

UNION



BUG

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 2 ISSUE 12

August 2016

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SOLIDARITY IS KEY

By Jan Carpenter

Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council Healthcare Committee Chairperson

USW Local 1212 President Tony Tepsic knows what it takes to settle a fair contract. The members of his Local in Midland were among the 2,200 USW members locked out of their jobs by Allegheny Technologies (ATI) for almost nine months, ending in June of this year because of their demand for a fair contract.

Tepsic was a speaker at the noontime Union Solidarity Rally in front of the Dutch Ridge entrance to Heritage Valley Beaver Hospital on July 19th in support of striking registered nurses. The nurses are members of the Heritage Valley Beaver RN Chapter of SEIU Healthcare Pennsylvania. They decided to call a one day strike after voting to reject management's demands to increase healthcare costs while ignoring their calls for increased staffing.

Tepsic told the rally that "solidarity is key" to set-

ting a fair contract with an employer. He described the support that Local 1212 received during the lockout from the Pennsylvania AFL-CIO, the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council and its affiliated local unions, and local political leaders, businesses and religious leaders. He urged the nurses to continue their outreach to these groups.

Labor Council Vice-President and Director



USW Local 1212 President Tony Tepsic speaking at noon Union Solidarity Rally on July 19th.

of Civil Rights and Economic Justice Linwood Alford also focused on the need for solidarity in his remarks to the rally: "The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council admires the courage of the Heritage Valley Beaver nurses in taking a stand against high medical insurance deductibles. The nurses' stand will help other unions and their members win their fights against high deductibles and co-pays. All working families should support the nurses. Today it's them, tomorrow it's us."

Large numbers of union officials and rank and file members attended the strike events throughout the day and expressed the same sentiments as Tepsic and Alford. Labor Council Trustee and UFCW Local 23 Area Representative Ed Auer

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Labor Council Special Election Notice

By Lisa Alexander
Labor Council Corresponding Secretary

Nominations were held at the July CLC meeting for (1) one Executive Vice President position; Dan Onuska, IBEW Local 29 delegate was the only nominee for the vacant position.

Also held was nominations for (1) one vacant Vice President position; Mark Benkart, IBEW Local 29 was the only nominee for this vacancy.

The next monthly meeting will be held August 15, 2016 at the PSEA Building, Route 422, New Castle, PA.

As a reminder, the regular meeting will be held at 7:30 p.m.

UNION BUG

Published Monthly

An official publication of the
Beaver/Lawrence Central Labor Council

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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

*Mark Goosby was sworn in as a Council delegate at the July meeting. Mark represents IBEW Local 201.



Marc Goosby being sworn in as a Council delegate at July meeting by Council Secretary-Treasurer Larry Nelson.

*The Executive Board has created a Constitution and Bylaws Committee. Council Trustee Jodi Kohser, SEIU Local 668, has been appointed chairperson of the Committee and the other members of the Committee are Executive Board members Rick Galiano, Larry Nelson, Lisa Alexander, Bernie Hall and Kerri Theuerl.

*The Labor Council passed a resolution at its July meeting supporting the Heritage Valley Beaver nurses in the efforts to settle a fair contract with Heritage Valley Beaver. A copy of the resolution is printed be-

low. Please ask your local unions, community groups and political organizations to pass similar resolutions supporting the nurses.

*The food and beverages at the July meeting were sponsored by IBEW Local 201. The food and beverages at the August meeting will be sponsored by Carpenters Local 2680.

Don't forget that the August Labor Council meeting will be held at the PSEA building in New Castle.

RESOLUTION– SUPPORT FOR HERITAGE VALLEY BEAVER NURSES

July 18, 2016

SUPPORT FOR STRIKING NURSES AT HERITAGE VALLEY BEAVER HOSPITAL

WHEREAS, nurses at Heritage Valley Beaver Hospital are in the process of bargaining a new contract for their 500 members;

WHEREAS, Heritage Valley Beaver Hospital management has rejected union nurses' proposals for adequate staffing and affordable healthcare, and instead proposed healthcare increases of up to 60%;

WHEREAS, hospital management has not addressed nurses' calls for safe staffing that will strengthen the quality of their patients' care;

WHEREAS, the hospital is in strong financial health, with \$12.4 million in profits last year and on pace for more profits this year;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council hereby resolves that

1. We support the action that Heritage Valley Beaver Nurses have taken and salute their courage for standing up for affordable healthcare for all workers and quality care for their patients;
2. We call on Heritage Valley management to return to the bargaining table and negotiate fairly with these nurses for an agreement that keeps healthcare affordable for nurses and their families, and enhances the quality of care at the hospital.
3. We will stand in solidarity of future actions until these issues are resolved.

Community Services Report

By Mark Benkart

Community Services Committee Chairperson

Hi everyone. July was a very active month for the Labor Council.

The 2016 Community Services Institute was held at the Crown Plaza South, located near South Hills Village, Pittsburgh from July 13th - July 16th. Many of the Crown Plaza employees are proudly represented by UNITE HERE Local 57.

Just some of the topics were Common Sense Economics, Coalition Building and the Variety bicycle program that designs and builds bicycles for challenged children.

Ron Baker, an organizer for the BCTGM, encouraged the Institute audience to read the labels on Nabisco brand packages. Nabisco recently formed a subsidiary that has built the largest cookie and cracker plant in Mexico. Nabisco is now making some of its Oreo cookies at the plant. If you are buying Oreos, please check the label to make sure that they are not made in Mexico.

A PA AFL-CIO intern who attended this year's Institute, Teodora Kakhiani, is from the country of Georgia.

She was very impressed with the Institute and wished that they would do things like that in her country. There are no unions in Georgia.

The Progressive Democrats of Beaver County put on a Dinner and a Movie at the Serbian Club in Aliquippa. The movie, Michael Moore's latest, "Where to Invade Next," is well worth watching. Michael traveled to other countries and interviewed people to discuss things that they do better than the U.S. The irony is that a lot of things were learned

from the United States that we did not so long ago. Thanks to Tina Shannon for putting on an excellent and educational evening.

As most of us have heard, the nurses from Heritage Valley Beaver are having difficulty obtaining a fair contract. They are represented by SEIU Healthcare Pa. A few of the concessions demanded by the Hospital are a significant reduction in wages and a 60% raise in healthcare costs. The union staged a one day strike on July 19th. They walked out in the morning and gathered at the IBEW Local 712 Hall. They were then shuttled up to the Hospital at 7:00am for their first rally.

A second rally, at 12:00 noon, was held at the Dutch Ridge Road entrance to the Hospital. There were some speakers at this rally including one of our own, Linwood Alford.

The last rally of the day was at 5:00 pm at Irvine Park across from the Beaver County Courthouse. There was a big crowd including representatives from other unions in the area. Thank you Kerri Theuerl and others who helped to put on this event.

Please visit our Moral Mondays Facebook Page, [moralmondayspennsylvania](https://www.facebook.com/moralmondayspennsylvania).



Community Services Committee service project in Darlington: (L-R) Larry Duzan, project volunteer; Juanita Ridings, service recipient; and Mark Benkart, Community Services Committee Chairperson and project volunteer. The Service project, breaker box installation and new wiring, is almost completed.



Fuse box installed - the cost of the installation was covered by the Community Services Committee.

Solidarity Is Key

(Continued from page 1)

told the Union Bug: “Local 23 understands the importance of standing together with our fellow union brothers and sisters. The nurses at Heritage Valley deserve better than what was presented to them.”

The one day strike began at 7:00 am with a march along Beaver Hollow Road to the Dutch Ridge entrance as the midnight shift left the hospital. The nurses and their supporters picketed the hospital throughout the day. IBEW Local 712 Hall in Vanport served as strike headquarters and picketers were driven from the Hall to the hospital in order to avoid using the hospital parking lots.

Picket signs were prepared the night before at the Local 712 Hall and four nurses spoke to the Labor Council meeting being held in the Hall at the same time. The Council unanimously

passed a resolution in support of the nurses and urged its members to attend the strike activities. (See Resolution on Page 3.)

The final strike rally, a Community Rally to Stand with Nurses, began at 5:00 pm at Irvine Park

15th District legislative seat. Rossi spoke of the need to stand up to corporate entities seeking givebacks from workers. 40,000 CWA workers at Verizon were on strike from April 13th of this year until June 1st. CWA pickets in their union t

-shirts manned picket lines in Beaver and Lawrence Counties throughout the strike.

Rossi also spoke about Pa. Senate Bill 1081 which would

require that Pennsylvania hospitals publicly post unit staffing reports in patient care areas and require the Pennsylvania Department of Health compile and publish quarterly reports on staffing levels for each Pennsylvania hospital.

The nurses want to move forward and settle a fair contract. They are asking the public to call Norm Mityr, CEO of Heritage Valley Health System, and tell him to negotiate a fair contract with their SEIU Healthcare Pa. chapter.



Standing in support of Heritage Valley Beaver nurses at July 19th Union Solidarity Rally.

in Beaver near the Beaver County Courthouse. Hundreds of union and community members were in attendance. Cars and trucks driving along Third Street saluted the nurses with the continual honking of their horns.

Among the speakers at the Community Rally were Erin McClelland, Democratic candidate for Congress in the 12th Pa. District and Mike Rossi, CWA Local 13000 staff representative and candidate for the Pa.



Part of UFCW Local 23 contingent at noon Union Solidarity Rally. (L) Council Trustee Ed Auer, Local 23 area representative: (R) Rick Granger, Local 23 Organizing Director.

A Day of Solidarity For HVB Nurses

MARCH/RALLY

7:00 AM



Marching to the main entrance of Heritage Valley Beaver in the early morning to meet the midnight shift leaving work at the 7:00 am start of the strike.



Carrying the SEIU flag on march to main hospital entrance.



Rally in front of main hospital entrance at 7:00 am start of strike.



Rally in front of main hospital entrance at 7:00 am start of strike.

RALLY
NOON



Picket line along Dutch Ridge Road side of hospital during noontime rally.



Another view of picket line during noontime rally.

Continued on page 7

A Day of Solidarity For HVB Nurses



Linwood Alford, Labor Council Vice-President, addressing noontime Union Solidarity Rally.



SEIU local 668 member Kathy Majcher, HVB RN Chris Williams and Kim Majcher at noontime Union Solidarity Rally.

**RALLY
BEAVER**
5:00 PM



A sea of SEIU purple at the Community Rally.



SEIU Healthcare Pa. President Matt Yarnell addressing Community Rally to Stand with Nurses.



Mike Rossi, Democratic candidate for Pa. 15th Legislative District seat, addressing Community Rally.



Erin McClelland, Democratic candidate for Pa. 12th Congressional District seat addressing Community Rally.

Labor In Action



Heritage Valley nurses addressing July Labor Council meeting: (L-R) Nicole Clendennen, Karen Margerie, Amy Moore and Candie Cook. The Council passed a resolution in support of their efforts to settle a fair contract with Heritage Valley Beaver management.



Pa. AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Frank Snyder addressing July-13-16 Community Services Institute.



(L-R) Labor Council Vice-President Kerri Theuerl, NWALF Staff Rep. Nick Johanningmeier, Labor Council delegate Jan Carpenter, Labor Council Trustee Mark Benkart and Labor Council Vice-President Linwood Alford at PA12th CD Progressive Democrats of America Dinner and Movie on July 16th at Serbian Club in Aliquippa. The movie shown was Michael Moore's "Where to Invade Next."



Community Services Committee member Sara Dudash and Community Service Committee Chairperson Mark Benkart at July 13-16 Community Services Institute.

Happy Labor Day

We encourage Council delegates and members of affiliated unions to take pictures of their union contingents at the parades in Pittsburgh and Erie on Labor Day (see Calendar of Events for further information).

Please email your pictures to us and we will publish them in the next issue of the UNION BUG.

BEAVER/LAWRENCE
CENTRAL LABOR
COUNCIL



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

Calendar of Events

- 08/14 Stop Staples Rally – Robinson Twp. Staples; 11:00 am
- 08/15 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council meeting; Ex. Bd. mtg. 6:00 pm; Regular membership mtg. 7:30 pm; PSEA New Castle
- 09/05 Labor Day: Northwest Area Labor Federation Labor Day Parade, Erie, 10:00 am (See July Union Bug for details). Allegheny County Central Labor Council Labor Day Parade, Pittsburgh, 10:00 am
- 09/19 Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council meeting; Ex. Bd. mtg. 6:00 pm; Regular membership mtg. 7:30 pm; IBEW Local 712 Hall, Vanport
- 10/06 General Election Debate, sponsored by Beaver County Chamber of Commerce; Penn State Beaver; 6:00 PM

Union Label

By Larry Nelson
Labor Council Secretary-Treasurer

Attached at the end of this issue of the UNION BUG you will find a list of Back-To-School Union-Made products and services from members of the USW, CWA-PPMWS, UAW, and UFCW.

All union brothers and sisters benefit when we choose to purchase from companies with a union workforce. The attached list can be used as you do your shopping for school supplies, and you can feel good that you supported the labor movement through your purchases.



Calendar of Events submissions must be emailed to Jody Kohser, Calendar of Events Coordinator, at jkohser@verizon.net, by 6:00 p.m. on August 15th to be considered for publication in the September 2016 Issue of the **UNION BUG**.



Back to School

Send them back to school with these union-made products and services from members of the USW, CWA-PPMWS, UAW and UFCW.

Back to School Supplies

ACCO BRAND PRODUCTS:

- Five Star school supplies and organizational gear
- Mead school supplies
- Roaring Spring paper products
- Modern Jen journals and folders
- Construction paper
- Poster Board
- Drawing pads
- Sketch books
- Compositions notebooks
- Wire-bound notebooks
- Binders and portfolios
- Index cards
- Envelopes
- Folders

BOISE PAPER PRODUCTS:

- Boise X-9
- Business Choice
- Flagship
- Office Depot
- FasCopy
- Xerographics
- USA Xerographics
- Grand and Toy
- W.B. Mason

PACON BRAND PRODUCTS:

- Artist drawing/sketch pads
- Array card stock & bond paper
- Art Street construction paper
- Bordette Decorative Border
- Classroom Keepers storage
- Colorwave tagboard
- Corobuff 3D decorative backgrounds

- Decorol Art Roll paper
- Ecology recycled paper
- Ella Bella photography backdrops
- Fadeless Paper
- Flameless Paper
- GoWrite! dry erase pads
- Kaleidoscope colored paper
- Little Fingers construction paper
- Neon fluorescent-colored paper products
- Peacock colored paper products
- Plaster Craft modeling material
- The Present-It easel pads
- Rainbow Colored Kraft duo-finish paper
- Riverside construction paper
- Spectra ArtKraft duo-finish paper
- Spectra Art Tissue tissue paper
- Spectra Glitter
- Trait-tex yarn
- Tru-Ray construction paper

MASTER LOCK:

- 1500 Series

CLASSROOM SUPPLIES:

- Clorox Disinfecting Wipes
- Kleenex tissues
- Puffs Tissues