

REPORTER



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JUNE 2007

President's Report by Scott Godshaw

Last week of June - Hot Topic

At Briggs, the hot topic still is the last week of June. The company had stated to the members that they originally wanted to close down 2nd shift completely the last week in June. However, there will be a skeleton crew running on 2nd shift. The company basically announced this to the people a few weeks ago, before they had met with the bargaining committee. We did eventually meet with the company on this subject and they did admit, they should have talked to the committee first. We pointed out to them that anyone from 2nd shift who has the seniority to work, can go to days. They understood that. We also pointed out that if someone did go to days and they have the seniority to stay, they could stay if they wanted to. Our position is: allow the people that want to work, the ability to work and also allow the people that want to be off, to voluntarily be off. In some areas, where the postings have already been up, they are doing just that. And in other areas, they will be posting for this layoff soon. Then they will get a clear picture on what they would be able to run in each department. If they determine they would need more help, then the least senior in the classification needed, would have to work. The one thing the company did say is, it is only a 4 day layoff and it would not be extended. That is confirmed. Everyone would be coming back

on the 16th of July and if an extended layoff was needed, another regular indefinite voluntary layoff would be posted the week of July 16th. At the time of this writing, it is still up in the air exactly how many people will be off

Retirement / Pension

Also at Briggs, there are approximately 60 members signed up to retire the end of June.

At both Briggs and Strattec as well, you can retire with 29 years and 1000 hours. This is governed by the ERISA (Employee Retirement Income Security Act) Law. That does not necessarily mean you will have exactly 30.0 years of credited service. You have to have 2000 hours in a year to get a full 1.0 for that year. If you took a leave of absence in any year, you may not reach 2000 hours, so the year would be pro rated. The same is true for the strike year of 1983. No matter what your status was during the strike; sick leave, layoff or industrial, those 13 weeks will not count towards credited service. So, when a member from Briggs calls Mercer and asks; when will I have my 30, that is certainly different than asking, when will I be eligible to retire?

Strattec

At Strattec, business is slow but holding its own. I was in a meeting with Milton, Greg Minue, Steve Tolfa and Dean Orley and the topic of the July 4th week came up. Since July 4th falls on a Wednesday and there is not a shutdown, the company will look to give extra vacation days for Thursday the 5th and Friday the 6th respectively and attempt to run with a skeleton crew if possible. If you do not have an excuse and fail to come in on the 3rd or the 5th, you will be putting your holiday pay in jeopardy.

Strattec, as of May 1st, is a smoke free facility. That means you cannot smoke anywhere on their property. We did have an issue with people being able to smoke past what is considered the strike line. The company originally said, "No you cannot smoke there." We had a problem with that because that is not Strattec property. As long as you were punched out at lunch time, our position was that you could

August Membership Meeting

Sunday
August 5, 2007
9:30 a.m.

Frank Monreal's El Matador
9155 W. Bluemound Rd.
IMPORTANT BUSINESS

- Reports of Officers, Grievance Representatives and Committees
- Discussion and action on any other proper business for this meeting.

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News from Governor Doyle's Office

Governor Doyle announces \$1 Million to Support Effort

Council will Connect Regional Economic Development Efforts Across the State

Governor Jim Doyle today signed Executive Order 193 creating the Governor's Business Council - a group comprising leaders of the state's regional economic development organizations - the Milwaukee 7, New North, REDE in Madison, Centergy, and Momentum. This new group will provide a forum to share best practices and develop new policy.

Governor Doyle also announced \$1 million to support these organizations, which will enhance Wisconsin's business climate, move forward on economic development ideas, build workforce skills, and prepare Wisconsin for the economy of the future.

"Wisconsin is home to the best companies and the best workers. But the future strength of our economy depends on our ability to bring together business leaders from every corner of the state - from Door County to Grant County, and from Superior to Racine," Governor Doyle said.

"Together, we will build the coordinated effort the state needs to compete in the global marketplace - by attracting and retaining innovative companies, and equipping our workers with the skills they'll need for the jobs of the future."

The Council will be a vehicle for government and businesses to find real solutions that promote innovation, streamline regulation, move forward on affordable healthcare for Wisconsin's workers, enhance entrepreneurial spirit, and make Wisconsin a national leader in workforce skills and efficient manufacturing.

The Council will be chaired by Governor Doyle, and will include Commerce Secretary Mary Burke, Workforce Development Secretary Roberta Gassman, and representatives from five regional economic development groups - the Milwaukee 7 in Southeast Wisconsin, Centergy in Central Wisconsin, the New North in Northern Wisconsin, Momentum in Western Wisconsin, and Regional Economic Development Entity (REDE) in South central Wisconsin.

Governor Doyle's budget commits up to \$1 million to support regional projects. Governor Doyle is also making significant investments in workforce training, business attraction, education, as well as increasing capital to grow companies, and build Wisconsin's bio industry.



Governor Doyle Announces May 10th is "Covenant Day"

First Lady Jessica Doyle to Lead Wisconsin Covenant Community

Governor Jim Doyle today announced Thursday, May 10th is "Covenant Day," the first day eighth grade students will have the opportunity to sign the Wisconsin Covenant. The Governor, Lieutenant Governor and First Lady will host events across the state on May 10th and May 11th, when eighth-graders will have the chance to visit Wisconsin colleges and universities and sign the Wisconsin Covenant Pledge.

"The Wisconsin Covenant will make college more affordable for hard-working students and their families, but it is about much more than that," Governor Doyle said. "It's about raising standards, rewarding hard work, and motivating students. Too many kids today think that college is just some distant abstraction, or something that only rich people do. Our goal is to make sure every young person knows that if he or she works hard, college will be an option for them. If they do their part, we'll do ours."

Governor Doyle also announced that First Lady Jessica Doyle will lead the Wisconsin Covenant Community, a broad partnership of universities, businesses, foundations, community groups, and volunteers focused on helping Covenant students succeed in high school. The Wisconsin Covenant Community will work to provide students with mentoring programs, tutoring services, counseling and the additional support they need to fulfill the Covenant pledge.

"As a career educator, I've spent most of my life in classrooms working to help kids learn and expand their horizons," First Lady Jessica Doyle said. "I've seen firsthand how when a kid understands that college can be a reality for him or her, it's a tremendous motivator. I've talked to so many middle school and high school teachers who are excited about this program and how it will help our kids focus on higher education."

Detailed information on the terms of the Wisconsin Covenant and the plans for "Covenant Day" are available on a new web site, www.wisconsin-covenant.wi.gov. Brochures and other information - including the text of the Wisconsin Covenant Pledge -- are now available on the website.

Leading up to "Covenant Day", students will

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Governor Doyle continued from page 2

work with teachers, parents, principals and others to learn about the Wisconsin Covenant, the importance of higher education and the impact it can have on the rest of their life.

Beginning May 10th, eighth grade students who choose to participate in the Wisconsin Covenant will sign a pledge affirming that they will earn a high school diploma, participate in their community, take a high school curriculum that prepares them for higher education, maintain a B average in high school, and apply in a timely manner for state and federal financial aid.

In return for keeping the Covenant pledge, each of the Wisconsin Covenant Scholars will have a spot in either the University of Wisconsin system, the Wisconsin Technical Colleges, or at one of the state's 20 private, nonprofit and independent colleges.

As students enter college, those students will receive a mix of loans, grants, and work study opportunities through the Wisconsin Covenant Program based on their family's financial needs.

Governor Doyle has doubled financial aid since he came to office and will triple financial aid by the end of this budget. To implement the Wisconsin Covenant and prepare for the day Wisconsin Covenant Scholars enter college, the Governor will continue to build on the financial aid funding and programs that we have in this state.

In March, Mrs. Doyle met with eighth grade students, teachers, parents, along with school counselors and principals across the state to develop the terms of the Wisconsin Covenant, the Covenant Community, and the kinds of support students need to succeed in high school.

In September last year, the Governor joined with leaders of the University of Wisconsin System, the Wisconsin Technical College System, the state Department of Public Instruction, and the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities to sign an agreement to implement the Wisconsin Covenant.

There are 75,000 eighth-graders in Wisconsin.

"Covenant Day" events on May 10th are planned for: Lawrence University, Appleton, Madison Area Technical College, Madison, Nicolet Area Technical College, Rhinelander, University of Wisconsin - Milwaukee, and University of Wisconsin - Superior.

Additional events on May 11th are planned for: Beloit College, Beloit, Gateway Technical College, Kenosha, Northcentral Technical College, Wausau, University of Wisconsin - Eau Claire and Viterbo University, La Crosse.



Was your Steward at the Meeting?

A steward training session was held at the Union office on 85th and Capitol on Wednesday April 18, 2007. The following stewards were in attendance: Roger Sorenson, Hattie Marshall, Dan Turk, Tony Pipia, Bill Berdan, Dennis Kaminski, Mark Auer, Yolanda Turner, Vicky Black, Karen Clark, Gerry White, Gerry Plieth, Lesa O'Neal and Dean Wegner.

President's Report continued from page 1

smoke there. While I called the attorney to get clarification, Milton called the city of Glendale to determine if Strattec indeed owned that property or not. Glendale said the city owns that property and Strattec said yes but they are responsible. The attorney said we would definitely have a problem if someone would be disciplined doing something that is lawful while punched out off the company's property. Milton did get the company to back off of their position and members are allowed to go out past the strike line to smoke during lunch, provided they are punched out.

Retiree Healthcare

This is for your information, when you retire and become eligible for retiree healthcare, the member is allowed to carry his/her spouse and dependants on his medical insurance, however, in the unfortunate event that the member passes away, the spouse and dependants are no longer covered and they are only allowed to pick up the medical insurance for 36 months at full cost. This is a very sad state of events when this happens but this has always been the case. The Briggs contract states in part, "Employees will be eligible for full company paid premiums. The Strattec contract states in part, "For employees who retire after 30 years of service, medical, dental and vision benefits will continue for a period of 5 years...."

Steward Elections

The steward elections are taking place starting this month. You must have 1 year of seniority in order to run and 60 days seniority in order to vote. The respective grievance reps combined departments for steward elections where they felt necessary. They then submitted their recommendations to the Executive Board and the Executive Board after ample discussion and some minor changes did approve the recommendations.

Membership Meetings

We are looking for suggestions from members to enhance more participation at membership meetings. Please give your ideas to your steward or to your grievance rep. And please attend.

Strattec Corner

by Al Olivares

Well, everyone, its that time again. I have a bit of manufacturing and American history to share with you. During the latter half of 1776, Benjamin Franklin was sent by Congress to seek foreign aid for the Revolutionary War. His endeavors were successful and he did acquire weapons and provisions that in turn helped us get our now "taken for granted" freedoms. The embarrassment the United States suffered due to an incapacity of being able to be self sufficient during the war would now lead to actions taken by government officials of the time. In 1791, with the embarrassment and fear still fresh in the government's head, the Secretary of Treasury at that time and soon to be President, Alexander Hamilton, wrote a report to the President. The report highlighted that America needs to ensure and promote manufacturing within our borders to ensure our safety and to keep our levels of supplies strong enough to defend ourselves without having to worry about a different country to come and bail us out. Bottom line was that we need to manufacture goods in America to take care of America.

With that being said, let me get back to the present time frame. It appears that the government now and the ruthless greed of corporations are now putting the money before the safety and defense of our beautiful country. As laborers, we feel the wrath of these injustices every day. Now, the intent of this article is not to lower your level of patriotism or sense of security. In fact, I feel we need to be aware of this kind of information so we do not fall prey to the old saying "those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat." With the current status of the world and the advancement of technologies abroad, who is to say that anyone will be able to help us even if they want to?.

The only way to lead our lost herd of politicians back to the prosperous, greener pastures of manufacturing within our own borders is to go out and vote for the representatives that know the issues and realize the repercussions and the severity of such. As far as Corporate America is concerned, the only way to wake up those greedy bastards is to let the right government officials give them a swift kick in the butt, by putting in place laws and guidelines that keep Americans working, making goods in American factories to keep Americans going every day in times of peace and in such tragic times as now with fear of war and terrorism abroad. I'm pretty sure the greedy

Briggs Retiree Club

This will be my last article for the Reporter. I think it is time for me to be stepping down from my position as Corresponding Secretary. I have been doing this job for a long, long time. Now I am going to do some traveling and visit my son and daughter. I am also in 2 other clubs that I never get to go to. Now I will be able to attend them.

I would like to say to Scott Godshaw, "Thanks a million. You do a great job. Call me if you need my help."

I hope to visit when I can. I will miss you all.

On June 20, 2007, we will be having our picnic and bingo at the American Legion Post #449 located at 3245 N. 124th St. On July 18th, we will have another picnic and bingo at the American Legion Post #449. The doors will open at 11a.m. There will be free refreshments and door prizes. Please check your calendar for our future events.

Once again, you can pick up your copy of the **Reporter** online at www.pace7232.org, at our meetings or at the Union office on Capitol Drive.

Till next time, take care, I will miss you and

God Bless,

Francis P. Capello

Corresponding Secretary

Editor's note: I would personally like to thank Frances for the wonderful job she has done as your Corresponding Secretary. I will miss you, Frances. Thanks, Scott Godshaw

Join the

Briggs Retiree Club

today call Erma Gorecki

262-781-8951

for information

corporate bastards will not be happy making the great country they live in a third world defenseless wasteland. Let's see how they would enjoy all that money surrounded by poverty and despair.

Finally, as usual, may God help us so we in turn can help America. Also, to all of our members who are serving in the Reserves and the National Guard, our prayers are with you. Show the bad guys how a good ol' fashion Milwaukee Union style ass whipping is properly applied. We will never forget, nor will we ever give up.

OOH RAH!!! GOD BLESS AMERICA!!! LAND OF THE FREE AND THE HOME OF THE BRAVE LABOR UNIONS!



ASK YOUR LAWYER

by Thomas Flanagan

Previant, Goldberg, Uelman, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman, S.C.

Five Dangerous Words: Maybe it will get better”

If you have the unfortunate experience of being injured at work, there are five words that should not run through your mind. These words, although tempting in the real world, will probably lead to a denial of your worker’s compensation claim, and possibly to the loss of your claim at a hearing, if one becomes necessary.

These words will cause a delay in reporting the injury, allowing the compensation carrier to claim you were injured somewhere else, casting doubt on your credibility by letting the carrier claim that anyone who is injured tells someone, usually a co-worker or the doctor, about it.

These words will make it more difficult for you to recall accurately the date and the important circumstances surrounding your injury.

These words will allow the doctor hired by the worker’s compensation carrier to cast doubt on the believability of what you say happened to you.

These words may make it difficult for your own doctor to link up your complaints to the incident that you believed caused your symptoms.

The five dangerous words””Maybe it will get better.”

Always report your injuries accurately and when they happen. Although many injuries do get better, a substantial percentage continue to get worse. Non-reporting unnecessarily complicates your situation.

If you have questions about worker’s compensation, personal injury or social security disability, please feel free to call the Previant, Goldberg, Uelman, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman Law Firm at 414-271-4500 or toll free at 1-800-841-5232.

Local 2-232 Legal Clinic

Do you have legal questions or problems facing you or your family? Have you suffered a major personal injury? If you have, or if you have any other legal problem, Local 2-232 is providing free legal consultations with lawyers from the law firm of Previant, Goldberg, Uelman, Gratz, Miller & Brueggeman at the Local 2-232 Union office, 8500 W. Capitol Dr. Legal clinic hours: 1:00P.M. to 4:00P.M. First Monday of the month. Call for an appointment 414-463-7425.

Membership Meeting Recap

by Karen Clark

The membership meeting was held on Sunday June 23rd, 2007 at 9:30a.m. sharp at Frank Monreal’s El Matador 9155 W. Bluemound Rd.

I am saddened to say we did not have a quorum due to lack of members present. The only “unofficial” business we were able to conduct were the reports of the President and grievance reps.

It is the responsibility of all of us to attend these meetings. Also ask your Union Steward if they were present. That is why you voted them in. It is part of their job to attend these meetings so they can keep you informed of any changes. This is also a perfect time for you to join us as well. I personally know that members always have questions, concerns, comments or complaints. This is your opportunity to bring them up at our meeting so you can get the answers.

So, our next meeting will be held on Sunday August 5, 2007 9:30a.m. sharp at Frank Monreal’s El Matador located at 9155 W. Bluemound Rd. Please join us and see what our Union is all about. Remember, you are the Union!

I’d like to encourage all of our new members as well to join us, so you can see what a Union does for you. You are the future of this Union as many of the joint board are eligible to retire in 2008.

In Solidarity,
Karen Clark

**UNION
YES**

Membership Information

May 2007

853 Members in Good Standing

608 in Briggs & Stratton Unit

245 in Strattec Unit

May Dues Payments

519 Dues Paying Members at Briggs

215 Dues Paying members at Strattec

734 Total Dues Paying Members

(Difference reflects members off work for lay-off, illness or other reasons)

UPCOMING EVENTS

June 14- Flag Day



June 17- Father's Day



June 29-July 15 -Briggs
Shutdown

July 4 - Independence Day



August 5- Membership Meeting

September 3- Labor Day

Labor Fest at the Lake front



October 8- Columbus Day



Grievance Rep Reports

Strattec Security

by Milt Dawson

ATTEC AREA

The company has installed cameras in this work area due to the fact that there are problems amongst some workers of a personal nature. But to be frank about it, in my estimation, it's also a management problem that the Union surely can help find the proper solution for without going through these types of actions.

GRIEVANCES

A total of nine grievances were settled since my last report. I must say that I do not feel good about the grievances that didn't come out on the side of total satisfaction. But I will fight hard for each and every one to have a positive outcome.

TESTING

There has been a lot of questions about the testing process that apply to jobs that require said tests. (i.e. Tech III A Labor Grade 15) There is a study guide that is available to you. This guide informs you of the passing score, which is 80%. You can pick up this information in person from Ms. Sigrida Staks or you can contact me. I will make sure you get it. Also, I have talked to management about the turn around time to re-take the test if you fail on your first attempt. I have suggested 30 days rather than the 6 months that the company has been using.

In Solidarity,
Milton Dawson

LOCAL 2-232 REPORTER

June 2007

Volume 28, Issue #3

LOCAL 2-232 UNITED STEEL, PAPER AND FORESTRY, RUBBER, MANUFACTURING, ENERGY, ALLIED INDUSTRIAL

AND SERVICE WORKERS INTERNATIONAL UNION

Representing employees of Briggs & Stratton Corp. and Strattec Security Corp.

Office 8500 W. Capitol Dr.

Phone 414-463-7425 Fax 414-463-7638

e-mail -office@pace7232.org

Website- www.pace7232.org

Hours 7:00a.m.- 4:00p.m.

Monday through Friday

The information contained herein is of informal nature and is not intended to be final and authoritative.

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Strattec Bargaining Committee: Scott Godshaw, Milton Dawson, Dennis Nowak, Al Olivares

Grievance Rep Reports

Briggs & Stratton Second Shift

by Jesse Edwards

WORKING SHUTDOWN

The company stated that dept. 105 Buildings and Grounds and dept. 700 Maintenance would work during the July shutdown. At this time there are no other departments scheduled to work. If the company decides to work, they would need to ask for volunteers. Also, Service does not have a shutdown.

SERVICE

The 2nd shift at the Falls continues to grow. The company is still adding jobs there. You should watch the bulletin boards for informational postings if you want to work there. The company will offer the jobs to Brigg's employees before they hire from the outside. Also, at the Falls, attendance is a major concern. There are a number of employees on the edge of being discharged for poor attendance. Keep in mind, at 9.0 points, you are subject to discharge. If you have any questions about the attendance policy, you should contact your steward or Grievance Rep.

STEWARDS

The steward elections are held the month of June. The term of office is 2 years. The steward is the back bone of the union. All stewards are expected to attend regular membership meetings which are held every other month. The stewards are also expected to attend all steward training meetings which are held once per quarter. The best steward is the most informed steward. We want to make sure you have all the tools and information you need whenever you meet with the company. The best time to settle a grievance is at the 1st step. I'm looking forward to seeing all stewards get more involved. See you at the next meeting.

RETIREEES

When a member retires with a seniority date of 12/31/79 or prior and with 30 years of seniority, the retiree and their dependent are entitled to medical, dental and vision insurance for ten years or until the retiree reaches the age of 65 years old. However, if the retiree would happen to pass away, the dependent would only have insurance for the rest of the month. The insurance is based on the retired employee, not the dependent. Also, your life insurance reverts to \$ 8,000 upon your retirement. Congratulation to all retirees, and good luck with whatever career you chose next.

In Solidarity,
Jesse Edwards

Briggs & Stratton First & Third Shift

by Jackie Goodwin & Dan Badzinski

FALLS

There will be ten people placed on jobs at Menomonee Falls. Two members were recalled from layoff, two are probationary members on orientation and the company is in process of hiring six others I would like to welcome our new brothers and sisters to the Falls.

LAYOFF

In dept.735, there were four people on layoff. In dept.716, there are 2 people on layoff. The two from 716 were truckers. They were offered jobs in either coils or service. Each one of them turned down the job due to weight.. The assemblers in dept.716 will be cut back in August. This will affect five members. They will end up going to the coil department. After the cutback, there will be four production workers on first shift and 3 on second shift.

“IT’S GETTING HOT IN HERE”

No, this is not Nelly! This is the Briggs & Stratton Standards of Conduct on page 1 letter 1-Termination Violations and page 2 letter A-Other Violations. Many of us have forgotten that this is a workplace and there are rules all of us have to abide by. The company is cracking down on foul language, the threats of one another, the fighting and the horse-play. I know that it is getting hot in here but we need to treat people the way you would like to be treated. We are all Brothers and Sisters and we should help each other, not hurt each other. GOD BLESS

DEPARTMENT 760

Dept 760 is training all labor grade 11 and 13 set up and operate screw machine people to be labor grade 10's. So there will only be labor grade 18 machine control B and labor grade 10 set up and operate

INSURANCE DEDUCTIONS

Due to the large number of employees that will not be working the week of June 25th, your double deduction for medical insurance scheduled to be taken off of your check on July 12th will be taken off of your check on August 2nd instead. The August single deductions will be taken off of your check each week from August 9th through August 30th. This will be for everybody, whether or not you are working the week of the 25th.

In Solidarity,
Jacqueline Goodwin (JG)
Dan Badzinski

Wellness Corner “You can’t live without it” Snoring: It May Be More Serious Than It Sounds

by Tina Coleman

Do you snore loudly? Or dream about getting a good night's sleep? Wake up and read on-help is available for what may ail you. Your problems may be caused by sleep apnea, a very common problem that affects millions of Americans each year.

If your bed partner is ready to wear earplugs due to your loud snoring, you're not alone: an estimated 30 million Americans ring the air with their nighttime snoring. But of these 30 million, it is estimated that 12-18 million actually suffer from sleep apnea, a potentially life-threatening condition in which breathing is disrupted during sleep. Sleep apnea has been associated with high blood pressure, cardiovascular disease, pulmonary hypertension, memory problems, weight gain, impotency, bedwetting in adults, and headaches. Because apnea occurs during sleep, though, it is often unrecognized as a cause or aggravating factor of these problems. Apnea occurs in men and women of all age groups, but is currently thought to be about two to three times more common in men. According to the National Sleep Foundation, "people most likely to have or develop sleep apnea include those who snore loudly and are also overweight, or have high blood pressure, or have some physical abnormality in the nose, throat, or other parts of the upper airway. Sleep apnea seems to run in some families, suggesting a possible genetic basis."

While sleep apnea has been thought to be more common in middle-aged and older patients, a recent study sponsored by the National Institutes of Health at the Milton Hershey Medical Center in Pennsylvania concluded that the most severe cases of apnea occur in young people under age 45. The study recommended that people be treated more aggressively once a diagnosis has been made to reduce hypertension and cardiovascular problems.

Daytime Sleepiness & Other Dangers

It is common but misguided to view daytime sleepiness as a necessary cost of a hard-working, hard-playing, or fast-lane lifestyle. Daytime sleepiness may actually be a sign of a sleep disorder or of sleep deprivation. Although sufficient restorative sleep is necessary for good health, many people view sleepiness as a testament to the fullness of their lives. Therefore, it's rarely mentioned in any discussion of personal health.

Daytime sleepiness is dangerous-not just to the sufferer but to those around him as well. Anyone can be sleep deprived. Exhausted people drive on our highways, operate machinery, fill our prescriptions,

work in emergency rooms, care for our children, and patrol our neighborhoods. Sleepiness sufferers themselves are often unlikely to be aware that they have a problem. After experiencing daytime sleepiness for extended periods, people tend to forget how good it feels to be fully awake and alert. They no longer recognize their sleepiness as being out of the ordinary. Those with untreated obstructive sleep apnea are not only putting others at risk; they are risking great personal danger as well. "In recurring apnea, your oxygen level drops and blood vessels in the lungs constrict, resulting in pulmonary hypertension. Then the right side of the heart fails to pump properly," says Waldhorn. "Apnea can predispose people to heart arrhythmia and other problems." In fact, a study by U.S. and German researchers, published in *Stroke*, a journal of the American Heart Association, found that patients with obstructive apneas and hypopneas (heavy snoring) are at increased risk of stroke. Scientists believe this to be a result of negative thoracic (chest) pressure created by the cessation of breathing, which then causes a reduction in blood flow in the middle cerebral artery, leading to stroke.

Healthy Corner

Here are some important numbers for Briggs employees regarding your health:

Health-Link - Access to immediate, confidential, healthcare expertise.

1-888-228-7672

Patient Care - Helping you through the healthcare maze.

1-877-344-7474

www.patientcare4u.com

Here is an important number for Strattec employees regarding your health:

United Health Care
Health care problems or questions, call toll-free 1-866-827-9025

www.myuhc.com