



A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 9 ISSUE 2

OCTOBER 2022

## LABOR COUNCIL OFFICERS

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Richard Galiano  
USW 9305
- **Ex. Vice President:**  
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IBEW 29
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Matthew Cowie  
IBEW 712
- **Secretary-Treasurer:**  
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  - Joe Tesone  
UBC 420
  - Mark Benkart  
IBEW 29
  - Jan Carpenter  
SEIU 668
  - Phil Lasky  
AFT 3975
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IBEW 29
  - Alicia Craig  
AFSCME 2902
  - Jody Kohser  
SEIU 668
  - Lisa Alexander  
AFSCME 2902
  - Sara Dudash  
SEIU 668
  - Tom Flook  
IUPAT 530

## Striking Post-Gazette Employees Call for Subscription Cancellations

Press release issued by Teamsters Local 205/211, CWA Mailers Local 22, CWA Typographical Union Local 7 and Pressmen's Union GCIU Local 24M/9N

*[Editor's Note: Union members working for the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette and employed as design, production, distribution and advertising workers began an unfair labor practices strike on October 6th. The strike is a response to the Post-Gazette's termination of their health care coverage as of October 1st.]*

For nearly six years, the unions at the Post-Gazette have been without a collective bargaining agreement. Despite extensive negotiations the Post-Gazette has refused to engage in any good faith bargaining and has not granted a single union proposal that would improve the employees' benefits or working conditions in

any of the six different bargaining units.

The Post-Gazette is owned by a billion dollar corporation, Block Communications, Inc. "BCI", and at one time was an excellent employer. However, six years ago they hired a Tennessee law firm noted for its attempts to break unions and since then there has been no meaningful negotiations. It is remarkable that the employees at the Post-Gazette have continued to do an excellent job although they have been without any increase in compensation for over 16 years - that's right, no increase in any compensation in 16 years! Despite that fact, the employees are now paying over \$7,300 per year for their health insurance. The health insurance provider has indicated an increase in contributions is needed in the amount of \$19.00 per week in order to maintain those benefits.

The Post-Gazette refuses to pay the paltry \$19.00 more per week so that its employees can have decent health care coverage - coverage which they are currently paying 8% of their wages plus an additional \$62.00 per week. The Post-Gazette proposes to provide an "alleged increase in compensation" of 7% or 9% but at the same time the Post-Gazette keeps the 8% of the employees' wages that they are currently contributing for good health care. The bottom line - the 7%/9% is either a 1% wage cut, or 1% increase. However, the employees must join a high deductible plan and pay 30% of the premium cost, which can conceivably cost a family more than \$14,400.00 per year - in other words, double the cost the employees are currently paying.

A bigger hook is

Continued on page 2

# PG Employees Call for Subscription Cancellations

Continued from Page 1

the company can amend, change, replace/terminate in whole or in part, including but not limited to, insurance carriers, plan design, eligibility requirements, deductibles, premium costs, coverage options, co-pays and other cost sharing arrangements, at the Company's sole discretion.

Even in a non-union hostile state, it is unconscionable that any employee has gone 16 years without any increases in pay and the employer refuses to pay an additional \$19.00 per week so that the employees can maintain their current health program - a program they currently have and are paying a substantial price for out of their own pockets. The bottom line is since the PG refuses to pay what is needed to maintain the current health care the employees are without health care as of October 1, 2022.

Most significantly, the National Labor Relations Board has found the PG has and continues to commit unfair labor practices against several of the unions, including a most recent case involving the Pressmen's union, wherein the employer illegally laid off employees in vio-

lation of the law.

As a result of the unfair labor practices, including the Post-Gazette's refusal to provide health care required under the parties agreement, the employees have been locked out. To protest the PG's unfair labor practices as noted, the unions are forced to take this job action.

The unions and the long serving employees can no longer work in an environment where an employer continues to commit unfair labor practices, cancel our health insurance and disrespect us to the degree that the PG has done. We request everyone's support in our action. That support includes canceling any subscriptions you have with the PG and request they refund your money. We also request that businesses and advertisers do not advertise in the PG unless and until the PG cures their unfair labor practices and provides the employees with the health care required by their contract. Thank you.

Teamsters Local 205/211, CWA Mailers Local 22, CWA Typographical Union Local 7, and Pressmen's Union GCIU Local 24M/9N

## UNION BUG

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The opinions expressed in Union Bug articles are those of the author and not necessarily those of the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council or its officers.

# Fetterman, Other Endorsed Candidates attend Labor Rally in Monaca

*[Editor's Note: A Labor rally in support of PA AFL-CIO endorsed U.S. Senate candidate John Fetterman and other endorsed candidates was held at the Monaca Turners on October 6<sup>th</sup>. Fetterman was campaigning in western Pennsylvania with Senators Bob Casey and Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio). His next campaign stop was at another Labor rally in Lawrence Park, Erie County. Fetterman's remarks focused on passing the PRO Act, raising the minimum wage and fighting against "right to work" laws. Casey and Brown's remarks focused on the need to create a pro-Labor majority in the U.S. Senate.]*



John Fetterman addressing rally attendees in Monaca. The rally began with remarks given by PA AFL-CIO endorsed candidates Bob Matzie (PA House District 16) and Chris DeLuzio (US House District 17 candidate). They were followed by Senators Casey and Brown and then Fetterman.



(L-R) Beaver Lawrence CLC Delegate T Berry (IBEW Local 201), USW District 10 Director Bernie Hall and USW Local 1557 member (Clairton Coke Works) Joseph Burgess. Bernie introduced Senators Casey and Lt. Governor Fetterman at the Monaca rally.



L-R: SEIU Healthcare PA Ex. Vice President Silas Russell, IBEW Local 29 Legislative representative Rich Luczko, IBEW Local 29 Legislative Director Jim DePoe and Beaver-Lawrence CLC Executive Vice-President Dan Onuska at Monaca Rally .



Audience at Labor rally held in UE Local 506 Labor Hall in Lawrence Park, Erie County, following Monaca Labor rally. Erie-Crawford Counties Labor Council President Jackie Lee welcomed the attendees.



Left: (L-R) Sherrod Brown, USW District 10 Director Bernie Hall, Chris DeLuzio, Dan Onuska and Bob Casey at Monaca rally.

# President's Report

By Rick Galiano  
Labor Council President

\* The October Labor Council Executive Board and Membership meetings were cancelled immediately prior to their scheduled times due to a lack of quorums. Those who attended the meetings did discuss the November general election. It is my understanding that the PA AFL-CIO may designate an election campaign liaison for Beaver and Lawrence Counties. If so, the Labor Council will attempt to notify its membership and supporters of the designation and how to contact the liaison. Electing our

endorsed candidates, and in particular Josh Shapiro and Austin Davis for Governor and Lt. Governor, respectively, and Lt. Governor John Fetterman for a U.S. Senate seat, is critical to defeating "right to work" legislation and efforts to privatize social security and Medicare.

\* PA AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer George Piasecki has indicated that he will attend our November membership meeting. George was installed as Secretary-Treasurer in June of this year. I am asking our delegates to make every effort to attend to meet our new Secretary-Treasurer. I'm sure that he will

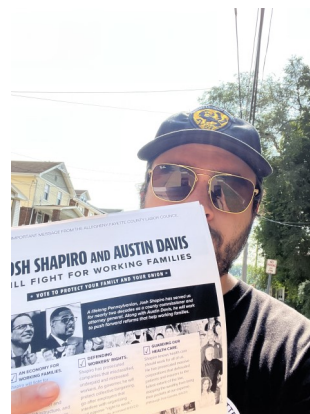
provide us with the PA AFL-CIO's analysis of the results of the November 8th election and what's ahead for the Labor Movement in 2023.

\* Please remember that the November Labor Council meeting will be held at the PSEA Building in New Castle. This will be our second meeting at the PSEA Building since the lessening of the pandemic. The first meeting was held in August. Meetings are held at the PSEA Building every third month, the months being February, May, August and November.

## Yard Signs and Canvassing For Endorsed Candidates



Yard signs are available at IBEW Local 712 Edwin D. Hill Complex in Vanport.



IUPAT District 57 members Ian Wroniak and Aaron Joseph canvassing for Josh Shapiro, Austin Davis and John Fetterman.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE  
CENTRAL LABOR  
COUNCIL



We're on the Web:  
[pa.aflcio.org/349](http://pa.aflcio.org/349)

## Calendar of Events

- 10/18 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and Membership meetings. Executive Board – 6:30 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM. IBEW Local 712 Edwin D. Hill Complex, Vanport.
- 10/23 35<sup>th</sup> Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Labor Recognition Dinner: “Women in the Labor Movement.” 5:00 PM Cash Bar & Hors d’oeuvres with dinner at 6:30 PM. Lakeview Restaurant, 6153 Rt. 30 West, Greensburg. See letter to friends, dinner flyer and ad form attached to this issue of the UNION BUG for additional details.
- 11/08 General Election.
- 11/21 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and Membership meetings. Executive Board – 6:30 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM. PSEA Building, New Castle, PA AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Piasecki will address the meeting.
- 12/25 Christmas Dinner and Toy Giveaway hosted by Christian Assembly CARE Ministry. 11:00 AM-3:00 PM. Beaver Falls High School, 1701 8<sup>th</sup> Ave., Beaver Falls. Please contact Darcey Casey at 724-622-3128 if you would like to help. See flyers attached to this issue of the UNION BUG for additional details. Also see September UNION BUG, Page 3, President’s Report for information on Labor Council donation to the Dinner and Toy Giveaway.

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at [jkohser@verizon.net](mailto:jkohser@verizon.net), by 6:00 p.m. on November 14th to be considered for publication in the November 2022 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.

*The Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council  
is pleased to invite you to our*

**35th Annual Labor Recognition Dinner  
this year**

***Women in the Labor Movement***

**Sunday, October 23rd**

**Lakeview Restaurant**

6153 Rte. 30 West, Greensburg

**Cash Bar & Hors d'oeuvres at 5:00 pm**

**Dinner at 6:30 pm**

**\$65**

**2022 Outstanding Labor Honorees**

***Angela Ferritto, President PA AFL-CIO  
SEIU HealthcarePA***

**Outstanding Government Honoree**

***Pam Snyder, PA State Representative***

**Special Invited Guests**

***Endorsed candidates including:***

***Josh Shapiro, Austin Davis, John Fetterman, Summer Lee***

\*\*\*\*\*

***What we would like to do is change the world...by crying unceasingly for the rights of the  
workers, of the poor, of the destitute. We can throw our pebble in the pond and be confident that  
it's ever widening circle will reach around the world. ... Mother Jones***

***Harriet Ellenberger, Dinner Chair, 724-423-2878  
email: ellenberger@zoominternet.net***

# Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council

## *Women in the Labor Movement*

Dear Friends of Labor;

For the past 35 years the Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council has honored an Outstanding Labor Leader and Government official. Each year the Council recognizes men and women who epitomize the values of the Labor Movement and have made important contributions to working families.

**This year's Labor Honorees: Angela Ferritto**, the first woman to be President of the PA AFL-CIO. "We women have been an integral part of the labor movement since the beginning of the movement," Ferritto remarked, "I think that it's encouraging to see the changing face of labor. But it's connected to all of our members and I think that it's reflective of who our members are."

This year we will also honor the **SEIU HealthcarePA** leaders and union members fighting for their rights -- members who work tirelessly in nursing homes here in Westmoreland County and throughout Pennsylvania. Mostly women, and all compassionate and loyal workers - caring for their patients like their families - staying extra hours, consoling residents who were unable to have their families visit - for little pay and missing their own families. These union members have stood up to the corporations for more staffing, better pay for the new hires, and better working conditions and are now fighting for a more fair contract.

**Our Outstanding Government Honoree, State Representative, Pam Snyder**, has earned Labor's respect, support, and endorsement as a voice for Labor in Harrisburg for many years. Pam has joined with us on the front lines of our resistance not only in the General Assembly, but on the picket lines as well. She has been forefront on key measures that advanced labor's interests in a time when we have experienced so much retreat.

The Women in the Labor Movement, Pam and Angela, shine a light on the endless possibilities open to little girls and young women everywhere who come from humble beginnings. We invite you to bring your daughters and granddaughters to be inspired! (as our guests)

We hope that you will be able to join our Council to help us celebrate these dedicated and hard working Labor and Government leaders. Please purchase an ad to support the work of our Council. We are sure that you will be entertained, informed and inspired at this year's Labor Recognition Dinner. We have invited some Special Guests -- come and see some old friends, and make some new ones - come celebrate

### *Women in the Labor Movement!*

**Again this year we invite Women in the Labor Movement to be recognized - If you have a woman as an officer in your union (business manager, organizer, president) please send me their name and contact information. We will invite them as our guest.**

We look forward to hearing from you.

You may reach me by phone: 724.423.2878 or by email: [ellenberger@zoominternet.net](mailto:ellenberger@zoominternet.net).

In Solidarity,

*Harriet*

Harriet Ellenberger  
Event Chair

*The Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council invites you  
to join us to celebrate*

**35th Annual Labor Recognition Dinner**

**Women in the Labor Movement**

**Sunday, October 23rd**

**Lakeview Restaurant, Rt. 30, Greensburg**

**Fellowship & Cash Bar at 5:00, Dinner at 6:30**

***\$65 -- (daughters Free)***

Number of Dinners at \$65 \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Reserve a Table of 8 for \$495

**Program Ads**

Outside Back Cover	\$ 425	__ taken __	Full Page (8 ½ x 11)	\$ 250	_____
Inside Back Cover	\$ 350	_____	Half Page	\$175	_____
Inside Front Cover	\$ 375	_____	Quarter Page	\$125	_____

Total Ad Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Please call Harriet Ellenberger ASAP to reserve cover pages in Program Book: 724-423-2878

**Email ads to: [ellenberger@zoominternet.net](mailto:ellenberger@zoominternet.net)**

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*Please Print and Complete:*

Name /Organization or Union \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Contact Person \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_ Daughter's name \_\_\_\_\_

*If you know who is attending, please include their names on back of form.*

Total Amount of Check \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_


**Make check payable to: GWCLC Special Events**

**Mail check and form to:**

**GWCLC, c/o Harriet Ellenberger, 170 Holly Place, Mt. Pleasant, PA 15666**

*Proceeds from this event will help get AFL-CIO endorsed candidates elected*





**DON'T BE ALONE OR  
HUNGRY THIS CHRISTMAS  
SPEND THE DAY WITH US!**

**29<sup>th</sup> Annual**

**FREE DINNER  
CHRISTMAS DAY**

**DEC 25<sup>th</sup> 11:00 AM – 3:00 PM**


**HELD AT:**

**BEAVER FALLS HIGH SCHOOL  
1701 8th AVENUE**

**HOSTED BY:**

Christian Assembly  
CARE Outreach Ministry  
Church office: (724) 846-3751  
Please call Darcy Casey to volunteer:  
(724) 622-3126

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME!**

 **DONATIONS AND VOLUNTEERS  
ARE NEEDED FOR THE  
29th ANNUAL  
FREE CHRISTMAS DAY DINNER**

**Sunday, December 25  
11:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m.**

**at**

**Beaver Falls High School  
1701 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue**

**♥Hosted by**

**Christian Assembly**

**CARE Outreach Ministry**

**(724) 846-3751 (church office)**

**To volunteer call Darcy Casey (724) 622-3126**



**What is needed? NEW items of warm clothing: gloves, hats and socks (only) in ALL sizes- birth to adult... they do not need to be wrapped. Also, monetary gifts are greatly appreciated towards the many expenses. We look forward to enjoying an amazing meal together and a great time of fellowship. Please help us to continue this wonderful outreach and beloved tradition.**

**Hope to see YOU!**

# Christian Assembly

814 Lincoln Place  
Beaver Falls, PA 15010



Empowering... Embracing  
Engaging

October 01, 2022

Dear Pastor/Lay Leader/Business Owner and Friend:

Season's Greetings!

As many of you know, our church has hosted a **Free Christmas Day Dinner/Outreach** on **December 25** for the last twenty-eight years. The last two (2) years CARE Outreach Ministries partnered with Central United Methodist Church on Christmas morning and served take-out meals and distributed Blessings Bags to several hundred guests. We are now planning our **twenty-ninth (29th)** annual dinner/outreach and **joyfully ♥ return** to Beaver Falls High School. Therefore, we are sincerely asking for your assistance. *It is important to Steve and I that you know we continue to remain steadfast in our quest to maintain the original vision from twenty-nine years ago...to provide a warm homemade meal to anyone who is alone or hungry; to distribute hats, gloves, and socks to all, bringing warmth from the harshness of winter; and to promote a deep sense of camaraderie amongst all who enter enjoying a Haven of Rest and much needed joy. Most of all, to focus on the true Reason for the Season...the birth of our Savior Jesus Christ.*

As in the past, hundreds of toys will be available for children along with Polaroid pictures with Santa Claus, his elves and yes, the Grinch. We will continue to provide craft tables/activities for children throughout the day and a resource area filled with community and social service helps as well as Bibles, devotionals, and local church information. These resources have proven to be of great importance to our guests as we all deal with a difficult economy and daily personal struggles.

**Churches:** We are asking for your help in the following ways. Enclosed you will find two (2) separate flyers. Would you please announce the information from the pulpit along with placing the flyers where they would best be seen? It would also be helpful to place an announcement in your church bulletin each week.

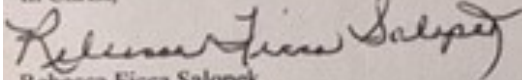
**Businesses:** Please post the flyers on your outside and inside windows and doors as well as give them as hand outs. Please network as much as possible.

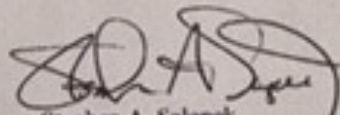
In addition, if anyone is interested in volunteering his or her time, donating new items (*unwrapped*) of **ALL** sizes of **gloves, hats and socks** as well as **monetary gifts**, please call the church office at **724.846.3751**. A separate number for volunteers is on the flyer.

Our gracious God continues to have His Hand on us as host for the tenth year at **Beaver Falls High School**. May God continue to bless the Big Beaver Falls School Board and Administration for their kindness and heart of service for others.

It would be wonderful to have volunteers and/or donations from all the churches in Beaver Falls and surrounding areas. **This year please consider donating to this endeavor as part of your missions or community outreach.** Please note that any tax deductible donations received over and above the cost of the dinner will be used for ministry outreach at the discretion of the CARE Ministries. Thank you for your time and consideration of this request as we together share **our 29th anniversary**. Please view us online at [www.christianassemblyfamily.org](http://www.christianassemblyfamily.org). May God richly bless you as you so faithfully serve Him!

In Christ,

  
Rebecca Ficca Salopek  
CARE Outreach Coordinator

  
Stephen A. Salopek  
Christmas Dinner Coordinator

Enclosures

Dale Russo, Pastor

[www.christianassemblyfamily.org](http://www.christianassemblyfamily.org)

Church: 724-846-3751