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SEIU HCPA
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- Mark Benkart
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- Tom Flook
IUPAT 530

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond Keynote Speaker to Beaver County Democrats' Banquet

By Dennis K. Powell
USW Local 8183

movement must be at the front in the fight for our

ing our nation today: economic justice, racial and gender justice

Newly installed Secretary-Treasurer of the national AFL-CIO Fred D. Redmond spoke to the Beaver County Democratic Committee and guests at the Committee's annual banquet in Hopewell on Saturday, April 2. He was welcomed and thanked by Committee Chair Terri Mitko and he

was introduced by new USW District 10 Director Bernie Hall.

After recognizing government and labor officials in attendance, Secretary-Treasurer Redmond related his sadness about the death of Rich Trumka and recalled that Rich liked to say the labor

democracy. "And he was right," declared Redmond.

"There is no better institution in America to lead the charge. But we can't do it alone. Together, organized labor and the democratic party can beat back the attacks on our democracy and take on the urgent issues fac-

ing our nation today: economic justice, racial and gender justice voting rights, and a path to citizenship for immigrants. All of these issues are critical to the health of our democracy and to the lives of working people."

Redmond continued, "And we need our elected officials to have our backs. Right now, working people are fed up. The pandemic has pulled back the curtain.

Workers are rejecting jobs where they risk their health and safety for a poverty wage. Workers are striking and standing up for their rights. And young people especially are embracing unions as a vehicle to speak up at

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(L-R) Terri Mitko, Dennis Powell, Andy Bosh and Joe Bosh with national AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer and Executive Vice-President Fred Redmond (center) at Beaver County Democratic Committee Banquet on April 3rd. Terri is the Committee's chairperson, Dennis is its treasurer, Andy its vice-chairperson and Joe its secretary. Dennis also serves as a Beaver-Lawrence CLC trustee.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Committee Chairman

Hello again everyone. Last month marked the end of the second year since the Covid-19 pandemic began. Our Labor Council has endured a challenging two years, but we are beginning to return to our pre-pandemic activities. For the most part, the Executive Board held Zoom meetings during the pandemic. We thank Labor Council Recording Secretary Kerri Theuerl for setting them up. We have now held in-person meetings for two consecutive months, February and March, and hope to continue with in-person meetings on the third Monday of each month as required by our bylaws. Executive Board meeting start at 6:30 PM and Membership meetings start at 7:30 PM.

We are inviting all delegates to resume attending our regular meetings. Beginning with the April 18th meeting, we will resume our monthly post-meeting offerings of excellent foods and refreshments. We welcome you back to our Labor Council meetings.

As many of us know, the Labor Council

has often worked with the Beaver County NAACP and other community organizations on issues involving economic and social justice. The Labor Council recently received a letter from Mtume Imani, Beaver County NAACP President. The Beaver County NAACP has not been able to hold its annual banquets for two years due to Covid-19. The banquets are a major fundraiser for their activities.

I have learned through the years that our Labor Council and the NAACP have the same mission: in Mtume's own words, "we stand for justice, equality, fairness in the courts, and are the spokespersons for the voiceless, downtrodden, homeless, and the hopeless in our communities."

Please consider giving a donation to the Beaver County NAACP. Their address is Beaver County NAACP, The Franklin Center, 524 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, Pa. 15001.

[Editor's Note: Please see the flyer attached to the end of this issue of the UNION BUG for additional information.]

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P.O. Box A, Beaver, PA 15009

Editor - Victor Colonna
v.colonna@comcast.net

Asst. Editor - Steven Kocherzat
steven6700@comcast.net

NEWSPAPER COMMITTEE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS COMMITTEE

Jody Kohser
Mark Benkart

DIRECTOR OF PHOTOGRAPHY

T Berry



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.

President's Report

By Rick Galiano
Labor Council President

* The Executive Board election originally scheduled for the December Labor Council Membership meeting will be held at the April Membership meeting. Please see my February President's Report for a list of nominated Executive Board candidates.

* The Labor Council sponsored the food and refreshments after the March meeting. It was the first time since the Covid-19 pandemic began two years ago that food was offered to attendees of an indoor Labor Council meeting.

* Please remember that Labor Council Executive Board meetings now start at 6:30 PM instead of 6:00 PM.

* The Labor Council has donated \$500 to the Beaver County NAACP. The donation was made in response to an appeal letter issued by the Beaver County NAACP requesting donations to enable it to continue serving Beaver County communities. The Beaver County NAACP has been unable to hold its annual fundraising banquet during the last two years because of the Covid-19 pandemic. The Labor Council and Beaver County NAACP have worked closely during the last two decades to defend economic and social gains made by working people in previous decades, including defending the right to vote. Attached to this issue of the UNION BUG is a copy of the appeal letter. I am urging all Labor Council affiliated organizations and friends of the Labor

Council to consider responding to the appeal. The Labor Council has also donated \$250 to each of the Beaver County United Way and the Lawrence County United Way.

* Labor Council trustee Tom Flook has retired as a business agent for IUPAT District Council 57 (Local 6). He retired on December 30th. Tom will remain on the Labor Council as a

* Congratulations to Labor Council Vice-President Howard Thompson on being appointed president of the board of AF-SCME Council 13. Howard's appointment became effective on January 1st. Howard began serving as a Labor Council Vice-President in 2010, the year that I began serving as Labor Council president. Howard is a candidate in the AFSCME Council 13 election to serve a four-year term as board president. The election will be held on April 30th at the AF-SCME Council 13 convention. Howard will remain on the Labor Council as a delegate and has been renominated to continue serving as a vice-president.



Labor Council trustee Tom Flook, right, at Working Peoples Day of Action rally at Beaver County Courthouse in March 2018. Tom Flook has retired as a business agent for IUPAT District Council 57 (Local 6).

delegate and has been renominated to continue serving as a trustee.



Labor Council vice-president Howard Thompson at March Labor Council meeting. Howard is now serving as president of the board of AFSCME Council 13, which represents 65,000 members in Pennsylvania.



Joe Spanik, Beaver County Building Trades Consultant, informing attendees at March Labor Council membership meeting that the next Apprenticeship Readiness Program offered by the Beaver County Career and Technology Center will begin on June 6th. The CTC is now accepting applications for the program. Apprenticeship Readiness Programs are a collaborative effort between the North America's Building Trades Unions (NABTU) and local educational institutions to provide a gateway for local residents— focusing on women, people of color and transitioning veterans – to gain access to Building Trades' registered apprenticeship programs. Please see the flyer attached to end of this issue of the UNION BUG for additional information.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY 2022

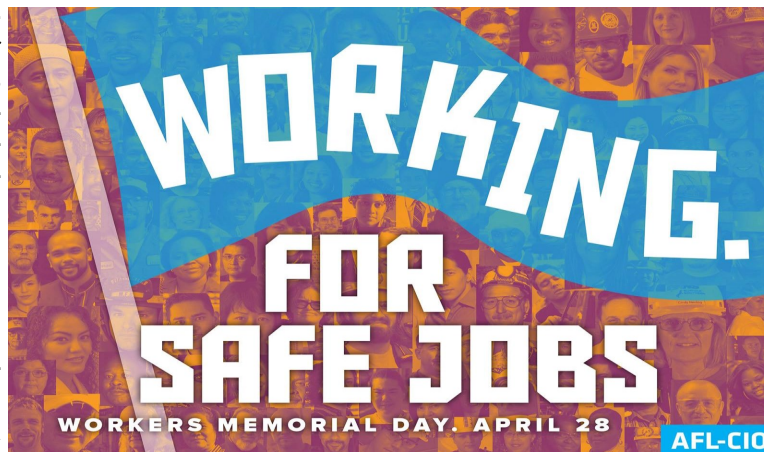
National AFL-CIO Statement

More than 50 years ago on April 28, Workers Memorial Day, the Occupational Safety and Health Act went into effect, promising every worker the right to a safe job – a fundamental right. The law was won because of the tireless efforts of the labor movement, which organized for safer working conditions and demanded action from the government. Since then, unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality – winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved lives. But our work is not done. Each year, thousands of workers are killed and millions more suffer injury and illness because of dangerous working conditions that are preventable.

The COVID-19 pandemic devastated working families and highlighted the fundamental right to and importance of a safe job for every worker. Immediately and throughout this crisis, unions and our allies have stepped into action to demand and win protections on the job from this highly contagious virus. We organized for safe jobs and the right to speak out against unsafe working conditions. We won emergency safety protections for health care workers against COVID-19, and are continuing the fight for all. Without federal action to require prevention measures in all workplaces, unions demanded access to the ventilation, personal protective equipment and other measures that protect workers from inhaling the virus at work. The central involvement of organized labor and our allies was the key factor that improved working conditions to save lives.

But our work organizing for safe jobs has not ended. The pandemic exposed our weak laws that have prevented workers from organizing in their workplaces to demand safer working conditions. It also exposed weak job safety laws and a lack of

resources that would ensure the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) can protect workers. Many employers and workers never see OSHA in their workplace. Penalties are still too low to be a deterrent. Workers are not adequately protected to speak out against unsafe working conditions and to freely join a union without retaliation. As we look to the next 50 years of worker protections under OSHA and MSHA, we must demand Congress strengthen the agencies' authorities and provide them the resources necessary to ensure working people have safe jobs now. There must be action on critical safety and health protections against preventable hazards: infectious diseases, heat illness, workplace violence and silica in mining, and exposure to toxic chemicals that kills tens of thousands



of workers each year.

Together, we are raising our collective voices to win stronger safety and health protections in our workplaces and stronger job safety and health laws. We are standing strong to hold workplace safety agencies accountable to create and enforce laws that protect workers, and to hold employers accountable to keep workers safe. On April 28, the unions of the AFL-CIO will observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job, and to organize the fight for safe jobs. We will come together this year to call for action on hazards that cause unnecessary injury, illness and death. We will stand united to strengthen workers' rights and protections, and demand resources and actions needed for job safety enforcement. We will fight for the fundamental right of every worker to a safe job until that promise is fulfilled.

AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Fred Redmond Keynote Speaker to Beaver County Democrats' Banquet

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work. There's an energy out there, and we're working hard to capture it by continuing to organize, building our capacity, and engaging with our communities. We're showing ALL working people that the labor movement is for them, women, young people, people of color. Everybody is included. Our doors are wide open."

He went on, telling the enthusiastic crowd, "And the AFL-CIO is all in! We have the momentum and we're going to build on it and we're gearing up to run the biggest, baddest political program yet. Because we are not listening to the pundits. They can say whatever they want about what's going to happen this November, because they don't know the true power of organized labor and a strong Democratic party working together.

He proclaimed, "We have a golden opportunity to have TWO pro-union senators represent Pennsylvania's working families. We are going to send Attorney General Josh Shapiro to Harrisburg, because Josh understands the working people of Pennsylvania and what we need! Try saying that about any of the nine candidates on the other side trying to out-Trump one another. You've heard their speeches. You've seen their ads. They don't care about working people."

Redmond emphatically declared, "And together – Pennsylvania Democrats and the labor movement – we can be a force for change, for working people, for our communities. We are committed to electing pro-worker

candidates up and down the ballot... and pass the legislation and policies that matter to working people. We know elections have consequences. If you need an example, look at the infrastructure bill President Biden signed into law. It will create hundreds of thousands of jobs...good, life-changing union jobs in Pennsylvania and across the country, and the labor movement was key. We talked to our members and elected officials. We talked to our members about the candidates who will be our best advocates. We campaigned and mobilized and got out the vote in 2020 so that we have a democratic majority in Congress and the most pro-union administration in our country's history. That is how we have these investments workers have been demanding for so long."

He cited the bill's strength, such as Buy America rules, connecting prevailing wages and high labor standards to the jobs created, but he asserted, "Our work isn't done. We're still pushing for more in President Biden's Building a Better America plan. At the top of the list is a key piece of the PRO Act so union-busting employers who violate our right to organize will be hit with real penalties, major investments in energy and manufacturing supply chain, with stronger Buy American provisions, affordable prescription drugs, investments in education, and in child care and elder care so more working families can get back to work. "

He challenged those in attendance to commit to stand and fight for the working class, "We're going to remind them that

when we stand together that there is nothing we can't do. Let's show them what we got. Let's renew our historical bond – democrats and organized labor, together! Let's renew our commitment to one another. Our democracy depends on it. Because this election isn't just about Democrat versus Republican. It's bigger than that. It's more profound. It's about workers and what's fair versus greed and inequality. It's about equity versus privilege, honesty versus corruption, order versus chaos, good versus evil. It is about our very democracy! Let's protect it! And let's build a Pennsylvania that works for all of us! Let's show everybody in this great commonwealth of ours that when we stand together – Democrats, Labor, Unified with a common purpose there is nothing – NOTHING! – we can't do!"



United Brotherhood of Carpenters Local 420 recording secretary Joe Tesone (L) and president Jeremy McNutt (R) with Pennsylvania AFL-CIO endorsed candidate for governor Josh Shapiro at Beaver County Democratic Party headquarter in Rochester on April 10th. Shapiro thanked the union members in attendance, including Labor Council Executive Vice-President Dan Onuska, Vice-Presidents Jan Carpenter and Dennis Powell, and USW District 10 Director Bernie Hall, for the support that the Union Movement has given to his campaign.

FRANK SNYDER ELECTED PA AFL-CIO PRESIDENT

PA AFL-CIO Press
Release 03/30/2022

Frank Snyder was elected president of Pennsylvania AFL-CIO on Wednesday [March 30th], and his running mate, Angela Ferritto, was elected as secretary-treasurer of the state federation. The pair were elected by acclamation as their candidacies were unopposed during the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO 45th Constitutional Convention.

"I am humbled and honored by the faith and confidence that the delegates of this great organization have shown in me," Snyder said after the election. "I have made advancing the labor movement in Pennsylvania my life's work," he said. "I will use every fiber of my being to continue that work in this new role," Snyder said.

"I have been fortunate to have learned from one of the



(L-R) Retiring Pa. AFL-CIO president Rick Bloomingdale, president-elect Frank Snyder, secretary-treasurer-elect Angela Ferritto and Beaver-Lawrence CLC delegate-nominee T Berry at Pa. AFL-CIO Convention on March 30th.

best," Snyder will be building on the achievements of Rick's tenure as president and putting the pedal to the floor to continue that progress," he said. [sic]

"I am thrilled to be elected to this new position," Ferritto

said of her ascension to the number two position in the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO. "We have a lot of challenges before us right out of the gate," she said.

Snyder and Ferritto will assume their new respective roles on June 1, 2022.



Frank Snyder helping to distribute toys on Christmas Day 2017 in Beaver Falls. Frank was part of a contingent of Labor Council members who helped the Beaver Falls Christian Assembly conduct its 24th annual Christmas dinner, toy and clothing giveaway.

said of her ascension to the number two position in the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO. "We have a lot of challenges before us right out of the gate," she said. "But with this leadership team and the determination and drive of our membership, I know we will meet the mo-

[Editor's Note: Frank Snyder was born in Aliquippa and raised in Monaca. He became a member of USW Local 8184 (now USW Local 1211-14) when he began working at the NF&M International plant in Monaca. He served as the Local's president for more than 12 years, during which time he was elected as a Beaver-Lawrence CLC Vice-President. In 1996 he was appointed a USW staff representative and in 1999 a national AFL-CIO staff representative. He was elected Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer in 2010.]

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL

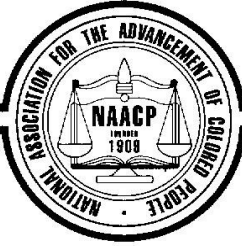


We're on the Web:
pa.aflcio.org/349

Calendar of Events

- 04/18 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.
- 04/28 Workers Memorial Day. See article on Page 4 for additional information.
- 05/06 NWPA ALF 2021-2022 Scholarship Essay Contest application and essay submission deadline. See information flyer with application attached to end of February issue of the UNION BUG.
- 05/16 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.
- 05/02 Last day to register to vote in Pennsylvania General Primary Election.
- 05/10 Last day to apply for a mail-in ballot for the Pennsylvania General Primary Election.
- 05/17 Pennsylvania General Primary Election.
- 05/20 2022 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Scholarship and Donald McNutt Memorial Scholarship application and essay submission deadline. See information flyer with application attached to end of February issue of the UNION BUG.
- 06/28 NWPA ALF 16th Annual Meeting/Convention. 7:00 PM; VFW Hall, 411 Ninth Street, Franklin 15323. See article on Page 3 of the March 2022 issue of the UNION BUG for additional information.

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on May 10th to be considered for publication in the May 2022 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.



Beaver County Branch Number 2372
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FOR THE ADVANCEMENT OF COLORED PEOPLE

March 10, 2022

To: Members and Friends of Beaver County NAACP

Re: Critical Donations

Happy Women's History month! Our prayer is that you and your families are healthy and safe.

This letter comes to you because the Beaver County NAACP needs your help. After two years of being unable to sponsor our annual banquet due to SAR-CoV-2, our organization is appealing to you for a **donation of any size** to enable us to continue serving the Beaver County communities.

As you know through the media, police brutality continues, our voting rights are under assault throughout the nation, overpriced housing is causing major evictions, the lack of child support and childcare is causing great troubles, mis-education, under the guise of critical race theory is wreaking havoc in our school systems, equal justice in the courts is still being denied, and dwindling membership because of the health crisis is taking its toll on our financial status.

Our mailing address is: Beaver County NAACP, The Franklin Center, 524 Franklin Avenue, Aliquippa, PA 15001. We greatly appreciate your support. Our commitment to the Beaver County community of citizens is unwavering. We supported the changing of the PIAA status of the Aliquippa football team and stood shoulder-to-shoulder with Dr. Phillip Woods, our new Aliquippa District superintendent, as he resigned from the committee that made the incorrect decision to raise the status of this small school.

We look forward to health restrictions being lifted, so we can engage the community once again in our efforts to speak out for justice, equality, fairness in the courts and as spokespersons for the voiceless, downtrodden, homeless, and hopeless in our communities. Together we can improve the quality of life for all Beaver County citizens. May God bless you and your families. Please stay healthy, safe and masked.

Sincerely,

Mtume Imani, President
Beaver County NAACP

Are you ready for a
new career?

Are you looking for a way to
improve your opportunity for
acceptance into trade unions?

Classes run:
June 6th - June 28th

Monday through Friday
8:00AM - 4:30PM

Beaver County CTC
145 Poplar Avenue
Monaca, PA 15061
Tuition Assistance May Be Available

For more information,
1-724-288-2080



*Now accepting applications
for Summer 2022*

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