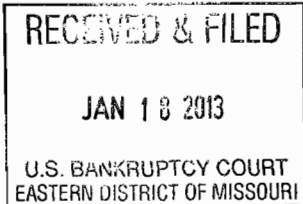


The Honorable Kathy A. Suratt - States

January - 16 - 2013

I am Mildred Marion Vincent - Wife & Spouse  
& <sup>Dependent</sup> Disabled Son Duane Ray Vincent of Deceased  
Carlos <sup>Miner</sup> Ray Vincent. I feel all these copy's I'm sending  
speaks out for my son & I on Health & Retirement issues  
as our Benefits for Life. If I should decease before  
Duane, he has a sister Sadona B. Burns & her family to  
see that his Health care continues, because she will have  
these copy's also. Carlos only worked for Leabody Coal Co.  
& Amay Coal Co. never a working day for Patriot Coal Co.  
Carlos always keep his dues paid & his belief in the  
United Mine Workers, keep me paying UMW dues after  
he deceased, so now I'm a UMW Associate Member  
We continue to support our win over Patriot Coal Co.  
Bankruptcy. Our thanks to Richard L. Trumka,  
President George Bush, Cecil E. Roberts, Daniel Kane,  
Steve Earle & to all not mentioned for your hard work to protect  
us. Words could not explain the effect it would have on us if  
we lost our benefits. Thanks President George Bush for signing a  
law bill Oct. 24-1992. UMW Retirees Sincerely, Thanks  
health benefits for life. Spouse - Mildred Marion Vincent  
Dependent Disabled Son - Duane R. Vincent  
& the rest of our family  
(Prayers)



# United Mine Workers of America

RICHARD L. TRUMKA  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



TELEPHONE  
(202) 842-7220  
FAX (202) 842-7342

UNITED MINE WORKERS' BUILDING  
900 FIFTEENTH STREET, N. W.  
**Washington, D.C.**  
20005

To all retired members of the United Mine Workers of America

Greetings:

We are writing today to inform you that the historic promise made by the federal government to retired Mine Workers in 1946 has finally been kept in full. On Saturday, Oct. 24, 1992, the President of the United States signed into law a bill that guarantees UMWA retirees' health benefits for life.

Many of you remember the day when John L. Lewis went to the White House to sign the agreement which created the UMWA Welfare and Retirement Fund. You also remember that the operators have continually tried to renege on their commitment to our retirees.

During the term of the 1974 contract, the operators actually cut off health benefits to our retirees for the first time. In the 1977-78 negotiations, they established a system which held pensioners' health benefits hostage during every contract strike. Then, in the 1980s, our battles got even tougher.

Hundreds of coal companies went out of business, victims of the anti-coal, anti-labor policies of the Reagan and Bush administrations. Unscrupulous operators abandoned their commitment to our retirees. Fewer and fewer coal companies ended up paying for more and more retirees.

The situation looked bleak. Even our allies and supporters doubted that the UMWA could save retiree health care without massive reductions in benefits and coverage. But, thanks to you and thousands of other UMWA members, our union was able to do what no other union has ever done: secure passage of a federal law that guarantees retiree health care for life.

**Never again will unscrupulous operators be able to renege on their commitment to retiree health benefits. By law, they must pay for those benefits as long as they are in business.**

RICHARD L. TRUMKA  
UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA  
900 FIFTEENTH STREET, N. W.  
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20005

PRESORTED  
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*Oct. 1992*

*Letter about Health Card  
guaranteed for life. UMWA  
Pres. Bush signed bill*

**IMPORTANT!  
NEWS ABOUT YOUR HEALTHCARE  
ENCLOSED**

\*\*FIRST CLASS PRESORTED\*\* \*D  
U23M001092W406328189 726\*  
CARLOS R VINCENT  
RT-3 BOX 142  
CENTRAL CITY, KY 42330



**Never again will our enemies be able to argue for a reduction in retiree health benefits.** By law, those benefits are guaranteed at their present levels for life.

Our union has won a great victory, a victory that belongs to the entire organization, and especially to the tens of thousands of UMWA members who volunteered their time, energy and talents to help win this fight.

Without your solidarity, our union would not have been able to place retiree health care on the national agenda. Without your support, UMWA health care legislation would never have passed the U.S. Senate and the U.S. House of Representatives. Without your commitment, we could never have forced the most anti-labor administration since Herbert Hoover to sign a law guaranteeing our retirees health care for life.

But new challenges loom on the horizon, challenges which will determine, in large part, whether our organization will survive and prosper during the 1990s.

In the November 3 election, the future of our union and our nation are up for grabs. Don't be fooled by the polls or by talk of an easy victory. No election is over until the last vote is counted. Today's front runner could become tomorrow's loser if we don't work to support those candidates who will effectively represent our organization. Your involvement and participation in this election is critical.

Your involvement and support are just as vital to our union's ability to negotiate new contracts for the vast majority of our members in 1993. By any measure, these negotiations will be among the toughest our union has faced in recent history. Coal prices are depressed, the economy is in a shambles, and the industry will view any division in our ranks as a sign of weakness. If the coal operators smell blood, they will attack.

We urge you to attend your local union meetings, get involved, and prepare for the coming battles. In 1991 and 1992, we united the entire organization to win federally guaranteed retiree health care. If we continue to stand together, we can win equally impressive victories in the voting booth and at the bargaining table in 1992 and 1993.

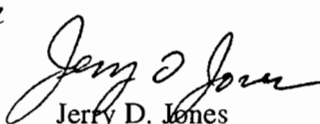
Fraternally yours,



Richard L. Trumka



Cecil E. Roberts



Jerry D. Jones

re- ch- hat dam Hussein . . . indirectly, and without leaving fingerprints. Vice President Bush was the ideal courier."

Oct. 25-1992

# Health care assured for UMW retirees

By Martha Bryson Hodel  
Associated Press

HUNTINGTON, W.Va. — When President Bush signed a comprehensive energy bill Saturday, he closed a chapter of American labor history that opened with the United Mine Workers' 1989 strike against The Pittston Co.

The bill not only charts a new energy policy for the nation, it preserves the guarantee of lifetime health benefits for as many as 220,000 retired and soon-to-be-retired coal miners and their dependents.

"Those coal miners created the might of modern industrial America," said Sen. Jay Rockefeller, who was instrumental in the passage of provisions to save UMW health care trust funds that were threatened with bankruptcy.

"They did not fail their country. I am proud to say today that their country will not fail them," said Rockefeller, D-W.Va.

It was a victory for labor in a time when labor has had few to celebrate, said Richard Trumka, president of the United Mine Workers of America.

Trumka minimizes whatever credit Bush is due for signing the bill. He said the presi-

See UMW/7A

## ndma tag along to from skipping class

**Barbie Bostic stands** in front of where her market stood before it was destroyed in the Los Angeles riots six months ago. She wanted to rebuild the store and rehire her 17 workers, but gave up after City Hall regulations snarled her plans.

Oct. 25-1992

# UMW: Retirees control union

From the **Front Page**

dent's decision "wasn't driven by any compassion for America's coal miners, but by the desire to satisfy Senator Jay Rockefeller and the UMW's other supporters on Capitol Hill."

The Bush administration initially opposed the plan and vetoed an earlier version when it was attached to a tax bill. Trumka said it became clear "that unless UMW pensioners' and widows' health care needs were satisfied, there would be no national energy bill."

"The signing of this legislation marks the greatest UMW victory in the past 50 years," Trumka said.

In 1989, the UMW threw all its resources into its strike against Pittston. The pivotal issue of the 10-month strike was whether the Connecticut-based company would continue contributing to the union's Health and Retirement Funds, which provide health insurance for all UMW retirees.

The union knew that if Pittston were allowed to withdraw from the plan, other coal companies would rush to ask for the same concession, dooming the plan.

Unable to resolve the issue in col-

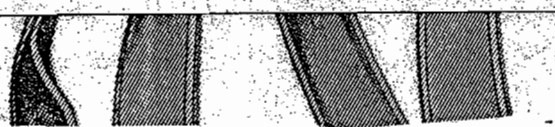
lective bargaining, Trumka opted to try to find a solution in Congress — a course some might have thought even less likely to succeed, given the tensions between organized labor and the Bush administration.

And there is another factor affecting the UMW's decision to take its fight to Congress. The UMW is dominated in many ways by its retirees, who vastly outnumber active union members and have full voting rights, including in the election of officers.

Many working UMW members are second-, third- and even fourth-generation members, including Trumka. The union president's father draws a UMW pension, as does the father of Vice President Cecil Roberts.

"As the son and grandson of coal miners, this is perhaps the proudest day of my life," Trumka said of the signing of the Energy Bill.

Now, much of organized labor is hopeful that the UMW's success can pave the way toward resolving similar problems in other industries, like the auto and steel industries. Large numbers of retirees are also a drain on corporate finances in those industries.



# United Mine Workers of America

RICHARD L. TRUMKA  
INTERNATIONAL PRESIDENT



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UNITED MINE WORKERS' BUILDING  
900 FIFTEENTH STREET, N.W.  
**Washington, D.C.**  
20005

April 28, 1995

## TO ALL ROCKEFELLER PENSIONERS RECEIVING HEALTH BENEFITS UNDER COMPANY PLANS:

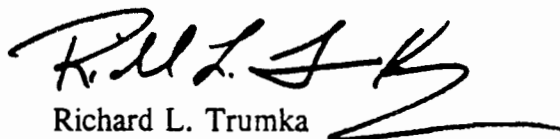
Under the Coal Industry Retiree Health Benefit Act, your health benefits are guaranteed for life. The UMWA is proud to have played a role in your entitlement to lifetime benefits. I am writing to you now to urge your cooperation in aiding us to contain costs and improve service, while not affecting your health care benefits.

As you may know, medical costs are increasing substantially. In recognition of that fact, the Rockefeller Act permits the benefit plan to be designed so that medical care is delivered in cost-effective ways. The UMWA has agreed with BCOA that its companies may use Participating Provider Lists (PPLs) in their plans -- just as they currently do for their active employees and pensioners who are not covered by the Rockefeller Act. These PPLs are lists of hospitals, physicians, pharmacies and other providers that have agreed to cooperate with us to provide benefits under your plan. Each PPL has been approved by an independent expert, who reviewed the list of doctors to ensure that beneficiaries will have reasonable access to qualified providers. Providers may later be added to the list.

On behalf of the UMWA, I strongly encourage you to utilize the doctors and other providers from the PPL established under your plan. Your hospital and doctor benefits remain the same, and your co-pays for these benefits have not increased.

In the next few weeks, you will be receiving notification from the plan of how your PPL will work. I urge you to work with your plan in using the PPL, so that all of us can do our part to contain health care costs.

Fraternally,

  
Richard L. Trumka

**AMAX COAL COMPANY  
UMWA HEALTH PLAN**

Identification Card

Vincent, Carlos R.  
EMPLOYEE'S NAME (LAST, FIRST)

S.S. #

GROUP No.  
24750-G

*Carlos R. Vincent*  
SIGNATURE

**PEABODY COAL COMPANY-UMWA HEALTH PLAN**  
Provident Life and Accident Insurance Company

Identification Card for:

EMPLOYEE: **CARLOS R VINCENT**

EMPLOYEE NO. **34567** S.S. #

EMPLOYING LOCATION: **GIBRALTAR  
P.O. BOX 510  
CENTRAL CITY, KY**

**NOTE TO PROVIDERS OF SERVICES:**

This card is for identification purposes only and to verify that the above named Insurance Carrier provides group coverage for Peabody Coal Company's UMWA Represented Employees and their eligible dependents. For verification of Eligibility of the cardholder please telephone **502-754-3161**.

Employee  
Signature

*Carlos R. Vincent*

Not Valid Unless Signed

Form 3960 (Rev. 6/1/85)

**UMWA ASSOCIATE MEMBER  
IDENTIFICATION CARD**

This is to certify that

**MARTON VINCENT**

is an Associate Member of the  
United Mine Workers of America  
Member since

1999

Exp. Date **11/30/13** President  
*Carl P. Roberts*

ASSOCIATE

ASSOCIATE

**UNITED MINE WORKERS OF AMERICA  
VIP Membership Card**

Carl Roberts, President

Jerry Jones, Vice President      Carlo Enley, Secretary-Treasurer

Protecting Workers' Rights for Over 100 Years

Pension Benefits

Health Care

Health & Safety

Organizing



**CARLOS R VINCENT**

[Redacted]



The Los Angeles Times on Tuesday printed a poll that said more than one-fifth of registered voters would vote for Perot in a three-way race for president with President Bush and Democrat Bill Clinton.

... made his fortune in the computer services business, founding Electronic Data Systems Inc. in 1961. His work on behalf of U.S. prisoners of war in Vietnam first brought him the national spotlight.

April-1-1992

# Judge will set company costs for miners' health benefits

**Associated Press**

ABINGDON, Va. — A federal judge on Wednesday will set the amount of coal company contributions necessary to maintain health benefits for 120,000 retired miners and dependents.

U.S. District Judge Glen Williams will take the action because the participants failed to agree on an amount by March 27, the judge's deadline.

Williams on Monday extended his temporary order protecting the health benefits while he prepares an injunction that will prohibit the suspension of benefits until the completion of a trial in another federal court.

Williams extended his order so his injunction could include the increased contributions and address a motion to dismiss two attorneys who filed a class-action lawsuit on behalf of the retired miners.

The United Mine Workers union and the Bituminous Coal Operators Association want the attorneys removed because their fees were paid by a group of nonunion coal companies working to defeat legislation to bail out the insurance funds with an industrywide tax.

The BCOA has 14 member members but negotiates union contracts for about 300 other coal companies that contribute to the insurance funds.

The funds' trustees said a complete bailout would require BCOA contributions to increase from \$2.17 to \$5.03 per man-hour for the 1950 Benefit Trust and from 33 cents to 91 cents for the 1974 Benefit Trust.

BCOA attorney William Poff said the contribution increases should be about half of that proposed by the trustees, who operate independently of the companies and the union.

The 10-day extension Monday was the second Williams has granted. The initial temporary restraining order was issued on March 4.

Trustees of two health funds of the United Mine Workers had planned to halt benefits by mid-April because the funds are about \$140 million in the red.

The health care was promised to miners in a 1946

---

'The BCOA is made up of very sophisticated and prosperous companies that certainly have the professional and financial means to meet all their obligations and satisfy the needs of these people.'

**Scott Rotruck**

Maryland Coal Operators Association member

---

agreement with the federal government, in exchange for allowing increased mechanization in the coalfields.

But many of the retired miners used to work for companies that are no longer in business and not contributing to the trusts. As the number of people applying for benefits increases while health care costs rise, the trusts' losses mount.

A trial over the contract clause that guarantees the health benefits is scheduled to begin June 22 in Washington, D.C.

In the meantime, Congress has passed legislation that would have imposed an industrywide tax on coal producers and transferred money from a solvent UMW pension fund to bail out the two funds. The legislation was vetoed by President Bush.

Private Benefits Alliance, a group of nonunion companies opposed to the industrywide tax, criticized the BCOA for failing to reach an agreement on the contribution rate.

"The BCOA is made up of very sophisticated and prosperous companies that certainly have the professional and financial means to meet all their obligations and satisfy the needs of these people," said Scott Rotruck of the Maryland Coal Operators Association.

# Truckers scramble to apply for licenses

By Allen G. Breed

Thanks to Congress, anyone who "The majority of them standing in



UMWA Health Plan

New Testament figure's remains found/

UK football team beefing up/

Printed in part on recycled newsprint

OWENSBORO

Printed with soy ink

# Messenger-Inquirer

VOL. 118 NO. 227

FRIDAY, AUGUST 14, 1992

35¢

## Trumka confident health plan will pass

### UMW president says bill will assure retired miners of uninterrupted health care

By **Lori Eckenberger**  
Messenger-Inquirer

**MORGANFIELD** — Walter Peavler retired from the Island Creek coal mines in Mühlenberg County in 1983. As a member of the United Mine Workers for the last nine years, he has been confident of his health care benefit.

"I would rather lose my pension than I would my health care," the Greenville resident said.

Peavler and about 200 other people gathered Thursday at the Earle C. Clements Job Corps Center in Morganfield to hear Richard Trumka, the international president of the United Mine Workers.

Trumka, a native of Nemacolin, Pa., has been president of the union for 10 years and was in town to attend a district conference. Most of his address centered on health care benefits for miners.

Legislation attached to a national energy bill will continue the health benefits of retired UMW members — some who worked for companies no longer involved in mining.

About 220,000 pensioned union workers and widows will benefit from the bill if passed by Congress.

"I feel absolutely confident right now that we'll have this bill done by mid-September, the end of September or

early October," Trumka said. "The bill guarantees benefits for the life of the retired miner or the miner's spouse," he said. In the past during strikes, retirees' benefits have been interrupted.

"If there is a nationwide strike, your health care will not be cut off as it was in the past," Trumka said. "For the first time we are able to say to you that your health care is absolutely secure."

The bill will cover people who retire as late as Oct. 1, 1994. Any company that signed a UMW contract as far back as 1950 will be responsible for its retired miners' benefits.

Future spending will be partially controlled with managed health care benefits.

The bill also calls for the UMW to receive \$70 million a year from funds currently going into the abandoned min-

es reclamation act.

After Oct. 1, 1994, the union will have to negotiate for retiree benefits just like every other benefit, Trumka said. Because of the legislation being considered, 220,000 fewer people will have to worry about losing benefits, he said.

If the legislation had not been successful, Trumka said the union would have had a major struggle come Feb. 1, 1993. He said the industry had said it would not provide benefits for retirees and widows after that time.

"That doesn't mean that these negotiations aren't going to be tough. They'll be plenty tough," he said. "We're dealing with an industry that's in a tremendous state of change."

See **Trumka Back Page**

She may be a little girl.

# ... Your Service

(Continued from front page)

## GIBRALTAR

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
01-09-56	W. M. Oldham	25
01-10-56	F. E. Harris	25
05-09-56	G. C. Rudolph	25
05-20-56	J. R. Brown	25
05-29-56	W. E. Bandy	25
07-09-56	W. R. Kirkpatrick	25
07-16-56	I. Wilborn, Jr.	25
07-27-56	R. K. Skimehorn	25
07-27-56	R. E. Smith	25
08-11-56	F. W. Miller	25
08-30-56	G. Jenkins	25
08-30-56	C. B. Pendley	25
08-30-56	D. C. Shaver	25
10-24-56	J. Hardin	25
11-05-56	R. Baise	25
02-18-55	W. H. Sandefur	25
04-09-55	C. R. Vincent	25
04-12-55	O. Grace	25
04-18-55	O. W. Roberson	25
04-20-55	L. Barnard	25
04-20-55	H. Jones	25
04-20-55	G. H. Meredith	25
04-21-55	W. Ashley	25
04-21-55	R. E. Kipling	25
04-25-55	R. Arnold, Jr.	25
04-25-55	J. E. Gossett	25
04-25-55	T. Walker	25
05-03-55	J. Minor	25
05-07-55	J. M. Lockett	25
11-23-54	U. V. Rogers	25
11-23-54	C. M. Rose	25
11-09-48	E. W. Pearson	30
05-01-45	W. L. Lantrip	35
08-15-31	O. C. Wyatt	50

## GIBRALTAR PREP PLANT

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
01-30-56	R. L. Dukes	25
02-23-56	J. L. Lockett	25
07-23-56	H. L. Evitts	25
07-23-56	R. O. Vincent	25
08-01-56	E. G. Stevens	25
01-24-55	C. D. Myers	25
04-16-55	L. Hendrix	25
12-05-55	A. Johnson, Jr.	25

## KEN DOCK

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
05-21-56	G. W. Woods	25
02-05-51	H. D. Basham	30
02-20-51	L. S. Chinn	30
01-15-48	J. L. Geary	30
12-09-47	W. T. Snodgrass	30

## KEN HAULAGE AND ROADS

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
08-20-56	G. Sailing	25
02-23-54	G. T. Daniel	25
01-01-48	F. T. Alexander	30
03-02-48	A. D. Decker	30
04-22-48	A. D. Geary	30
12-02-47	W. H. Brown	30

## KEN PREP PLANT AND LAB

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
04-23-56	J. D. Daniels	25
09-05-56	W. N. Owens	25
02-24-48	R. E. Brown	30
04-13-48	R. L. Robinson	30
08-14-48	P. J. Boone	30
11-26-47	S. H. Patterson	30
12-06-47	B. W. Allen	30

## KEN SURFACE

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
02-16-56	C. Hagemeyer	25
08-24-56	B. T. McCoy	25
05-31-54	W. D. McGregor	25
07-03-54	G. A. Hurst	25
07-14-52	V. A. Mosley	25
08-08-52	W. E. Jones	25
01-12-51	C. Fulkerson	30
08-06-51	R. D. Snodgrass	30
09-10-51	W. A. Chancellor	30
12-02-50	G. B. Allen	30
07-24-49	L. J. Sims	30
11-30-49	D. Likens	30
12-21-49	B. G. Welborn	30
01-15-48	W. J. Snodgrass	30
02-14-48	D. G. Givens	30
03-19-48	J. G. Lile	30
11-18-47	J. T. Southard	30
11-25-47	A. L. Thomas	30
12-08-47	G. M. Devine, Jr.	30
11-25-46	E. Whitehead	35

## KEN UNDERGROUND

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
07-10-53	T. Sizemore	25

## MOORMAN

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
07-01-56	M. D. Satterfield	25

## RIVER QUEEN PREP PLANT

Service Date	Name	Service Award Eligibility
01-08-47	D. C. Cunningham	30

# GIBRALTAR WORKS 620 DAYS— NO LOST TIME INJURIES

By Central City Times-Argus (Kentucky)

Peabody Coal Company's Gibraltar Surface Mine near Central City held a fish fry-barbecue for some 200 of their employees on Wednesday, Oct. 1 at the Central City National Guard Armory.

The occasion was centered around their safety program. GIBRALTAR EMPLOYEES had worked 620 consecutive days without a single lost time injury. This is a record accomplishment for any coal mine and the men at Gibraltar will readily admit that in order to maintain an effective safety program along with production, a team effort is the key to it all.

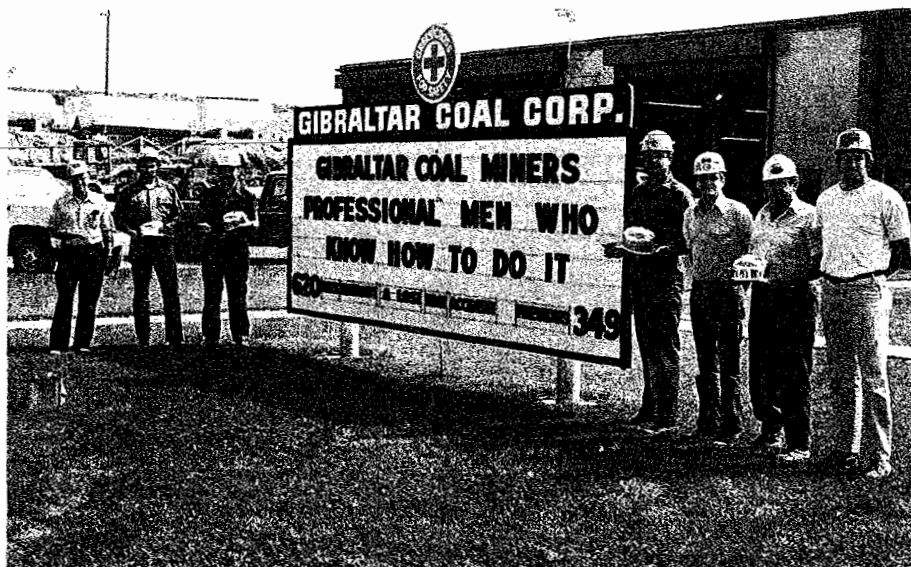
Gibraltar is well known for its safety achievements over the years and the latest achievement of 620 days had special significance in that it occurred after Peabody reopened the mine in 1979.

MIKE WELLS, Safety Supervisor, and GENE PEARSON, Superintendent, stated that the fish fry-barbecue was a complete success and the day was topped with special safety awards presented to several employees who had achieved personal safety records of working without lost time injury dur-

ing the past 20 months.

Gold plated hard hats with special inscriptions were presented along with special designed Gibraltar belt buckles. Door prizes were also presented to various employees throughout the day of the fish fry. Gibraltar employees intend to stick to the belief that safety and production can and do work.

The 620 day streak ended on July 1 of this year when a worker was injured by a piece of metal that fell on his foot. The last previous lost time injury occurred in October, 1978.

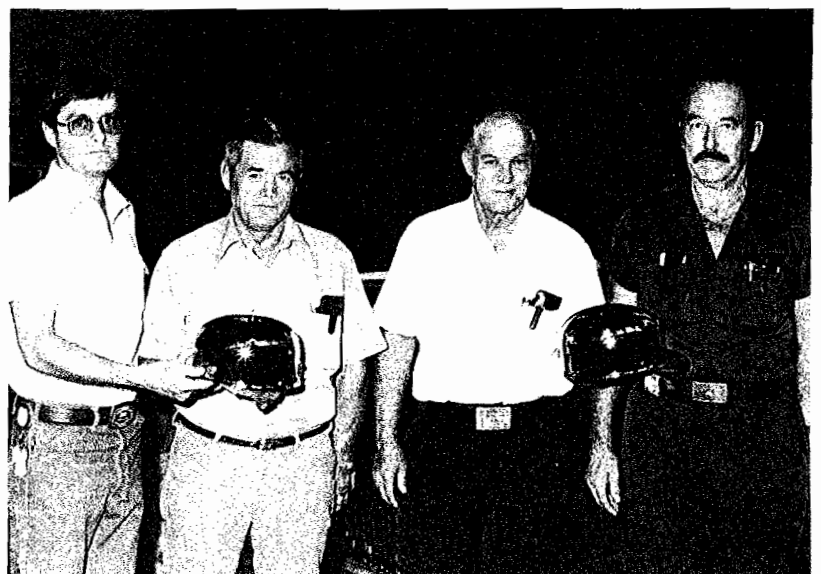


Employees of Peabody's Gibraltar Coal Mine near Central City stand next to a sign that says that the surface mine went 620 days without a lost time injury. The streak started in October, 1978 and continued through July 1, 1980. Pictured from left are GENE PEARSON, Mine Superintendent; DAVID BROWNING, Tipple Welder; ROBERT KIPLING, Supply Truck Driver; BILL KNIGHT, Welder; MIKE WELLS, Safety Supervisor; O.S. WYATT, Dozer Operator; and RICHARD SHAVER, Safety Supervisor. The streak ended July 1 when a worker was injured by a piece of metal that fell on his foot. Absent from picture were WAYNE CATES, TED FULLER, VERNON RAGER, RONDALL SKIME-HORN and CARLOS VINCENT.

—Times-Argus photo by Mark Stone.



(Left to right) MIKE WELLS, Safety Supervisor, presenting Gold Plated Hard Hats (Safety Award) to CARLOS VINCENT. ROGER FRIDAY receiving hard hat from MELVIN CARLISLE, Assistant Superintendent. GENE PEARSON, Superintendent presents ROBERT KIPLING with Safety Award.



(Left to right) MIKE WELLS, Safety Supervisor presenting Gold Plated Hard Hat (Safety Award) to 1st Shift Pumper CARLOS VINCENT. GENE PEARSON, Superintendent presenting award to 1st Shift Supplyman ROBERT KIPLING.

January - 12 - 2013

# Rockefeller to retire from Senate

**JOHN RABY  
AND VICKI SMITH**  
ASSOCIATED PRESS

CHARLESTON, W.Va.

— After nearly three decades in the U.S. Senate, Democrat Jay Rockefeller of West Virginia said Friday he was ready to retire, calling his unrelenting fight to protect the nation's coal miners one of his proudest achievements.

But in the waning days of his political career, the industry has grown hostile, with coal companies and their conservative allies accusing the five-term senator of being out of touch for defending clean-air regulations and other policies they claim imperil the future of mining.

Rockefeller was also lambasted for support of President Barack Obama's health care overhaul as the president became ever more unpopular in West Virginia.

Rockefeller's retirement puts the seat held by Democrats since 1958 in jeopardy for the party, and well-

liked Republican U.S. Rep. Shelley Moore Capito has already vowed to run in 2014.

Though her prospects are uncertain, Capito won a seventh term last fall with about 70 percent of her district's vote, and

the state is growing slightly more Republican: The GOP picked up 11 seats last fall in the state Legislature, and two of the three U.S. House seats are now held by Republicans.

At 75, Rockefeller said he wanted to focus on his family and called his decision entirely personal.

"Public service demands and very much deserves nothing less than every single thing that you have to bring to bear," Rockefeller said.

"And that's what I have given it. I've been driven to make life better for people here. That's not a slogan for me. It's the truth. And an obsession."

The peak of his career, he said, may have come in 1992, when he threatened to keep the Senate in session over Christmas break if they didn't pass legislation preserving retirement benefits for miners and their families. It passed, he said, and a nationwide strike was averted.

"In that fight, and so many others, I've been proud to stand with the working men and women of America," he said.

"I know the coal companies are going after me," Rockefeller added. "I can live with that, because I know that I am fighting every day for coal miners."



**Sen. Jay Rockefeller**

## JACKSON

FROM THE FRONT PAGE

third-degree assault charges were dismissed so Jackson could be sent for treatment to Central State Hospital in Louisville.

Jackson was indicted

that was schizophrenia, that prevented him from appreciating the nature of wrongfulness of his actions or conforming his behavior to the standard of the law."

Jackson receives four medications, some more than once daily, and has to be regularly monitored for side effects

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March - 19 - 1992

## STATE/REGION

# Judge blocks suspension of miner benefits

By David Reed  
Associated Press

ABINGDON, Va. — A federal judge said the government and the coal industry must keep a 46-year-old promise that retired miners and dependents will have lifetime health insurance, even if mining stocks.

U.S. District Judge Glen Williams on Tuesday blocked the suspension of benefits to 120,000 elderly miners and miners' widows. He gave a group of coal companies and the United Mine Workers 10 days to agree on contribution increases from the companies that would keep the benefits program running for the next several months.

Workers' 10 days to agree on contribution increases from the companies that would keep the benefits program running for the next several months.

However, he said the government ultimately is responsible for closing the estimated \$40-million deficit in the two United Mine Workers insurance trust funds.

"If Congress is so wimpy and weak that it is swayed by a lowly district court judgment which may give temporary relief to a few elderly and widows and fails to act on a long-term solution to the problem, then in this court's view Congress never intended to act in the first place," he said.

A Senate-House committee is considering a bailout bill sponsored by Sen. Jay Rockefeller, D-W. Va.

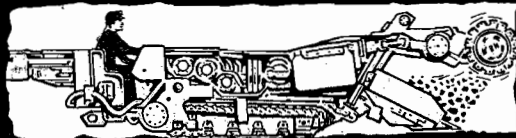
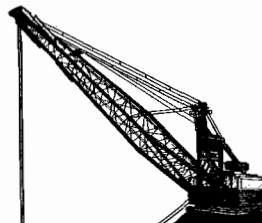
Williams issued a temporary restraining order last month forbidding the funds' trustees from cutting off benefits. On Tuesday, he said the benefits must continue until a trial on the matter, set to begin June 22 in Washington.

The two insurance funds were established after President Truman ordered a federal takeover of the coal mines to halt a strike in 1946. They have gone into the red as lifetime care has continued to retirees whose former employers went out of business or dropped out of the union health plan.





PEABODY COAL COMPANY



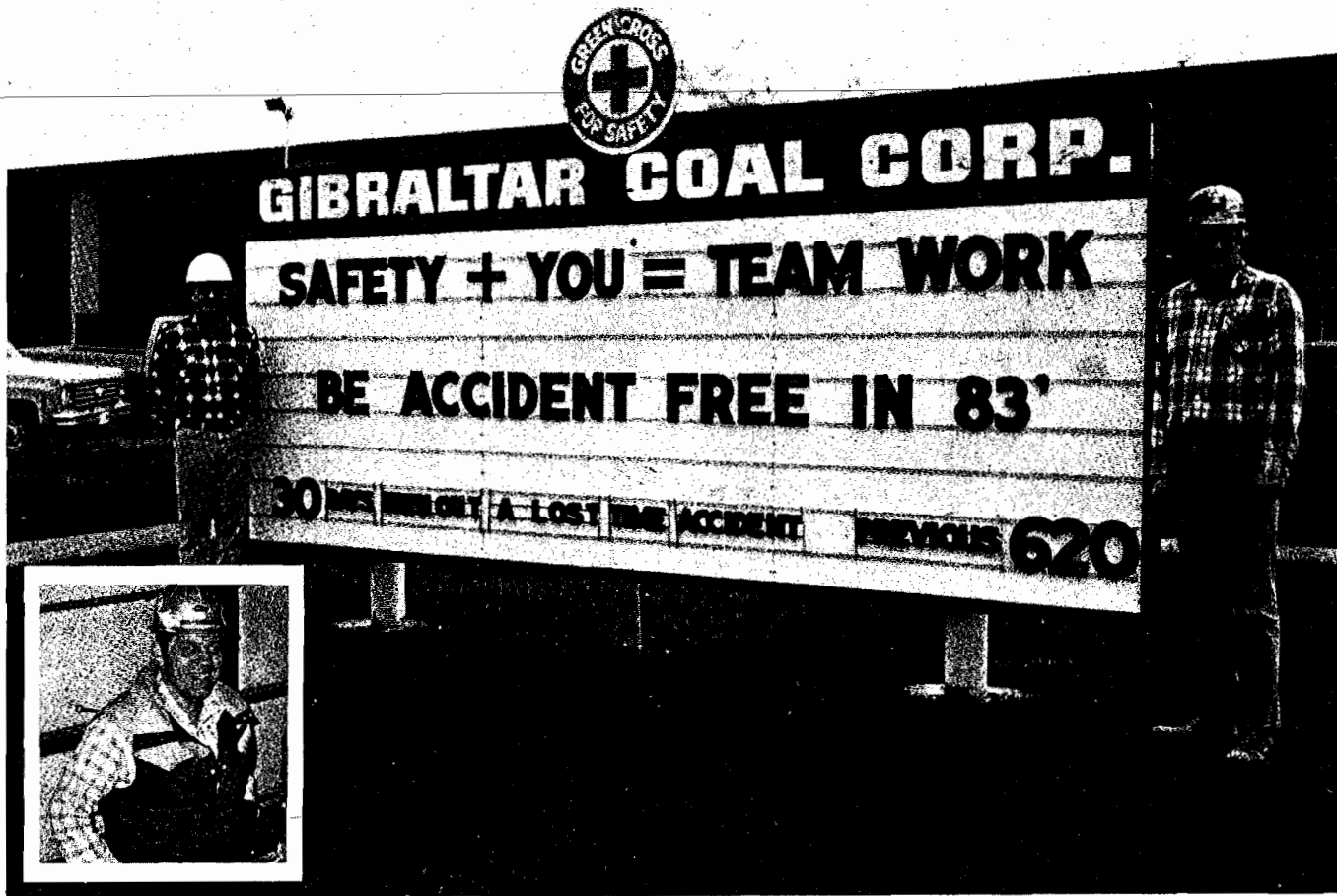
COAL

EASTERN DIVISION COALABORATOR

VOL. III, No. 1

HOWARD W. WILLIAMS, *President*

# A Look at ... GIBRALTAR MINE



Mike Wells and Rick Shaver, Gibraltar Safety Supervisors INSERT – Melvin Carlisle, Mine Superintendent.

Construction began in 1954 as Gibraltar Coal Corporation, a joint venture between Ayrshire Collieries and Sinclair Coal Company. The mine began operating in 1956, with the first load of coal removed from the pit on June 30, 1956; at approximately 12:27 P.M. Leroy Hendrix, who is still employed at Gibraltar, drove the first loaded truck from the pit to the preparation plant.

Gibraltar was purchased by Peabody Holding Company on June 28, 1979. The mine still continues to operate as Gibraltar Coal Corporation.

Gibraltar's Superintendent is Melvin Carlisle. The Assistant Superintendent is Steve Chapman.

Gibraltar has 172 represented employees and 43 non-represented personnel for a total employment of 215.

Continued on Page 2

# Miners win guarantee of benefits

*Bill signed by Bush restores trusts' stability, places burden of retirees' care on coal firms*

BY BILL MCKELWAY  
TIMES-DISPATCH STAFF WRITER

Tens of thousands of union coal miners, many of them fatally weakened from lung diseases and broken from years of work in the country's most dangerous profession, won a new guarantee of health benefits yesterday after years of congressional wrangling.

The new health benefit package, part of a national energy package signed yesterday by President Bush, will restore financial stability to ailing health benefit trusts and will place long-term responsibility on union coal companies to care for their retirees going back to 1950.

"This represents the single biggest victory

for the United Mine Workers in 50 years," UMW President Richard Trumka said yesterday in a news release.

"Because of it, 220,000 men and women will live longer, happier and healthier lives."

Nearly 10,000 retired union miners and their family members in Virginia are affected, and thousands of new retirees will benefit in coming years.

"When I heard about it on television all I could say was, 'Praise the Lord,'" said 70-year-old James Altizer yesterday in Bishop.

Altizer, who joined hundreds of other miners in a march on Washington this past spring protesting the potential cutoff of the health care benefits, worked for Consolidation Coal Co. for 40 years before retiring in 1983.

"My [health] card is something that I al-

ways depended on; I didn't see how they could ever take it away," said Altizer, a widower with black lung disease.

The new payment provisions use money from healthy union pension funds and from funds used to restore previously mined lands to keep the health funds solvent.

But the most far-reaching provisions kick in requirements making both current and former signatory companies to union contracts responsible for their retirees dating back to 1950.

The provision, according to some coal analysts, will cost one of Virginia's largest coal companies, Pittston Coal Group Cos. Inc., up to \$8 million a year.

Richmond-based A.T. Massey Coal Inc. also is expected to be paying millions in additional costs.

Pittston, which precipitated much of the concern over retiree health care when it terminated health benefits to its retirees in 1988, also will lose key concessions it won from the union when the two settled their 10-

*"This represents the single biggest victory for the United Mine Workers in 50 years."*

RICHARD TRUMKA  
UMWA PRESIDENT

month strike in early 1990. Union miners had threatened to shut down coal mines across the country earlier this year when the trust funds, close to insolvency, set a date for suspending health benefits.

The collapse was averted when a federal judge in Abingdon ordered union coal companies to increase payments into the trusts.

The retiree health care bill had been sought for more than three years by Sen. John D. Rockefeller IV, D-W.Va., who called the bill the most important legislation of his political career.

The legislation "forces big business to live up to its word," said Ron Carey, president of International Brotherhood of Teamsters.

Carey was referring to promises by the unionized coal industry a half-century ago to guarantee health benefits for life to retired miners and their families.

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Central City KY 40330

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CLERK, US BANKRUPTCY COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT  
ST. LOUIS, MISSOURI - MR

The Honorable Kathy D. Swatt - State  
Re: Case No. 12-51502  
Thomas F. Seibert U.S. Courthouse  
111 South 10th Street, 4th Floor  
St. Louis, MO 63102



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