



A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 6

FEBRUARY 2018

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NINA TURNER TO KEYNOTE HUMAN RIGHTS BANQUET

By Mark Benkart
Community Services
Committee Chairperson

The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council and the Moral Mondays Coalition are happy to announce that Nina Turner has accepted an invitation to be the keynote speaker at our sixth Human Rights Banquet. The banquet will be held on June 9th at the Fez in Hopewell.

Ms. Turner served as a member of the Ohio State Senate from 2008 to 2014 and served as the chamber's Minority Whip from 2011 to 2014. She was known as a fierce advocate, garnering recognition and praise from elected leaders across the political spectrum. She maintained an uncanny ability to both unify opposing viewpoints and challenge political leaders to live up to their highest selves.

Ms. Turner has decades of experience as a college professor

and motivational speaker. Most recently, she was a national surrogate for Senator Bernie Sanders during the turbulent 2016 Democratic presidential primary.

Ms. Turner is a champion for human rights causes such as



Nina Turner, president of Our Revolution, will be the keynote speaker at the 6th Human Rights Banquet, to be held at the Fez on June 9th.

Labor, women's reproductive health, voting rights and the eradication of wealth and income inequality. She has traveled across the country to inspire action and hope. She is recognized as a voice of truth, even when speaking the truth is unpopular. In 2011, The Nation magazine named her "Most Valuable State

Senator, and in 2014 The Root listed her as one of the top 100 most influential African-Americans.

Today, she serves as president of Our Revolution, an organization that Senator Sanders created to revitalize American Democracy, empower progressive leaders and elevate political consciousness.

Ms. Turner has appeared on numerous national television and radio shows such as "Meet the Press," "The Breakfast Club," and the "Thom Hartman Radio Show." She is also a commentator on CNN, appearing frequently on "The State of the Union with Jake Tapper" and "CNN Tonight with Don Lemmon."

Banquet invitations will be mailed out in March. If you are interested in purchasing tickets or serving on the banquet committee please contact me at 724-312-4387 or benkarthouse100@comcast.net .

UNION BUG looks to increase readership

By Victor Colonna
UNION BUG Editor

The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council recently completed a consolidation of the UNION BUG mailing lists.

As a result, we have been able to eliminate the time lag between the emailing to the two lists, as well as duplicate addresses.

There are presently 350 email addresses in our mailing list, with more being added every month.

The Council is also looking at other avenues to get the BUG out to potential

readers. We will be working with the PA AFL-CIO and the NW ALF to have past and future issues of the UNION BUG appear on the Labor Council web site and Face Book page, and we are encouraging affiliated and non-affiliated unions to get the BUG out to their membership, through emails and/or their web sites

The labor movement must get its message out to as many people as possible. The assault on organized labor is on-going and intense, with little opportunity for a well-publicized response.

We encourage locals to submit articles for the BUG that highlight the major issues and accomplishments of their unions. We must not work in a vacuum...we must get labor's position on important issues into the forefront.

If your local has a newsletter, we encourage you to send it to us so that we may share information and contacts (please see email information below).

In Solidarity....

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

* Thank you to those delegates who braved the snowy roads to attend the January Labor Council meeting.

* The Pennsylvania Supreme Court decision on January 22nd that declared the configuration of Pennsylvania's congressional districts to an unconstitutional gerrymandering is a victory for fairness and genuine representation. On January 23rd, officers of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, President Rick Bloomington and Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder, issued the following joint statement on the decision:

"We commend the justices of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court for recognizing the need for fairness and genuine representation for the citizens of our Commonwealth. Our federation's belief in the power of democracy

led to our submission of an amicus curiae brief on behalf of hundreds of thousands of Pennsylvania union members and voters in favor of the petitioners, the League of Women Voters of Pennsylvania. It is our hope that in the near future Pennsylvania voters will be able to elect representatives that reflect their communities, rather than Pennsylvania politicians picking their electorate."

The appeal of the decision by Republican General Assembly leaders shows why the enactment of an amendment to the PA constitution is still necessary to ensure that partisan redistricting doesn't happen again in the future. The Labor Council has passed a resolution in support of Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722 (See August issue of the UNION BUG, Page 1) which propose a constitutional amendment to establish an independent redistricting commission. Thank

you to Representatives Bernstine, Marshall and Matzie for co-sponsoring the House Bill. Please urge Representatives Sainato, Christiana and Wentling to become co-sponsors of the House Bill and Senators Vogel and Bartolotta to become co-sponsors of the Senate Bill.



Eric Martin, IUOE Local 95, being installed as Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer at January meeting. Eric was unable to attend the installation of officers held at the December meeting.

Good Things Are Coming

By Mike Cicconi
Legislative Chairperson,
IAMAW L.L.1976

And 3..2..1..0.., the clock strikes midnight and the year is 2018. I've noticed many New Year posts on social media and I'm struck by the number of people commenting they're glad 2017 is over. They're looking for a better, brighter 2018. I personally am looking forward to good things to come in 2018, but I wonder, if the stock markets are up, companies are more profitable and we don't live in a ****hole country, why so much end-of-year negativity?

I think the answer is that

even though the media report the outlook is good, our individual realities are we're working harder with not a whole lot more to show for it. There were 156,000 jobs added to the labor market in December, but unemployment stayed the same. In addition, the under-employed rate (working below qualifications or in part-time but wanting full-time jobs) rose to 9.7%. This all means that more people are working multiple jobs below their qualifications. No wonder everyone wants a better 2018.

But in some ways, things are already looking up. The tax reform bill passed last year has yielded those of us employed by

American Airlines an unexpected bonus. It is good to see our company investing in us. However, nothing is perfect and that same tax bill has taken away our union dues deduction and some companies like GE and AT&T are still announcing pending job cuts in the hundreds of thousands.

As Congress goes into session this month, their agenda will include the national budget, appropriations and other legislative decisions. Overall, it's pretty boring stuff, but those decisions affect how we work and live. One of my New Year's resolutions is

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LABOR COUNCIL UPDATED ON FAIR DISTRICTS LEGISLATION

By Steven Kocherzat
Union Bug Assistant Editor

Ashlee Caul, Fair Districts PA Beaver County Co-Coordinator, reported on the progress of fair districts legislation in the Pennsylvania General Assembly at the January Labor Council meeting. The Labor Council passed a resolution supporting fair districts legislation at its July, 2017, meeting (See August and September, 2017 issues of the UNION BUG).

House Bill 722 has 101 co-sponsors and Senate Bill 22 has 14 co-sponsors. The House members representing Beaver and Lawrence Counties who are co-sponsors of HB 722 are Aaron Bernstine (R-10th), Jim Marshall (R-14th) and Bob Matzie (D-16th). Chris Sainato (D-9th), Jim Christiana (R-15th) and Park Wentling (R-17th) are not co-sponsors. The two state senators representing Beaver and Lawrence Counties, Elder Vogel (R-47) and Camera Bartolotta (R-46) are not co-sponsors of SB 22.

Seven Beaver County municipalities have passed resolutions in support of fair districts legislation: the City of Aliquippa and Brighton, Chippewa, Hanover, Hopewell, Independence and New Sewickley Townships. Groups or individuals interested in presenting fair districts resolutions to their governing municipal bodies should contact Cindy Spearing at fairdistrictspabeaver@gmail.com for sample resolutions.

For a fair districts bill to become law, either the House or Senate must advance its bill to a vote, pass it, and send it to the

other legislative chamber to be passed there as well. Both chambers must approve the same bill again in the next consecutive legislative session. Finally, the bill must be approved by the electorate in a statewide referendum.



Ashlee Caul, Fair Districts PA Beaver County, Co-Coordinator, addressing January Labor Council meeting.

HB 722 was referred to the House State Government Committee on May 8, 2017. Despite the bill's large number of co-sponsors, the Committee's majority chairperson, Daryl Metcalfe (R-12th) of Butler County, has not scheduled it for any legislative action such as holding hearings or considering amendments.

Fair Districts PA Allegheny, Beaver and Butler Counties will hold a presentation and meet and greet with Carol Kuniholm, founder and state chairperson of Fair Districts PA in Rep. Metcalfe's legislative district on Saturday, February 10th from 10:00 AM to noon. The presentation will be in the Cranberry Township Supervisors Chambers, Cranberry Township Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Rd.

Job Opportunities

By Roy Stitt
Teamsters Local 341

The Marcellus Shale natural gas boom and the construction of the Shell Oil cracker plant in Monaca has created a need for CDL Class "B" drivers in Western Pennsylvania. Teamsters Local 341 is encouraging interested persons to enroll in a CDL Class "B" training program.

Please look at the All-State Career School flyer at the end of this issue of the UNION BUG if you or anyone you know may be interested. Additional information can be obtained by calling Teamsters Local 341 at 724-266-8341.

Good Things

Continued from page 3

to work harder for you so that we understand the good and the bad in what happens on Capitol Hill and our State House. You can depend on me to make more phone calls and send more e-mails advocating for our jobs and quality of life. I hope I can depend on you to help when the issues are critical. Like everything else, we do better when we stick together.

Each New Year is a fresh start. As this one begins, I'm optimistic working people have the power to make 2018 a great year.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



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

Calendar of Events

- 02/10 Fair Districts PA update on gerrymandering and meet and greet with Carol Kuniholm, founder and state chairperson of Fair Districts PA: 10:00 AM - update on gerrymandering, 11:30 - meet and greet; Cranberry Twp. Municipal Center, 2525 Rochester Rd, Cranberry Twp. (See article on Page 4 of this issue of the UNION BUG).
- 02/13 Moral Mondays meeting: 7:00 PM; IBEW Local 712 Hall, Vanport.
- 02/19 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; PSEA Building, New Castle.
- 02/24 Beaver County NAACP Black History Month Program – 11:00 AM; The Holiness Church of Christ, 6349 Tuscarawas Road, Industry. Please call the NAACP office at 724-378-2882 to reserve luncheon tickets (\$10.00).
- 03/19 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; IBEW Local 712 Hall, Vanport.
- 03/20 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Scholarship application deadline. See application form appended to this issue of the UNION 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 March 9th to be considered for publication in the March 2018 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.



CDL Class "B" Train & Test 42 Hours Teamsters Local #341

January 9, 2018

Monday – Thursday 8:00-6:30pm
Friday – CDL Test to be scheduled Time TBD

- Training to include but not limited to the following topics:
 - Vehicle Pre-Trip Inspection
 - Airbrake Check
 - Emergency Equipment
 - Scanning/Mirror Usage
 - Seeing Hazards
 - Speed & Space Management
 - Railroad Crossings
 - CDL Backing Skills
 - Proper/Safe Vehicle Placement
 - On-The-Road Training

ALL-STATE CAREER SCHOOL will provide an instructor, educational materials, instructional aids and a CDL Class "B" vehicle appropriate for range and road training and CDL testing.

CDL Pre-Trip, Skills & Road Testing will be conducted at ALL-STATE CAREER SCHOOL'S West Mifflin, Pennsylvania CDL training and 3rd party testing facility.

Investment: CDL Training & Testing: \$1,800.00 per participant Class Size of Four (4)
Training must be a Class Size of Four (4) to hold that price. Should the Class Size be fewer, pricing will be adjusted accordingly.

CDL Testing Included (If conducted by All-State Career)

➤ **Two (2) Attempts - \$100.00 thereafter**

**** Pricing *does not* include drug screen, DOT physical, and CDL "B" Permit ****

**** Employee(s) need to have completed prior to class start date: drug screen, DOT physical, and CDL "B" Permit ****

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