California Association of Professional Employees ISSUE 3

FALL 2014 EDITION

www.CAPEunion.org

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Third District Supervisor Race Will Set the Tone for the Next Decade

By Carlos Clayton, CAPE President



CAPE President Carlos Clayton, P.E. Unit 501, DPW

By now I hope that every CAPE member living in the Third Supervisorial District has already voted for our candidate, Sheila Kuehl. She is clearly the more experienced candidate and strongly supported by all the County unions.

CAPE is helping lead the effort on an ambitious, combined independent expenditure campaign coordinated through the L.A. County Federation of Labor. Their efforts have been outstanding and will educate more than a million L.A. County voters on the Westside and in the

San Fernando Valley. The County Federation independent expenditure, IE, will spend roughly three million dollars. The two candidates have roughly the same budget, which means there could be \$8 to \$10 million spent on voter contact. As I said, if you live in the district, your mailbox is probably full, and we're doing our job right if you have already voted.

When Ms. Kuehl takes her seat on the County Board of Supervisors, she will be one of two new Supervisors this cycle, and one of four new Supervisors by the end of the next election cycle in 2016. The County Board of Supervisors has never seen that kind of new blood, and Sheila Kuehl is uniquely qualified to set a new tone for the Board and for the County.

Those of us who have been involved in labor-management relations at the County level have very high hopes that we can start over with County officials and work on a relationship based on mutual respect for our part in making the County run effectively and efficiently. Without being too critical, it is our collective hope that we can leave the County's 'take it or leave it' attitude in the past.

The winner in the 3rd District race will have three terms, 12 years, and will join 1st District Supervisor-elect Hilda Solis to make a mark on the County. Their predecessors, Zev Yaroslavsky and Gloria Molina have been on the Board of Supervisors for 20 years and 22 years, respectively. Term limits will prevent that length of tenure for the current and future Supervisors unless state laws are changed. ■

CAPE ENDORSEMENTS FOR November 2014 General Election:

L.A. County Supervisor:

District 1, Hilda Solis (Elected in June Primary) District 3, Sheila Kuehl

L.A. County Assessor:

CA State Treasurer:

John Chiang

State Senate:

District 26, Sandra K. Fluke

State Assembly:

District 43, Mike Gatto* District 46, Adrin Nazarian* District 49, Ed Chau*

District 51, Jimmy Gomez*

District 53, Miguel Santiago

District 54, Sebastian Ridley-Thomas* District 59, Reggie Jones-Sawyer*

District 63, Anthony Rendon*

District 66, Al Muratsuchi*

U.S. Congress: District 27, Judy Chu* District 30, Brad Sherman* District 44, Janice Hahn*

*Incumbents

2015 Contract Negotiations Approaching, Membership Survey Starts Bargaining Prep

The contracts that govern CAPE members' salary and working conditions, as well as fringe benefits, will both expire at midnight on September 30, 2015. The preparations are already underway to assemble the economic data and pay comparisons to present the best possible salary contract proposal to County representatives next year.

More importantly, the effort to start involving CAPE members in the upcoming contract negotiations will start soon with an invitation for CAPE members to present their ideas and priorities for new salary and fringe benefits contract agreements. CAPE members should expect to see that invitation for the 2015 Contract Negotiations Survey in late October / early November.

Several of the County employee associations will already be in salary contract bargaining later this year. The salary contract for deputy sheriffs/DAI's, firefighters and probation officers expire in January 2015. Some groups have already sent their 'demand letter to negotiate' to County management.

CAPE leaders have indicated that they will assemble a negotiations team to consider initial proposals as early as February 2015. CAPE has typically prepared thorough proposals with justification data to support both across the board pay raises and inequity raises specific to job classifications.

With the economy on the recovery and County revenues back on the rise, CAPE leaders are expecting to make strong initial proposals to County officials. CAPE members interested in volunteering their time and experience as a Negotiating Team member or in presenting an inequity proposal for a specific job classification, should contact the CAPE office.

More information about the 2015 contract negotiations will follow as the programs come together. In the meantime, watch for an invitation to participate in the 2015 Contract Negotiations Survey.

CAPE's Professional Ranks Expand with New Members at DPW and the Assessor's Office!

For the names of CAPE's newest members, please see Membership Update on page 2 inside.



New CAPE members from the Department of Public Works, July 2014.



New CAPE Members from Department of Public Works, September 2014.



New CAPE Members from the L.A. County Assessor's Office, September 2014.

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MEMBERSHIP UPDATE!

CAPE's Board, staff, and members welcome all the new members of CAPE. Thank you for making your Union even stronger!

FIRST NAME			
	LAST NAME	UNIT	JOIN DATE
JMARIANNA	ACHEMIAN	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
		. 511 - Engineering Technicians	
		. 131 - Appraisers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
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		. 131 - Appraisers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
LANCE	CERVANTES	. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014
STEVEN	CHANG	. 511 - Engineering Technicians	9/8/2014
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineer	
		. Technical	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
		. 502 - Supervisory Professional Enginee	
SYLVIA	DHIMDIS	. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014
JAMES	EVANKO	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
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		. Technical	
		. 131 - Appraisers	
SHABNAM	HAGEALI	. 501 - Professional Engineers	7/16/2014
BENJAMIN	HARVEY	. 131 - Appraisers	9/24/2014
MILAD	HASHEMI	. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014
		. 511 - Engineering Technicians	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
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		. 131 - Appraisers	
		. Technical	
		. 131 - Appraisers	
ALAN	HUNTER	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
SHAAHIN	JAHANGARD	. 501 - Professional Engineers	7/16/2014
		. 131 - Appraisers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
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		. 131 - Appraisers	
		. 502 - Supervisory Professional Enginee	
ANTHONY	LOPEZ	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
MATTHEW	LY	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
JOSE GUY	MACAPILI	. 131 - Appraisers	9/10/2014
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		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
		. 501 - Professional Engineers	
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AGNES	NGUYEN	. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014
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	. PAEZ		
IFROME		. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014
	PALMA	. 501 - Professional Engineers	
JASON	. PALMA	. 501 - Professional Engineers	
JASON	PALMA PARKPASCO	. 501 - Professional Engineers	
JASONAARONANTHONY	PALMA PARK PASCO PASEK	. 501 - Professional Engineers	
Jason	PALMA PARK PASCO PASEK QASSIS	. 501 - Professional Engineers	
JASON AARON ANTHONY MAHER ROBERT	PALMA PARK PASCO PASEK QASSIS REYES	. 501 - Professional Engineers	9/17/2014 9/17/2014 9/11/2014 7/16/2014 9/17/2014 9/17/2014 9/10/2014
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Why I Joined CAPE





"I joined CAPE to add to the collective strength of my union."

Daniel Lopez Appraiser L.A. County Office of the Assessor Joined CAPE 10/21/2008

CAPE Outreach Program: CAPE Public Service Announcement Ads on KNX Radio Promote "Great Shakeout"

By Sean Stalbaum, Field Services Director

CAPE members throughout L.A. County are engaged in daily efforts to safeguard buildings, bridges, dams, roads, and other vital public infrastructure in the event of an earthquake. CAPE members also provide important services after earthquakes occur – conducting re-entry inspections, opening roads, and fast-tracking re-appraisals of damaged properties – to ensure residents are safe and have the support they need. That's why the CAPE Board of Directors was excited to once again partner with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services on a recent public service announcement (PSA) radio ad to promote earthquake safety.

The CAPE PSA ad was authorized by the CAPE Board to promote the "Great Shakeout", an earthquake drill that began in California in 2008 and now helps millions of people worldwide practice how to **Drop, Cover, and Hold On** during an earthquake. The "Great Shakeout" drill occurred on Thursday, October 16th. The CAPE ad, which was voiced by Kate Long of the Governor's Earthquakes and Tsunamis Program, aired the weeks of October 6 and 13 on KNX 1070 AM Radio to help boost participation in the drill.

For more information about the "Great Shakeout" and earthquake safety tips, please visit www.shakeout.org. If you didn't have the opportunity to hear the CAPE ad, it's available on the CAPE website at www.capeunion.org/earthquake-preparedness.



Kate Long, Director of the Earthquakes and Tsunamis Program, Governor's Office of Emergency Services, records the CAPE PSA ad at KNX studios for the "Great Shakeout".

TO CONTACT CAPE

California Association of Professional Employees 3018 E. Colorado Boulevard, Suite 200 Pasadena, CA 91107

(626) 243-0340 (626) 243-0368 fax

info@CAPEunion.org www.CAPEunion.org

ABOUT CAPE

The California Association of Professional Employees represents more than 2700 employees of the County of Los Angeles. CAPE's representation extends into the areas of collective bargaining of Memorandum of Understandings (work contracts), collective bargaining of Fringe Benefits, Grievances, Legal Advice, and Health Benefits. CAPE, the Union, was formed in 1964 by professional employees of the County of Los Angeles, who recognized the need for fair and effective representation.

CAPE IS AFFILIATED WITH MEBA (MARINE ENGINEERS' BENEFICIAL ASSOCIATION) AND THE AFL-CIO (AMERICAN FEDERATION OF LABOR—CONGRESS OF INDUSTRIAL ORGANIZATIONS).

CAPE IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE COALITION OF COUNTY UNIONS (CCU), AN ALLIANCE OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY UNIONS THAT COLLECTIVELY BARGAIN FOR THE HEALTH AND RETIREMENT BENEFITS OF ALL COUNTY "CHOICES" PARTICIPANTS.

UPDATES

Legislation To Restore ERCOM Vetoed By Governor Brown

At the urging of L.A. Mayor Garcetti, and over the strong objections of Los Angeles City and County Unions, Governor Jerry Brown vetoed the legislation that would have restored balance to the City and County Employee Relations Commissions.

The County's Employee Relations Commission, ERCOM, has been out of service for more than a year since the Board of Supervisors sided with County employee relations managers and unilaterally changed the appointment structure to be adversarial and more favorable to management.

AB 1881, which was authored by state Assemblyman Reggie Jones-Sawyer, would have restored balance to the County ERCOM by returning the appointment process to fair, neutral selection procedures.

"The County Supervisors have been given bad information by their CEO's office and the HR staff," said CAPE President Carlos Clayton. "There was nothing broken with the old system. When decisions were in our favor it was because County managers were wrong. They just didn't want to admit to often losing in a fair system because it made them look bad. So they complained to the Board of Supervisors who replaced a fair system with a one-sided system. AB 1881 would have fixed that," Clayton said.

The Governor's veto message explained that his policy is to let local agencies resolve their issues at the local level. CAPE representatives are considering options to restore ERCOM as soon as possible.

Sanitation Districts Update:

Technical Support Unit Negotiations Reach an Impasse; Headed to Mediation

By Sean Stalbaum, Field Services Director

Early this year, after several rounds of difficult and contentious negotiations, the CAPE Negotiating Team for the Technical Support Bargaining Unit reached a Tentative Agreement (TA) with Sanitation Districts' management for a successor MOU for their Unit. The TA, however, did not garner the required majority vote of the membership for approval.

In an attempt to improve the TA, the CAPE Bargaining Team called a membership meeting to identify alternative proposals that the Unit's members could support to settle the contract dispute. The CAPE Team returned to the negotiating table in July to present the alternatives to management, and waited two and one-half months for a response. On October 4th, management responded with its position that the original TA is "fair and equitable" and, therefore, it represents the Districts' "last, best, and final offer" of the contract negotiations. An impasse to the negotiations was declared, and the impasse procedures outlined in the expired MOU will now be initiated.

The impasse procedures call for mediation as the next step to try to settle the contract dispute. The parties are required to mutually select a mediator who will attempt to bridge the gap between management's position and the alternate proposals that were last put forth by the CAPE Negotiating Team. CAPE representatives will be seeking input soon from Technical Support Unit members regarding any areas they believe the CAPE Team should modify, change, or eliminate in an effort to reach an agreement during the mediation process. If the mediation process fails, according to the expired MOU the CAPE Team would have the right to pursue Fact-Finding to resolve the contract dispute.

Technical Support Unit members will be informed of the issues relating to the upcoming mediation as the process moves forward. Anyone with questions regarding the Technical Support Unit contract negotiations should call the CAPE office directly at (626) 243-0340 for an update. ■

Benefit Trust Update:

Value, Quality, Providers You Know and Deserve

Choices Annual Enrollment is Here! Annual Enrollment is October 1-October 31. The CAPE Benefit Trust is pleased to announce the CAPE/Blue Shield Lite and Classic Point-of-Service (POS) medical plans' new benefit enhancements and competitive rates for 2015.

Why choose one of the CAPE/Blue Shield POS plans? For the **VALUE**, **QUALITY**, **and PROVIDERS YOU KNOW AND DESERVE!** For the **VALUE**...we understand the importance of having flexible and affordable health care, and it starts with having choices that provide the level of coverage that is right for you and your budget. CAPE/Blue Shield Lite and Classic POS plans remain the only plans in Choices to offer three different benefit levels of HMO, PPO, and Out-of-Network all in one plan – at very competitive rates.

2015 PLAN RATES	CAPE/Blue Shield Lite POS*	Kaiser HMO only	CIGNA HMO only	CAPE/Blue Shield Classic POS*	CIGNA POS only two benefit tiers
YOU ONLY	\$512.00	\$637.71	\$700.16	\$832.00	\$1,259.23
YOU + 1	\$1056.44	\$1,275.40	\$1,406.32	\$1,616.44	\$2,248.66
YOU + 2 OR MORE	\$1,317.44	\$1,479.46	\$1,618.61	\$1,923.44	\$2,358.64

^{*} Three benefit tiers include - HMO, PPO, & Out-of-Network

For the **QUALITY**...NEW for 2015, diabetic supplies will be covered at 100% including testing strips. The Survivor Benefit coverage increases to \$20,000 from \$10,000, and available to CAPE/Blue Shield participants the Teladoc program providing access to a Board Certified doctor by phone or face-to-face through online video chat 24/7/365.

Additionally, effective January 1, 2015, CAPE/Blue Shield Lite and Classic POS plans will be included in the County's Medical Coverage Protection Long-Term Disability (LTD) Health Insurance (not including Safety employees). IMPORTANT: If you want the 100% coverage option for \$3 per month, you must elect it during the County's Annual Enrollment, or when you are first eligible - if you do not, you will be defaulted to 75% coverage (see the County's Choices Annual Enrollment

material for more details).

CAPE/Blue Shield Lite and Classic POS plans feature prosthetics and orthotics covered at 100%; no calendar year limit on ASHP chiropractic and acupuncture visits; VSP vision plan included, and much more.

For the **PROVIDERS YOU KNOW AND DESERVE**... getting the right care at the right time is a big part of staying healthy. From preventative care to emergency care, the CAPE/Blue Shield Lite and Classic POS plans have an extensive Blue Shield HMO and PPO provider network covering a wide range of services to help you get the care you need.

For a list of Blue Shield providers visit their website at www.blueshieldca.com.

Let us help you with YOUR HEALTHCARE, YOUR CHOICE! Call the CAPE Benefit Customer Service team at (800) 487-3092, or visit www.CAPEunion.org for more information on all of CAPE's benefit offerings.



blue 🖲 of california

CAPE's Monthly PAC Transfer Allocation Will Increase From \$3 to \$5 per Member, With No Increase in Dues, Effective January 2015

By Pete Thomas & Nelson Manabat, CAPE Board of Directors and PAC Representatives

There is an old saying in Washington, D.C., politics, "If you're not at the table, you're probably on the menu." The same is unfortunately true for L.A. County politics, and the point is especially true for the 2014 and 2016 L.A. County Supervisor races. When the right individuals are elected to high office, like the County Board of Supervisors, they can help stem the tide of those who would vilify public employees and jeopardize quality public services. That's why we make sure we have a seat at the table in these campaigns.

By November 2016, we will have new individuals in 4 out of the 5 Supervisor seats. The only current remaining Supervisor will be Mark Ridley-Thomas. This year, we're gaining former Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis in the 1st District. Likewise, we hope to help secure a campaign victory for former State Senator Sheila Kuehl in the 3rd District.

The combined campaign expenditures in these races could be as much as \$8 million. CAPE has been a significant player in these campaigns, both as a member of the County Federation of Labor independent expenditure campaign, and through our own independent expenditure campaigns where our Association's Political Action Committee – PAC – is sending campaign mail directly to Los Angeles County voters.

All of us on the CAPE Board are extremely proud of CAPE's efforts to support these candidates and elect the individuals who will value public services provided by County professional employees, but these programs are very expensive. Our strong efforts this year have nearly exhausted our PAC accounts.

To help offset the costs of this year's campaign efforts and the programs to follow in 2016, our Board of Directors recently approved an increase in the Association's allocation to the PAC on behalf of members. THIS IS NOT A DUES INCREASE. This is simply an increase from \$3 to \$5 per member in the amount transferred each month from the Association's general fund to the Association's PAC fund. This reallocation will only apply to CAPE-member PAC contributors. It will not apply to agency fee-payers, nor will it apply to any CAPE member who has already opted out of contributing to the PAC fund. Again, it is not a dues increase and it will not result in any additional dues being assessed to any CAPE member.

Per long-standing CAPE Board of Director's policy, use of member's dues for political activity is optional. Any member who objects to this increase in the allocation of your monthly CAPE dues to the PAC can contact the Association and opt-out of it. If you choose to opt-out, the amount of the increase will not be transferred to the PAC and will remain in CAPE's general fund. To opt-out of this increased allocation of your dues to the PAC, simply email info@capeunion.org with "opt-out of PAC reallocation" in the subject line.

Again, no dues will increase because of this change in allocation and those who "opt out" will simply have their portions left in the association's general fund to cover other expenses.

CAPE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

PRESIDENT Carlos Clayton Public Works (626) 458-6358

VICE PRESIDENT **Lisa Andres** Assessor (626) 258-6157

TREASURER John Fallon Public Works (626) 458-2575 SECRETARY Barbara Volz Public Works (626) 458-6369

DIRECTOR Brent Decker Assessor (213) 974-3138

DIRECTOR Nelson Manabat Public Works (626) 300-3348 DIRECTOR **Dennis Ruh** Public Works (626) 458-1731

DIRECTOR
Pete Thomas
Assessor
(213) 974-3169
DIRECTOR

Vacant Position

the second
Thursday of every
month at the
CAPE office.
Members are
welcome to
attend, and may
address the
Board at 6:30 pm.

The CAPE Board

meets regularly



THIS NEWSLETTER IS
AN OFFICIAL PUBLICATION OF CAPE

Barbara Volz, Editor

BENEFIT TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2013-14

CHAIR **John Fallon** Public Works (626) 458-2575

(626) 258-6157

VICE CHAIR S
Lisa Andres B
Assessor A

TREASURER
Barbara Volz
Public Works
(626) 458-6369

Nelson Manabat Public Works (626) 300-3348

SECRETARY Barbaree Hardy Assessor (626) 258-6159

CAPE 2014 Retirees

Thanks for your membership in CAPE and best wishes in your retirement!

FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	DEPARTMENT	AGENCY	RETIREMENT DATE
HAMBARSON	ABKARIAN	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	9/2/2014
WAYNE	CHATMAN	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	8/30/2014
JAMES	GALBRAITH	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	8/29/2014
WANDA	HINKLEY	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	7/30/2014
JOHN	HITCHMAN	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	7/26/2014
MICHAEL	MCHUGH	Fire Department	Los Angeles County	9/15/2014
PEDRO	PAN	Public Works Department	Los Angeles County	7/31/2014
RICHARD	STEVENS	Assessor	Los Angeles County	7/31/2014

CALENDAR—UPCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER 2014

Thursday, October 16, 2014

CAPE Lunch Meeting

DPW HQ from 11:30a.m.-12:30p.m.

Thursday, October 16, 2014

CAPE Lunch Meeting

East District Assessor's Office from 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

Tuesday, October 21, 2014

CAPE Lunch Meeting

South District Assessor's Office from 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

Wednesday, October 22, 2014

Table at the Hall of Administration

2nd Floor Foyer from 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Tuesday, October 28, 2014

CAPE Lunch Meeting

Hall of Administration Assessor's Office from 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

NOVEMBER 2014

Tuesday, November 11, 2014

Veteran's Day (Observed)

CAPE Office Closed

Wednesday, November 12, 2014

Table at the Hall of Administration

2nd Floor Foyer from 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Thursday, November 13, 2014

CAPE Board of Directors Meeting

CAPE office at 2:00p.m.

Wednesday, November 19, 2014

New Employee Orientation

DPW HQ from 12:00p.m.-1:00p.m.

Wednesday, November 26, 2014

Table at the Hall of Administration

2nd Floor Foyer from 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Thursday, November 27, 2014

Thanksgiving Day (Observed)

CAPE Office Closed

Friday, November 28, 2014

Day After Thanksgiving

CAPE Office Closed

DECEMBER 2014

Wednesday, December 10, 2014

Table at the Hall of Administration

2nd Floor Foyer from 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Thursday, December 11, 2014

CAPE Board of Directors Meeting

CAPE office at 2:00p.m.

Wednesday, December 24, 2014

Table at the Hall of Administration

2nd Floor Foyer from 10:00a.m.-12:30p.m.

Thursday, December 25, 2014

Christmas Day

CAPE Office Closed



[CAPE MEMBERS]

Please distribute this important information to non-members at your work location.

CAPE MEMBER PERKS

DISCOUNT MOVIE TICKETS

CAPE offers members movie tickets at a reduced rate from box office prices. Prices are set by the theatres and are subject to change. Some theaters may charge a location surcharge to your ticket. To purchase tickets, please visit the CAPE office, or mail in a completed order form. Forms are available for download from the CAPE website. Alternately, you may call and request to have a form emailed to you. Tickets will be mailed upon receipt of payment.

- All sales are final. No exchanges or refunds.
- Cash or check only.
- Please make checks payable to CAPE.
- Cash is accepted only in person at the CAPE office.
- Orders over \$75 will be mailed to you via certified mail.
- Restricted tickets may not be used for special engagements.



PACIFIC THEATRES



Theatre	Price
AMC	\$8.00
Pacific (restricted)	\$6.00
Regal (incl. Edwards & United Artists)	\$8.00

ENTERTAINMENT PACKETS

Available to CAPE members upon request, Entertainment Packets include discount coupons and web links for various attractions throughout Southern California. Availability of individual discounts is subject to change. Currently, the Entertainment Packet includes discounts to the following:

- Knott's Berry Farm
- Six Flags Magic Mountain
- Medieval Times
- Six Flags Hurricane Harbor
- San Diego Zoo
- Aquarium of the Pacific









Call CAPE at (626) 243-0340 to request your entertainment discount packet today!

REDUCE PAPER CLUTTER!

REQUEST CAPE COMMUNICATIONS BY EMAIL IN THREE EASY STEPS:

- 1) visit the CAPE website at www.capeunion.org/news
- 2) click the "Go Green" link on the right-side column
- 3) provide your name, employee ID, and home and work email addresses then click "Submit".

It's that easy to Go Green with CAPE!