

The FMLA is a popular and well-used law, enacted during the Clinton administration. Since its inception, more than 50 million Americans have used FMLA leave to take care of newborns, seriously ill children and other family members, or themselves. The FMLA is extraordinarily popular with workers, and businesses have found that it has not had a negative effect on productivity or economic growth. I

in spite of this, the Bush administration is proposing changes that would make it more difficult for workers to obtain leave under FMLA

[http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/fmla\\_story](http://www.unionvoice.org/campaign/fmla_story)

## Protect Your FMLA Rights

On Feb. 11, the Department of Labor (DOL) proposed changes to Family Medical Leave Act (FMLA) regulations that will make it more difficult for workers to access leave. The DOL has framed these changes as a simple clarification of existing procedures, but an examination of their proposal reveals that the changes would severely curtail workers' ability to use the law. Changes to FMLA regulations fall under three broad categories:

- **Infringement upon privacy of medical information.**

Under the proposed changes, after seeking permission from the employee, the employer may directly contact the employee's medical doctor to clarify information. In the current law, the employer may not directly contact the medical doctor. Employers must designate a health professional to make such contact.

- **Increased burdens upon workers to access FMLA leave** such as:

- o Increasing the number of medical visits that the workers will be required to pay for either outright or through co-pays,
- o Requiring additional medical certification forms that the workers must pay their health care providers for,
- o Limiting the use of accrued paid leave. Currently, workers are able to use their earned paid leave while on FMLA. The proposed regulation will require workers to follow their employer's rules for using paid leave.

There are two proposed positive changes:

- "Light duty," such as temporarily moving a person from factory floor work to administrative work, would no longer count toward the FMLA leave time (12 weeks). Under current FMLA regulations, workers who accept "light duty" assignments have the time that they work on light duty counted against their 12 weeks to be reinstated to their regular position; and
- Employers must provide more detailed information about FMLA rights to employees.

These positive changes do not outweigh the unacceptable proposed restrictions that would make it much more difficult for workers to take leave under the FMLA. The FMLA is a popular and well-used law, enacted during the Clinton administration. Since its inception, more than 50 million Americans have used FMLA leave to take care of newborns, seriously ill children and other family members, or themselves.

Additional information is available on the AFT web site.

# AFT VOICES



**YOU** are invited to share your opinions on the issues that affect you at [www.aft.org/voices](http://www.aft.org/voices).

You also can read what other AFT members have to say, participate in surveys and watch member videos.



***Let your voice be heard!***

## D-Day

**D**-day, as in dismissal or non-retention notification day, is upon us. At this time of the year, administrators notify non-tenure teachers of a district's intention to dismiss or retain them. A non-tenured teacher must receive notice of his/her dismissal no later than forty-five (45) days before the end of the school year. Failure, by a district, to notify a teacher in a timely manner will result in the teacher being retained as an employee.

If a teacher is in his/her first three years of employment, the district does not have to give him/her a reason for dismissal. If a teacher is in his/her fourth year of employment, the district is required to provide a reason for the dismissal. School districts have few restrictions on the reasons they may use to dismiss a fourth-year teacher. Basically, reasons for dismissal must be arguably true, and they may not violate constitutionally protected employee categories (race, sex, age, etc.).

Administrators often provide teachers they plan to dismiss an opportunity to resign. Arguments in favor of resigning are: a dismissal is not on your record, it may be easier to find a job if you have not been fired. Administrators may promise to provide a favorable reference to prospective employers.

Arguments against resigning are that any rights to unemployment compensation are probably forfeit if a job is not found in a timely manner. Also, many prospective employers now ask if you have ever resigned to avoid being fired, and there is no guarantee about what may be said to a prospective employer who calls on the telephone.

A non-RIF dismissal of a tenured teacher must be for cause and the teacher is entitled to a hearing before an independent hearing officer.

A district planning to implement a Reduction in Force program must follow the *School Code* and Contract. An important distinction between teachers and support staff personnel exists in the area of RIF's.

Teachers must receive a RIF notice sixty (60) days before the end of the school term. Support staff personnel must receive a RIF notice thirty (30) days before his/her last day of employment, which may be during the term.

## American Educator Addresses Gaping Hole in State Education Standards

**"I**t would take nothing short of magic for high academic achievement to come from students who have been deprived of a coherent academic curriculum," says E.D. Hirsch Jr., professor emeritus at the University of Virginia. But such magic is exactly what policymakers seem to expect. State standards are vague and repetitive--much too weak for teachers, curriculum writers, textbook and assessment developers, and professional development providers to have a shared understanding of what students must learn in each grade. The spring issue of *American Educator* is devoted to drawing attention to the critical need for clear, specific and content-rich standards.

As testament to the problems caused by vague standards, a second-year teacher, whose name and school district are withheld to allow her to speak frankly, laments her lack of direction in her first year in the classroom: "Instead of asking myself, 'How will I teach this concept?' I must begin by asking, 'What is an appropriate concept to teach?'"

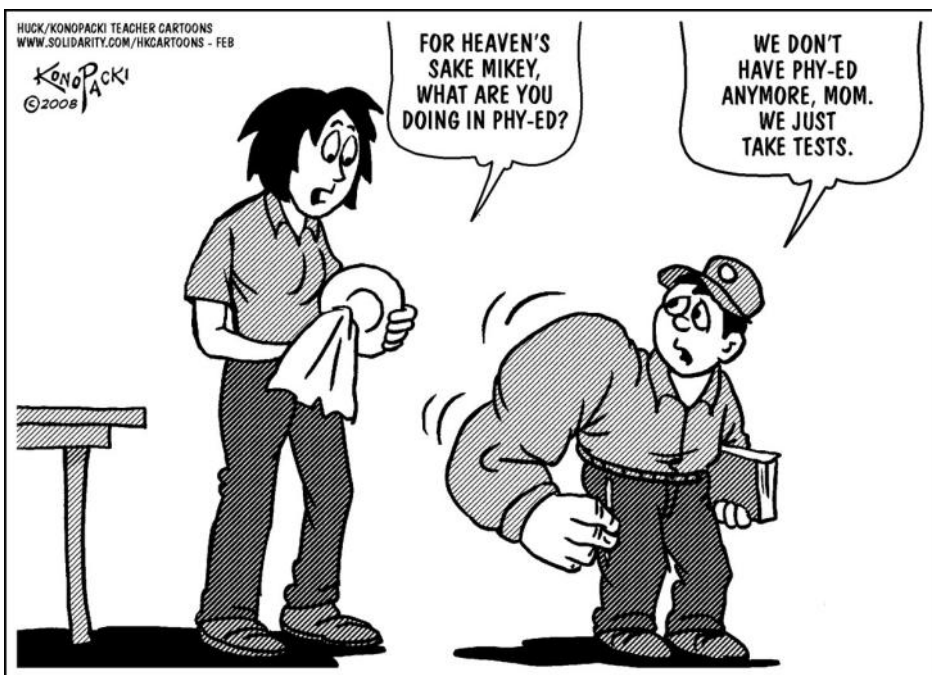
The magazine features a proposal by Hirsch to bring more content into the literacy block and make reading comprehension tests more equitable. Heidi Glidden, of the AFT's educational issues department, presents the union's latest review of state standards.

An essay by Michigan State University professor William H. Schmidt looks to high-achieving nations around the world to find ways to improve math standards.

Rounding out the topic, Paul R. Gross, professor emeritus at the University of Virginia, critiques science standards.

The spring issue of *American Educator* also offers examples of content-rich, detailed standards from states, as well as from the International Baccalaureate and Core Knowledge programs.

[Jennifer Jacobson]



## AFL-CIO Survey Shows Healthcare System in Crisis

A new survey released March 25 by the AFL-CIO finds that an astounding 95 percent of respondents say the nation's healthcare system needs to be completely rebuilt or fundamentally changed. Nearly 27,000 people, including 1,600 AFT members, completed the online survey, and more than 7,000 submitted personal and often painful stories about their own healthcare woes.

Among them was Melissa, a member from Oregon, who wrote: "I'm currently over \$5,000 in debt due to an overnight hospital stay in November of 2007. My doctor sent me to the emergency room due to tachycardia, and the resulting tests and observation put me in a deep financial hole. Ironically, my employer of 17 years finally started offering its employees insurance, 6 weeks after my hospital stay."

In her view, health coverage shouldn't "have anything to do with employment status, as that is unfair to employers and those unable to work. We need a.... system which will eliminate the health insurance companies who are... doing nothing for our nation's health and everything for their own profit."

The survey — completed by union members as well as nonmembers—shows Melissa is far from alone in dealing with the hardships of being uninsured.

Among the findings: In the past year, 76 percent of people who lack insurance themselves, and 71 percent of people with uninsured children, say someone in their family did not visit a doctor when sick because of cost.

Sixty-seven percent of the uninsured and 66 percent of those whose children are uninsured report skipping medical treatment or follow-up care recommended by a doctor.

Fifty-seven percent of the uninsured and 61 percent of people with uninsured children had to choose between paying for medical care and living essentials.

## “Wanted: A Few Bad Teachers”

Leyden High School Council President Jon Pazol, quoted in the Chicago Tribune March 31, remarked "I've made a difference in more people's lives than Rick Berman ever will," Pazol was responding to questions about the “Wanted: A Few Bad Teachers” campaign launched in the national media last month by lobbyist Rick Berman. Offering \$10,000 each for 10 “bad” teachers – if they agree to give up teaching forever, Berman is wants nominations.

Berman's Center for Union Facts (CUF) holds trade unions responsible for the economic problems faced by American industries. His CUF website reports union salaries, budgets, and political spending. In past years the CUF has produced TV ads accusing trade unions of intimidation.

In addition to attacking unions, Berman has gone after Mothers Against Drunk Driving, arguing tolerance of social drinking. His American Beverage Institute fights regulating alcohol consumption.

Other organizations Berman leads, advocate against regulating restaurants, meat, dairy, food processors.

He has attacked the U.S. Center for Disease Control, Union of Concerned Scientists, Center for Science in the Public Interest, and People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals.

According to the Tribune, The CUF is spending about \$1 million dollars on a Times Square billboard, a mobile billboard in Washington D.C., and television and print ads. The New York Times, USA Today, CNN and Fox television networks carried the anti-teacher attack ads

Over 1,000 AFT members flooded media outlets with letters and e-mails objecting to the virulent anti-teacher ads since CUF rolled out its national campaign in March. Although the messages vary, one theme emerged: **When you attack teachers unions, you attack the dedicated teachers who are devoting their careers to helping children succeed.**

## TRS Fraud Warning

TRS has been alerted that members may receive a spam e-mail or be directed to a fraudulent Web site appearing to represent TRS.

The message notifies individuals of “grand prize” money or changes in the benefit formula. The sender/site asks for personal member information in reply.

TRS is not sponsoring any prizes and there is no change in the benefit formula. TRS does not solicit personal information via e-mail or through another Web site, strongly warning that such phishing tactics are not affiliated with TRS. The sender/artist is trying to obtain personal, private information about you. TRS asks members not to reply to these requests.



DuPage Regional Office of Education (ROE) Superintendent Dr. Darlene Ruscitti invites members present at the March House of Representatives meeting to share concerns with her office.

## Horowitz and Wheeler Scholarships Announced

**A**lyssa Sasseti, daughter of Proviso Teachers Council member Karen Sasseti has been awarded the Joanne Horowitz scholarship for 2008. Joanne plans to attend the University of Illinois at Urbana.

Five Mary Wheeler scholarships have been awarded:

- **Elizabeth Baulder** graduating from Carl Sandburg High School, daughter of Cicero Council member Mary Ann Baulder.
- **Tyler Helton** graduating from Roycemore School, son of Franklin Park Teachers Council member Gregory Helton.
- **Jackie Pendola** graduating from Riverside Brookfield High School, daughter of Riverside Council member Geri Lynn Pendola.
- **Matthew Reiner** graduating from Prospect High School, son of Leyden Council member Roger Reiner.
- **Kyle Willson** graduating from Hinsdale Central High School, son of District 88 Teachers Council member Barbara Willson.

## TRS Payroll Deduction Program Ending

**T**o comply with recent IRS guidance, TRS must discontinue the Payroll Deduction Program.

Full-time, employed members will no longer be able to pay for optional service, 2.2 upgrades, and the Early Retirement Option through payroll deduction on a pretax basis.

Other tax-deferred options still remain. TRS suggests consulting a tax advisor

for details. Their plan is to phase out the program over the next two years.

Payroll Deduction Agreement forms for new enrollments must be received no later than 4:30 p.m. on **May 15, 2008** at the TRS Springfield office.

The program will end in June 2010. TRS is notifying affected members.

## First \$100 AFT Registration Prize Goes To Amy Ahlenius



**E**lmhurst Teachers Council member Amy Ahlenius is the first of sixty \$100 winners for registering her new AFT Member Card. Online registration takes less than five minutes and only requires a unique member number provided on the card.

After registration, AFT members have exclusive access to the AFT+ Member Benefits programs, which includes voluntary insurance plans, credit card programs and mortgage services, as well as hotel, car rental and entertainment offerings.

New in 2008: the "AFT Advantage," which gives members online discounts and privileges at a wide array of retailers, restaurants and local merchants.

In addition, members who activate their card can still be entered into a drawing for one of 250 \$100 prizes. 250 winners will be randomly selected from the pool of AFT members who have logged on to <http://www.aft.org/members> and established a personal member access account.

As April's Union Messenger goes to press, there are over 190 more chances to win the \$100 registration incentive. Members who have not received a card, or who want additional information, may access a FAQ sheet at the above web address. Good luck!

## WSTU Calendar

### April

- 4/14—571 EB Mtg. - Westmont - 5:30 p.m.
- 4/14—571 HOR Mtg.-Westmont - 6:45 p.m.  
(571 proposed budget presented to EB)
- 4/18—571 70th Anniversary Celebration - Westmont - 4:00 p.m.
- 4/23-27—AFT PSRP Conference  
Washington DC
- 4/26-27—IFT ULI - Westmont

### May

- 5/12—571 EB Mtg. - Westmont - 5:30 p.m.
- 5/12—571 HOR Mtg.-Westmont - 6:45 p.m.

### June

- 6/14—571 EB Mtg. - Westmont - 5:30 p.m.  
(Vote on 571 proposed budget)
- 6/14—571 HOR Mtg.-Westmont - 6:45 p.m.

### AFT Convention

Delegate jacket & dinner forms due April 16  
Room reservation forms due May 16

### IFT Retiree TRS/CMS Presentation TRS & TRIP

Tuesday May 20 - \$5 deadline Monday May 5

### Union Day

#### White Sox v Texas Rangers Sunday July 23, 2008 Patio Party

All-you-can-eat hot dogs hamburgers, chicken, ribs, salads, unlimited beer, wine & pop  
Seating 1<sup>st</sup> 3 rows behind the visitors bullpen  
11:30-1:05 game time. \$62/person; \$22 parking  
May 9 deadline for reservation and payment  
Bus/limo option \$20-\$40 TBA

### Union Messenger

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