

# UNION



# BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

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NOVEMBER 2018

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## Mid-Term Elections Prove Win For Pennsylvania Workers

Statement issued November 7, 2018, by PA AFL-CIO

After a stunning, ‘against-all-odds’ election win in March with the first election of Conor Lamb, the Pennsylvania union movement has stayed the course for a meaningful victory for workers and workers’ rights across all of Pennsylvania. Today was an historic win for workers’ rights in our Commonwealth. The re-election of Governor Tom Wolf and U.S. Senator Bob Casey is monumental to the securing of workers’ rights in Pennsylvania and across the country. The officers of the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO have made the following statements on tonight’s victories for workers.

“These elections were never about a political party or a candidate; this was and is about the issues that affect the lives of workers and their right to join a union. The right for workers to join together

and collectively bargain, the right to health care access and the right to a fair wage and economic opportunity was on the line with today’s election. Pennsylvania voters stood up and cast their votes against anti-union extremists. Let it be known, Pennsylvania is a union state,” remarked President Rick Bloomingdale.

“The Pennsylvania AFL-CIO and our union brothers and sisters across the Commonwealth have worked hard for the last several months. We’ve reached hundreds of thousands of union households on the doors, on the phones, and at their work sites to convey the importance of this election to Pennsylvania union members. Our union member-to-member program in Pennsylvania has reached out to our politically diverse membership in partnership with our 51 affiliate unions in all 67 counties to win victories for union members in Pennsylvania,”

stated Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder.

*[Editor’s Note: Locally, PA AFL-CIO-endorsed Conor Lamb (D) won the 17<sup>th</sup> U.S. House of Representatives seat by a margin of 56% to 44% over Keith Rothfus (R).*

*16<sup>th</sup> U.S. House District endorsed candidate Ron DiNicola (D) lost to Mike Kelly (R) by the narrow margin of 51% to 47%.*

*Endorsed candidates Chris Sainato (D) and Robert Matzie (D) retained their 9<sup>th</sup> District and 16<sup>th</sup> District Pennsylvania House of Representative seats.*

*Endorsed candidates Darcelle Slappy (G) and Terri Mitko (D) lost their races for the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> Pennsylvania House of Representative seats.*

*Endorsed candidate James R. Craig lost his bid for the 46<sup>th</sup> District Pennsylvania state Senate seat.]*

# Midterm Election Will Create Momentum for Positive Change

By Mike Cicconi  
Legislative Chair  
I.A.M.A.W.L.L. 1976

The midterm election cycle has concluded and once again Pennsylvania is a state monitored at a national level. To the betterment of working people, we saw the re-election of labor friendly candidates: Governor Tom Wolf, Senator Bob Casey and Representative Conor Lamb. These officials have repeatedly shown they support and listen to working people. In fact, Rep. Conor Lamb took time out of his busy schedule to attend our local's shift two meeting at 11:15 pm. He came to listen to us – our concerns about our jobs, the economy and issues that impact our quality of life. That kind of commitment to workers sparked an enthusiasm for voting within the membership that I haven't seen in a very long time.

This election wasn't just about re-electing our friends, it was about bringing more worker friendly candidates to office. Again, Pennsylvania

broke barriers for our country. There were eight women running for U.S. House of Representative seats with four being elected. As a father of a bright young woman, I am happy to see this section of the wall start to come down, but I also think it's a larger statement about our society. There are large segments that have felt ignored by our government and they are tired. In response, they are stepping up to bring positive change. I look to these women to speak with a unified voice for the working middle class.

In the end, this couldn't have been done without everyday people like us. It's said that midterm elections go ignored; voters don't bother. Again, Pennsylvania was a trend setter. Volunteers from all across labor worked side-by-side knocking on doors, talking about the issues and advocating for candidates who support what matters to us. But it wasn't just labor. The core of volunteers also included unorganized men and women of all ages. There were even people who

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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 Dan Nunzir, USW Local 256 President, for serving as the Labor 2018 Zone 9 Lead during the midterm election cycle that ended on November 6<sup>th</sup>. The top of the ballot results – the reelections of Governor Wolf and Senator Casey, and the election of Conor Lamb to newly created 17<sup>th</sup> U.S. House of Representatives seat - was a step forward for the Labor Movement. Particularly important was Governor Wolf's election because of his pledge to veto any "right to work" legislation enacted by our Republican controlled General Assembly.

\* Thank you to IUOE Local 66 for sponsoring the food and

refreshments at the October meeting. The food and refreshments at the November meeting will be sponsored by AFSCME Local 2902. Please remember that the November meeting will be held at the PSEA Building in New Castle.

\* Members of the Labor Council and its affiliated unions will again volunteer to help with the Beaver Falls Christian Assembly's Christmas dinner, toy and clothing give away. Volunteers are needed between 11:30 AM and 3:30 PM on Christmas Day to help serve and clean. Please call Labor Council Director of Civil Rights and Economic Justice Linwood Alford at 724-843-6910 if you would like to volunteer. Linwood is a member of the event organizing committee.



Attorney Edward "Ted" Knafelc informing the delegates at the October Labor Council meeting of his candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Beaver County District Attorney in the May, 2019 primary election. Ted is a life-long Beaver County resident. He serves as parliamentarian of the Beaver County Democratic Party.

## Midterm Election Will Create Momentum for Positive Change

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included their children in the process so they can start learning young. The unity and solidarity was truly inspiring.

Of course, our victory at the ballot box on November 6<sup>th</sup> doesn't mean the work is done. But let's take a moment to congratulate ourselves and tip our hats in appreciation to the PA AFL-CIO staff, President Rick Bloomingdale and Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder. Their hard work and guidance ensured an efficient deployment of volunteers and successful results. Much of our victory is owed to

them.

I look forward to the coming days and am optimistic these midterm election victories will

create a momentum of positive change for working people. I'm ready to dig in to continue the work and hope you all are too.



## Midterm Election Gives Hope For 2020

By Mark Benkart  
Community Services/  
Moral Mondays Chair

Hi everyone, even though I am Labor Council's Community Services Chair and do not usually write political articles, I just wanted to share my thoughts about the November 6<sup>th</sup> elections.

After the 2016 Presidential election, I, along with a majority of Americans, was crushed by the outcome. Tina Shannon, president of the local chapter of the Progressive Democrats of America, and I decided to get more active for the 2018 elections.

As I was working the

polls in Industry on November 6<sup>th</sup>, I was amazed at how many people showed up to vote. There were over 500 voters who showed up to vote by 4:00 PM. That evening, I was sitting with a friend in Thursdays in Bridgewater watching the results. Sadly, Amy Fazio, Terri Mitko, Darcelle Slappy and Ron Dinicola lost. When we heard the news, my friend pointed out that Amy, Terri and Darcelle changed the dynamics of local elections.

Pennsylvania contributed much to the Democrats success in taking over the House. There were 5 Democrats who won in Pennsylvania: Connor Lamb, Chrissy Houlahan, Su-

san Wild, Madeleine Dean, and Mary Scanlon. Just to point out, four of the five are women. The Democrats also did well in Governors' races.

Years ago, a dear friend and mentor of mine left a grievance meeting with a compromise. I was disappointed that we did not totally win the grievance and he said that we got a few slices of bread, and we can work on getting the whole loaf of bread.

With that, we should now work on the 2020 elections and hopefully get rid of the lunatic that is in the Oval Office.

## In Brief



Howard Thompson, Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Vice-President, serving as master of ceremonies at October 13<sup>th</sup> New Castle NAACP Freedom Fund Banquet. The keynote speaker was Rev. Paul Abernathy, Focus Pittsburgh Director. Focus Pittsburgh is an Orthodox Christian non-profit organization focused on trauma informed community development. It is located in Pittsburgh's Hill District.



USW 1211 officers at District 10 Workers Compensation Conference on October 23<sup>rd</sup>. From left to right: Christ Atsidis, Vice-President; Mike Sparacino, Financial Secretary; Rick Galino, Treasurer, and Bart Carr, President. The conference was held at the USW national training center in Dawson, Pa. It included instruction on FMLA, ADA and Social Security Disability.

# Holiday Dining



When you buy union, you're supporting good jobs in American communities, jobs that provide living wages and benefits, safe working conditions and dignity and respect for work. Look for these quality products, produced by union members, when you are preparing for your holiday celebration...

## Set the Table



Homer Laughlin China (GMP)  
Fiestaware (GMP)  
Anchor Hocking (GMP)  
Libbey Glassware (USW and GMP)  
Clau Knives (USW)  
Pyrex (USW)  
Corning Ware (USW)  
Bennington Potters (UNITE HERE)

## For the Feast

### **Fresh Whole Turkey**

Butterball (UFCW)  
Foster Farms (UFCW)

### **Ham**

Appleton Farms Ham (UFCW)  
Black Forest Ham (UFCW)  
Butterball Ham (UFCW)  
Cook's Ham (UFCW)  
Farmland Old Fashioned Pit Ham (UFCW)  
Farmland Original Pit Ham (UFCW)  
Hormel Honey Roasted Ham (UFCW)  
Tyson Ham (UFCW)

### **Stuffing**

Manischewitz (UFCW)  
Stroehmann Bakery Products (BCTGM)

### **Vegetables**

Andy Boy (UFW)  
Muranka (UFW)  
Eurofresh (UFCW)  
Birds Eye (UFCW)  
Mann's (UFCW)  
Sunripe Produce (UFCW)

### **Cranberries/ Cranberry Sauce**

Ocean Spray (IAMAW)  
Dole (IBT)

### **Potatoes**

Dole Fresh Potatoes (IBT)  
Mann's Fresh Culinary Cuts Sweet Potato (UFCW)  
Betty Crocker Specialty Potatoes (BCTGM)

### **Bread**

Pillsbury Rolls (BCTGM)  
Stroehmann Bakery Products (BCTGM)  
Aunt Millie's Bread Products (UFCW)

### **Pie**

Entenmann's (BCTGM)  
Marie Callender's (UFCW)  
Pillsbury Pie Crust (BCTGM)  
Sara Lee (BCTGM)  
Banquet Fruit Pies (UFCW)

### **Pie Filling**

Kroger brand pumpkin puree (UFCW)  
Food Club canned pumpkin (UFCW)  
Del Monte Fresh Apples (IBT)

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BEAVER/LAWRENCE  
CENTRAL LABOR  
COUNCIL



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

## Calendar of Events

- 11/19 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; PSEA Bldg., New Castle.
- 12/17 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; IBEW 712, Vanport.
- 12/25 Christmas Dinner and Toy Giveaway; Beaver Falls High School. See President's Report, Page 3, for additional details.

### From the Editor

It took over four years, but it finally happened - technology got the better of me. I have been getting photos sent to me from various labor council delegates for years, many of which we have been able to put in the BUG.

This month seemed no different. We selected four photos from the October Labor Council sent to us from T Berry through Google Photos that we were planning to put in the November BUG.

However, this month I did not download the photos immediately. When I did attempt to download them I was not able to do so - T Berry had already deleted them.

So I consider it a lesson learned (at the expense of this issue of the BUG). I will expeditiously download and save all future photos sent to me that we plan to use in future BUGs. My apologies for the oversight.

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 (month) (date) to be considered for publication in the (month) 2018 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.