

**Remarks of GST Warren Mart
Tri-County Council of Labor
Community Services Awards Recipient
October 9, 2010**

Good evening. Thank you very, very much for this award.

I am humbled to receive this award, especially from my home town.

It means a great deal to me any time the Machinists Union is recognized for its work in the community.

Labor unions have a long and proud history as community service organizations – from the early days when we made sure that a union member's family had enough money and food thru donations and food banks.

And our efforts are truly community-based.

We're very fortunate the unions in this area have an active Community Services Department as well as local community service groups that coordinate their activities. Like the Tri-County Labor Council.

I'd like to think that the work we do at the bargaining table is something of a community service as well.

When we fight for pensions, good wages, or for retiree health care, we're supporting a better standard of life for the entire community.

It's great to see an event like this getting local coverage, and it's great seeing the good work of the labor movement portrayed in a favorable light. It means a lot to our members, it means a lot to the community and it means a lot to me.

I would be remiss in my duties if I didn't say something about politics.

We have only 23 days left until we go to the voting booth. We have a choice to either move forward or go backwards. Vote Republican and go backwards or vote Democratic and move forward with good progressive candidates that care about jobs.

Which, by the way, are the key to having the American Dream, a house, health care, retirement, and a good education for our children. That's what a good job means to us. Keeping the middle class – that's us.

When asked to work in this election, please say yes I will. We have great candidates like Jack Conway for U.S. Senate, Hugh McCormick for County Judge/Executive, Butch Puttman for Magistrate in the 4th District, they all understand what we need and they are on our side for job growth, economic growth, fairness for all.

God bless you and thank you all very much for this award.