

NWPA ALF News

March 2022 Edition

Page 1



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.paafclcio.org>
www.facebook.com/nwpaalf
text: 814-360-8336

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

NWPA ALF & CLC MEETINGS	PG 2
MESSAGE FROM	
PRESIDENT LIZ SHULER	PG 2
POSTAL REFORM UPDATE	PG 2
PANEL DOCTOR REFRESHER	PG 3
MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND THE WORKPLACE	PG 4-5
THE FACTS ABOUT SNACKS	PG 6
WHAT IS NEW AT VARIETY CHILDRENS CHARITY	PG 7
ANNOUNCEMENT	PG 8
INDIANA-ARMSTRONG CLC	
GOLF OUTING	PG 9
GWCLC/MARCH FOR PARKS	PG 10
LIHEAP GUIDELINES AND LOCATIONS TO APPLY	PG 11
JOBS FOR IRONWORKERS	PG 12
PLAN TO REPAIR PENNSYLVANIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE	PG 13
GOOD INVESTMENTS	PG 14
IRS VITA TAX ASSISTANCE	PG 15
2022 CAMPAIGN FINANCE REPORTING DATES	PG 16
2022 IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES	PG 17
EDUCATIONAL CLASSES	PG 18
LEGISLATION FOR HEALTH CARE DURING STRIKES	PG 18
NWPA ALF Convention Ads	PG 19
SOLIDARITY FOR IUE-CWA 88022 AND 88144 AND NEWS	PG 20

NWPA ALF 16TH ANNUAL MEETING/ CONVENTION

On Tuesday, June 28th, the NWPA ALF will hold its 16th Annual Meeting/ Convention in the VFW Hall, located at 411 Ninth Street in Franklin, PA 16323. We will convene at 7:00 PM and conclude after the conclusion of our business. The registration fee is \$40 per person (delegate/alternate). Send it with your credentials to 1276 Liberty St Ste2t, Franklin, PA 16323 by May 27th.

The convention theme is Building the Labor Movement through Solidarity and Activism. Our Keynote Speaker is Ironworkers International President Eric Dean. The Convention's principal functions are; to elect our officers and executive board, review our budget, and plan events/actions consistent with the goals of the AFL-CIO.

Other highlights will be; awarding our scholarships to the winners of our essay contests and honoring someone from labor for their service. We will have a program book for your ad (see page). Our silent auction this year will benefit a few non-profits. We will put together a slideshow of the various projects and activities done by our affiliates and CLCs. If you have images to share, please send them to nwpaalf@gmail.com. We plan to display the slideshow highlighting your work and activities during the registration and opening.

Please mark your calendar and plan to join us!

Official Notice of the Election of Officers of the Northwestern Pennsylvania Area Labor Federation

The offices elected are as follows:

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE:

1 - Chairman 1 - Secretary-Treasurer 5 - Vice-Chairs 3 - Trustees (elected by E-Board)

BALANCE OF THE EXECUTIVE BOARD:

1 - Representative of each Int'l Union shall be elected by the affiliated Local Unions of the same Int'l Union

1 - Representative from each CLC

1 - Representative of the B&CTCs

1 - Constituency Group Representative shall be elected by all affiliated Constituency Groups

Each Local Union affiliated with the Northwestern Pennsylvania Area Labor Federation (NWPA ALF) and in good standing shall appoint or elect Delegates to the 16th Annual NWPA ALF Convention on June 28th, 2022. The Convention will be in VFW, located at 411 Ninth Street, Franklin, PA 16323. At the Convention, the Delegates shall elect the Executive Committee and the entire Executive Board of the NWPA ALF. The terms of offices will run from June 28th, 2022, through the NWPA ALF Annual Meeting/Convention in 2025.

The Executive Committee shall be elected by the Delegates present at the 16th Annual NWPA ALF Convention. The balance of the Executive Board shall be elected by a caucus of the Delegates representing the appropriate union or group. Some Delegates may qualify for more than one caucus.

Available in the NWPA ALF Office is a list of the NWPA ALF Officers, the NWPA ALF Affiliated Local Union List, Officers list of affiliates as provided to us, a delegate, and voting strength entitlement report for all affiliates, and the names and mailing addresses of the Delegates for review.

Note: Not more than three members from the same international union shall be eligible to hold the following offices(Chair, Secretary-Treasurer, a Vice-Chair, or affiliated local Union Rep.) The Chair and the Secretary-Treasurer shall not be from the same international union.

2022 NWPA ALF MEETINGS

Delegates Meetings are held 7:00 PM on
Wednesday, March 23rd, *Tuesday, June 28th**,
Wednesdays, September 28th, and Dec. 14th.
Our E-Board meets at 6 PM on the same days,

Meetings are held in the AFSCME DC 85 HALL
1276 LIBERTY ST. FRANKLIN, PA 16323.

* *The Tuesday June 28th meeting will be at the
VFW Hall located at 411 Ninth St in Franklin.*

Attendees may join us in person or via ZOOM.

Special speakers:

RSVP to 814-360-8336 or 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, March 21st
IBEW 712 Hall

217 Sassafras Lane Beaver 15009

For more information call 724-971-7473.

Butler County CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, APRIL 6TH
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, APRIL 7TH
Via ZOOM

For more information call 814-937-2208.

Erie-Crawford CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Wednesday, APRIL 6TH
USW 3199 Hall 703 French St. Erie 16501

For more information call 814-823-9940.

Greater Westmoreland CLC:

Meeting 7:00 PM on Monday, March 21st
Fire House #2,

421 Thornton Rd. Greensburg 15601

For more information call 724-600-6266.

Indiana-Armstrong CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 24th

UMWA 1412 51 Eleventh St., Lucernemines 15754

For more information call 724-479-0923.

Mercer County CLC:

Meeting 7:30 PM on Thursday, March 17th

USW 1660 Hall, 1028 Roemer Blvd. Farrell 16121

For more information call 724-854-0605.

Venango-Clarion Chapter:

Meeting 6:30 PM on Thursday, March 10th

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, APRIL 7TH

IUOE 95 Hall, 116 Dobson Ave. Warren 16365 or
via ZOOM

For more information call 814-730-7558

Message from President Liz Shuler

“Lower your costs, not your wages.
Make more cars and semiconductors
in America. More infrastructure and
innovation in America. More goods
moving faster and cheaper in America.
More jobs where you can earn a good
living in America. And instead of
relying on foreign supply chains, let’s
make it in America.”—President Joe Biden,
State of the Union Address, March 1, 2022



AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler

- President Biden’s first State of the Union was the latest reminder that working people have a champion in words, actions and every way possible.
- We were thrilled that President Biden again called for the passage of the PRO Act. He continues to send an incredible message to courageous workers everywhere that the president has their back.
- The president’s infrastructure accomplishments were also a major highlight. “We’re done talking about infrastructure weeks. We’re going to have an infrastructure decade,” he said.
- Finally, the president reiterated his commitment to investing in our families through child care, paid leave and living wages.

Postal Reform Act passes in Senate, sent to President Biden’s desk

Today, in a 79-19 vote the Senate passed the Postal Service Reform Act of 2022 (H.R. 3076). Following House passage on Feb. 8, the bill will now be sent to President Biden for his signature to become law.

“This is a monumental victory for letter carriers and all Americans who depend on the Postal Service for affordable and high-quality universal service,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “I want to congratulate and thank all the NALC members who lobbied their members of Congress to win passage in the Senate and the House. Thanks to your support, dedication and action, bipartisan postal reform, that was 12 years in the making, has finally passed in both chambers.”

This bipartisan legislation will improve the financial stability of the Postal Service. It includes key provisions for letter carriers, including one that eliminates the mandate that requires the Postal Service to pre-fund its retiree health care benefits decades in advance, and another that codifies six-day mail delivery in federal law. This will eliminate the need to renew the six-day requirement every year through the congressional appropriations process. The bill also maximizes the integration of future postal annuitants into Medicare.

Thanks to all of our activist who have lobbied on our behalf.

Michael B Hartung, National Association of Letter Carriers

YOU CAN'T ALWAYS "MARCH" TO YOUR OWN DRUM WHEN INJURED— PANEL DOCTOR REFRESHER!

by Barb Holmes, Blaufeld, Schiller & Holmes LLP Attorney At Law

As most of you know, when you are injured, the employer/workers' compensation carrier has the right under the Act to direct medical treatment for the first 90 days if a "proper list" of designated panel physicians has been established. If such a list exists, the injured employee must treat with those providers for a period of 90 days. That time period is important, because if the injured worker is provided with a TEMPORARY NOTICE OF COMPENSATION PAYABLE, the employer/carrier has 90 days to determine whether to pay the case ongoing, or to withdraw that notice and deny the claim, leaving the employee to litigate entitlement to benefits. Therefore, compliance with the panel list is vital to an injured worker's claim. However, there are matters that are often "abused" by the employer/carrier, that the injured worker must know.

First, there is no requirement that an injured worker treat with any specific provider on that list at the employer's direction. Many employers/ carriers tell the injured worker that "everyone" starts at CONCENTRA, MEDEXPRESS, the local hospital's Occupational Health Department, or a specific doctor, and that the facility will then direct the employee as to treatment. THAT IS NOT CORRECT UNDER THE ACT AND THE REGULATIONS.

The Act, at Section 306(f) allows for control of treatment with a proper panel but the Regulations which explain how this is to be administered specifically state that the employer MAY NOT REQUIRE

treatment with a specific provider on the panel. The employer MAY NOT RESTRICT the injured employee's choice of which panel doctor—or which doctors--to see. These decisions are left to the employee, but those choices must still be made within that panel. That panel guides treatment for the first 90 days.

Are there ways an injured worker can "march" around this list? Yes, but they must be carefully utilized. For example, if there is no provider of the SPECIALTY REQUIRED on the list, the employee is free to choose his or her own. For example, if the employee is treated at the local occupational health office, and asks whether chiropractic treatment would be appropriate, and the panel provider at the office agrees that it would, and there is no chiropractor on the panel, the employee is free to choose the chiropractic office to utilize.

Additionally, if the injured worker has treated with a specialist in the past—perhaps for a similar injury—and wants to see that same specialist again, it could be possible. The injured worker could mention/discuss that specialist with the panel provider and seek a referral from that panel provider to the specific doctor: Dr. X treated my sister's knee injury, and she was back to work within six weeks—do you think I could consult with him? If the panel provider refers the employee to that specialist, even within those first 90 days, that treatment is allowed. The panel provider has effectively made the specialist whose opinion is sought a member of the panel!

Employees must be aware, however, that treating off panel without a panel referral or without the compensation carrier's agreement, will result in the employee bearing the burden of the cost of the treatment. So seeing one's family doctor and getting a referral for an MRI may not be the most practical and cost-conscious course within the first 90 days—unless the family doctor is a panel provider! Rather, it is better to request any such treatment from the panel provider, and get the referral from that panel provider, so that the cost is covered.

Finally, the Act and Regulations do not require that the injured worker treat with the same panel provider for the entire 90 days, regardless of what the compensation carrier may say. If the employee is dissatisfied with the panel provider he/she consulted initially, the opportunity to see any of the other doctors on the panel remains, and there is no need to request "permission" from the adjuster or the current panel provider. That's why there is a list/panel—to give the employee a choice (although it doesn't always seem to be a "real" choice)!

Injured workers should have some measure of control over their treatment, but the panel does restrict that in many ways. However there are options for an injured worker to have some controls within that initial 90 days even while "marching along" with the Act and its Regulations.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND THE WORKPLACE

By Rhett Cherkin

Pennsylvania legalized medical marijuana in 2016. There are a wide range of medical conditions that could allow an individual to seek a medical marijuana card. These include physical conditions such as cancer, epilepsy, Parkinson's Disease and severe chronic pain, but there are also mental health conditions which qualify which include anxiety disorders and post-traumatic stress disorders. Getting a medical marijuana card in Pennsylvania involves registering for the Pennsylvania program through the Pennsylvania Department of Health, having a physician certify that you suffer from one of the medical conditions that qualifies for medical marijuana, paying for a medical marijuana card and obtaining your medical marijuana through an approved dispensary. With the legalization of medical marijuana, Pennsylvania has seen a steady increase in the number of regular users. Can being a medical marijuana registered patient affect your employment status and rights?

Can an employee with a medical marijuana card be fired for a positive blood test?

Pennsylvania's Medical Marijuana Act (MMA) provides limited protections to medical marijuana patients. The Act does provide some specific antidiscrimination protections for registered patients. The law prohibits an employer from discharging, threatening, refusing to hire or otherwise discriminating or retaliating against medical marijuana patient based on his or her status as a registered medical marijuana user. These protections apply to pre-employment and random drug testing which means you cannot be denied a job or, in most cases, fired if you fail a drug test for marijuana. But remember that the protections only apply to Pennsylvania residents who have registered with the Pennsylvania Health Department, have a medical marijuana card and have used marijuana during non-work hours.

In August 2021, The Pennsylvania Supreme Court decided the first appellate case to address the issue of whether the MMA allows an employee to sue his or her employer for taking an adverse employment action based on the employee's status as a registered user of medical marijuana. The Court found that the Legislature, in enacting the MMA, had the intention to create an implied private right of action for aggrieved employees.

Can medical marijuana be used at work?

There is no definitive answer to this question. It will be up to the discretion of the employer in most cases. The MMA does not require an employer to make any accommodations for the use of medical marijuana on the employer's property or place of business. Further, an employer can discipline you for using medical marijuana in the workplace or for being "under the influence" of the drug if their "conduct falls below the standard of care normally accepted" for job position. To be safe, people who have a medical marijuana card should not use medical marijuana at work or be under the influence of medical marijuana at work.

Can my employer limit my job functions?

The MMA prohibits a medical marijuana patient from holding certain jobs if they have more than 10 nanograms of THC per milliliter of blood in their system. Workers can be prohibited from doing jobs which would involve:

- Working with chemicals which require a permit issued by the state or federal government;
- Working with high-voltage electricity; and
- Working with any other public utility.

MEDICAL MARIJUANA AND THE WORKPLACE continued:

There are also certain activities that the employer can limit you from doing if you are under the influence. You would still be able to medicate during off-work hours assuming that at work you are no longer under the influence. These activities include:

- Work performed “at heights or in confined spaces” (such as mining);
- Tasks that the employer deems “life-threatening” to you personally or to any other employees; and
- Duties that could “result in public health or safety risk”.

Do I need to disclose to my employer that I am a medical marijuana patient?

There is no requirement to disclose that you are a medical marijuana patient, but you should not lie about it. If you are asked on an employer form or during an employment physical, you should disclose your status. Further, if you are applying for a job where you know the prospective employer will conduct a pre-employment drug test, you may want to be upfront about your status. If you are already employed, only using medical marijuana at home and you are not asked directly by the employer about your marijuana usage, then there may be no reason to alert your employer.

How would being a medical marijuana user affect a workers’ compensation claim?

If you are injured at work and a registered medical marijuana patient, your usage should not affect your workers’ compensation claim as long as you are not found to be under the influence at the time of the injury. Intoxication, even if it is the result of legal usage of medical marijuana, will provide the employer with an affirmative defense to your claim. The employer can avoid paying workers’ compensation benefits if they can establish that you were intoxicated (by drugs or alcohol) and the intoxication caused your injury.

How would being a medical marijuana patient affect an application for Social Security disability benefits?

There is no clear answer to this question. The Social Security Administration’s official policy when it comes to drugs and alcohol is to determine whether the drug and alcohol usage is a contributing factor to the disability, and if it is, then this could make you ineligible for benefits. Social Security Disability and Social Security Supplemental Income claims are heard by an Administrative Law Judge. There are many different Administrative Law Judges in Western Pennsylvania, and how they will approach evidence in the record of legal medical marijuana usage or even recreational marijuana usage will depend on the individual Administrative Law Judge.

Whether an issue of medical marijuana usage arises in an employment setting, in a workers’ compensation claim or in a Social Security disability claim, the attorneys at Caroselli Beachler & Coleman are here to help you navigate your rights and responsibilities. We can be reached for a free and confidential consultation regarding any issues pertaining to employment rights, workers’ compensation claims, Social Security disability claims, asbestos related claims or any other personal injury claims at 1-800-222-8816.

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THE FACTS ABOUT SNACKS

Snacks, those things we eat when it's not quite mealtime. We all love them. We all crave them. Sugary, salty, light or filling, they are a part of our life. The calendar tells us that February is Natural Snack Food month, but let's face it...is there ever a time when a little pre-meal pick-me-up isn't in order? Still, in honor of National Snack Food Month, we've highlighted some of our favorite nosh-ables. Not only are these items listed below seriously tasty, but they're made by companies that treat their workers fairly and give them a voice on the job.

Enjoy your snacks and let's all help build a stronger America.

Labor 411

MAKING IT EASY TO SUPPORT GOOD JOBS
LOS ANGELES | SAN FRANCISCO | WASHINGTON, D.C. | PHILADELPHIA | NEW YORK

Salty Stuff

Cheez-It (BCTGM)
Cheetos (BCTGM)
Chex Mixes (IBT)
Doritos (BCTGM, IBT)
Montpelier Almonds (UFCW)
Planters Nuts (UFCW, IBT)
Rold Gold Pretzels (BCTGM, IBT)
Slim Jim (UFCW, IBT)



Sun Chips (BCTGM, IBT)
True North Nut Clusters (BCTGM)
Wheat Thins (BCTGM, IBT)

Sweet Stuff

Almond Roca (BCTGM)
Baby Ruth (BCTGM, IBT 200)
Butterfinger (BCTGM, IBT 200)
Ghirardelli Chocolate (BCTGM)
Hershey's Kisses (BCTGM, UFCW)
Hot Tamales (BCTGM, IBT)
Ice Breakers (BCTGM)
Jelly Belly Jelly Beans (BCTGM)
Jolly Ranchers (BCTGM, UFCW)
Mike and Ike (BCTGM, IBT)
Rolo (BCTGM, UFCW, IBT)
Russell Stover (BCTGM, UFCW)

See's Candies (BCTGM)
Sour Patch (BCTGM)
Sugar Babies (BCTGM)
Tootsie Rolls (BCTGM, IBT)

Popcorn

Bachman Popcorn (BCTGM, IBT)
Better Made Snack Foods Popcorn (IBT)
Bickel's Popcorn (IBT)
Fiddle Faddle (UFCW)
Jiffy Pop (UFCW)
Old Dutch Gourmet White Popcorn (BCTGM)
Orville Redenbacher's (UFCW)
Poppycock (UFCW)
Savor Street Popcorn (IBT)
Snak King Popcorn (IBT)
Wise Popcorn (IBT)

Find more union-made products at www.Labor411.org



What is Variety the Children's Charity?

- With a mission to empower children with disabilities to live life to the fullest, Variety the Children's Charity ensures that our most vulnerable kids are no longer left out, behind, or excluded from others.
- Variety was founded in 1927 to help one child, and today, our focus is on the mobility and communication needs of kids with disabilities and give them the opportunity to discover their own possibilities with the right equipment.

Variety's **My Bike®** Program kicked off in Western Pennsylvania on November 5, 2012, and the success of **My Bike**

led to the creation of Variety's **My Stroller®** and **My Voice®** Programs, which both kicked off on November 14, 2014.

- In total, more than **5,000** adaptive bikes, adaptive strollers, and communication devices have been presented to eligible kids since November 2012 (that's more than **\$7.75 million** worth of equipment).

Who is eligible for Variety's equipment programs?

- **Quick Review:** Variety's adaptive equipment programs serve children and youth who have a documented mental, physical, or sensory disability; reside in Variety's 71-county service area; are 3 through 21 years of age; meet the income guidelines; as well as the other eligibility requirements outlined in the application.
- **Income Guidelines:** An applicant's household income must meet the program's income guidelines that include: **2** household members (below \$91,150); **3** household members (below \$115,150); **4** household members (below \$138,750); **5** household members (below \$162,350); **6** household members (below \$185,950); **7** household members (below \$209,550); **8** household members (below \$233,150); **9** household members (\$256,750).

We know and recognize that families who have a child with disabilities typically experience greater expenses due to medical costs, therapy appointments, equipment, medications, and a variety of other needs or circumstances

All equipment is provided at NO COST to families that meet the program's eligibility requirements.

- **Service Area includes:** **59 counties in Pennsylvania:** Adams, Allegheny, Armstrong, Beaver, Bedford, Blair, Bradford, Butler, Cambria, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clarion, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Crawford, Cumberland, Dauphin, Elk, Erie, Fayette, Forest, Franklin, Fulton, Greene, Huntingdon, Indiana, Jefferson, Juniata, Lackawanna, Lawrence, Lehigh, Luzerne, Lycoming, McKean, Mercer, Mifflin, Monroe, Montour, Northampton, Northumberland, Perry, Pike, Potter, Schuylkill, Somerset, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Venango, Warren, Washington, Wayne, Westmoreland, Wyoming, and York.; and **12 counties in northern West Virginia:** Barbour, Brooke, Doddridge, Hancock, Harrison, Marion, Marshall, Monongalia, Ohio, Preston, Taylor, and Wetzel.

How does someone apply to Variety's equipment programs?

Complete an application online at www.varietypittsburgh.org/applnow, or contact Variety to have one mailed to you (call 724-933-0460 or email info@varietypittsburgh.org).

Eligible families can apply all-year-long for one, two, or even all three pieces of equipment if the child can benefit –you do not need to choose just one.

How much does it cost to sponsor equipment & how can someone donate?

- The cost to sponsor one adaptive bike is \$1,800, one adaptive stroller is \$1,500, and one communication device is \$1,200. Donations can be given online (www.varietypittsburgh.org/donate), or by mailing a check made payable to Variety and mailed to the address below (any donation can be designated to a specific county or program by donor).

*Our **My Voice®** Program is financed {in part} by a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Department of Community and Economic Development as well as generously funded by community donations.*

IT'S ALL FOR THE KIDS



@VarietyPittsburgh



@VarietyKids



@VarietyKids



@VarietyTent1

ANNOUNCEMENT

Rudberg Law Offices Merge with Edgar Snyder & Associates

Experience, Resources at Forefront of Protecting Clients' Rights

Rudberg Law Offices are pleased to announce the merger with Edgar Snyder & Associates, combining their individual experience and resources to provide the best possible legal representation to those who are injured by no fault of their own.

The working man and women of Pennsylvania deserve unequalled personal and professional representation for the life-changing injuries or diseases that can occur at work or due to third party wrongdoing. With the merger of Rudberg Law Offices and Edgar Snyder and Associates, there is an ironclad commitment to the hard-working people in steel mills, industry, logistics, healthcare and all manner of vocations.

Working people need to know their rights and be guided through the murk caused by employers and insurance companies regarding work comp, employment and personal injury issues. The complexity of daily life can become insurmountable when a life-changing injury is visited upon a family through no fault of their own. We strongly believe that no injured person should be injured twice—first, by the injury itself and then by the dehumanizing treatment of the employer and the insurance company.

As a result of the merger with Edgar Snyder & Associates, clients will have access to:

- Attorneys certified by the PA Bar Assn. Workers' Compensation Law Section as specialists in the specific practice of workers' compensation law
- A fully staffed Employment Discrimination Law division
- A Social Security division
- 35 lawyers with experience in all aspects of plaintiffs and personal injury law
- An extensive team of investigators, including former law enforcement professionals, who know exactly what to look for when building a case
- Experience in Toxic Exposure
- Multiple, conveniently located office locations
- The ability to travel to you when you need us most
- An in-house medical records department that coordinates medical information critical to clients' cases

"The working men and women of this region deserve unparalleled legal representation when they suffer a life-changing injury or illness at work," said Attorney Signe Rudberg, partner, of counsel and founder of Rudberg Law Offices. "With this merger, we are committed to providing just that."

Established in 1982, Edgar Snyder & Associates has decades of experience handling even the most complicated cases. The firm has helped more than 75,000 injured people and recovered more than billion dollars on behalf of its clients.

Edgar Snyder & Associates' managing partner Michael Rosenzweig says the firm's dedication to its clients guides everything it does, from creating comprehensive in-house departments and services to helping clients get to medical appointments.

"People underestimate just how complex and confusing the legal system is for those who have been injured. Our firm has decades of experience helping our clients navigate every aspect of their case from start to finish," said Rosenzweig. "We are excited to work with Rudberg Law Offices to advocate for and assist those who are vulnerable to being taking advantage of by an employer or insurance company."

Clients who have questions can reach out to their current Rudberg Law Offices contact for more information or to discuss their case transition and options. Legal consultations are always free and we are available 24/7. For more information, visit www.EdgarSnyder.com or call 1-800-9-4EDGAR.

Keri Rudberg McCann

Business Development Manager

Edgar Snyder & Associates LLC

US Steel Tower, 10th Floor 600 Grant Street

Pittsburgh, PA 15219

Phone: 412-418-3605 Fax: 412-391-2180



Indiana-Armstrong Central Labor Council AFL-CIO



Golf Tournament Scramble

**** Meadow Lane Golf Course****
510 Hamill Road, Indiana, PA 15701

Sunday, June 12, 2022

***** Registration opens at 11:45 a.m. with a shotgun start at 1:00 p.m. *****

\$75.00 per golfer

Please complete the form below and return with payment to the address shown below before June 1, 2022.

Name _____

Organization _____

Address _____ City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____ Email _____

Yes, I will attend. Below are the members of our group who will be participating in the tournament. Please reserve _____ tickets at \$75.00 per person.

Golfer's Name _____ **Phone** _____
(not ojjice; in case of last-minute changes due to covid, etc.)

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

• I would like to be a Hole Sponsor at the following level:

_____	Gold Sponsor	\$200.00
_____	Silver Sponsor	\$100.00
_____	Bronze Sponsor	\$ 50.00

• No, I am unable to attend; however, my donation of \$ _____ is enclosed.

Please make checks payable to: Indiana-Armstrong CLC, P.O. Box 104, Lucernemines, PA 15754.
Call/text with questions or concerns: Cal Cecconi (724-388-0316) or Rachel Stemfeld (315-209-0002).

Proceeds benefit the Indiana-Armstrong Central Labor Council's General Fund and COPE Fund.

20th Annual MARCH FOR PARKS

Saturday, March 26, 2022



*Support your favorite park or trail
Register at 1 of 7 locations around
Westmoreland County
Family-friendly event
March/walk/explore on your own*

20 years of March for Parks!

The March for Parks is a fun event to raise money for new park and trail projects in Westmoreland County. We've raised over \$1 million dollars for recreation since 2003!

On March 26, visit your favorite park or trail, the park closest to home, or explore a new location:

- **Twin Lakes Park** (Greensburg)
- **Mammoth Park** (Mt. Pleasant)
- **Northmoreland Park** (Apollo)
- **Cedar Creek Park** (Belle Vernon)
- **Westmoreland Heritage Trail**—Murrysville
- **Bridgeport Dam Park** (Mt. Pleasant area)
- **Historic Hanna's Town** (Greensburg)

Flexible fun on March 26

- Check-in any time between 9 a.m. & 12 p.m.
- Turn in all donations and contributions.
- Pick up your t-shirt or doggie bandana if you turn in \$30 or more
- Participate in fun family activities and games
- Take a chance on great raffle prizes
- March/walk/explore at your convenience!

Form a team!

Any group of 3 or more people or pets can be a team. Organize friends and family, your school, church, organization, or work place. Show your team spirit by wearing matching shirts, choosing a funny team name, or setting a fundraising goal for friendly competition.

You do not have to be on a team to support the March for Parks; you can register individually!



@WestmorelandParkandRec



@marchforparks

For more information and to register, visit: www.co.westmoreland.pa.us/MFP or call (724) 830-3950

The Greater Westmooreland CLC is a sponsor of this event every year. Having their name on the signs is great. However, they seek volunteers to be at each of the 7 parks to pass out literature about their union and the CLC. [Will you help?](#)

Assistance Office Address

Armstrong County Assistance Office
1293 North Water Street
Kittanning, PA 16201-0598
Toll Free: 1-800-424-5235

Erie County Assistance Office
1316 Holland Street
P.O. Box 558
Erie, PA 16512-0558
Toll Free: 1-800-835-1014

Butler County Assistance Office
106 Woody Drive
Butler, PA 16001-5902
Toll Free: 1-866-256-0093

Forest County Assistance Office
106 Sherman Street
P.O. Box 367
Tonawata, PA 16353
Toll Free: 1-800-875-0645

Cameron County Assistance Office
411 Chestnut Street
P.O. Box 71
Emporium, PA 15834-0071
1-877-855-1824

Jefferson County Assistance Office
100 Prushnok Drive
P.O. Box 720
Punxsutawney, PA 15767-0720
Toll Free: 1-800-242-8214

Clarion County Assistance Office
71 Lincoln Drive
Clarion, PA 16214-3861
Toll Free: 1-800-253-3488

McKean County Assistance Office
68 Chestnut Street, Suite B
Bradford, PA 16705-0016
Toll Free: 1-800-822-1108

Clearfield County Assistance Office
1025 Leonard Street
Clearfield, PA 16830
Toll Free: 1-800-521-8218

Mercer County Assistance Office
2236 Highland Road
Herritage, PA 16148-2896
Toll Free: 1-800-747-8405

Crawford County Assistance Office
1084 Water Street
P.O. Box 1187
Meadville, PA 16335-7187
Toll Free: 1-800-527-7961

Venango County Assistance Office
530 13th Street
Franklin, PA 16323-0391
Toll Free: 1-877-409-2421

Elk County Assistance Office
145 Race Street
P.O. Box F
Ridgway, PA 15853-0327
Toll Free: 1-800-847-0257

Warren County Assistance Office
210 North Drive, Suite A
North Warren, PA 16365
Toll Free: 1-800-403-4343



LIHEAP CAN HELP



2021 - 2022 LIHEAP Income Guidelines

Household Size	Monthly Income Limit
1	\$1,610
2	\$2,177
3	\$2,745
4	\$3,312
5	\$3,880

* additional family members add \$6,810 each

If you meet the above income guidelines, you may qualify for a basic grant and/or a crisis grant.

Beginning October 18, 2021, you can apply in person, by mail, or online at www.compass.state.pa.us

Questions?

- Visit <http://www.LIHEAPhelps.com>

Or Call 1-877-443-2743





JOBS FOR IRONWORKERS, INVESTMENTS IN AMERICA

BECAUSE JOE BIDEN KEEPS HIS PROMISES

After being on the job just 51 days, **President Joe Biden** delivered on his promise to Ironworkers to **invest in our work and our families.**

Thanks to **Joe Biden's work on the American Rescue Plan**, many Ironworkers' families will receive a \$1,400 stimulus check, and America will finally make real investments in infrastructure construction.

That's a win for us, and for working families across America.

**LEARN MORE ABOUT THE AMERICAN
RESCUE PLAN AT: IRONWORKERS.ORG**

Paid for by the International Association of Bridge, Structural, Ornamental and Reinforcing Iron Workers (IPAL). 1750 New York Ave. NW, Suite 400, Washington, DC 20006. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate's committee.

THE PLAN TO REPAIR PENNSYLVANIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORT UNION JOBS



BIPARTISAN MAJORITIES in Congress have passed pro-worker legislation to repair our roads, bridges and more. This new infrastructure law will send much-needed funds to states for work in key areas that desperately need attention. Here are just a few of the ways the law will help Pennsylvania:



Pennsylvania will receive **\$11.3 BILLION** for highway programs and **\$1.6 BILLION** for bridge replacement and repairs.



We will receive **\$2.8 BILLION** to improve public transportation.



Our airports will receive **\$355 MILLION** for infrastructure development.



We will receive **\$171 MILLION** to expand charging networks for electric vehicles.



We will receive at least **\$100 MILLION** to provide broadband coverage, providing access to at least 394,000 Pennsylvanians who currently lack it.



We will receive **\$1.4 BILLION** to improve water infrastructure across the state and ensure that clean, safe drinking water is available in all communities.

YOUR UNION: Fighting for Pennsylvania's Working Families



Rick Bloomingdale
President

&

Frank Snyder
Secretary-Treasurer

www.paaficio.org



Fern Hollow Bridge - Pittsburgh
Source: Pittsburgh Post-Gazette
2/6/2022

Good Roads, Good Jobs, Good Investments

THE PLAN TO REPAIR PENNSYLVANIA'S INFRASTRUCTURE AND SUPPORT UNION JOBS GETS A "BIG LIFT"

After years of broken promises to fund large-scale, long-term infrastructure projects, union members collectively broke through the national political stalemate to get the *Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act* over the finish line with bipartisan support.

The poor state of our infrastructure came to national attention as the January collapse of the Fern Hollow Bridge in Pittsburgh further amplified the need for this once-in-a-lifetime investment.

Catastrophies like these can be prevented. As a movement, we've fought to uplift these issues and offer solutions for decades. We know highly skilled union members in every sector of the PA economy can supply the necessary goods and services and rebuild our roadways and bridges.

This historic investment in our infrastructure will inject billions of dollars into Pennsylvania to repair our roads (\$11.3 Billion), bridges (\$1.6 Billion), and more – all while investing into our local communities.

UNIONS ARE PREPARED TO GET THE JOB DONE RIGHT – FROM START TO FINISH.



YOUR UNION: FIGHTING FOR PENNSYLVANIA'S WORKING FAMILIES



IRS-VITA Tax Assistance and Counseling for Seniors source:irs.gov

The IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance (VITA) and Tax Counseling for the Elderly (TCE) programs offer free basic tax return preparation to qualified individuals.

The VITA program has operated for over 50 years. VITA sites offer free tax help to people who need assistance in preparing their own tax returns, including:

- People who generally make \$58,000 or less
- Persons with disabilities; and
- Limited English-speaking taxpayers
- In addition to VITA, the TCE program offers free tax help, particularly for those who are 60 years of age and older, specializing in questions about pensions and retirement-related issues unique to seniors.

While the IRS manages the VITA and TCE programs, the VITA/TCE sites are operated by IRS partners and staffed by volunteers who want to make a difference in their communities. The IRS-certified volunteers who provide tax counseling are often retired individuals associated with non-profit organizations that receive grants from the IRS.

VITA/TCE services are not only free, they are also a reliable and

trusted source for preparing tax returns. All VITA/TCE volunteers who prepare returns must take and pass tax law training that meets or exceeds IRS standards. This training includes maintaining the privacy and confidentiality of all taxpayer information. In addition to requiring volunteers to certify their knowledge of the tax laws, the IRS requires a quality review check for every return prepared at a VITA/TCE site prior to filing. Each filing season, tens of thousands of dedicated VITA/TCE volunteers prepare millions of federal and state returns. They also assist taxpayers with the preparation of thousands of Facilitated Self-Assistance returns.

Before your visit

Before going to a VITA or TCE site, see Publication 3676-B PDF for services provided and check out What to Bring to ensure you have all the required documents and information our volunteers will need to help you.

Note: Available services can vary at each site due to the availability of volunteers certified with the tax law expertise required for your return.

Some VITA sites offer CAA service to taxpayers along with their VITA program.

Also, visit the FDIC website for information on where to find a bank that can open an account online and how to choose the right account for you.

[Find a VITA or TCE Site Near You](#)

VITA and TCE sites are generally located at community and neighborhood centers, libraries, schools, shopping malls and other convenient locations across the country. To locate the nearest VITA or TCE site near you, use the [VITA Locator Tool](#) or call 800-906-9887.

When looking for a TCE site, keep in mind that a majority of the TCE sites are operated by the AARP Foundation's Tax Aide program. To locate the nearest AARP TCE Tax-Aide site between January and April use the AARP Site Locator Tool or call 888-227-7669.

At select tax sites, taxpayers also have an option to prepare their own basic federal and state tax return for free using web-based tax preparation software with an IRS-certified volunteer to help guide you through the process. This option is only available at locations that list "Self-Prep" in the site listing.

Attention: The locator is updated regularly from February through April.

PA AFL-CIO Convention Events By sshewmaker

Schedule of Events:

Monday, March 28th, 2022

- 8:00 AM-8:00 PM – Delegate Registration
- 8:00 PM – Delegate Reception

Tuesday, March 29th, 2022

- 8:00 AM-5:00 PM – Delegate Registration
- 9:30 AM–1:00 PM – General Session
- 1:00–3:00 PM - Caucus Meetings
- 3:00–4:00 PM - Committee Meetings
- 8:00 PM – COPE Entertainment Night PDF icon (Order form attached)

Wednesday, March 30th, 2022

- 7:30–9:00 AM – Work & Family Breakfast PDF icon (Order form attached)
- 8:00 AM-Noon - Registration
- 9:00 AM–1:30 PM – General Session
- 6:00 PM - PDF icon COPE Honoree Reception and Dinner:

Thursday, March 31st, 2022

- 9:00–Noon – General Session



2022 Campaign Finance Reporting Dates

Not applicable to candidates running for Federal offices

Type of Report	Cycle	Complete as of	Filing Deadline**
2021 Annual Report	Cycle 7	December 31, 2021	January 31, 2022
*6 th Tuesday Pre-Primary	Cycle 1	March 28, 2022	April 5, 2022
2 nd Friday Pre-Primary	Cycle 2	May 2, 2022	May 6, 2022
24-Hour Reporting (Daily)	Cycle 10	Starts May 3, 2022	Through and including May 17, 2022
30 Day Post-Primary	Cycle 3	June 6, 2022	June 16, 2022
*6 th Tuesday Pre-Election	Cycle 4	September 19, 2022	September 27, 2022
2 nd Friday Pre-Election	Cycle 5	October 24, 2022	October 28, 2022
24-Hour Reporting (Daily)	Cycle 11	Starts October 25, 2022	Through and including November 8, 2022
30 Day Post-Election	Cycle 6	November 28, 2022	December 8, 2022
2022 Annual Report	Cycle 7	December 31, 2022	January 31, 2023

* You are **only** required to file these reports if you are a **candidate for a statewide office, an authorized committee for such a candidate, or a committee contributing to candidates** for statewide office.

For your report to be accepted as timely filed, you must postmark your report **at least one day prior to the filing deadline.

Your notarized cover page **must be received in our office ten calendar days (including weekends) after the filing deadline. Postmarks will **not** be accepted.

NOTE: All dates are **subject to change** without notice in the event of passage of any amendatory legislation.

Bureau of Campaign Finance & Lobbying Disclosure

500 North Office Building | Harrisburg, PA 17120 | Website: www.dos.pa.gov/campaignfinance
Telephone (717) 787-5280 (Option 4) | Fax (717) 213-8083 | Email: ra-stcampaignfinance@pa.gov

Important Dates for the 2022 Pennsylvania Elections

All dates in this calendar are subject to change without notice.

Date	Event
25-Feb-22	First day to circulate and file nomination petitions for Representative in Congress and statewide offices (U.S. Senator, Governor, and Lt. Governor)
TBD	First day to circulate and file nomination petitions for Senator or Representative in the General Assembly
15-Mar-22	Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions for Congressional and statewide offices
TBD	Last day to circulate and file nomination petitions for Senator or Representative in the General Assembly
16-Mar-22	First day to circulate and file nomination papers for Congressional and statewide offices
TBD	First day to circulate and file nomination papers for Senator or Representative in the General Assembly
23-Mar-22	Last day for withdrawal by candidates who filed nomination petitions for Congressional and statewide offices
25-Mar-22	Last day that may be fixed by the Commonwealth Court for hearing on objections that have been filed to nomination petitions for Congressional and statewide offices
29-Mar-22	Last day for the Commonwealth Court to render decisions in cases involving objections that have been filed to nomination petitions for Congressional and statewide offices
2-May-22	Last day to REGISTER before the primary
10-May-22	Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot
17-May-22	Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 P.M.)
17-May-22	GENERAL PRIMARY
18-May-22	First day to REGISTER after primary
24-May-22	Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on May 16)
1-Aug-22	Last day to circulate and file nomination papers
8-Aug-22	Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated by nomination papers
15-Aug-22	Last day for withdrawal by candidates nominated at the primary
24-Oct-22	Last day to REGISTER before the November election
1-Nov-22	Last day to apply for a mail-in or civilian absentee ballot
8-Nov-22	Last day for County Boards of Elections to receive voted mail-in and civilian absentee ballots (must be received by 8:00 P.M.)
8-Nov-22	GENERAL ELECTION
9-Nov-22	First day to REGISTER after November election
15-Nov-22	Last day for County Board of Elections to receive voted military and overseas absentee ballots (submitted for delivery no later than 11:59 P.M. on November 7)



FREE ZOOM Educational Classes in NWPAALF

The NWPA Area Labor Federation is excited to be able to offer the following classes via ZOOM, as a result of our collaboration with the Federal Mediation & Conciliation Services (FMCS), and Commissioner Tim McNamara who is always eager to assist labor. He is coordinating the these classes with the assistance of other commissioners.

[Collective Bargaining](#) on

Tuesday, March 15th
6:00-7:30PM

[The Impact of Legalization of Marijuana & the Unions Role](#)

Tuesday March 22nd
6:00-7:30PM

[Effective Communications](#) on

Tuesday, April 5th
6:00-7:30PM

[Understanding the Family Medical Leave Act](#) on

Tuesday, April 12th
6:00-7:30PM

[Understanding the importance and purpose of Labor Management Committees and How to Start One](#) on

Tuesday, April 19th
6:00-7:30PM

We are delighted to have such a variety of classes to offer. These classes were suggested by members at CLC meetings. We need a minimum of 10 people throughout the NWPA ALF for each class. Handouts will be sent via email before the class if possible.

If you are interested in attending any of the classes send an email to Rosann at nwpaalf@gmail.com with all of your contact information including your Union and local # and the list of classes you would like to attend.

ZOOM registration links will be sent to everyone interested via email. You can join us on a computer, laptop, or your phone.

If you have any questions call 814-360-8336.

LEGISLATION TO PROTECT WORKER HEALTH CARE DURING STRIKES A NECESSITY

[TRIANGLE, VA] United Mine Workers of America (UMWA) International President Cecil E. Roberts issued the following statement today:

“I applaud Sens. Sharrod Brown (D-OH) and Bob Casey (D-PA) and all co-sponsors for introducing the Striking Workers Healthcare Protection Act., which would require employers to continue to provide health insurance coverage for striking workers and their families.

“UMWA miners on strike at Warrior Met Coal had their company-provided health insurance cut off April 1 of last year. Even though Warrior Met used this tactic as a way to discourage the workers from exercising their right to strike, it didn’t work The UMWA immediately picked up their coverage, so that not a single worker or his or her family was without health insurance.

“The UMWA has spent more than \$5.1 million in health insurance coverage for the striking miners and their families. That is on top of the \$15.5 million paid for strike benefits.

“These miners have been fighting for a fair contract for almost a year now, if it wasn’t for the union, they and their families would be faced with the terrible choice of either medical care or fighting for what they deserve. I salute the legislators who are taking a stand in both the Senate and the House against these unfair corporate tactics.”

Note: Companion legislation, H.R. 6557, was introduced in the House of Representatives by Rep. Cindy Axne (IA-03).

<https://umwa.org/news-media/press/legislation-to-protect-worker-health-care-during-strikes-a-necessity/>

NWPA ALF 16th ANNUAL CONVENTION BOOKLET ADVERTIZING CONTRACT FOR:

Organization or Business: _____

Contact person _____ Phone: _____

Fax _____ E-mail _____

Size of Ad ordered ____ Full Page or ____ Half Page. Email your artwork to nwpaalf@gmail.com please.

THE NORTHWESTERN PENNSYLVANIA AREA LABOR FEDERATION, AFL-CIO

We will provide setup, enlargement or reduction at no additional cost to all Camera Ready advertisements.

RATES:

Inside Cover (4 1/2 w X 7 1/2 h) - \$125 Full Page (4 1/2 w X 7 1/2 h) - \$100 Half Page (4 1/2 w X 3 1/2 h) - \$60

DEADLINE FOR ADVERTISEMENTS: MAY 27, 2022

Full Page

1/2 Page

AD COPY
(LOGO)

Please make checks Payable to:
NWPA ALF Convention Booklet
1276 Liberty St. Ste. 2
Franklin, PA 16323

Note: Things you may like to know when designing your advertisement:

- General President Eric Dean of Ironworkers International is our Keynote Speaker,
- We are honoring a member of labor for their leadership and activism.
- We will be awarding three scholarships to the winners of our essays contests. Their essays will be included in the program book.
- We began operations on 1/1/2006 and thus this is our 16th Annual Meeting/Convention.
- Our leaders, affiliates, activist, and volunteers made all we have done and continue doing possible.

NWPA Area Labor Federation Officers		
xChair	Andrew	Harkulich
xSec Treas	Phil	Lasky
Vchair/Trustee	Frank	Telesz
Vchair	Mike	Travis
vchair	Julie	Barnett
vchair	Richard	Gallano
Vchair	Shane	Clark
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Rep CECJ CLC	Jeff	Miller
Rep AF/EC CLC	Rosanne	Gangemi
Rep I-A CLC	Rachel	Sternfeld
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Rep W-F CLC	Archie	Graham
Rep B&CTC	Darrell	Niemenski
Rep APSCUF		
Rep ATU	Pattie	Demichele
Rep HFIAW	James	Cassidy
Rep IBEW	Jim	Nuber
Rep IUOE	Rich	Barrett
Rep IUPAT	Ron	Buechel
Rep OPEIU	Jeffrey	Hapke
Rep PASNAP	Tim	Tuinstra
Rep PA JBWU		
Rep PSEA		
Rep Roofers	Jack	Lee Jr.
Rep SEIU	Mike	Butler
Rep UA	Dennis	Pry
Rep UFCW	Daryl	Bush
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NWPA Area Labor Federation, AFL-CIO
 1276 Liberty St. Ste 2
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SOLIDARITY for IUE-CWA Members and New information

Two IUE-CWA locals # 88022 and 88144 held an informational picket as a result of difficult negotiations. They received support from organized labor including; the NWPA ALE, the Greater Westmoreland CLC, IBT 205, SEIU Healthcare PA, IUE-CWA 88643, Alleghany-Fayette CLC, UWUA, IUOE 95, CWA Dist 2, APWU Retirees Chapter, OPEIU 277, UFCW 1776, Voice of Westmoreland/PA United, CWA 13000, UMWA Dist 2, and more. Solidarity and Activism is what gives us our strength and power, Our union brothers and sisters working at the brewery in Latrobe and the NWPA Area Labor Federation thank everyone who came.

The brewery workers overwhelmingly voted down the Company's last, best, and final offer late Saturday afternoon and overwhelmingly voted to give authorization to the bargaining committee to call a strike. Their intent, for now, is to continue working and get the Company back to the bargaining table. They will keep us informed as new developments happen.

