

# UNION



# BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 5

JANUARY 2022

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IUPAT 530

## State And National AFL-CIO Officers Mark First Anniversary Of January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection With Calls To Defend Right To Vote

By Rick Galiano  
Labor Council President

On January 8<sup>th</sup> of this year the national AFL-CIO's General Board called on Donald Trump to resign or be removed from office as a result of the events that occurred at the Capitol Building two days earlier. On January 11<sup>th</sup>, the Beaver Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board called upon its delegates, affiliated unions and their members and all elected officials representing the citizens of Beaver and Lawrence Counties to support the General Board's call.

One year later, Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomingdale and Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder marked the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection by a statement appearing in the January 7<sup>th</sup> issue of the Workers' Week in PA:

"On January 6, this

country was betrayed by a mob of political extremists and rogue lawmakers who aided an insurrection to overturn a free and fair election. But they failed and our democracy prevailed. In 2020, Americans

***"Working people are not willing to cede American democracy to insurrectionists who try to overturn the will of the people."***

turned out to vote and make their voices heard in record numbers. In this democracy, voters decide our elections. However, right-wing extremism has continued its attempt to take away our right to vote, laying the groundwork to sabotage future elections. Now is the time for us to come together and act to protect our democracy. Congress must vote to pass the Freedom to Vote Act and the John

Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act."

National AFL-CIO President Liz Schuler marked the January 6<sup>th</sup> insurrection by issuing a statement via AFL-CIO email update that read in part:

"On January 6, an angry mob attacked the U.S. Capitol and our democracy. They wanted to go back to the days of segregation, voter suppression and violence against communities of color. Sign the pledge saying you will protect voting rights and fight extremism. [Editor's Note: Go to [peoplepower@afclcio.org](mailto:peoplepower@afclcio.org) to sign the pledge.]

Working people are not willing to cede American democracy to insurrectionists who **try to overturn the will of the people.**

We will not sit back as the enemies of democ-

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## State And National AFL-CIO Officers Mark First Anniversary Of January 6<sup>th</sup> Insurrection

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racy **pass voter suppression bills in 19 states** since the 2020 election, targeting Black voters and other communities of color.

And we will not be quiet as we watch corporations **break the law to bust democratically elected unions**, where workers voted for stronger protections and racial equity in the workplace.

So in 2022, we're pledging to advance democracy everywhere: in the workplace and at the ballot box."

The key to advancing democracy in 2022 is sidelining the filibuster rule in the U.S. Senate. The AFL-CIO and many of its affiliates are conducting a campaign to urge all Senators to limit the filibuster rule as to voting rights bills, including the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

An email statement issued by IATSE on January 13th, for example, states:

"It shouldn't be this hard to pass laws that

help people. It should take a simple 50-vote majority, but an outdated procedure in the U.S. Senate called the filibuster is stopping us.

Next week, on the anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr's birthday, the Senate has the opportunity to secure the right to vote by passing the Freedom to Vote Act and the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act.

The choice is clear: **Sideline the filibuster**, not the hopes, aspirations and representation of America's people."

Our Labor Council has for many years been in the forefront of the fight to defend and expand voting rights. As Labor Council President, I urge our Labor Council to continue fighting to protect this right. Please call Senators Casey and Toomey and urge them to limit the filibuster. The improvements in wages and working conditions that our Labor Movement has won for workers cannot be maintained when the freedom to vote is restricted.

### 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.

# President's Report

By Rick Galiano  
Labor Council President

\* The Executive Board election scheduled for the December Labor Council Membership meeting was postponed due to the absence of a quorum. The election will be held at our January membership meeting. Our Labor Council bylaws require that the postponed election be held at the first succeeding regular meeting.

\* The 2022 Labor Council calendars are now available. Calendars will be distributed at the January Labor Council meeting.

\* I am wishing everyone a happy New Year under the current trying circumstances.



Labor Council President Rick Galiano and Secretary-Treasurer Mel Ice listen as Joe Spanik, former Beaver County Labor Council Executive Board member and retired LIUNA Local 833 member, addresses the December Labor Council meeting. Spanik reported on the next Building Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Program. The Program is designed to prepare interested young people and transitioning adults to enter and succeed in registered Building Trades apprenticeship programs. The next local Apprenticeship Readiness Program begins on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Please see the flyer and application attached to the end of this issue of the UNION BUG for additional information.



Terri Mitko, Beaver County Democratic Party Chairperson, addressing the December Labor Council meeting. Her remarks focused on the May 2022 primary election.

## 2022 PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

- First day to circulate and file nomination petitions .....February 15
- Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions .....March 8
- First day to circulate and file nomination papers.....March 9
- Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions.....March 23
- Last day to REGISTER before the primary.....May 2
- Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot...May 10
- Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (8:00 P.M.) ...May 17
- GENERAL PRIMARY** .....May 17

**TAKE ACTION TODAY!**

# **SIDELINE THE FILIBUSTER.**

**PASS THE JOHN R. LEWIS VOTING  
RIGHTS ADVANCEMENT ACT AND  
THE FREEDOM TO VOTE ACT.**

**AFL-CIO**

BEAVER/LAWRENCE  
CENTRAL LABOR  
COUNCIL



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

## Calendar of Events

- 01/17 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and Membership meetings. Executive Board – 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM. IBEW Local 712 Edwin D. Hill Complex, Vanport.
- 01/17 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday. See attached flyer for information on commemoration hosted by the Midland Women's Civic Club and presented by Lincoln Learning Solutions. Pittsburgh Steeler Najee Harris will be a special guest. The event will be streamed live as a virtual event.
- 01/24-03/17 Building Trades Apprenticeship Readiness Program (designed to prepare interested young people and transitioning adults to enter and succeed in registered Building Trades apprenticeship programs). See flyer and registration form attached to the end of this issue of the UNION BUG.
- 02/21 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and Membership meetings. Executive Board – 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM. IBEW Local 712 Edwin D. Hill Complex, Vanport.
- 02/28 Pennsylvania AFL-CIO 2022 Scholarship Essay Deadline. See flyer and application form attached to the end of this issue of the UNION BUG.

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 January 10th to be considered for publication in the January 2022 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.





# 2022 Scholarship Essay Contest

## Scholarship Awards

First Place	\$2,000
Second Place	\$1,000
Third Place	\$500

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Scholarship Essay Contest is a chance for students to learn more about the importance of Organized Labor in America. Over the years, we have awarded tens of thousands of dollars to students furthering their education.

Scholarships are available exclusively to Pennsylvania AFL-CIO affiliated union members and their families.

Scholarships are offered to students in two categories: graduating high school seniors (Class of 2022), and all post-secondary students.

## Deadline is February 28, 2022

## Thank You to Our 2021 Sponsors!

AFGE Local 1916	IBEW Local 126	IUOE Local 95	Neshaminy Federation of Teachers	UFCW Local 1776
Allegheny County CLC	IBEW Local 1319	Jubelirer, Pass & Intrieri, P.C.	OPEIU Local 1937	UMWA Local 1318
ATU Local 85	IBEW Local 201	Lehigh Valley CLC	Pittsburgh Metro Area Postal Workers' Union	Unite Here Local 54
Bucks County CLC	IBEW Local 81	Montgomery County CLC	Plumbers Local 690	USW Local 14693
Community & Social Agency Local 1739	Indiana-Armstrong CLC	NABET CWA Local 28	SEIU Local 668	York-Adams CLC
CWA Local 13000	IUOE Local 66		Sheet Metal Workers Local 44	

## PA AFL-CIO Education Committee

Jerry Jordan Chairman AFT	Dennis Andrews USW	Jim Irwin AFSCME	Bryon Shane ATU
Gregory Vogt Vice Chair IBEW	Craig Bialek CWA	Gwendolyn Johnson CBTU	Arthur Steinberg AFT
Tara Wilson Secretary AFSCME	Nina Esposito-Visgitis AFT	Ron Oliver Erie-Crawford CLC	Ronald Webb IBEW
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# 2022 Scholarship Essay Contest

The late AFL-CIO President and Pennsylvania native Richard Trumka left an indelible impact on the Labor movement as we know it today. The 2022 Scholarship Essay Contest theme is based on his life and work in honor of his memory.

## How To Apply

Essays must be a minimum of 1,500 words on the topic in your respective category; essays less than 1500 words will be disqualified.

Titles must be kept the same as their respective category.

Your application form must be included in your essay PDF file, or as a separate PDF attachment.

Entries must be emailed to [dmadsen@paafcio.org](mailto:dmadsen@paafcio.org) by February 28, 2022.

The PDF version of this flier is on [paafcio.org](http://paafcio.org).

**If you have questions please  
call 717-231-2842, or  
email [dmadsen@paafcio.org](mailto:dmadsen@paafcio.org).**



## Category 1

### Graduating High School Seniors

From his Pennsylvania roots to his work serving the United Mine Workers of America, through his leadership guiding the national AFL-CIO and beyond, President Trumka dedicated his life to making sure that working people around the globe had the best future possible. Please provide a brief biographical overview on President Trumka's life and choose a highlight of his career that inspires you, including why.

## Category 2

### Post-Secondary Students

At 33 years old, President Trumka was elected President of the United Mineworkers of America (UMWA), where his leadership stood out during the Pittston strike of 1989. Please provide a brief overview and analysis of Richard Trumka's leadership during his tenure with the UMWA, including its historic context/significance in relation to the labor movement.

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## APPLICATION FORM

Please complete this form and include its information with your entry.

NAME

ADDRESS

PHONE NUMBER

EMAIL ADDRESS

UNION AFFILIATION & LOCAL

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL (if known)

NAME AND ADDRESS OF THE SCHOOL AND OR PROGRAM YOU CURRENTLY ATTEND

I agree to provide proof of school acceptance or enrollment, should I become a scholarship recipient.

SIGNATURE OF CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL OR LOCAL UNION

# Dr. Martin Luther King Day Celebration

Hosted by the Midland Women's Civic Club  
Presented by Lincoln Learning Solutions

For Immediate Release:  
January 4, 2022

Contact:  
Mrs. Stephanie Pennington  
[stpenny03@gmail.com](mailto:stpenny03@gmail.com) – (724) 312-2936

## Steeler Najee Harris Joins Midland's MLK Scholarship Fund Raiser

(Midland, Pennsylvania) - The 2022 Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day commemoration, hosted by the Midland Women's Civic Club, will celebrate perseverance and Dr. King's quote; *"the ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort and convenience, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy"*. For the second consecutive year, and due to the pandemic, it will be streamed live as a virtual event via Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center's Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/LincolnParkArts>) and YouTube ([https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYEzxy0Vg4DuH\\_pp6l7xKnA/videos?view=0&sort=da](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCYEzxy0Vg4DuH_pp6l7xKnA/videos?view=0&sort=da)) platforms on Monday, January 17<sup>th</sup> beginning at 1:00 p.m.

Those reflecting on the theme of perseverance will include Jen Mura Miller, Executive Director of The Center, a non-profit organization addressing the needs of children and families in Midland; Valerie McKelvey, the founder of Professional Outfitters and Variety Shoppe under the Agency of the Franklin Center of Beaver County and sole proprietor of We're At Your Service in New Brighton; Aisya Washington, a Midland-native and former scholarship winner who now works as a fashion stylist in New York City; and special guest Najee Harris, the Pittsburgh Steeler rookie running back out of the University of Alabama.

The signature underwriter of the event is Lincoln Learning Solutions. Key sponsors include the Midland Borough School District, the Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School, Baden Academy Charter School, Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School, Midland Innovation + Technology Charter School, and Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center which is producing the event. Proceeds directly benefit students bound for college through the MWCC's Greater Midland Scholarship Foundation.

The Midland Women's Civic Club invites the general public to make MLK Day a "day on" of fellowship and enlightenment to benefit local students through scholarships from the safety and comfort of their homes, offices, and any COVID-safe environment.

Hosted by the Midland Women's Civic Club - Presented by Lincoln Learning Solutions  
Sponsored by Midland Borough School District  
Baden Academy - Lincoln Park Performing Arts Charter School  
Midland Innovation + Technology Charter School  
Pennsylvania Cyber Charter School - Lincoln Park Performing Arts Center



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Scan to learn more

**Learn how YOU can forge a  
career in the Building Trades!**

**Where:**

**Beaver County Career & Technology Center  
145 Poplar Avenue, Monaca, PA 15061**

**Classes start in January 24th–March 17th  
Monday–Thursday  
5:30 PM–9:30 PM**

*\*Classes are limited. Enroll today!*

**Cost: FREE**

**Program Requirements:**

- Valid Drivers License
- Reliable transportation or access to personal transportation
- High School Diploma or GED
- Ability to pass a drug test
- Able to perform physical work
- At least 18 years of age

  
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