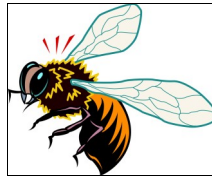


UNION



BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 4 ISSUE 9

May 2018

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Human Rights Banquet Preparations Finalized

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Committee Chairperson

We are now completing the final preparations for the Community Services 6th Human Rights Banquet. It will be held at The Fez on Saturday, June 9th. The social hour begins at 6:00 PM and the dinner begins at 7:00 PM.

Our keynote speaker, Nina Turner, is currently the President of Our Revolution, an Organization that Bernie Sanders created to revitalize American Democracy, empower progressive leaders, and elevate political consciousness.

Ms. Turner has decades of experience as a college professor and motivational speaker. She routinely travels across the country to inspire action and instill hope. A champion for progressive causes such as Labor, women's reproductive health, voting rights, and the eradication of wealth and in-

come inequality, she forms deep connections with people from all walks of life.

When she served in the Ohio Senate, Ms. Turner 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 appeared on numerous national television and radio shows, such as Meet the Press, The Bill Maher Show, Comedy Central's The President Show, Democracy Now, The Rickey Smiley Morning Show, The Breakfast Club, The Bill Press Show, and The

Thom Hartman Radio Show. She is also a Political Commentator on CNN, appearing frequently on State of the Union with Jake Tapper, and CNN tonight with Don Lemon.

We hope that our sixth banquet continues building the cooperation between the Labor and Civil Rights Movements in Beaver and Lawrence Counties developed by our first five banquets.

The commemoration of the 50th anniversary of Dr. Martin Luther King's Mountaintop Speech on April 3rd was an excellent example of this cooperation. On the night before he was assassinated, Dr. King was in Memphis to support sanitation workers who were fighting to gain recognition for their union, AFSCME 1733.

**Beaver-Lawrence Counties Labor Council
6th Human Rights Banquet**

Saturday, June 9, 2018

**The Fez, Aliquippa
Social Hour 6:00 PM; Dinner 7:00 PM**

FOR THE RECORD

By Lisa Alexander
Labor Council Recording Secretary

Donations approved at April Executive Board meeting:

1. Midland Arts Council's 13th Annual Arts Show will be held June 27th - July 4th. The Board approved a \$50.00 donation.

2. 17th Annual Run to Break the Cycle will be held on Saturday, August 25th. It is sponsored by the Women's Center of Beaver County. The Board approved a donation of \$100.00.

3. The United Way of Beaver County's 4th Annual Recognition Reception will be held at the Club at Shadow Lakes on Thursday, June 7th, starting at 6:00 PM. The Board approved the purchase of a ten-person table.

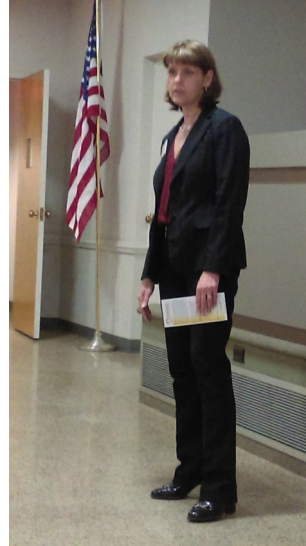
Reports given at April Executive Board meeting:

Scholarship Committee – Eighteen more scholarship applications have been received. The Committee has now received approximately

25-26 applications.

Guest speakers at Membership meeting:

Attorney Terri Mitko – write-in candidate for Democratic nomination for 15th Pa. State House of Representative seat.



Terri Mitko, a candidate for the Democratic nomination for the Pa. 15th House District seat addressing the April Labor Council meeting. The seat is currently vacant. Terri was not on the May 15th ballot. She urged the delegates to write-in her name so that the Republican candidate will be challenged in the November general election. Although the official result has not been announced, Terri has written on her campaign webpage that she has received far more than the 300 write-in votes required for her to become the Democratic candidate in the November general election.

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

* The Executive Committee of the Beaver County Democratic Party includes ten delegates who are appointed by me as the president of the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council. At the Party's March 22nd Primary Election Endorsement Convention, the right of these delegates to vote at endorsement conventions was questioned. An argument was made that the Party's bylaws grant voting privileges at endorsement conventions only to elected committee people and state committee delegates. However, citing past meetings, Beaver County Democratic Party Chairman Stephen Dupree permitted the Labor Council delegates in attendance to vote at the Convention and called for a re-examination of the Beaver County Democratic Party bylaws to avoid future confusion.

At its April 26th meeting, the Executive Committee decided to establish a committee that will work to resolve this issue. The committee will be chaired by Beaver County Democratic Party Parliamentarian, attorney Ted Knafelc, and includes Labor Council delegates and friends of the Labor Council.

* The next Northwest Area Labor Federation meeting will be held on June 1st at the AFSCME DC 85 Hall in Franklin. I serve as a vice-chair of the NWALF and Labor Council Vice-President Kerri Theuerl serves as an Executive Board member. Labor Council delegates who want any matters presented to the NWAFL should contact either of us before the meeting.

* The United Steelworkers sponsored the food and refreshments at the April meeting. Don't forget that the May meeting will be held at the PSEA

building in New Castle, and that the annual picnic meeting will be held on June 18th in Brady's Run Park.



Former County Commissioner Joe Spanik addressing the April Council meeting. Spanik spoke about the need to keep FirstEnergy Solution's Shippingport Nuclear Power Plant open. FirstEnergy has announced that it will close the plant by 2021. The plant has 1000 employees and pays \$4,000,000 in property, payroll and utility taxes.

Banquet Preparations

(Continued from page 1)

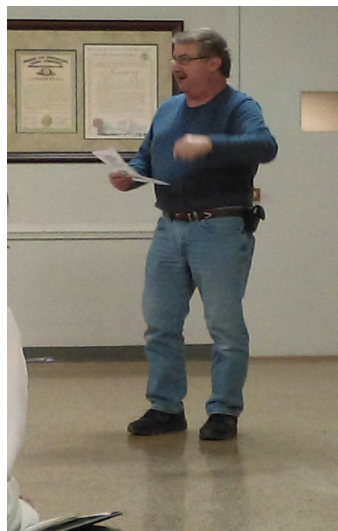
If you wish to attend the Banquet and have not already purchased a ticket. The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council marked this historic event by co-sponsoring the playing of the speech in its entirety together with AFSCME Council 13, Beaver County NAACP, Beaver-Lawrence Moral Monday Coalition, Martin Luther King Celebration Committee, New Castle NAACP, Pittsburgh A. Philip Randolph Institute and United Steelworkers (USW).

The Banquet program will also include the presentation of a plaque to the Hancock County, West Virginia, Education Association in recognition of the courage and determination that the Education Associa-

tion and its allies displayed during the recent job actions for educational justice in West Virginia. Hancock County is adjacent to the westerly side of Beaver County.

The keynote speakers at our five previous Human Rights Banquets were William Lucy, AFSCME International Secretary-Treasurer (2010), MI Congressman John Conyers, Jr. (2011), Leo Gerard, USW International President (2012), Rev. William J. Barber, NC NAACP President (2014) and Terrence L. Melvin, Coalition of Black Trade Unionists President and NY State AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer (2017).

Please call me at 724-312-4387 or e-mail me at benkart-house100@comcast.net



Labor Council Community Services Committee Chairperson Mark Benkart updating delegates at April Council meeting on preparations for the June 9th Human Services Banquet.

USW LOCAL 1211 MEETS HISTORICAL MARKER FUNDRAISING GOAL

By Christ Atsidis
Vice-President, USW Local 1211

The USW Local 1211 drive to raise \$2,060 to pay for the replication and reinstallation of the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission marker in Aliquippa commemorating the U.S. Supreme Court's April 9, 1937, decision in NLRB v. J&L has reached its goal.

The decision upheld the constitutionality of the National Labor Relations Act and ordered reinstatement hearing for the more than 100 members of Amalgamated Association of Iron, Steel and Tin Workers Local 200, the predecessor of USW Local 1211, who were fired during the great 1933-1937 drive to organize the Aliquippa Works of J&L Steel Corporation.

The primary contributors to our fund drive were the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, USW District 10, retired Pa. State Senator Jim Ferlo and the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council.

Additional contributions were made by Pa. AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder, Labor Council Trustee Jan Carpenter, Union Bug Assistant Editor Steven Kocherzat, Attorney Theresa Dukovich and Attorney Debra A. Genevie.

Local 1211 will now complete a Historical Marker Funding Commitment Form and send it to the Historical and Museum Commission so that a new marker can be created. We have been told that the process takes six to eight weeks.

We are continuing to ac-

cept contributions so that we can arrange a rededication ceremony after we receive the new marker. Contribution checks should be made payable to USW Local 1211 and sent to USW Local

1211, 390 Ohio River Blvd., Baden, Pa. 15005.

For additional information, please contact Christ Atsidis at 724-407-3392.

Beaver/Lawrence Labor Council to be honored by United Way

By Bernie Hall
Council Vice President

The Beaver/Lawrence Labor Council will be given the United Way of Beaver County Labor Award at their 4th Annual Recognition Dinner on June 7th at The Club at Shadow Lakes. Labor and the United Ways have had an uneven relationship for decades across the country. However, locally the bond between our local union brothers and sisters and the Beaver County United Way has flourished.

Just last week, with the help of Labor Leader Joe Kristian, the United Way of Beaver County raised over \$2,000 through a gate collection at the First Energy Power Plant. The Beaver County United Way always makes sure the Labor is recognized for their support. This was the first gate collection in almost 20 years.

Under the leadership of Executive Director Mike Rubino, which began in 2014, Labor and the United Way have frequent discussions and interactions that benefit both groups. IBEW Local #712 already was represented on the UW Board by John Kochan-

owski. Shortly after becoming director, Mike (a son of a steelworker); reached out to the USW to become involved. I was happy to accept the offer to also join the board in 2015. Recently, Mr. Ed Hill Sr. has also accepted the invitation to join the local United Way Board of Directors.

Mike has expressed enormous gratitude to the many trade groups who often help sponsor events. Since, creating the Recognition Awards Event in 2015, the Beaver County United Way has honored the USW, the IBEW 712 and last year the Beaver County Building Trades. This year the Beaver/Lawrence Labor Council will be honored. Labor has a lot to be proud of and thankful at this time. We are excited about the relationship we have with the Beaver County United Way and want it to grow. I hope you will consider attending the Recognition Dinner on June 7th.

Details about the Dinner and a reservation form can be found on their website, www.UnitedWayBeaver.org or by calling the United Way office (724.774.3210). The Deadline is May 29th.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart
Community Services Chairman

Hi everyone. In the past months there have been several shooting tragedies at schools, concerts, clubs, and companies. The Trump administration has called for some limited changes to federal gun control laws.

Unfortunately, too many of our Congressional representatives receive enormous campaign contributions to sweep this under the rug. Last month, high school students stood up to this insanity, and demanded change. Some are nervous and afraid at school.

On April 20th, high school students nationwide again rallied for stricter gun control laws. About 10:00 am, some students from Beaver High School walked out of the school knowing that they faced

the possibility of detention. They walked to the County Courthouse for another rally.

The students called themselves Beaver County Students for Change. The rally was organized by two sophomores, Bella Hampadarios and Stella Bengal. Between 74 and 100 students and approximately ten adults attended the rally. Bella and Stella introduced many student speakers. What a wonderful job that they did.

The speakers explained that this is just the beginning and that so long as this unfortunate situation is not correctly addressed, they will continue their push until there is real change.

One of the student speakers, Zoltan Nemeth, stated that he will be doing a voter registration at the school. He explained that if the politicians do not help with this cause, the

students will do their best to vote them out.

Channel 11 news reporter Amy Marcinkiewicz interviewed some of the students as cameraman Tome Racette filmed the interviews.

I am very proud of the students who attended the rally. I am sure that the other adults who attended the rally are also very proud. Maybe the student movement in support of stricter gun control laws can make an impact on the 2018 general election.

I would have to think that Rep. Keith Rothfus and other members of Congress who receive large contributions from the NRA should be worried about this. Recently, Rep. Rothfus visited Beaver High School and talked to students. When some students asked questions about gun control, he sidestepped them.

In Brief



Labor Council Civil Rights and Economic Justice Director Linwood Alford (R) at the May 1st 64th Annual Human Rights Dinner of the Pittsburgh NAACP Branch with Richard A. Steward, Jr., Pittsburgh Branch President and Pennsylvania NAACP State Conference President Joan Duvall-Flynn. Alford represented the Labor Council at the banquet. The banquet's keynote speaker was Derrick Johnson, National NAACP President.



Beaver Area High School students rallying in front of Beaver County Courthouse in support of stricter gun control laws.



Matt Stuber (left) and Lynn Byers (center), New Brighton Area School District teachers and PSEA members, after evaluating applications for 2018 Don McNutt Memorial Scholarship and 2018 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Scholarship. Also pictured is Mira Thompson. The two \$1,000 scholarships are awarded each year by the Labor Council after the selection of recipients by a committee of PSEA members. The recipients will be announced at a later date.

IAM Legislative Conference Addresses Challenges To Labor Movement

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

The IAM hosted its annual Legislative Conference in Washington, DC from May 7-9, 2018. Legislative Director Hasan Solomon opened the meeting with remarks about the importance of a strong IAM presence on the Hill. He stressed that when elected officials and their staffers look out their offices and see the Machinists are in the house, they are reminded how far we reach. They do not doubt where we stand, nor question our expectations for their support.

International President Bob Martinez delivered an inspiring keynote address. He outlined the challenges facing working people and those specific to our union. The IAM is looking at 13 difference plant shut downs. It's no lie, it is going to hurt us. But, he also reminded us that we are the Fighting Machinists and we don't quit. We are putting the full weight of our union and organized labor to minimize the negative impact and possibly stop some of these closings from happening. Additionally, he called upon us to lobby against the laws and policies that encourage these business practices. From free and fair trade to workplace safety and job protections in appropriations bills (such as the FAA funding bill), Martinez expected us to demand representatives do what is right for America.

It's no secret Labor is fighting Right to Work (RTW) laws across the country. These laws are deceptively named and do nothing more than stab at the

heart of unions. Many have heard about the battle being fought on the ground in Missouri. On Tuesday, Missouri AFL-CIO President Mike Louis updated the delegates on the progress being made through old-fashioned grassroots outreach. He tipped his hat to the IAM for the strong support we've given to that fight with a special thanks to our numerous brother and sister volunteers. They are making a difference.

Here in Pennsylvania we've managed to keep RTW initiatives from succeeding. However, our neighboring state of Ohio is in the midst of a heavy fight. Rep. Tim Ryan (OH-13) spoke on that battle. Other speakers included Rep. Pramila Jayapal (WA-7), Rep. Ben Ray Lujan (NM-3), Rep. Ruben Gallego (AZ-7), and House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi (CA-12). All gave informative reports on their states' battle against RTW, as well as initiatives on workers' rights, job creation, living wage scale and protecting collective bargaining rights.

Tuesday afternoon was dedicated to lobbying on Capitol Hill. I had appointments and met with the staffs of Senator Bob Casey and Rep. Connor Lamb. I reinforced the message that PIT is still a productive, viable station for American Airlines Maintenance. I explained the important work we still do here and related it to the critical nature of airline passenger safety. I stressed the expertise of our workforce and the quality of our productivity. I detailed the expansion potential at our facility and asked them to consider encouraging the com-

pany to make the investment, since growing PIT would help our communities and our state. Finally, I advised everyone I spoke to on the status of our contract negotiations. Overall, it was a good lobby day.

Wednesday opened with comments from Senator Elizabeth Warren. She's always been a friend to our union. Speakers from Maryland and Wisconsin spoke about rebuilding key industries like manufacturing and infrastructure, increasing trade and investing in America's water ways and rail systems.

That afternoon, I was proud to support IP Martinez at a rally where he stood next to Senator Bernie Sanders (VT) to introduce the Workplace Democracy Act (WDA). This sweeping legislation would dramatically expand labor rights and put teeth back in the collective bargaining process. If this bill were to become law, it would become easier for workers to join unions, speed up contract negotiations, roll back "right to work" laws and clamp down on union-busting tactics by employers. Co-sponsors on this bill include Sens. Elizabeth Warren (D-MA), Kirsten Gillibrand (D-NY), Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) and Sherrod Brown (D-OH). The bill has been endorsed by more than a dozen major unions and labor groups. The afternoon's lobbying session was an echo of my previous message and encouragement to sign on to the WDA bill.

I did my best to speak for all of us and lobby on issues to protect our livelihood. This is truly a pivotal time for working people and I was proud to be able to advocate on our behalf.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



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

Calendar of Events

- 05/21 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Executive Board and membership meetings: Executive Board - 6:00 PM; Membership – 7:30 PM; PSEA, New Castle.
- 06/01 Northwestern Pennsylvania Area Labor Federation 2nd Quarter 2018 E-Board meeting: 7:00 – 8:30 PM, AFSCME DC 85 Hall, 1276 Liberty St., Franklin, PA 16323.
- 06/07 United Way of Beaver County 4th Annual Recognition Dinner; 6:00 PM; The Club at Shadow Lakes; Aliquippa
- 06/09 Labor Council Human Rights Banquet: 6:00 PM, The Fez, Hopewell Township. See the flyers at the end of this issue of the UNION BUG for additional information.
- 06/18 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Annual Picnic meeting: Executive Board – 6:00 PM, membership – 7:00 PM; Brady's Run Park Shelter No. 7. Please review Park Map at the end this issue of the UNION BUG for directions.

Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on June 11th to be considered for publication in the June 2018 issue of the **UNION BUG**.

Labor Council's June Meeting/Picnic To Be Held at Bradys Run Park

The Labor Council's June meeting/picnic will be held on Monday, June 18th, at Bradys Run Park Shelter #7 in Brighton Township. (see map)

Bradys Run Park

Beaver County, Pennsylvania

Park Amenities

- A** Beaver County Department of Public Works & Waste Management Office
- B** Outdoor Courts Complex
 - Tennis Courts
 - Basketball Courts
 - Action Park - Bikes, Blades & Boards
 - Roller Hockey Rink
- C** Four Winds Recreation Center
 - Ice Rink
 - Indoor Tennis Courts
 - Indoor Walking Track
 - Restrooms
- D** Paved Walking Track
- E** Beaver County Waste Management & Recycling Center
- F** Equestrian Arenas
- G** Mountain Bike Trailhead
- H** Paved Multi-Purpose Trail
- I** Beaver County Softball / Baseball Complex
- J** Bradys Run Lodge
- K** Maple Syrup Camp
- L** Lake Trail
- M** Bradys Run Lake Spillway
- N** Swimming Beach/Boat Launch
- O** Accessible Fishing Pier & Shelter
- P** Four Seasons Pavilion
- Q** Bradys Run Playground
- R** Edward L. Calland Arboretum
- S** Dog Park

Labor Council
Picnic Meeting
June 19th—7:00pm
Shelter # 7

Legend

- Four Winds Recreation Center
- Picnic Shelters 2-18
- Restrooms
- Swimming Beach
- Boat Launch

Trails

- 3+ miles
- 2.5 miles
- 2-2.5 miles
- 1.75 miles
- 1 mile
- 0.75 mile

Trails: Bradys Run Trail North, Bradys Run Trail South, Willwood Loop Trail, South Drive, Logstown Trail, Walkers Loop, Calland Arboretum Trail, Outdoor Multi-Purpose Trail, Lake Trail, Secondary Trail Loops

Contact Information

Bradys Run Park
11 Bradys Run Rd.
Beaver Falls, PA 15060

Park Maintenance
Recreation Department
(724) 775-3060

Evenings & Weekends
(724) 624-9579

Sheriff's Department - Non Emergencies
(724) 775-0880

For all emergencies dial 911
Visit us online, scan this code with your cell phone

www.visitbeavercounty.com

Beaver County Board of Commissioners
Sandra Egley, Daniel C. Camp III, Tony Amadio

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