



# NWPA ALF News

May 2022 Edition

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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST:

The NWPA ALF's jurisdiction covers 19 Pennsylvania Counties: Armstrong, Beaver, Butler, Cameron, Clarion, Clearfield, Crawford, Elk, Erie, Forest, Indiana, Jefferson, Lawrence, McKean, Mercer, Potter, Venango, Warren and Westmoreland. We produce this newsletter for the members of our affiliates.

Any comments or questions about this newsletters or its contents should be sent to the NWPA ALF is located at 1276 Liberty St. Ste. 2 in Franklin, PA 16323.

<https://nwpaalf.paafcio.org/>  
[www.facebook.com/nwpaalf](https://www.facebook.com/nwpaalf)

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## Mercer County CLC Workers Memorial Service

The Mercer county CLC proved that good people can do great things on short notice! On Thursday evening when the CLC met, their members realized it would only be 8 days till their traditional Workers Memorial Service. They always hold it in the rotunda of the Mercer County Courthouse on the Friday nearest the 28th of April.



One of their unions unfortunately suffered a loss of life accident in October. They were determined to have their Workers Memorial Service this year and memorialize Kenneth Stitt and every other person in our state that died at work.

They didn't let the time constraints stop them.

The CLC has a group of dedicated activists who each played an active role in both the planning and the event. With Solidairty and determination you can accomplish anything.

The City waived the 30-days advance notice for the permit for the use of the rotunda thanks to one of their union-friendly commissioners.

Andrew Hrkulich, President of the CLC welcomed everyone. Todd Clary served as Master of Ceromnies and delivered remarks from his USW Dist 10 Director Bernie Hall.

USW1660 President Karen Yanak read the Memorial for Workers poem. Bob Buckley tolled the bell as each name was read by Judy Heinz, Mikee McGee, and Dominic Vadala. Reverend Calvin Jordan said the Memorial Prayer.

Their Keynote speaker was Chris Snedden, Assistant Area Director of OSHA. Shawn Gilchrist from the PA AFL-CIO also made remarks.

The Workers Memorial Service was a success and truly appreciated by all, especially Kenneth Stitts family. Great Job you should all be proud!



**Deadline for Registration for the NWPA ALF Convention is May 26th!! Please get your ads and credentials in, ASAP.**



## NWPA ALF MEETING

Our next meeting is our 16th Annual Meeting/ Convention. it will be held on Tuesday, June 28th- in the VFW Hall located at 411 Ninth St in Franklin. Delegates credential were mailed to all affiliates in good standing. If your union has not received your credentials call 814-360-8336. Note the E-Board meeting will be on Monday, June 27th from 6-7 PM via ZOOM.

Special speaker: Eric Dean, President of Iron Workers International

RSVP for the convention by completing your credential forms and mailing it in with your \$40 registration fee per person. If you have any questions call 814-360-8336 or email [nwpaalf@gmail.com](mailto:nwpaalf@gmail.com). Please Mark Your Calendar & Plan to Join Us!

### CLC Meetings in NWPA ALF:

Beaver-Lawrence CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Monday, May 16th  
IBEW 712 Hall  
217 Sassafra Lane Beaver 15009  
For more information call 724-971-7473.

Butler County CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, May 4th  
UAW 3303 Hall  
112 Hollywood Rd. Butler, PA 16003  
For more information call 724-285-4883 ext. 233

Clearfield-Elk-Cameron-Jefferson (Potter) CLC

Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 5th  
Via ZOOM  
For more information call 814-937-2208.

Erie-Crawford CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, May 4th  
USW 3199 Hall 703 French St. Erie 16501  
For more information call 814-823-9940.

Greater Westmoreland CLC:

Meeting 7:00 PM on Monday, May 16th  
Fire House #2,  
421 Thornton Rd. Greensburg 15601  
For more information call 724-600-6266.

Indiana-Armstrong CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 26th  
UMWA 1412 51 Eleventh St., Lucernemines 15754  
For more information call 724-479-0923.

Mercer County CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, May 19th  
USW 1660 Hall, 1028 Roemer Blvd. Farrell 16121  
For more information call 724-854-0605.

Venango-Clarion Chapter:

Meeting 6:30 PM on Thursday, May 12th  
IAM 1842 Hall  
24 Front St. Franklin 16323 or via ZOOM.  
For more information call 814-671-4420.

Warren-Forest (McKean) CLC:

Meeting 6:00 PM on Thursday, May 5th  
IUOE 95 Hall, 116 Dobson Ave. Warren 16365 or via ZOOM  
For more information call 814-730-7558

## Message from President Liz Shuler

AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler (front row, left) and AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer/Executive Vice President Fred Redmond (front row, right) join UMWA members on strike against Warrior



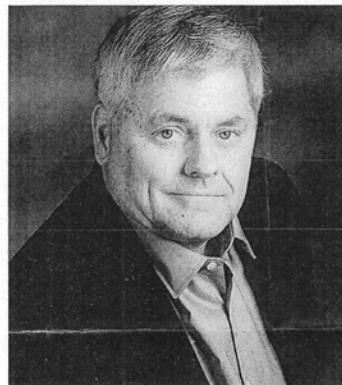
The labor movement is on fire, and workers everywhere are fanning the flames. Together, we are rising above the divisions in our country and uniting America's workers to create a fairer economy.

Mine Workers members in Alabama are showing us the way forward. They've been on strike against Warrior Met Coal for over a year, demanding a fair contract that recognizes the value they bring to the company.

Together, we won a massive victory last week when shareholders at Warrior's largest investor, BlackRock, voted exactly the way the UMWA asked them to. Shareholders voted against the board of director's executive compensation proposal and withheld their votes for board members.

UMWA members have been taking direct action, demanding BlackRock pressure Warrior Met Coal to come back to the table and quickly agree to a fair contract. This win demonstrates once again, that when workers come together with a shared purpose, we can make real progress.

### AN IMPORTANT MESSAGE FROM THE PENNSYLVANIA AFL-CIO



**RICK  
TELESZ**  
**FOR US CONGRESS  
DISTRICT 16**

The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO proudly endorses Rick Telesz for United States Congress for District 16.

Rick knows hard work, running a successful and award-winning dairy, soybean and corn farm. Rick also shares the core union values of his brother Frank- a longtime member of the electrical workers union (IBEW). Rick has placed key worker issues like expanding training programs, rebuilding our infrastructure and bringing affordable broadband to rural areas at the top of his agenda.

Rick knows from these lived experiences how important it is to fight for the rights of working women, men and families and vows to continue to support the working class communities as a Congressman in the 16th District and in Washington.

**LAST DAY TO REGISTER TO VOTE IN THE PRIMARY ELECTION IS MAY 2, 2022.**

**LAST DAY TO REQUEST A MAIL-IN OR ABSENTEE BALLOT IS MAY 10, 2022.**

**ELECTION DAY IS TUESDAY MAY 17, 2022. POLLS OPEN 7AM-8PM.**

To verify or update your voter registration, find your polling place, request an absentee or mail-in ballot, or for any other questions about Election Day, contact your county Board of Elections or visit [WWW.VOTESPA.COM](http://WWW.VOTESPA.COM).



Rick Bloomingtondale  
President  
Frank Snyder  
Secretary-Treasurer

How you vote is a personal decision. The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO has evaluated the candidates and we believe that Rick Telesz is the right choice for working people in US Congress District 16.

## BUT WHAT IF I CHANGE MY MIND?

By Barb Holmes, Attorney  
Blaufeld, Schiller, & Holmes LLC

For some time now, workers' compensation claims have been able to be settled by the injured worker and insurance carrier for both ongoing wage loss benefits as well as future medical treatment. In some instances, the wage loss part of the claim is settled, but because of ongoing medical treatment, the medical portion of the claim remains open. However, depending upon the parties' intent, the injured employee may be required to cooperate in the settlement of the medical part of the claim later, even if his/her treatment has changed—and even if the employee does not want to do so!

A recent Commonwealth Court case concerned such a set of facts. The injured employee settled the disability benefit portion of the claim, but the medical part of his claim remained payable by the compensation carrier. At the time of the settlement hearing in the case, he testified that he agreed and understood that if the employer/insurance carrier decided to get a Medicare Set Aside account in the future, he would be required to cooperate in the process for approval and accept that account as payment for the employer's/ carrier's liability for ongoing medical treatment.

In its simplest terms, a Medicare Set Aside account may be required where the injured worker is also on Social Security disability/ retirement benefits and eligible for Medicare coverage. The injured worker uses it to pay for treatment that is related to the work injury, because we cannot simply "shift responsibility" for payment of medical bills from the compensation carrier to Medicare. A projection as to the amount required for future treatment is made and submitted to

Medicare, which can then approve that amount, or request a different amount. Once that amount is approved and the account is funded, the injured employee is to use that money to pay for treatment he/ she believes is related to the work injury—or which the doctor(s) say is related to the work injury—until that account is exhausted, at which point Medicare will then take over the payments, because Medicare approved the amount to be "set aside."

In the case before the Court, the injured worker did not want to agree with or cooperate in accepting the Medicare Set Aside account obtained some four years after his original settlement. The compensation carrier had obtained a projection for the account, and when the injured worker refused to cooperate in the process of setting up the account, the compensation carrier filed a petition to enforce the agreement. The Workers' Compensation Judge granted that petition, and required him to cooperate. The injured worker appealed, and ultimately the Commonwealth Court approved the Judge's decision that the injured employee was required to accept the Medicare Set Aside. The Court considered the funding of this account to be part of the original bargain for the settlement of the workers' compensation case. The Judge found, and the Court affirmed, that the employee was trying to "re-write" the prior settlement to include the costs of some non-Medicare covered expenses, by requesting an additional lump sum of money along with the Medicare Set Aside account. The Judge found, and the Court affirmed, that this was not part of the original bargain.

What changed? In the intervening time period, the injured employee had been approved for and obtained a medical marijuana card. However, the compensation carrier was not required to or could not be forced to pay for medical marijuana,

and Medicare is not responsible for that cost. Therefore, the injured worker wanted additional cash as part of the settlement to pay for this expense.

In upholding the WCJ's decision that the Medicare Set Aside would be enforceable, the Commonwealth Court reviewed and approved the following determination by the Judge,

"Claimant . . . wants to hold hostage his previous agreement to allow . . . Employer to end its obligation to pay for medical expenses through funding of an approved [MSA] unless the medical marijuana payments are agreed to [sic]." "Employer has shown that it lived up to its end of the bargain, and . . . Claimant has not shown a good faith basis for his failure to live up to his end of the bargain."

The Judge had ordered that the employee could cooperate in signing off on the agreement for the Medicare Set Aside proposal or, in the alternative, the employer/carrier could send the injured worker a check in the amount of the proposal should he choose not to cooperate. The Commonwealth Court found this reasonable, and consistent not only with the humanitarian purposes of the Act, but also with the original bargain between the parties which resulted in the original settlement of the case. The Court did not consider the injured worker unable to live up to his part of the original bargain—it considered him UNWILLING to do so, which was not reason to set aside the settlement agreement.

Blaufeld, Schiller & Holmes LLC

Representing the men and women  
of Pennsylvania since 1981.

810 Penn Avenue Suite 700

Pittsburgh, PA 15222

toll-Free: 800-343-9384

email: bsh@bshlaw.net



## FULL TORT, LIMITED TORT & AUTOMOBILE INSURANCE

By Susan Meredith

Unless you work for an auto insurance company or a personal injury law firm, most people only come to understand the difference between Full Tort and Limited Tort coverage once they are involved in an accident. "Tort" is a legal term that seems complicated but is really not. A tort is basically an action that results in harm to another. Pennsylvania offers you a tort choice with the purchase of automobile insurance. Full Tort allows you to sue for pain and suffering (non-economic damages) as well as your economic damages, such as wage loss and medical expenses if you are injured in a motor vehicle accident caused by another party. If you select Limited Tort you give up your right to compensation for pain and suffering caused by your injuries. If you select Limited Tort, you will pay slightly less in monthly premiums for your coverage, but it is imperative that you understand what you are forfeiting. If you are involved in an accident and want to recover for pain and suffering caused by the injuries that you sustained, you will quickly realize that the small amount you saved by selecting limited tort is far outweighed by the compensation you gave up.

If you have Limited Tort coverage, you can still sue another driver who was the cause of the accident, but you can only seek to recovery medical expenses and wage loss not already covered by other insurance and your out-of-pocket expenses. If you have Limited Tort coverage, you have given up the right to seek monetary damages for pain, suffering and the inconvenience caused by your injuries. You will also have given up the right of any of your household relatives that do not have their own auto insurance policy to seek damages for pain and suffering if they are involved in an accident. Most people do not realize this.

There are several exceptions which will allow someone who selected Limited Tort coverage to recover pain and suffering damages, but you cannot count on one of these exceptions necessarily applying so it is always best to select Full Tort coverage. The exceptions are as follows:

- **Serious injury.** Serious injury is defined by the Pennsylvania statute as "a personal

injury resulting in death, serious impairment of body function or permanent serious disfigurement." The consequences of your injury must involve a serious impact for an extended period of time and must interfere substantially with your normal activities. Practically speaking, whiplash injuries which resolve within a few months are generally not found to be serious injuries;

- **Out-of-state vehicle.** If the vehicle that hits you is registered in another state, your Limited Tort coverage changes to Full Tort. It does not matter where the driver is from. What is important is where his/her vehicle is registered;
- **Drunk driver.** If the other driver is convicted of driving under the influence or accepts accelerated rehabilitation disposition (ARD), your Limited Tort coverage is changed to Full Tort, but if the other driver dies, even if there is evidence of intoxication, your tort coverage is not changed. The conviction for DUI or DWI or the acceptance of ADR is what determines if you will be granted Full Tort coverage even when you selected Limited Tort;
- **An uninsured driver causes the accident.** If the driver who caused the accident is uninsured, the injured party is not bound by Limited Tort; however, if the other party is uninsured then that means there is no insurance money to recover from that party's insurance carrier. You will, however, be able to make a claim on your own uninsured motorist coverage, or UM insurance, and you will not be bound by the Limited Tort option even if you selected Limited Tort under your own automobile policy. As well as selecting Full Tort, you should select uninsured and underinsured motorist coverage to fully protect you and your family members who are covered under your policy;
- **Passenger in a commercial vehicle or on a motorcycle.** If the injured party was a passenger in a taxi, bus, Uber, Lyft, rental vehicle, motorcycle or other type of vehicle that is not a "private passenger vehicle", the injured party is entitled to Full Tort coverage;
- **Pedestrian or a bicycle rider.** A pedestrian or bicycle rider injured by an automobile is not bound by Limited Tort, even if they had selected Limited Tort on their own auto insurance policy.

How do I know if I have Full Tort or Limited Tort?

To find out if you have Limited Tort or Full Tort coverage, check the Declaration Page of your automobile policy. The Declaration Page is generally the first page of your policy which lists your vehicles and the amount of coverage you have under your policy. The words "Full Tort" or "Limited Tort" should appear on the Declaration Page.

We recommend that as well as selecting Full Tort, you select uninsured and underinsured coverage. Uninsured and underinsured coverage insures you will be compensated if the driver that caused the accident either does not have insurance or does not have enough insurance to fully compensate you for your injuries. If you have multiple vehicles on your policy or multiple policies (such as a motorcycle policy and a vehicle policy), you should also select "stacking." The stacking option allows you to combine your uninsured or underinsured coverage for either multiple vehicles or multiple policies. This will increase the amount of money available to you if the other driver is uninsured or underinsured. The minimum amount of liability coverage a driver in Pennsylvania must have is \$15,000. This is rarely enough to fully compensate someone injured in a vehicle accident caused by another's negligence so you want to make sure the coverage under your policy will be enough to protect you and your family. You can do this by selecting Full Tort, uninsured and underinsured coverage and stacking if you have multiple vehicles or multiple policies.

If you, a family member or a friend is involved in a motor vehicle, motorcycle, truck or bicycle accident where the other driver is at fault, contact the attorneys at Caroselli Beachler & Coleman. Our attorneys have 50 years of experience litigating motor vehicle accident cases and know how to obtain the maximum recovery for our clients.

CAROSELLI BEACHLER & COLEMAN, LLC  
REPRESENTING INJURED PERSONS AND THEIR  
FAMILIES THROUGHOUT WESTERN PA SINCE 1972.  
NO FEES UNLESS DAMAGES ARE RECOVERED.

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## INJURED AT WORK?

### The First 90 Days

By Signe O'Brien Rudberg, Esquire

In Pennsylvania, all employers must have Workers' Compensation coverage. This coverage is legislated to pay for wage loss, specific loss, and all reasonable and necessary medical expenses related to the work injury.

Injuries that are covered include any type of physical or mental injury which occurs during the course and scope of employment. These benefits are owed regardless of whether the injury occurred as a result of the employer's fault. Even aggravations of pre-existing injuries are covered under the Pennsylvania state law.

In order for a worker to gain these benefits, notice of the work injury must be given within 120 days of the injury and if the claim is not accepted by the insurance company or employer, a claim must be filed within three years of the date of injury.

For the first 90 days an employer must treat with the panel list of medical providers. However, there are certain rules the employer and the employee must follow in regard to the panel list of providers.

1. List of 6 Healthcare Providers
2. Posted Visibly at Workplace
3. Must be Given Acknowledgement to Sign after Injury
4. Make Your Own Appointments
5. YOU CHOOSE THE HEALTHCARE PROVIDER
6. If Claim is Denied, No Need to Follow the Panel List
7. Panel List can be Negotiated

### with Employer

In most situations, an injured worker is at the mercy of the information provided by the employer or insurance carrier and as such many times the injured worker is led astray and not treated in a fair and just manner according to the benefits afforded them under the Workers' Compensation Act.

If you or a fellow employee is injured at work, you must learn what your rights are and when you KNOW YOUR RIGHTS, you cannot be taken advantage of. For there is no reason you would know this information without studying the law or seeking the advice of an attorney. If you are a member in a union, you would have the advantage of assistance from your union leadership.

With every claim, the employer is required to file certain paperwork with the state which details your injury, when it occurred and how it is being treated by the employer. These forms are called LIBC forms. If your claim is accepted in its entirety, you would receive a Notice of Compensation Payable. If your claim is only for medical treatment, the form would have a box checked that it is for medical treatment only. There are many other forms that can be filed as well:

**Notice of Denial**— This form completely denies the injury as work related and a claim would need to be filed with a Workers' Compensation Judge.

**Notice of Temporary Compensation Payable**—only a 90-day acceptance and then after the 90 days, the claim will

convert to the regular Notice of Compensation Payable or be denied. Be aware that this form can be misleading, and you may lose valuable rights if a claim is not filed with a Workers' Compensation Judge within three years of the date of injury.

If you have received no forms detailing your injury within 21 days of providing notice for your injury, it would be in your best interest to request the forms or seek the advice of an attorney. All workers' compensation claims are required by law to be documented one or more of these forms.

If you are concerned that your claim has not been properly documented, these forms can be ordered from the Bureau of Workers' Compensation, so that you will know what your legal rights are. You can request these forms from your employer and/or the insurance adjuster on your case as well.

If you need assistance with this or any other work comp or injury issue, please feel free to contact Signe O'Brien Rudberg toll free at 1.866.306.2667.



Main Office: 600 Grant Street, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Branch Offices: Pittsburgh, Altoona,  
Johnstown and Harrisburg  
412.488.6000 - Fax 412.391.7025 - Toll  
Free 1.866.306.2667

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### Know Your Rights!

#### Protect Your Rights!

This article is for informational purposes and is not a substitute for the legal advice of a qualified attorney

**Iron Workers Local Union No. 3**  
**18<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL GOLF OUTING**  
**2022 Order Form**



Company \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Name/Email \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

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

Phone No. \_\_\_\_\_ Fax No. \_\_\_\_\_

***Please reserve the following for the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Iron Workers Local #3  
 Golf Outing on Saturday, June 18<sup>th</sup>, 2022:***

\_\_\_\_\_ Golf Hole Sponsorship(s)      \$200.00 per hole

\_\_\_\_\_ Golfer(s)      \$125.00 per golfer or \$500.00 per foursome

***Golfer Name(s)***

1) \_\_\_\_\_

3) \_\_\_\_\_

2) \_\_\_\_\_

4) \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Donation(s)

**Enclosed is my check for \$\_\_\_\_\_ for \_\_\_\_\_.**

Please make donations & checks payable to: **Iron Workers Local Union No. 3**  
**2201 Liberty Avenue • Pittsburgh, PA 15222**

**\*The proceeds from this event will benefit the Scholarship Fund and 2023 Banquet which honors our 25, 35, 50 and 65 Year Members, Graduate Apprentices, and Scholarship Winners.**

The Iron Workers 3 Golf Outing is at the Fort Cherry Golf Club in McDonald, Pa on Saturday, June 18th. Registration is from 7:00- 8:00 am. Shotgun start at 8:00 am. Golfing will be followed by lunch, awards, and prizes. See you there!



## Pennsylvania AFL-CIO Announces Endorsements for the 2022 Primary Cycle

(Harrisburg, PA) – The PA AFL-CIO's Executive Council, on behalf of nearly 700,000 union workers across the Commonwealth, proudly announces the following endorsements for political candidates in the 2022 election cycle. General Election endorsements will be made later this summer.

We believe these candidates show dedication to fight for justice and a better life for Pennsylvania's working people.

### STATEWIDE + CONGRESSIONAL

Governor: Josh Shapiro

Lt. Governor: Austin Davis

US House District 6: Chrissy Houlahan

US House District 1: Brian Fitzpatrick

US House District 2: Brendan Boyle

US House District 3: Dwight Evans

US House District 4: Madeleine Dean

US House District 5: Mary Gay Scanlon

US House District 6: Chrissy Houlahan

US House District 7: Susan Wild

US House District 8: Matt Cartwright

US House District 10: Shamaine Daniels

US House District 11: Bob Hollister

US House District 16: Rick Telesz

US House District 17: Chris DeLuzio

### PA STATE SENATE

PA Senate District 5 - Special Election: James Dillon

PA Senate District 8: Anthony Williams

PA Senate District 38: Lindsey Williams

PA Senate District 42: Wayne Fontana

### PA STATE HOUSE

PA House District 7: Timothy McGonigle

PA House District 10: Amen Brown

PA House District 19: Aerion Abney

PA House District 20: Emily Kinkead

PA House District 21: Sara Innamorato

PA House District 23: Dan Frankel

PA House District 24: Martell Covington

PA House District 25: Brandon Markosek

PA House District 27: Daniel Deasy

PA House District 30: Arvind Venkat

PA House District 32: Tony Deluca

PA House District 33: Tristan McClelland

PA House District 35: Austin Davis

PA House District 36: Jessica Benham

PA House District 38: Nick Pisciotto

PA House District 42: Dan Miller

PA House District 45: Anita Astorino Kulik

PA House District 80: Jim Gregory

PA House District 96: Mike Sturla

PA House District 98: Mark Temons

PA House District 101: Catherine Miller

PA House District 102: Laura Quick

PA House District 103: Patty Kim

PA House District 104: Dave Madsen

PA House District 105: Justin Fleming

PA House District 106: Tom Mehaffie

PA House District 129: Johanny Cepede-Freytiz

PA House District 134: Peter Schweyer

PA House District 166: Greg Vitali

PA House District 172: Kevin Boyle

PA House District 173: Pat Gallagher

PA House District 182: Jonathan Lovitz

PA House District 184: Elizabeth Fiedler

PA House District 188: Rick Krajewski

PA House District 190: G. Roni Green

PA House District 194: Tarik Khan

PA House District 201: Stephen Kinsey

PA House District 203: Anthony Bellmon

How you vote is a personal decision. The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO has evaluated the candidates and we believe the above candidates are the right choice for working people.

Mail-In ballots are available now!

The Primary is Tuesday May 17th!

The polls will be open 7 AM to 8 PM.



## Update of UE 610 Negotiations Since their Wilmerding Park Rally

Many people attended the Rally in Wilmerding Park and we thank you for your Solidarity and Activism. We are sharing the forwarded message, so that you realize they appreciated it too. To those of you who could not attend but were waiting to hear if we could help in the future, thanks and know we will keep you informed about this or any other union struggle that we are made aware of.

Hi Everyone,

I am proud to report that UE Local 610 reached an agreement on a new 3-year contract that was ratified by the membership on Monday evening!

Led by inspiring work from President Antwon Gibson and the entire Executive Board, we were able to run an aggressive shop floor campaign to extract as much from the company as possible with the new contract.

Notably, the agreement will keep us on our existing health insurance plans with no increases in plan design costs (deductibles, co-pays, out-of-pockets) for the duration of the contract. The company desperately tried to move us on its "corporate benefit plans" that were much more expensive and would have allowed them to further increase employee costs at any time of the contract.

Our employee dental and vision premiums will be frozen for all 3 years. Employee medical premiums will be frozen for the first 2 years. Year 3 will see small increases between \$4-6 a month. This was a huge win, as our insurance is a stand-alone plan that is the best in the Wabtec US network. As a comparison, the company's proposed employee out-of-pocket max (OOPM) for a family plan would have been \$6,500 a year. By keeping our insurance, we will maintain our OOPM at \$2,500 for a family plan.

We also kept our pension (which the company unsuccessfully tried to freeze until the last few hours of bargaining), added Veteran's Day as a paid holiday, and won general wage increases of \$.85 (Y1), \$.75 (Y2), and \$.75 (Y3). We also improved our shift differential and life insurance benefits.

While agreeing to some amount of continuous operations at the Greensburg plant, we fought back all company concessions, including language that would have allowed Wabtec to

- -Mandate overtime at their discretion
- -Eliminate daily overtime pay
- -Unilaterally implement new rules and policies without agreement from the union
- -Establish new jobs without mid-contract bargaining with the union
- -Eliminate seniority after 12

months (regardless of whether you're on disability)

- -Extend the workday and replace our paid breaks with an unpaid break

We added protections and options around job movement in the event of a Wilmerding plant closing, added language preventing the company from replacing union work with non-union personnel in the event operations wind down in Wilmerding, and got significant increases to employee severance in the event of a lay off. We also retained our contract as the document outlining terms and conditions of bargaining unit work performed at the Wilmerding plant in the event the plant is closed and reopened.

The local is currently evaluating next steps on how best to approach the ongoing issue of a potential plant closing, and we will keep you updated on our progress.

On behalf of UE Local 610, we thank you ALL for your support and participation at our rally last Saturday. The company felt the pressure of the local's contract campaign, including the rally, and the looming threat of more actions if an agreement was not reached. It was because of everyone working together that we got the best agreement we could under these difficult circumstances.

Love and Solidarity Forever!  
Ben Wilson, UE Organizer



## OUR MEMBERS ALWAYS MAKE US PROUD!

The NWPA ALF and Paul Pelc from USW 1917 are working collaboratively with Reverend Gary Manning on his dream of getting a sign honoring Martin Luther King Jr., completed and placed in front of the Second District Elementary School in Meadville, PA. Rev. Manning designed the sign and had it printed and it is beautiful, educational and a real tribute to MLK Jr.. This project entails many steps and sometimes talent/skills that we don't have.

The NWPA ALF is always proud of the talents and commitments of our affiliates and their members and as such, we knew who to reach out to get the needed help. The shape and size of this sign made framing it impossible for many. We know the members of the Eastern Atlantic State Regional Carpenters from Local 420 had the talent we needed for this community service project.

When we asked for their help they immediately offered to do it as a community service project. These pictures are of their members working to frame the sign. We thank them for sharing their talents and time for this project. We are proud of you (Matt Salsbury, John Long, Hunter Bean, Brandon Sutter, and Erick Dixon)! The pictures were provided by Erick Dixon, Business Representative



of Carpenters 420 and coordinator of the project.

Finished including a few layers of paint on the frame they were ready to deliver it to Rev. Manning at his church, but unexpected issues caused the need to reschedule the delivery. The carpenters even offered to mount it on the posts for Reverend Manning when it is ready to go in the ground for dedication in front of the 2nd District Elementary







# DISTRICT 10 • FAMILY PICNIC SUNDAY • JUNE 26, 2022

Admission and  
Parking are **FREE!**



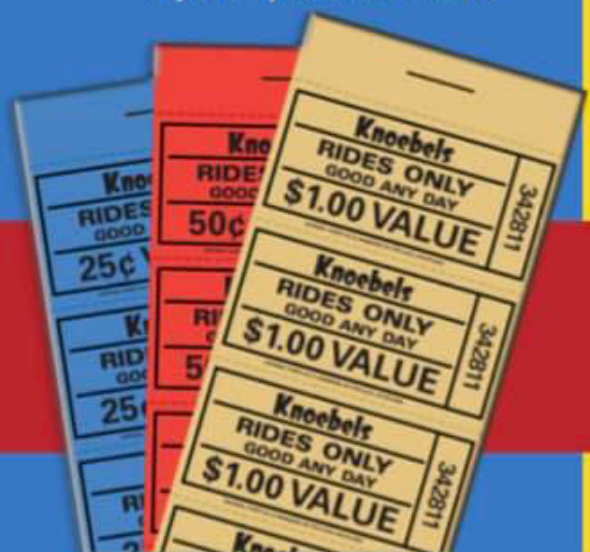
Prizes &  
Drawing  
at 1 PM!

**KNOEBELS AMUSEMENT PARK • ELYSBERG, PA**

Members and guests will  
receive a wristband for food  
and refreshments along with  
their ticket books.

Ticket books are \$20 each  
(Can be purchased by mail and  
will be available for pick up on the  
day of the picnic at Pavilion C)

For more information, please contact  
the District office in Lancaster  
at 717-232-0805.







## Pennsylvania nursing homes are in crisis

Caregivers are standing up to demand reform

Nursing homes have been understaffed and underfunded for years. **And it's us and our residents who are paying the price.**

We will do whatever it takes to win the changes we need to protect our residents and our staff.

**It's NOW OR NEVER:** The nursing home industry and legislators in Harrisburg must join us to fix this broken system. We need:

- **Safe Staffing Standards:** Nursing homes need enough caregivers to provide safe, quality care to our loved ones.
- **Better Job Standards:** To recruit, retain, and train caregivers.
- **Accountability:** Funding for nursing homes must go to bedside care, not corporate offices or CEO pockets.

**[www.BetterNursingHomesNow.com](http://www.BetterNursingHomesNow.com)**

Residents are suffering.  
Homes are closing.  
Workers are burning out  
and fleeing the bedside.  
We must reform  
Pennsylvania nursing  
homes and improve  
care now!



**SEIUHealthcare.**  
United for Quality Care



## Erie-Crawford Central Labor Council, AFL-CIO

*Serving our affiliated Local Unions in Erie and Crawford Counties in Pennsylvania, since 1960.*

32 West Eighth Street · Suite 604 · Erie, Pennsylvania 16501-1352 Phone  
(814) 455-4752 · Fax (814) 455-4192



### 7th ANNUAL VETERANS DAY BREAKFAST



*Armed Forces Day, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 2022*

Polish Falcons Club  
431 East 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Erie PA  
9 AM until 11:30 AM

**FREE** to all Veterans & their families

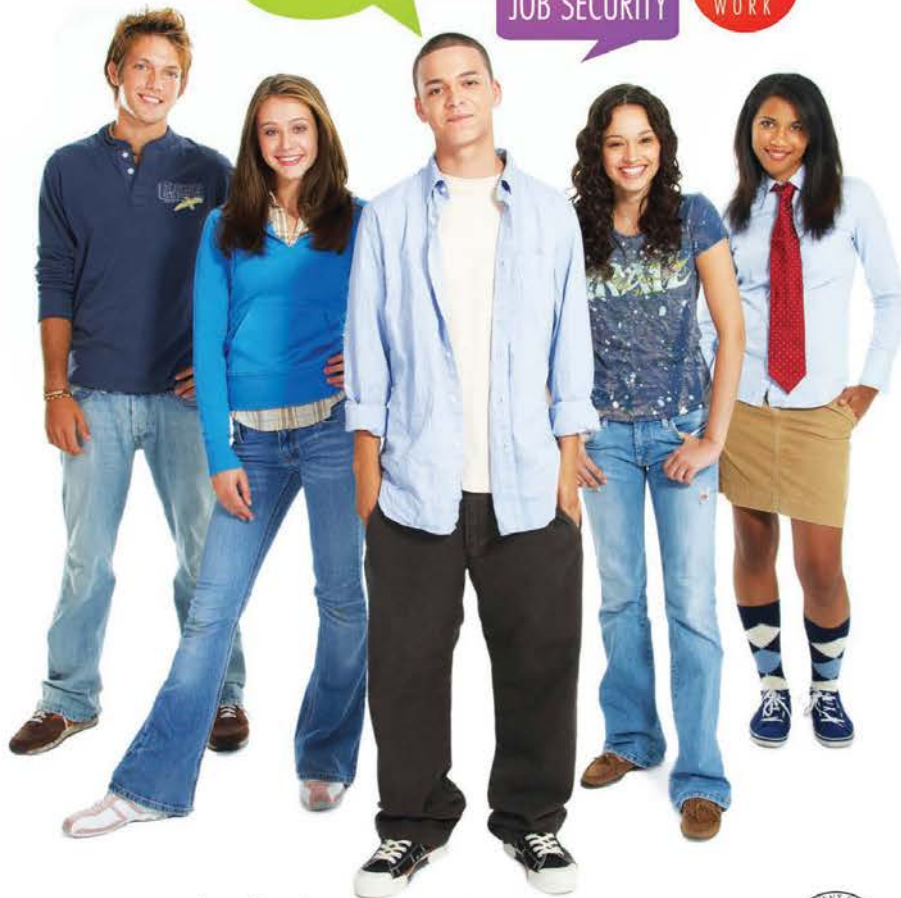


Jack Lee  
President  
Erie-Crawford CLC  
814-455-4752

Ron Oliver  
Financial Secretary  
Erie-Crawford CLC  
814-806-1793

Mike Butler  
Chairman  
Erie-Crawford CLC  
814-881-9835





# I have rights

Questions about your workplace rights? [youth.dol.gov](http://youth.dol.gov)



U.S. Department of Labor



QR for I have rights  
or 866-4-USA-DOL

NWPA Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO  
1276 Liberty St. Ste 2  
Franklin, PA 16323

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xSec Treas	Phil	Lasky
Vchair/Trustee	Frank	Telesz
Vchair	Mike	Travis
vchair	Julie	Barnett
vchair	Richard	Galliano
Vchair	Shane	Clark
Executive Board Members		
Rep GWCLC/Trustee	Walter	Geiger
Rep/Trustee	Anthony	Modaffare
Rep B-L CLC	Kerianne	Theuerl
Rep B CLC	Jim	Saeler
Rep CECJ CLC	Jeff	Miller
Rep AFT/EC CLC	Rosanne	Gangemi
Rep I-A CLC	Rachel	Sternfeld
Rep UBC/M CLC	Lonnie	McFall
Rep V-C CLC	Pete	Kluck
Rep W-F CLC	Archie	Graham
Rep B&CTC	Darrell	Niemenski
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Rep ATU	Pattie	Demichele
Rep HFAW	James	Cassidy
Rep IBEW	Jim	Nuber
Rep IUOE	Rich	Barrett
Rep IUPAT	Ron	Buechel
Rep OPEIU	Jeffrey	Hapke
Rep PASNAP	Tim	Tuinstra
Rep PAJBWU		
Rep PSEA		
Rep Roofers	Jack	Lee Jr.
Rep SEIU	Mike	Butler
Rep UA	Dennis	Pry
Rep UFCW	Daryl	Bush
Rep USW	Paul	Pelc
Employee		
aDirector NWPAALF	Rosann	Barker

## EASTER DINNER PROJECT IN VENANGO COUNTY

The Venango-Clarion Chapter teamed up with the Venango County Democrats to provide meals to the residents of Venango County this Easter. Each of the meals was packaged in a reusable, microwave-safe, dishwasher-safe environmentally safe container. Included with each meal was a union made Cadbury Cream Egg. Almost 250 hot and ready-to-eat meals were delivered Easter Morning by a team of volunteers from both organizations. The meals were primarily meant for those who were alone and were not able to prepare a big meal on their own but were offered to anyone who requested one.



This just shows you that with collaboration we can do possitive things in our communities!



Designed by Davia