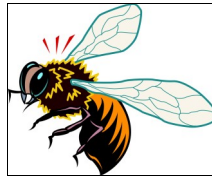


UNION



BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 5 ISSUE 9

May 2019

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IUPAT 530

NWPA ALF 12th Annual Meeting/ Convention to be Held on June 26th

*Special to the
UNION BUG
By Andrew Harkulich
NWPA ALF Chairman,
USW L.U. 1660*

The 12th Annual Northwest Pennsylvania Area Labor Federation Meeting/Convention will convene at 12:00 noon on June 26, 2019, in the Crystal Ballroom of the Ambassador Inn and Conference Center located at 2225 Downs Drive, Erie, Pennsylvania 16509.

The NWPA ALF holds a convention every three years. The major function of the convention is to elect our officers and executive board. The convention will be in session until all appropriate business is concluded. We anticipate the convention will conclude at 5 PM.

A block of rooms has been reserved at a reduced cost of \$119.00 per night. Anyone staying must make their arrangements by calling (814) 866-9999 or visiting: www.ambassadorerie.com. (You may wish to check

out the Splash for Cash event on page 4 before making your reservations.)

We have a Program Book to offset the costs of the convention which will be union printed. The contract for advertising was sent out earlier, and it is available on our website. All unions in good standing can assign/elect Delegates and Alternates to represent them at the convention. Credentials were mailed in bright blue envelopes. The cost is \$35.00 per Delegate or Alternate. Delegates Credentials MUST be mailed to the NWPA ALF at 1276 Liberty Street, Suite 2, Franklin, Pennsylvania 16323, NO LATER than June 6th.

Delegate Registration is from 11-11:45 AM.

Many things will happen in this jam-packed 5-hour convention which is why we have chosen to include a working lunch to keep things moving. In addition to the nominations and elections of our Officers and Execu-

tive-Board, we will:

- **Be welcomed by our labor friend, PA Rep. Robert Merski, Jr., HD 3;
- **Hear a keynote speech by Irwin Aronson, special counsel to the PA AFL-CIO;
- **Award scholarships to our winners;
- **Make decisions concerning the direction of the Area Labor Federation and allotments to our CLC's;
- **Hold an Action Network training, a program that is free to all CLC's and ALF's and enables you to do blast emails, faxes and texts and much more;
- **Hold a presentation and discussion of "Off the Table", a film about Medicare for All and the impact that its enactment into law would have on union contract negotiations; and
- **Hold a Silent Auction throughout the convention to benefit the Education Fund; prizes you can bid on will include a 32" Smart TV, a unique and expensive set of dishes, a basket of items donated

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For The Record

By Lisa Alexander
Labor Council Recording Secretary

From the April Labor Council Executive Board and Delegates meetings –

Correspondences:

1. Received letter from Midland Arts Council regarding their 14th annual Art Show to be held from June 25 – July 4, 2019.

2. Received notification of NWPAA Area Labor Federation's 12th Annual meeting/convention to be held on Wednesday, June 26, 2019, at the Ambassador Inn and Conference Center in Erie, Pennsylvania. Registration cost is \$35.00 per person. Executive Board will meet at 10:00 a.m., registration 10:00 – 11:00 a.m. with general session starting at noon and to last no later than 5:00 p.m. Sarah Dudash motioned for Executive Board to recommend that CLC purchase a one-half page ad in the booklet and Tom Flook seconded; motion passed.

3. The Community Services Institute will be held in Philadelphia from July 10 – July 13, 2019; cost of rooms is \$139.00 per night. Also,

the Cope Institute will be held in Shippensburg from August 16 – 18, 2019; both of these will be tabled until the next CLC Meeting.

4. The United Way of Beaver County will be holding their 5th Annual Recognition Dinner at the Club at Shadow Lakes on June 6, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. Discussion will be tabled until the May meeting.

Delegates Meeting Highlights:

Guest speakers were Frank Martocci, Esq., who is running for District Justice in the Ambridge, Baden and Harmony Township areas. Also, Mike Rossi, Labor Council endorsed candidate for the Democratic nomination for Beaver County Prothonotary, spoke briefly on needing the support of the CLC and others for his campaign. Mike also thanked the Labor Council again for its endorsement of his candidacy.

Credentials and Affiliation: two new delegates were sworn in by President Galiano: Wil Lynn of USW local 1074 and Mel Ice of SOAR. Executive Vice President Dan Onuska

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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

* Please remember to consider voting for the May 21st statewide primary election candidates endorsed by the Pennsylvania AFL- CIO, and the county and local primary election candidates endorsed by the Labor Council. Our endorsed candidates are:

Statewide Democratic Primary:
Superior Court
Amanda Green-Hawkins
(recommended for endorsement by the Labor Council) and Dan McCaffery

Beaver County Democratic Primary:
Court of Common Pleas Judge
Laura Tocci
County Commissioner
Tony Amadio
Clerk of Courts
Judy Enslin

District Attorney
Edward Ted Knafelc
Prothonotary
Mike Rossi
Recorder of Deeds
Dee Dixon
Register of Wills
Tracey Antoline Patton
Sheriff
Wayne Kress
Treasurer
Lori Bohach
Midland Borough Council
Dan Onuska

Beaver County Republican Primary:
County Commissioner
Dan Camp

* The Labor Council has printed and is distributing slate cards with the names of all its endorsed primary election candidates.

* Thank you to Labor Council Vice-President Mark Benkart for organizing the COPE

fundraiser at Robert's Roadside Inn on April 11th. Also thank you to Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomingdale and Pa. AFL-CIO Secretary Treasurer Frank Snyder for attending the fundraiser and addressing the attendees.

* Eric Martin has resigned as Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer. Thank you to Eric for his service to the Labor Council as an Executive Board member.

* The food and refreshments at the April Labor Council meeting were sponsored by IBEW Local 29. The food and refreshments at the May meeting in New Castle will be sponsored by the Labor Council. IAMAW Local Lodge 1976 has agreed to sponsor the food and refreshments at the November Labor Council meeting. The food and refreshments at all the remaining 2019 monthly meetings now have sponsorship.



Labor Council President Rick Galiano (r) installing Mel Ice (left) and Wil Lynn (center) as delegates at the April Labor Council meeting. Mel represents SOAR and Wil represents USW Local 1074.



Labor Council Vice President Mark Benkart reporting on April 11th COPE fundraiser at April Labor Council meeting.

Right: Labor Council endorsed Beaver County Prothonotary candidate Mike Rossi addressing April Labor Council meeting. Mike thanked the Council for its endorsement. He noted that he was a member of USW Local 1211 until the mass layoffs at LTV Aliquippa Works in the early 1980's and later became a CWA member while working at Verizon. He has been elected three times as president of his CWA unit while working at Verizon.



‘WE NEED ACTION!’ - IAMAW TRANSPORTATION MEMBERS’ GROWING SOLIDARITY

By Mike Cicconi
IAMAW LL 1976 Legislative
Chairperson

More than 800 members of the IAMAW’s largest territory, the Transportation Department, joined together in Las Vegas the week of April 8th for the 2019 IAMAW Transportation Conference. The IAMAW, which represents more than 160,000 members in the airline and rail industries, is North America’s largest union in the sector.

Representing IAMAW LL 1976 were President Mike Stoica, Vice President Howard Ferguson, Grievance Committee Chairman Mike Cicconi and Committeemen Ernie Fritz and Mark Ball.

LL 1976 members work for American Airlines at Pittsburgh Intl. Airport in the Aircraft Maintenance Dept. We fall under the Transportation Department of the IAMAW.

Speakers at the Conference highlighted American Airlines negotiations, the ongoing organizing campaign for approximately 42,000 Delta Airlines flight attendants and ramp workers, outsourcing and layoffs in the rail industry and important political issues facing IAMAW Transportation members.

“This year’s Transportation Conference is the Largest one ever,” said IAMAW Transportation General Vice President Sito Pantoja, a 42-year IAMAW member who began his career as an air frame and power plant mechanic at TWA in New York. “We have over 800 delegates here and a lot to be thankful for over

the last two years. But today I pledge that we must not rest until every working man and woman in our industries have the safety and security of an IAM contract. We need action and we need it now!”

The IAMAW and TCU-IAMAW have long set the standard for wages and benefits in the North American airline and rail industries.

We should all be very proud that the IAM is the strongest voice for workers in the U.S. and Canada,” said IAMAW International President Robert Martinez, Jr. “WE will stand with you in every negotiation, every fight against privatization and every attack on our union. Together, we are the biggest and most powerful transportation union on Earth.”

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka delivered a scathing rebuke of anti-union CEO Richard Anderson, who has taken his corporate greed from Delta Airlines to Amtrak, where Anderson recently slashed 550 jobs at the Riverside, CA, call center.

“Working people are fed up with an economic and political system that doesn’t work for

them,” said Trumka. “Workers are turning to each other. Every single day, more and more working people are realizing that the single best way they can improve their lives is to join a union. Brothers and Sisters, hear me loud and hear me clear: the Machinists are going to win a union



IAMAW LL 1976 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council delegate Mike Cicconi at podium as IAMAW Transportation Department General Vice President Sito Pantoja addresses 2019 IAMAW Transportation Conference.

Delta Airlines.”

On April 8th, presidential candidates and Senators, Amy Klobuchar (D-MN) and Bernie Sanders (I-VT) made their pitches to the conference delegates. Both pledged to restore power to unions and grow the middle class.

This was the largest IAMAW Transportation Conference ever held. It was very informative to hear that the Labor Movement is moving forward. We must all remain together in solidarity. Growing the Labor Movement is our number one priority.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Chairman

The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council held another successful Beer and Wing Night COPE fundraiser at Robert's Road side on April 11th. There was a nice crowd, including many candidates running for Democratic and Republican nominations for local and county offices in May 21st primary election.

Labor Council President Rick Galiano chaired the fundraiser's speaking program. Pennsylvania AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomingdale and Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder gave inspiring speeches about the importance of supporting candidates for local and county offices who support the Labor Movement's agenda.

Candidates in attendance were given time to introduce themselves. We wish the Labor Council endorsed candidates the best of luck.

We made about \$2,000.00 in profit which will help our COPE program. Some of the profit will be used to purchase and distribute slate cards with the names of the Labor Council endorsed candidates. This is the first time in many years that the Labor Council has issued a slate



Pa. AFL-CIO President Rick Bloomingdale addressing attendees at COPE fundraiser.



From left, Labor Council Vice-President Mark Benkart, President Rick Galiano, Trustee Sara Dudash, Vice-President Howard Thompson and Mira Thompson, wife of Howard Thompson, at COPE fundraiser.

card.

I just want to thank everyone who contributed to making this a success. I want to especially thank Labor Council Trustee Sara Dudash for her untiring work, Steve Kocherzat for helping us with the invitation letter and application; and, of course, Labor Council President Rick Galiano and Vice-President Howard Thompson and his wife, Mira.

CONVENTION

Continued from page 1

by Edinboro University, and the Comedy Package which includes two, one year memberships to the National Comedy Central and Lucille Ball & Desi Arnaz Museum, a \$50.00 Gift Certificate to Forte Rest for dinner (half of which was donated by them), a free night's stay at the brand new DoubleTree Hotel (donated by them), a \$25.00 gift card for breakfast or lunch at the Labyrinth Restaurant, all of which are in Jamestown, New

York and all of which were either built union or are union friendly. Donated items will be added as they come in. We will keep a list on our website for your convenience.

We planned on honoring Joseph Cieply from Highmark Blue Cross Blue Shield as "Labor's Friend of the Year". He is unable to attend; thus, it will be presented at our September meeting.

WE WILL BE IN NEED OF VOLUNTEERS TO:

- help with Registration;
- serve on the Election committee being chaired by J. Howard Thompson;
- help with the silent auction;
- serve as an escort for our Keynote Speaker.

In the interest of time, the CLC's are encouraged to submit a written report.

For more information call (814) 360-8336.

SEE YOU AT THE CONVENTION!

Union Members Rally in Support of Legislation to Preserve Nuclear Energy Worker Jobs

By Dan Onuska
 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor
 Council Ex. Vice-President,
 IBEW Local 29

Hundreds of union members working at Pennsylvania's five nuclear energy generating stations rallied on the steps of the state capitol in Harrisburg on May 6th in support of House Bill 11 and Senate Bill 510.

The bills would provide relief to the nuclear industry by revamping Pennsylvania's Alternative Energy Portfolio Standards Act, adding nuclear energy to the list of emission free, "clean" energy, alongside other carbon-free sources like wind and solar.

The rally was coordinated by the unions with members working in the generating stations and supported by the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO.

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO issued the following statement on May 3rd in support of the rally and legislation:

"We need to stand up for union energy jobs in Pennsylvania. 16,000 jobs in the nuclear industry are at risk in Pennsylvania. And we are running out of time to save them.

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO has always supported good-paying family-sustaining jobs and a diverse energy infrastructure for our Commonwealth. We need you to join us in sending a message to the state representatives and state senators in Har-

risburg, that this fight is not about corporations, it's about jobs.

Our sisters and brothers working at Three Mile Island and Beaver Valley Nuclear Energy generating stations, and the thousands of building and construction trades union members who service them, will lose their jobs if the Pennsylvania General Assembly does nothing. We must stand together and fight for real solutions that put workers and their families first.

At 38%, nuclear energy is the largest single contributor to Pennsylvania's energy genera-

Workers need to be at the table when it comes to making decisions about industries; we cannot be an afterthought.

The workers who keep our lights on, our brothers and sisters in the energy industry, deserve a voice at the table. We need to save these union jobs."

I was honored as a member of IBEW Local 29 working at the Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Station to be asked to speak at the May 6th rally.

I told the attendees that we must let the legislators who are opposed to House Bill 11 and

Senate Bill 510 know how important nuclear power stations are to the social fabric and economies of the communities that surround them. I know - my par-

ents raised me and I raised my children in Midland, across the river from the Beaver Valley Station.



Labor Council Executive Vice-President Dan Onuska addressing May 6th rally in Harrisburg.

tion. Nuclear energy also produces 93% of our Commonwealth's carbon free energy. More than 16,000 jobs depend on our five nuclear energy generating stations in Pennsylvania.

USW Local 1211 Supports Variety – The Children’s Charity

By Christ Atsidis
USW Local 1211 Vice-President

USW Local 1211 recently participated in a distribution of mobility and communications equipment to disabled children. The distribution was made at the Beaver County Intermediate Unit facility in Monaca on April 2nd.

The distribution was made by Variety-the Children’s Charity (of Pittsburgh). The USW International Union contributes funds for Variety distributed equipment.

Variety enables children with disabilities to live life to the fullest with a focus on mobility, communication and social inclusion. It provides disabled children with customized adaptive bikes, adaptive strollers and

communication devices.

More than 2500 adaptive bicycles, strollers and communication devices have been sponsored by Variety donors since 2012. Variety accepts donations from union organizations, businesses and individuals.

Dante and Dimitri Aspiotis, children of Local 1211 member James Aspiotis and his wife, Tiffany, received unbreakable iPads at the April 2nd distribution. The iPads will help them communicate their needs to others. USW contributions made the distribution of the iPads to them possible.

Since 2014, Variety adaptive bicycle recipients have



From left, USW Local 1211 Vice-President Christ Atsidis, Tiffany Aspiotis and son Dimitri, and USW Local 1211 President Bart Carr at April 2nd Variety the Children’s Charity mobility and communications device distribution. The distribution was made at the Beaver County Intermediate Unit in Monaca.

ridden their adaptive bicycles in the Labor Day Parade in downtown Pittsburgh with the help of the Allegheny-Fayette Central Labor Council and other Labor organizations.

HUMAN RIGHTS BANQUET PLANNING TO BEGIN

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Committee Chairperson

The Community Services Committee, with the help of the Moral Mondays Committee, is beginning to plan its seventh Human Rights Banquet. We hope to schedule the banquet for a date in the spring of 2020.

I will keep everyone updated as we plan it. If you wish to help with the banquet and other activities, please join us at our Community Services Committee meetings. The Committee meets on the second Tuesday of each month. Meeting are held at the IBEW Local 712 Edwin D. Hill Complex in Vanport. Meeting begin at 7:00 PM

RECORD

Continued from page 2

reported on the status of pending state legislation affecting the Beaver Valley Nuclear Power Station. HB 11 and SB 510 should be on the floor of the General Assembly shortly. Ohio also has a bill pending that should be of the floor of its state legislature in the next couple of weeks. If TMI is shut down, Beaver Valley will be next. The local General Assembly members who support the pending legislation are State Senator Elder Vogel and State Representatives Aaron Bernstine, Rob Matzie and Jim Marshall.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



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

Calendar of Events

- 05/14 Allegheny-Fayette Central Labor Council and Labor
05/21 School at Penn State Labor Activist Academy: 6–8:30 PM,
05/28 Pittsburgh Federation of Teachers, 10 S. 19th Street,
Pittsburgh. See flyer at the end of April issue of the
UNION BUG.
- 05/20 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board
and membership meetings; Executive Board - 6:00 PM;
Membership – 7:30 PM; PSEA Building, New Castle
- 05/21 Primary Election Day (see President's Report, Page 3
above, for a list of Pennsylvania AFL-CIO and Beaver-
Lawrence CLC endorsed candidates).
- 05/31 Pa. AFL-CIO Organizing Roundtable: Pa. AFL-CIO
Headquarters, 600 N. 2nd Street, Harrisburg (see article on
Page 3 of the April issue of the UNION BUG).
- 06/11 Community Services/Moral Monday meeting: 7:00 PM;
IBEW L.U.712 Edwin D. Hill Complex, Vanport.
- 06/17 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Annual Picnic;
Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:00 PM;
Bradys Run Park Shelter No. 6.
- 06/26 2nd Quarter 2019 NWPA ALF Meeting/Convention;
Ambassador Inn and Conference Center, 2225 Downs Dr.,
Erie, Pa. 16509 (See article on Page 1 of this issue
of the UNION BUG for details).

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to
Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at
jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on June 10th
to be considered for publication in the
June 2019 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.

UNION-MADE MEMORIAL DAY

★★★ BARBECUE



1. Grill some union-made burgers and dogs.

Try: Alexander & Hornung, Ball Park Franks, Dearborn Sausage, Hebrew National, Always Tender Pork Tenderloins, Excel Fresh Meats, Farm Fresh, Farmer John, Hormel

2. Top your meal with union-made toppings.

Try: Gulden's Spicy Brown Mustard, Heinz Ketchup, Open Pit, French's, Franks Red Hot, Vlasic Brand Pickles, Amaral Ranches Lettuce

3. Try some union-made bread.

Try: Alfred Nickles Bakery, Stroehmann, Arnold, Francisco

4. Pile some union-made side items on your plate.

Van Camps Baked Beans, Suddenly Salad, Betty Crocker Specialty Potatoes, Amaral Ranches Broccoli, Andy Boy, Frito Lay Chips and Snacks, Kraft Foods, Lays Potato Chips and Dips, Mission Foods, Heinz Baked Beans

5. Enjoy a union-made adult beverage.

Beer: Anheuser-Busch, Budweiser, Landshark Lager, Leinenkugel Brewing Co., Michelob, Miller Lite, Milwaukee's Best, Natural Ice & Light, O'Doul's, Shock Top

Wine: Almaden, Bartles & Jaymes, Black Box, C.K. Mondavi, Carlo Rossi, Charles Krug, Chateau Ste. Michelle, Columbia Crest, Corbett Canyon Vineyard, Dubonnet, Fairbanks, Franzia, Gallo Estate Wines, Robert Mondavi, St. Supery, Turning Leaf.