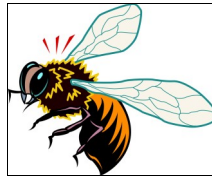


UNION



BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 12

AUGUST 2018

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March With The APWU To Save The Public Postal Service

By Chuck Pugar
President, Pittsburgh Metro Area Postal Workers Union, APWU

The American Postal Workers Union's 24th Biennial Convention will be held from Monday, August 20, through Thursday, August 23, 2018, at the David L. Lawrence Convention Center.

The Convention Delegates will gather outside the Convention Center at 3:00 pm for a rally on Tuesday, August 21, then walk to the US Courthouse (old Post Office) in the 700 Block of Grant Street; permits, equipment and weather permitting.

We are welcoming friends and allies to join us in this rally and beyond, and if you come in a group, we'd love to have your name and organization to properly recognize, thank, and maybe offer the mic.

Our goal is to not only stand united

against those who seek to cripple and destroy Public Sector Unions, our APWU included, but to draw broader attention to corporate-driven efforts in motion to privatize a national public treasure – our Public Postal Service.

The Postal Enhancement and Accountability Act of 2006 buckled the knees of the Postal Service, and now Trump is moving to deliver a knock-out punch.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) has submitted a proposal to privatize the United States Postal Service, and Trump ordered a Task Force to evaluate and make recommendations to reform and reorganize the Postal Service – we're to expect that report August 10, 2018.

With this admin-

istration and its Task Force predicted to make recommendations on reforms to achieve OMB's privatization goals, a bipartisan group of ten members of the House of Representatives is trying to nip this thing in the bud. On July 16 it introduced a resolution (H. Res. 993) calling on Congress to take all appropriate measures to ensure that the Postal Service remain an independent agency of the federal government and not be subject to privatization.

We need more members of the House of Representatives to become co-sponsors of the resolution. Members of Congress will be starting their summer recess in August. The APWU urges all its

(Continued on page 6)

Celebrate Labor Day

Monday, September 3, 2018

See article on page 6 for Parade details

UNION BUG

begins its fifth year of publication

By Victor Colonna
UNION BUG Editor

This August edition of the UNION BUG marks the end of our fourth year of publication, and next month's September issue will begin our fifth year.

It is in many ways a huge accomplishment. The many recurring and occasional writers for the BUG have given the labor movement in the local area 1) an opportunity to report on the activities, struggles and victories that they have experienced; 2) an unfiltered voice to reach out to other labor activists and interested citizens; and 3) a means to record for historical purposes the activities that the unions took to respond to the ongoing efforts to destroy the labor movement.

And there is no doubt that there is an ongoing effort to minimize the role of labor. The anti-labor movement is successfully using gerrymandering to control congress, and the presidency to

control the courts—especially the Supreme Court. The Janus decision is the most recent example of how the makeup of the Supreme Court will be affecting labor.

And as regular BUG readers know, these important topics, as well as many others, have been covered in these pages from a labor perspective.

Yet in spite of the four-year milestone, and in spite of the troth of "labor-centric" information that has been printed to date, there is the hope that the BUG can be better. And the BUG can only be better by getting more writers from more locals to participate in writing articles—articles about their locals, and their fight to improve conditions for their members and the labor movement in general.

So please consider writing and submitting an article for publication in the BUG. It will strengthen the labor cause, and improve the UNION BUG in the process.

UNION BUG

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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

Bernie Hall

CALENDAR OF EVENTS COMMITTEE

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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

* Happy Labor Day to everyone. I hope that all our Council delegates and members of our affiliated unions will attend the Northwest Area Labor Federation Labor Day Parade in Erie or the Allegheny/Fayette Labor Council Labor Day Parade in Pittsburgh. Also, please consider attending the Labor Day Celebration at Northmoreland Park in Westmoreland County. The NWALF parade begins at noon on Labor Day at 11th and State Street in Erie. For more information: call 814-360-8336, email: nwpaalf@gmail.com or visit the NWALF website at: <http://unionhall.aflcio.org/>

nwpaalf. Please see the article on Page 6 of this issue of the Union Bug for additional information about the Pittsburgh Labor Day parade.

* Labor Council Vice-Presidents Howard Thompson and Mark Benkart and I will attend the 2018 Pa. AFL-CIO COPE Institute which will be held at Shippensburg University from August 17th to August 19th. Please contact any of us if you wish to bring any COPE related matter to the attention of the Institute attendees.

* Please remember that the August Labor Council meeting will be held at the PSEA Building in New Castle.

* IBEW Local 29 sponsored the food and refreshments

at the July Labor Council meeting. The food and refreshments at the August Labor Council meeting will be sponsored by USW Local 9305



Ashlee Caul, Fair Districts PA Beaver County Co-Coordinator, addressing July Labor Council meeting. She reported the Fair Districts legislation supported by Fair Districts PA and endorsed by the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council at its August, 2017 monthly meeting - Pennsylvania Senate Bill 22 and Pennsylvania House Bill 722 - will not be enacted into law during this legislative session. She stressed that the effort to pass Fair Districts legislation will continue into the next session of the Pennsylvania General Assembly.



The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council is proud to stand behind the following candidates: in the 10th Legislative District: Green Party candidate Darcelle Slappy (front row, second from left); in the 14th Legislative District: Democratic candidate Amy Fazio (front row, third from left); in the 15th Legislative District, Democratic candidate Terri Mitko (front row, left). The picture was taken at the Labor Council monthly meeting on July 16th. See Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Facebook posting on July 16th.



State House of Representatives candidates at July Labor Council meeting: (L-R) Amy Fazio, Democratic Party candidate in the 14th District; Darcelle Slappy, Green Party candidate in the 10th District; and Terri Mitko, Democratic Party candidate in the 15th District. Each candidate addressed the meeting about her candidacy.

In Brief



Pa. Gov. Tom Wolf (L.) with Labor Council Executive Vice-President Dan Onuska on July 26th at IBEW Local 712 Hall in Vanport. Gov. Wolf was in Beaver County to promote PAsmart, a new workforce development initiative that helps connect Pennsylvanians with resources for working and training in Pennsylvania. See www.pa.gov/guides/working-training-pa/ for information about the program.

USW LOCAL 1211 To Rededicate NLRB V. J&L State Historical Marker

By Christ Atsidis
Vice-President, USW Local 1211

On September 27th, USW Local 1211 will rededicate the Pennsylvania State Historical Marker commemorating the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *NLRB v. J & L*. The rededication will be held at the Broadcast Street Café, 464 Franklin Ave., Aliquippa.

The April 11, 1937 decision affirmed the constitutionality of the National Labor Relations Act and was a key step forward in the battle of American workers for economic and social justice. Ten members of Local 1211 who worked in J&L's Aliquippa Works and who were fired for participating in the drive to unionize the Works provided the testimony that formed the factual basis of the Supreme Court's decision.

The original marker was dedicated in 2000 and stolen in 2015. The marker site is located

at the intersection of Franklin Avenue and Station Street.

The program will feature the showing of the PBS award winning documentary "Struggles in Steel- A Story of African-American Steelworkers." *Struggles in Steel* focuses on the decades-long-fight of black steelworkers to extend the labor rights created by the *NLRB v. J&L* decision to all industrial workers. Black Local 1211 members played a major role in this fight. The documentary includes interviews with Local 1211 members James Downing, Jr., Henry Gipson, James Byrd, Charles Gilbert and Paul Piccirilli.

"Struggles in Steel" has been screened at colleges and universities around the country and has recently become a part of Pittsburgh Public School's curriculum. The film's director, Tony Buba, will moderate a panel discussion after the showing. The panel will include Black Lo-

cal 1211 members employed in the Aliquippa Works' by-products department (coke ovens) before and after the 1974 agreement between the USW and most major steel companies establishing plant wide seniority for all workers in the steel industry.

The agreement and subsequent federal court consent decree also included a plan to end racial and sex-discrimination in hiring, employment and pay practices.

Light refreshments will be served at 6:30 P.M. followed by the program at 7:00 P.M.

We are continuing to accept contributions to defray the program costs. Contribution checks should be made payable to USW Local 1211 and sent USW Local 1211, 390 Ohio River Boulevard, Baden, Pa. 15005

For additional information please contact USW Local 1211 Vice President Chris Atsidis at 724-407-3392.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Chairman

Last month I gave a brief report on the first day of the annual Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Community Services Institute, held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel, South Hills Pittsburgh, from Wednesday, July 11th to Saturday, July 14th.

The first General Session of the Institute was held that Wednesday night. Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomington spoke and introduced

Darrin Kelly, newly elected President of the Allegheny/Fayette CLC. Darrin has succeeded Jack Shea, who recently retired. Kelly was upbeat about the future activities in Allegheny County and surrounding counties.

The three rotating workshops on Thursday were very informative. The first was Opioids in our Communities. The second was Workforce Development in our Communities.

The third rotating workshop was Changing our Veter-

an's Council. The instructor was AFL-CIO Union Veterans Council Executive Director Will Attig. Will explained that Veterans have a very high unemployment rate. This contributes to many being homeless and very high suicide rates. The AFL-CIO's goal is to work with businesses, unions, and any other organizations to get as many employed as possible.

Friday's workshops were also

(Continued on page 5)

Public Sector Unions Confront JANUS Decision With Show Of Unity

Editor's Note: The American Federation of Teachers held its biennial national convention June 12-16 in Pittsburgh. A highlight of the convention was the appearance of AFT President Randi Weingarten, NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia, AFSCME President Lee Saunders and SEIU President Mary Kay Henry together on the convention stage on June 16. It was a show of unity against the U.S. Supreme Court's Janus v. AFSCME Council 31 decision on June 27th forbidding public sector unions from requiring non-members to pay fair share fees. PSEA Midwestern Region President Brian Reiser and PSEA Midwestern Region Vice-President Rosetta Dufalla attended the historic show of unity. Beaver and Lawrence Counties are part of the Midwestern Region.



PSEA Midwestern Region President Brian Reiser and Vice-President Rosetta Dufalla with NEA President Lily Eskelsen Garcia (center) at AFT Convention. President Eskelsen Garcia sang the classic "Union Maid" at the public sector unions show of unity on July 14th.



PSEA Midwestern Region Vice-President Rosetta Dufalla holding solidarity sign at AFT Convention. The theme of the Convention was "In it together!"

Community Services Report

(Continued from page 4)

very informative. Samantha Shewmaker, Pa. AFL-CIO Communications Department, and Calista Kelso, Penn State student and AFL-CIO Intern, lead the first workshop. Their message was that, in addition to using traditional ways of getting our message out, we really need to use social media such as Facebook and Twitter. These are ways to inform many more people. This was excellent material and could make us all more effective.

The second Friday workshop was How the Anti-Union

Agenda Impacts Unions and Communities. The third Friday workshop was How to Recruit, Include, and Engage Volunteers.

These six workshops are very real to the challenges that all of us face in the workplace and community activities in which we participate. Please give some thought about attending future Community Services Institutes. They can help us move forward in our struggle to strengthen The Union Movement.

**JOIN US
ON
LABOR
DAY**

See page 6 for parade details

JOIN THE LABOR DAY PARADE

by Michael Cicconi
Legislative Chair, IAMAW
Local 1976

Beginning the late 19th century, as the Labor Movement grew, trade unionists proposed that a day be set aside to celebrate working people. The Central Labor union and the Knights of Labor organized the first parade in New York City on September 5, 1882, and Labor Day was born.

In 1887, Oregon was the first state to designate Labor Day an official public holiday. A total of 30 states would officially celebrate the contributions of working people before the United States finally recognized the importance in 1894, by declaring Labor Day a federal holiday.

From the coal mines and steel mills of the past to the healthcare, technologies and manufacturing industries of today, Beaver County and the greater Pittsburgh area boast a rich labor history. Every year, workers from all professions are joined by elected officials and visitors to participate in the Pittsburgh Labor Day parade sponsored by the Allegheny/Fayette Central Labor Council.

For the past 35 years, the Labor Council has put on the largest participatory Labor Day Parade in the United States. It's a great opportunity to share professional pride, highlight our occupations and promote union affiliations. The parade goes through downtown Pittsburgh and is often followed by union

picnics for an overall great family event.

Labor Day doesn't belong to the corporations or the rich. Labor Day is a workers' day - you and me and everyone else who toils. It's a day to take an appreciate pause on the victories that make working people's lives better - minimum wage, safety and health laws, forty-hour work week and build support for the battles we fight today - retirement security, job protections and fair taxes.

Being part of the Labor Day Parade promotes social time with coworkers or creates an opportunity to meet new people. Whether you're walking with a friend or standing next to a stranger, it's empowering to see how many people are bound together as workers.

The parade will start at 10:00 AM. Parade participants will begin at the old Civic Arena parking lot, go down Center Avenue to Sixth Avenue, turn right onto Sixth, proceed to Grant Street, turn right on Grant Street, to go the Boulevard of the Allies and turn right. The viewing stand will be at the corner of the Boulevard of the Allies and Stanwix Street in front of the United Steelworkers headquarters.

Traffic in and out of Pittsburgh on Labor Day is usually very light, so it's pretty easy to get to the parade in the morning and get home afterward. You must find parking away from the parade route. On street parking at the meters in the city is free that day, but you MUST BE LE-

GALLY PARKED. Parking in the City of Pittsburgh Parking Authority Parking Lots is \$5 for the whole day.

March With The APWU

(Continued from page 1)

members and friends to meet with their representatives and express of the urgency of them becoming co-sponsors and to oppose the privatization of the Postal Service.

Again, please attend our Rally and March on August 21st if you can. If you will help spread the word, wonderful. A copy of the Rally and March flyer appears at the end of this issue of the UNION BUG. Please print it and spread it far and wide. If we could all stick together and defeat the beasts of Wall Street, boom.

Please don't hesitate to contact me at 412-321-4700 with ideas or for more information.

**Acco brand products:**

Five Star school supplies and organizational gear
 Mead school supplies
 Tetra Pak milk cartons made by USW Local Union 171 in Vancouver, Washington

Roaring Spring paper products:

Modern Jen journals and folders
 Construction paper
 Poster Board
 Drawing pads
 Sketch books
 Compositions notebooks
 Wire-bound notebooks
 Binders and portfolios
 Index cards
 Envelopes
 Folders

Boise paper products:

Boise X-9
 Business Choice
 Flagship
 Office Depot
 FasCopy
 Xerographics
 USA Xerographics
 Grand and Toy
 W.B. Mason

Pacon brand products:

Art1st drawing/sketch Pads
 Array card stock & bond paper
 Art Street construction paper
 Bordette Decorative Border
 Classroom Keepers storage
 Colorwave tagboard
 Corobuff 3D decorative backgrounds
 Decorol Art Roll paper
 Ecology recycled paper
 Ella Bella photography backdrops
 Fadeless Paper
 Flameless Paper
 GoWrite! dry erase pads
 Kaleidoscope colored paper
 Little Fingers construction paper
 Neon fluorescent-colored paper products
 Peacock colored paper products
 Plast'r Craft modeling material
 The Present-It easel pads
 Rainbow Colored Kraft duo-finish paper
 Riverside construction paper
 Spectra ArtKraft duo-finish paper
 Spectra Art Tissue tissue paper
 Spectra Glitter
 Trait-tex yarn
 Tru-Ray construction paper

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



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

Calendar of Events

- 08/17 to
08/19 Pa. AFL-CIO annual COPE Institute: Conference Center
a Shippensburg University, 500 Newburg Road,
Shippensburg, PA 17257.
- 08/18 USW District 10 Benefit Run: Run begins at 10:30 at
District 10 office. See flyer appended to end of July issue
of the UNION BUG for additional details.
- 08/20 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council meetings:
Executive Board meeting 6:00 PM, membership meeting
7:30 PM; PSEA Building, New Castle.
- 08/23 APWU Rally and March to Save the Public Post Office:
3:00 PM David Lawrence Convention Center, 10th St. &
Penn Ave., Pittsburgh. See front page article above and
flyer appended to end of this issue of the UNION BUG for
additional details.
- 09/03 Labor Day: See President's Report on Page 3 of this issue
of the UNION BUG for information about Pittsburgh and
Erie Labor Day parades.
- 09/17 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council meetings:
Executive Board meeting 6:00 PM, membership meeting
7:30 PM; IBEW Local 712 Hall, Vanport
- 09/27 USW Local 1211 NLRB v. J&L Historical Marker
Rededication Program: 6:30 PM, light refreshments,
7:00 PM rededication program. See article on Page 4 of
this issue of the UNION BUG for additional details.
Membership – 7:30 PM; IBEW 712, Vanport.
BUG.

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to
Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at
jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on September 7th
to be considered for publication in the
September 2018 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.

White House Office of Management and Budget (OMB)
has released a plan to privatize the U.S. Postal Service

Join us for an



RALLY & MARCH

Save the Public Post Office!

Stop Privatization ★ Uphold Universal Service

Tuesday, August 21, 2018

Assemble at 3:00 p.m.

David Lawrence Convention Center

10th St. & Penn Ave. ★ Pittsburgh



The American Postal Workers Union (APWU) is convening in Pittsburgh. We welcome the support of concerned citizens, Union brothers and sisters, and all who cherish the U.S. Postal Service to join our fight to save it from those who would defund, destabilize and destroy it.