

NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS

WELCOME BACK! After a short hiatus, Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers Local 1 have re-subscribed to NWLP

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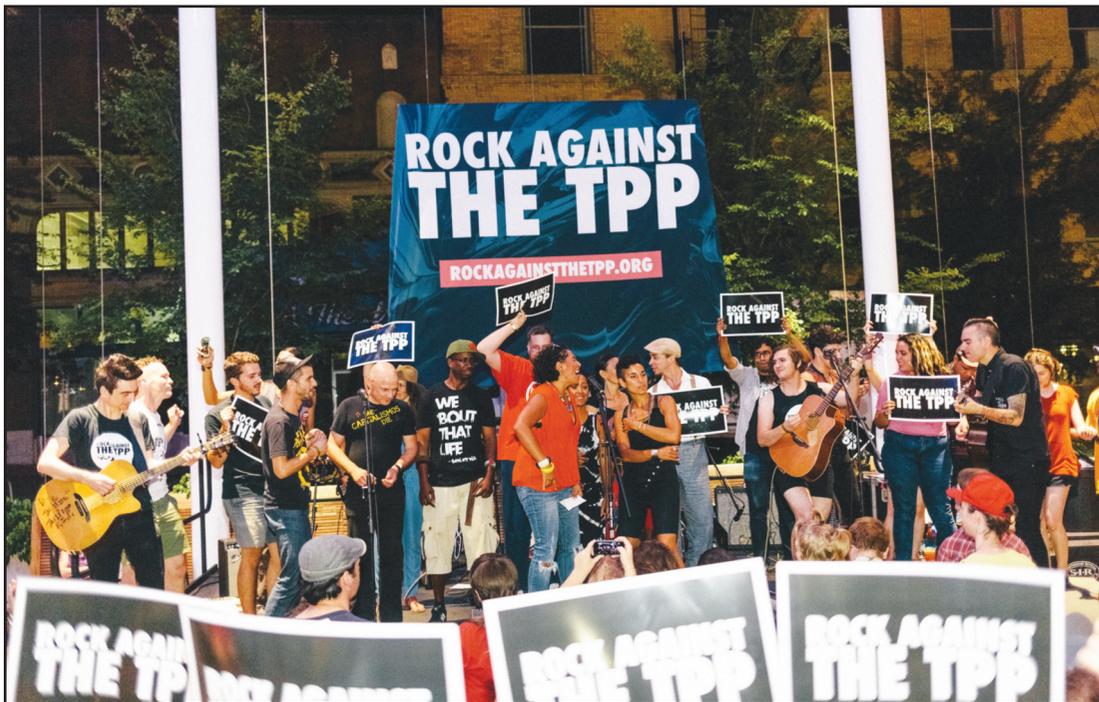


Photo by Andrea Bakas

Rock Against the TPP Concert in Portland: As the White House readies a final desperate push for the unpopular Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) agreement, a large crowd turned out Aug. 20 for a “Rock Against the TPP” concert at Director Park in Portland. The free event was part of a national tour by a group of musicians, comedians and celebrities, including actress Evangeline Lilly (pictured lower right with campaign director Evan Greer), who are sounding the alarm against the TPP. The trade deal between the U.S. and 11 other countries was negotiated in secret by government officials and hundreds of corporate lobbyists. If it becomes law, it would be the largest deal of its kind in history and would pose a grave threat to good-paying jobs, internet freedom, the environment, access to medicine, food safety, and the future of freedom of expression, tour sponsors said. “Rock Against the TPP” was organized by guitarist Tom Morello (Prophets of Rage, Rage Against the Machine, Audioslave), his label, Firebrand Records, and digital rights group Fight for the Future. The tour has sponsorships from several labor organizations, including Communications Workers of America, the Teamsters, and United Steelworkers. Members of the Machinists Union, Bakers Union, and IATSE assisted with the Portland event. In the photo above, the musical lineup of hip-hop artist Talib Kweli, Pittsburgh punk rock band Anti-Flag, Downtown Boys, Greer, and Taina Asili took the stage to close the show in Portland.



Mohlis retires from Building Trades Council; Frew tapped as successor

BEND—John Mohlis presided over his last convention as executive secretary of the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council (OSBCTC), held Aug. 11-12 in Bend. Mohlis, 60, retired Sept. 1. Succeeding him is Tim Frew, a member of IBEW Local 280 in Tangent, Oregon.

During his 30-plus-year career, Mohlis built a reputation as a hard-working, respected union leader who always brought a balanced perspective and unifying voice to contentious issues. He forged relationships with Democratic and Republican lawmakers, contractors, business owners, bureaucrats, other union leaders, and rank-and-file members.

That was evident at a retiree party Aug. 23 which drew nearly 250 well-wishers from across the political spectrum.

“Bipartisanship in the Legislature is so important,” Mohlis told the Labor Press. “In all four

caucuses the door is open to us. We have friends in all of them. And we have to maintain that. You have to. We can’t rely on

one party. We just can’t. And we can’t rely on one chamber. We have to have friends in all of them if we’re going to succeed.”

At the OSBCTC convention in Bend, U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden said Mohlis has been the gold standard for the Congressional

delegation.

“When John says something, you can just count on it,” he said.

Mohlis is the only union official to ever receive the “Compass Award,” presented annually by the Port of Portland. The award recognizes individuals who serve as civic and/or corporate role models in the community, and who demonstrate exceptional support for the Port of Portland.

Last year, Mohlis was named Outstanding Volunteer Fundraiser by the Association of Fundraising Professionals of Oregon & SW Washington for his work on “Unite for the Knight,” a campaign between business and labor organizations that helped raise \$500 million for the Oregon Health & Science University Knight Challenge.

Mohlis served three terms on the mayor-appointed Portland De-



John Mohlis (left) welcomes Tim Frew at the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council convention held Aug. 11-12 in Bend. Frew succeeded Mohlis, who retired as executive secretary of the council Sept. 1.

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TRADE

Why, Kate, why?

Oregon governor declares support for Trans-Pacific Partnership

SALEM—At a time when both Hillary Clinton and Donald Trump say they're against the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), Oregon's Democratic Gov. Kate Brown has come out in favor of it. TPP is a NAFTA-style pact between the United States and 11 Pacific Rim nations, including three that have poor human rights records and no current trade agreement with the United States. Unions are strongly opposed to it.

TPP negotiations concluded last October, but to take effect, the pact must be approved by Congress.

A spokeswoman for Gov. Brown told The Oregonian/OregonLive editorial board in an early August email that Brown supports ratification of the deal. It may be the first time Brown has supported such an agreement. Brown is a former state legislator from Southeast Portland who became secretary of state and then governor when John Kitzhaber resigned. She's up for election this November.

"I'm disappointed by Governor Brown's support of the Trans-Pacific Partnership," said



ANTI-TPP BLIMP IN SALEM: Members of the United Steelworkers Legislative Committee fly a 25-foot protest blimp over the State Capitol Aug. 23 to denounce Oregon Gov. Kate Brown's support of the Trans-Pacific Partnership.

Oregon AFL-CIO President Tom Chamberlain in an official statement. "Oregon's unions continue to stand united in our opposition to the TPP, because it's a bad deal for working people in our state. We are still reeling from the impact of previous free trade agreements. Since the passage of the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) over 50,000 Oregon workers lost their jobs, and those lost jobs are certified by the Department of Labor as the direct result of free trade agreements."

On Aug. 23, the United Steelworkers Legislative Committee held a rally on the front steps of the State Capitol to protest Brown's support of the TPP. Afterward, they met with the governor for nearly 45 minutes.

"She apologized for not informing labor before she announced her support," said Bob Tackett, a member of Steelworkers Local 335 and executive secretary-treasurer of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council.

"She said she took her lead

from Sen. (Ron) Wyden," Tackett told the Labor Press. "We told her that she ought to talk to Sen. (Jeff) Merkley."

Wyden, a Democrat, helped push a fast track vote through the Senate, and he strongly supports the TPP. Fast track, also referred to as trade promotion authority, allows for an up-or-down vote with limited debate and no amendments.

Merkley, the only Democratic senator from Oregon and Washington to oppose the TPP, says it puts American workers in direct competition with people earning a dollar an hour or even less overseas.

In a letter to a constituent that was sent to the Labor Press, Merkley said "such an unbalanced trade agreement would be devastating for many workers, families, and communities and put an inevitable downward pressure on incomes for ordinary Americans."

"The TPP has not meaningfully changed from past trade deals that have cost Americans good-paying jobs in several important areas," Merkley wrote.

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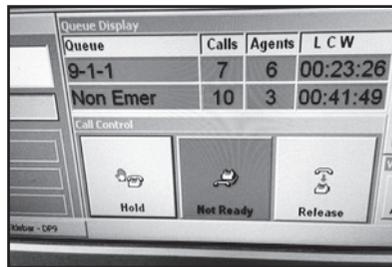


CITY OF PORTLAND

911 in turmoil as union contract goes to arbitration

AFSCME Local 189 has given up trying to get the City of Portland to agree on a new union contract for 911 call-takers. Instead, the two sides will submit their final offers to an arbitrator. And it could be six months or more before Employment Relations Board arbitrator Paul Roose even considers the case, because the City is asking that he schedule two full weeks to hear both sides, says union rep Rob Wheaton.

Wheaton describes a state of crisis at the city's Bureau of Emergency Communications (BOEC), due to severe understaffing: BOEC is budgeted for up to 120 positions, but only has about 70 employees. That means daily forced overtime,



These photos taken by a 911 worker are of the "hold clock" showing the longest current hold time. The 24 minute hold took place on Aug. 11 at 6 p.m. One call that came in at that time was about a distressed swimmer; by the time first responders arrived it was a body recovery.

and sometimes, dangerous call wait times. On the call floor, a time clock visible to all dispatchers displays the longest

current time a caller has been on hold. At about 6 p.m. Aug. 11, it reached 24 minutes.

"BOEC is not a place where

you can improve retention by throwing in beer taps and ping pong tables." Wheaton said. Wheaton argues they need to raise wages to attract more people to what is a very tough job psychologically.

"The city's response is, 'We can't afford it,'" Wheaton said.

Under the old contract, which expired June 30, wages start at about \$21.70 for trainees and rise to over \$36 an hour for senior dispatchers.

Those might sound like good wages, but they're not attracting enough applicants, or retaining enough of those who go through the training. And understaffing makes for overwork, which makes it harder for BOEC to re-

tain workers. It's a vicious cycle.

"People there work years without a weekend off or daylight hours," says Local 189 President Mark Gipson.

Wheaton says the City acknowledges there's a problem, and its most recent proposal takes some steps to address it. But he says it still falls short of what's needed, and the two sides were far apart when the union formally declared impasse.

State law says 911 operators can't strike, so when union negotiations break down, an arbitrator hears arguments from both sides and picks whichever side's offer is most reasonable.

"We think we have a good case," says Wheaton.

Nabisco union standoff leads to wave of retirements

As a union stalemate at Nabisco drags out, senior employees are retiring in significant numbers.

Nabisco's union contract with Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers (BCTGM) expired Feb. 29, creating great uncertainty for 2,000 workers in five states, including about 180 at a Nabisco plant in Portland. The two sides haven't met to negotiate since April 8, when Nabisco parent company Mondelez presented the union with what it called its "Revised Last, Best and Final Offer." In

that offer, Mondelez proposed to diminish health insurance coverage and withdraw from the union pension plan, instead contributing the same amount to a 401(k)-style defined contribution plan.

BCTGM called the company's proposal unacceptable.

Union members authorized a strike, and the company has advertised for replacement workers, but neither side has initiated a work stoppage. No negotiations are scheduled. It's a standoff.

But Ron Baker, BCTGM International Strategic Campaign Coordinator, says many Nabisco workers aren't waiting to see how it turns out. Since Mondelez began pushing to leave the pension, close to 100 workers have retired from the Chicago plant, and about 45 from the Portland plant. And some were in a rush to leave by Aug. 1; after that date, workers' monthly pension benefit drops from \$1,900 down to \$1,600 under a pension plan rule that ended the early-retirement 80-and-out benefit 180 days after a union contract's expiration.

"There are skills going out the door that they can never re-

place," Baker said.

Mondelez says it wants out of the BCTGM's multi-employer pension because the plan is headed for insolvency. The plan's financial health took a big hit when Hostess stopped paying into it, in violation of its union contract, then declared bankruptcy and repudiated its \$944 million debt to the pension plan. To deal with the pension plan asset shortfall, remaining employers are having to pay a surcharge equal to 5 or 10 percent of what they were previously paying into the pension.

As the standoff drags on, BCTGM is focused on publicizing its boycott of Nabisco prod-

ucts made in Mexico. After shifting some production to a new facility in Salinas, Mexico, the company laid off 294 of its Chicago workers in March and May. The union is asking consumers to read the label, and if it says Made in Mexico, don't buy it. U.S.-made Nabisco products are still made by union workers.

BCTGM is also reaching out to Mondelez unions in other countries. An international conference of Mondelez unions is scheduled to take place in Chicago Sept. 20-21, organized by International Union of Food Workers (IUF), a world-wide federation of trade unions.

Happy Labor Day

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At Volunteers of America, alcohol and drug treatment workers are ready for a union

Sixty-three workers employed by Volunteers of America (VOA) Oregon will vote next month whether to unionize with Oregon AFSCME.

The workers staff a pair of inpatient residential alcohol and drug treatment facilities in Portland where addicts undergo six months of court-ordered treatment for addiction—a 52-bed facility for men and a 35-bed facility for women.

"They're the front-line caregivers for folks that are in great

need," says union organizer Corey Nicholson. "They deserve a livable wage and respect."

Right now VOA pays residential counselors \$10 to \$12 an hour—barely above the minimum wage, which is now \$9.75 for the Portland area. Some workers have had no raise in years, and some salaried employees complain of unpaid overtime.

"No one should be making \$10 an hour doing the kind of

challenging work we do," says Henry Lauer, an administrative coordinator at the men's residential center.

Lauer and Nicholson say many employees are former addicts themselves and are deeply committed to their work. But workers haven't felt like they're listened to by management. And high case loads and too-high turnover mean less time with clients.

"When conditions of employ-

WYDEN: Democrats 'feeling very, very good' about fall elections

BEND — U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden said Democrats are “feeling very, very good” about winning the presidency and re-taking control of the U.S. Senate this fall — which would put Oregon’s senior senator in a strong position to become chair of the powerful Senate Finance Committee.

Wyden shared his thoughts about the upcoming general election Aug. 12 at the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council convention. Wyden is up for re-election this year, but he didn’t mention it during his speech. [The Oregon Working Families Party is running a candidate against Wyden because of his support for fast track and the Trans-Pacific Partnership. Republicans didn’t field a viable candidate.]

Wyden said Democrats are running “particularly strong” in Illinois and Wisconsin, and the party is opening leads in Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Nevada, and Indiana. He said races are close in Ohio and Florida. [AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka announced last month that the labor federation will focus its election efforts on six battleground states — Pennsylvania, Ohio, Nevada, Wisconsin, Florida, and Missouri. In Ohio, Pennsylvania and Wisconsin, one in five voters will live in a union household, Trumka said.]

“But I don’t want anybody to think this is going to be a walk



U.S. Sen. Ron Wyden speaks at OSBCTC convention

in the park,” Wyden warned. “We’re going to have our work cut out for us.”

If everything falls in to place and Wyden becomes Finance Committee chair in 2017, he vowed to immediately go to work on a major infrastructure bill. Not doing so, he said, “would be legislative malpractice.”

He said it could be paid for by closing a tax deferral loophole that allows corporations to park money overseas.

“It’s the granddaddy of all tax boondoggles. It’s something that costs you \$80 billion, as taxpayers, every year,” Wyden said. “The first thing we’re going to do is roll as much of that back as

we can, and use it to create incentives for red, white, and blue jobs — the kind of jobs that people in the building trades do.”

Wyden also would like to expand the Build America Bonds program, a tax credit program that he helped initiate in the Economic Recovery Act of 2009.

Wyden pledged to Building Trades Council delegates that if he is chair of the Finance Committee, “you will be partners with me every single step of the way. You are going to be at the table.”

On free trade agreements: Wyden said both political parties have failed to enforce current trade laws. He told delegates that he currently is pushing back

against Canada, which is “ripping off” the U.S. on softwood lumber. “Canadians subsidize their softwood and basically are dumping it in the United States,” he said. “Too often, both political parties have walked away from it (enforcement). So I told the Obama people, this is the time when we have got to go to the mat on those kinds of issues that relate to family wage jobs.”

Wyden said his trade policy is simple: “Make it in Oregon. Grow it in Oregon. Add value to it in Oregon. And ship it somewhere.”

He said trade-related jobs pay better than non-trade-related jobs. “One out of five jobs in Oregon revolves around international trade, and those jobs pay 18 percent more because they’ve got more value added in it,” he said. “And you’ve got to do it. Ninety-five percent of the consumers are outside the United States, folks.”

On multi-employer pension plans: Wyden says he is fully aware of the problems with underfunded multi-employer pension plans and the financially struggling Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC).

“Obviously, we’ve got a lot to do. PBGC is very much under

siege. And clearly we have liabilities in industries nobody ever expected,” he said.

Wyden believes Congress will act on a bill this fall to help the insolvent coal miners pension and health care fund. Then lawmakers will turn their attention to the under-funded Central States Teamsters pension plan.

He said Congress then must tackle the question of how to shore up the entire multi-employer pension system and whether or not it should start looking at alternatives.

On Donald Trump: “Never in my imagination did I think that an American political candidate would appeal to foreign spies to ask for help winning an American election,” Wyden said. “We’re talking about imagination-defying statements,” from the Republican presidential nominee.

However, “Trump has done a lot of smart things over the years. He got out of real estate, which has some risk, and he got into all this branding stuff. He just put his name on buildings and steaks, and bottled water. No down side, lots of up side. So this is not a stupid man. We’re going to have our work cut out for us.”

Frew takes helm of Oregon Building Trades Council

BEND — Tim Frew, a 32-year member of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW), succeeded John Mohlis as executive secretary of the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council (OSBCTC), effective Sept. 1. Frew has job shadowed Mohlis for the past several months, including during the short session of the Legislature in February.

Frew, of Eugene, is a member of IBEW Local 280 based in Tangent. He said he will make the commute from Eugene to Portland, where the building trades office is located.

“I will be wherever I need to be to represent the building trades council,” he said.

Frew, 58, joined IBEW Local 177 in Jacksonville, Florida as an apprentice in 1984. Prior to that he spent a year at Florida State University, then joined the U.S. Navy, where he was an electricians mate.

With his journeyman card in hand, Frew traveled with his girl-

friend (and future wife, Jackie) to several states, working along the way. They settled in Eugene in 1991, where he became an active member of Local 280.

Frew volunteered as an organizer and steward. He chaired the IBEW-NECA Safety Committee, and attended Oregon AFL-CIO conventions as a delegate for the local. He served one term as vice president of Local 280, and two terms as business manager, from 2009 to 2015.

Frew currently sits on the Oregon Elevator and Electrical Board, as well as the Construction Industry Energy Board.

Because Frew is a member of the IBEW, OSBCTC president Gary Young, business manager of IBEW Local 48 in Portland, had to resign. The council’s constitution states that leadership positions cannot be held by members of the same union.

So, delegates elected Joe Bowers, business manager of Iron Workers Local 29, to finish out Young’s term as president.

OSBCTC RESOLUTIONS

The Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council passed the following resolutions at their convention:

Support of Local Unions Forming Partnerships with CTE Programs

Urge affiliated Local Unions to make a concerted effort to partner with high schools in their area, AND to offer use of their facilities and faculty for Career Technical Education (CTE) training of high school students to high schools that currently offer or will offer CTE programs.

Support In-State RPS Generation Requirements

Urge the Oregon Legislature to implement a requirement that 85% of Oregon’s energy generated to meet Renewable Portfolio Standards (RPS) should be generated within state boundaries, and the construction and design of these new facilities should be done by members of the Oregon Building Trades, and prevailing wage requirements should be the standard.

Support Transportation Infrastructure Financing

The number one priority of the OSBCTC is to get legislative approval of a robust, multi-modal transportation infrastructure financing plan in the 2017 legislative session.

Support Measure 98, the High School Graduation and College and Career Readiness Act

The OSBCTC supports Measure 98, and the investments it proposes, with the goal of ensuring that all high school students have access to meaningful career-technical education programs, college credit courses, and the supports they need to stay on track to graduation beginning

in 9th Grade; the Council will work with the campaign — Oregonians for High School Success — to ensure the measure’s approval by the voters in the November 2016 general election.

Use Entire Bonding Capacity to Fix Water/Air Pollution Crisis

Recognizing Oregon’s crumbling infrastructure, which is beginning to poison the air and water, OSBCTC urges the Legislature and the Governor’s office to use all of the state’s \$167 million in unallocated bonding capacity to put Oregonians to work to solve this urgent problem.

Support of the Jordan Cove LNG Export Terminal and the Pacific Connector Natural Gas Pipeline

The OSBCTC calls upon Governor Brown, members of the Oregon Legislature, and members of Oregon’s Congressional delegation to fully support the permitting and construction of the Jordan Cove Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) export terminal at North Bend, Coos County, Oregon, to improve the economy of the Pacific Northwest.

Continue Funding OMCS

The OSBCTC will levy for one year, starting at the date this resolution is adopted, an assessment of \$1 per member, per month, for the purpose of supporting the efforts and work of Oregonians to Maintain Community Standards, OSBCTC’s political action committee. The Executive Board will review any further increases or decreases in six months, and have the authority to adjust according to need.

Jordon Cove boss says LNG project needs assist from Oregon's Congressional delegation

BEND — Betsy Spomer, president and CEO of Jordon Cove LNG, asked delegates to the OSBCTC convention to help her lobby Oregon's Congressional delegation to support the proposed \$6 billion private investment in Coos Bay.

"There is essentially silence from the federal (Congressional) delegation from Oregon," Spomer said, noting that only U.S. Rep. Kurt Schrader has publicly supported the project.

"We need your help to get these guys off the fence," she emphasized. "... And I think the number one person we need is Sen. (Ron) Wyden."

Veresen, a Calgary, Alberta, British Columbia-based company, wants to build a liquefied natural gas (LNG) export terminal and supporting power plant and pipeline (Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline) on the North Spit in Coos Bay. It will be built with private funding under a project labor agreement (PLA) with the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council and the Northwest National Construction Alliance, which consists of

the Carpenters Union and Operating Engineers Local 701. Construction is anticipated to span 42 months, with an average workforce of 900, and a peak workforce of approximately 2,100.

Spomer says the project has support from the community, unions, the county, and other local institutions.

But in March, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) denied Jordon Cove LNG's applications to build and operate the terminal and the pipeline. The company has filed for a rehearing. Spomer expects a decision on that will come no later than October.

Spomer told delegates the biggest weakness in their case is lack of Congressional support.

"I think that's what it's going to take if we're going to turn this thing around," she said.

Speaking at the convention the following day, Sen. Wyden said he did what he promised he would do—and that was to let the process play itself out.

"On the export question, I know passions run really strong

on this," Wyden said. "Both sides are weighing in with everything they've got. We've got strong supporters, strong opponents—it spreads all across the political spectrum."

Wyden told delegates that when he was chair of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, the Secretary of Energy was planning to go on hiatus for a couple of years after having initiated a number of energy projects in other states.

"I said you're not going to do that to the people of Oregon," Wyden recounted. "You're not going to cut off the opportunity for us to really make the case—both pro and con."

Wyden said he lobbied appointees to the Energy Department, asking them to give Oregon the chance to make it's case—and to not cut off the application process.

"I pinned every one of them down," he said.

Wyden's request was granted.

"I have told both sides, that I will work with you every step of the way—it's now in the FERC process," he said.

...Mohlis retires from building trades

From Page 1

velopment Commission. John Kitzhaber named him "team leader" of his Economic Development transition team after he was elected governor in 2014. Mohlis also has served on the Management-Labor Advisory Committee on workers' compensation, the Oregon State Apprenticeship Council, and the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council, to name a few.

Mohlis was raised in Waterloo, Iowa. He spent a year and a half at the University of Iowa, unsure of what he wanted to do. He met his wife, Debbie, at college. In 1977 they moved to Bozeman, Montana, where he entered the bricklayer apprenticeship program. He soon became an active member of the 35-member Bricklayers Local 5. He phone-banked for area politicians and attended building trades council meetings. As a third-year apprentice he was elected a trustee of the local. Later, he served as financial secretary when the incumbent officer stepped down.

When construction slowed down in Montana, Mohlis trav-

eled to Salem in February 1988 to work on the Marion County Correctional Facility. After three months he returned home for his wife and young daughter, moving the family to Redland, Oregon, later that year.

He transferred his book to Bricklayers Local 1, and met then-business manager Jim McNannay. In May 1989, McNannay hired Mohlis as a business agent and organizer. When McNannay retired in 1994, Mohlis ran for the seat. He served four terms before taking the job as executive secretary of the Columbia Pacific Building Trades Council in 2005. He succeeded Wally Mehrens of Plumbers and Fitters Local 290, who retired.

In October 2010, Mohlis succeeded Bob Shiprack, who retired as executive secretary of the Oregon State Building Trades Council.

On reflection, Mohlis says he probably is most proud of the purchase in 2000 of the Mason Trades Building in Northeast Portland. The space includes offices and a training center. "It really helped us ramp up our training program," he said.

At the 2016 OSBCTC con-

vention, Mohlis said it hasn't been a one man job. He recognized all the volunteer union leaders who run building trades councils throughout the state.

"It's so important to have these local building trades councils on the ground, watching the projects in their area, watching the local politics," he said. "I can look anybody in the eye and say: we have building trades councils in every corner of this state that are minding the business and doing the right thing for our members and contractors."

Mohlis continued: "I am so grateful and so lucky to have had the opportunity to go to work for you and your families, and the men and women of the building trades. It's an honor and a privilege."

In retirement, Mohlis will do some traveling, and spend time with his son, daughter, and two grandchildren (a third is on the way). He will continue as a trustee on the Western States 401(k) plan, on the Oregon Labor Press Publishing Co. board of directors, and on the board of the BULL Session golf tournament. He also is considering doing some work as a consultant.

'You saved my town'



GOP state rep says Building Trades worked with him to save Prineville

BEND—The Great Recession of 2008-09 impacted Crook County more than any county in the state of Oregon.

"We had the highest unemployment in the state. We had the highest food insecurity rate. In every statistic that you'd be embarrassed about, we led it. It was dire," State Rep. Mike McLane (R - Powell Butte) told delegates attending the Oregon State Building and Construction Trades Council convention.

Prineville—the largest town in Crook County with a population of 9,100—had been struggling long before the recession hit. The wood products industry was spiraling downward, and its largest employer, Les Schwab Tire Centers, had relocated its corporate headquarters to Bend.

So when Facebook, Google and Apple rolled into town with plans to build gigantic data centers, they were welcomed with open arms.

While Prineville is best known for timber and tires, "we started to be known for technology, the third T," McLane said.

But then a new fight developed, this one over the state's

tax policies known as "central assessments." McLane said the uncertainty threatened future growth of the data center industry in the state.

So in 2012, McLane, then a freshman legislator, sponsored

a bill to bring some tax certainty to Oregon. "I was a freshman legislator, not quite sure what I was doing, and not quite aware of the forces I was taking on," he said.

That's when he met Joe Es-

monde, a union rep for IBEW Local 48, and John Mohlis, head of the Oregon Building Trades Council.

"They said they would help," McLane said.

Long story short—with support from the building trades, the Legislature passed a bill, dubbed "the Facebook bill," that changed the tax structure for data centers, and the companies that run them. As a result, Facebook, Google and Apple continued to expand their data centers in Prineville, creating hundreds of union construction jobs.

"I am incredibly grateful to you ... you saved my town!" McLane told delegates. "Your brothers and sisters are working in my district, saving my town from utter despair."

"I am incredibly grateful to you ... you saved my town! Your brothers and sisters are working in my district, saving my town from utter despair."

— State Rep. Mike McLane
R-Powell Butte, Dist. 28

UNION MEETING NOTICES

AFSCME 189

Executive Board meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13. General membership meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Meetings are at 6025 E. Burnside, Portland.

Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers 114

Executive Board meets 8 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27, in the meeting room at 7931 NE Halsey, Suite 300, Portland.

Bricklayers 1

Members meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Cement Masons 555

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Electrical Workers 48

RENEW meets 5:30 p.m. on the first Tuesday of every month in the Executive Boardroom.

Executive Board meets 6:30 p.m. on the first and third Wednesday of the month in the Executive Boardroom.

Coast Unit meets 6 p.m. on the first Thursday of every month at Astoria Labor Temple, 926 Duane St., Astoria.

Electrical Workers Minority Caucus meets 5:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month in the Meeting Hall.

Sister's in the Brotherhood meets 6:30 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month in the Meeting Hall. You are welcome to attend the EWMC meeting beforehand.

Residential Unit meets 6 p.m. on the second Tuesday of every month in the Dispatch Lobby.

Sound and Communication Unit meets 6 p.m. on the second Wednesday of every month in the Meeting Hall.

Wasco Unit meets 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at Northern Wasco County PUD, 2345 River Road, The Dalles.

Washington Unit meet 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of every month at the Longview Meeting Hall, 1145 Commerce Ave., Longview, WA.

Marine Unit meets 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month in the Meeting Hall.

General Membership Meeting meets 6:30 p.m. on the fourth Wednesday of the month in Local 48's Portland Meeting Hall and at the Local 48 Longview Hall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

Meetings are at 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland, unless otherwise noted

DEATH ASSESSMENTS: No. 2494; Norman W. Heroux and No. 2495; Barry L. Blackwell. The Sept. 2016 assessment is \$1.50.

Elevator Constructors 23

Executive Board meets 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7. **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE.**

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.

Meeting are held at 12779 NE Whitaker Way, Portland.

Fire Fighters 452

Members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 2807 NW Fruit Valley Rd., Vancouver, Wash.

Fire Fighters 1660

Members meet 8 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 8, at 4411 SW Sunset Dr., Lake Oswego.

Glass Workers 740

Salem area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 6, at Best Western Plus, Mill Creek Inn, 3125 Ryan Drive SE, Salem. **HAT MONTH!**

Eugene area members meet 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Best Western Grand Manor Inn, 971 Kruse Way, Springfield. **DATE CHANGE DUE TO HOLIDAY. HAT MONTH!**

Insulators 36

Executive Board meets 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7. Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.

Meetings are at 11145 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Iron Workers 29

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, preceded by a 5:30 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 11620 NE Ainsworth Cir., #200, Portland.

Iron Workers Shopmen 516

Executive Board meets 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22.

Meetings are at 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle #200, Portland.

Laborers 483 Municipal Employees

Members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the Musicians Hall, 325 NE 20th Ave., Portland.

Laborers/Vancouver 335

Members meet 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, preceded by a 6:15 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at the Vancouver Labor Center, 2212 NE Andresen Rd., Vanc., Wash. **PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE.**

Laborers 737

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the Laborers Campus, 17230 NE Sacramento St., Portland for an informational meeting.

CENTRAL POINT: Members meet 6:30 p.m. the second Tuesday in November at Central Point Labor Temple, 4480 Rogue Valley Hwy # 3, Central Point. SPRINGFIELD: Members meet 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday in November at 2861 Pierce Parkway, Springfield.

HERMISTON: Members meet 6:30 p.m. the third Tuesday in November at 371 E Hurlburt Ave, Hermiston.

Linoleum Layers 1236

Executive Board meets 5 p.m. Monday, Sept. 12, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. **DATE CHANGE DUE TO HOLIDAY.**

Portland area members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Molders 139B

Members meet 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, preceded by a 6 p.m. Executive Board meeting at the Carpenters Hall, 2205 N. Lombard, Portland.

Office & Professional Employees 11

Members meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at 3815 Columbia St., Vancouver.

Operating Engineers 701

District 4 members meet 7:30 p.m. Monday, Oct. 3, at Cousin's Restaurant, 2114 W 6th St., The Dalles.

District 4 members meet 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 4, at the Pheasant Cafe, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston.

District 1 & 5 members meet 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at 555 E. First St., Gladstone.

District 3 members meet 7:30 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 11, at North Bend/Coos Bay Labor Center, 3427 Ash St., North Bend.

District 3 members meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Oct. 12, at Holiday Inn Express, 285 Peninger Rd., Central Point.

District 2 & District 5 members meet 7:30 p.m. Thurs-

day, Oct. 13, at Comfort Suites, 969 Kruse Way, Springfield.

Painters & Drywall Finishers 10

Members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. Website: www.iupatlocal10.org.

Sign Painters & Paint Makers 1094

Members meet 3:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 19, in the District Office, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Plasterers 82

Members meet 5 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Plumbers and Fitters 290

Portland area members meet 7:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at 20210 SW Teton Ave., Tualatin. The following locations will be able to participate remotely in the Regular Business Meeting at 7:30 on the 3rd Friday of every month: Bend, Eugene/Springfield, Eureka, Medford, and Salem.

Astoria area members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 22, at the Astoria Labor Temple, 926 Duane St., Astoria.

Brookings area members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20. Please contact agent Craig Spjut at 707-496-1767 for location confirmation.

Coos Bay area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the Coos Bay Training Center, 2nd & Kruse, Coos Bay.

Klamath Falls area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at 4816 S., 6th St., Klamath Falls.

The Dalles area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the United Steelworkers Local 9170 Union Hall, The Dalles.

Roofers & Waterproofers 49

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.

Executive Board meets 7 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 6.

Meetings are at 5032 SE 26TH Ave., Portland (503 232-4807).

Sheet Metal Workers 16

Portland members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the Sheet Metal Training Center, 2379 NE 178th Ave., Portland.

Medford area members meet 4 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, Wild River Pizza, 2684 N Pacific Hwy., Medford.

Eugene area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at Sheet Metal Local 16 Hall, 1887 Laura St., Springfield. **PLEASE NOTE:** Meeting to be broadcast with the Portland meeting.

Coos Bay area members meet 4 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, Abby's Pizza, 997 First St., Coos Bay.

Women of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16 (WOSM) meet 4:30 p.m. Friday, Sept. 16, at Beaulahland, 118 NE 28th Ave., Portland. Children are welcome.

CENTRAL LABOR CHAPTERS

Central Oregon

Delegates meet 5:30 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at the Social Justice Center, 155 NE Irving, Bend.

Eastern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, at AFSCME, 308 SW Dorion, Pendleton.

Lane County

Delegates meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, at 1116 South A St., Springfield.

Linn-Benton-Lincoln

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 21, preceded by a 5:30 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 1400 Salem Ave., Albany.

Marion-Polk-Yamhill

Executive Board meets 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, followed by a 6 p.m. general meeting at 4735 Liberty Rd. S., Salem.

Southern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 13, at the Southern Oregon Labor Temple, 4480 Rogue Valley Hwy. #3, Central Point.

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

Northwest Oregon

Delegates meet 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 26, at IBEW Local 48 Hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

Southwest Washington

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at LIUNA Hall, 2212 NE Andresen Rd., Vancouver, WA.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION

TRADES COUNCILS

Columbia-Pacific

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Tuesdays, Sept. 6 and Sept. 13, at Kirkland Union Manor II, 3535 SE 86th, Portland.

Lane, Coos, Curry & Douglas

Delegates meet at noon Wednesday, Sept. 28, at the Springfield Training Center, 2861 Pierce Pkwy., Springfield.

Salem

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Thursday, Oct. 6, at the IBEW 280 Training Center, 33309 Hwy 99E, Tangent.

METAL TRADES COUNCIL

Portland and Vicinity

Executive Board meets 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 8.

Delegates meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, Sept. 27.

Meetings are at IBEW Local 48 Hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

HAPPENINGS

The Northwest Oregon Labor Council and Labor's Community Service Agency (LCSA) are teaming up with American Red Cross again this **Labor Day** for a **blood drive competition** at the **Sept. 5** picnic at **Oaks Park**.

Bloodmobiles will be parked at the picnic from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Organizers are asking that union members pre-register so that donations can be collected as quickly as possible. The blood donation process takes about an hour. The labor organization that collects the most units of blood will have its name added to a perpetual trophy, plus bragging rights for the entire year. Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals Local 5017 is the defending champion.

You can pre-register online at www.redcrossblood.org. Plug in sponsor code **"NOLC."**

LCSA also is hosting a **scavenger hunt** for children ages 1 to 18 at the **Labor Day picnic**. Participants will use clues found in a "passport" to find various unions at the picnic. Passports can pick up at LCSA's booth at Oaks Park starting at 10 a.m. Once the required number of stamps are collected, kids must return their passport to the LCSA booth, where they will be eligible for a drawing to win a bicycle (donated by the International Longshore and Warehouse Union). All participants get union-made cookies provided by Franz Bakery, whose employees are members of Bakers Local 114. For more information on any of these events, call

Labor's Community Service Agency at 503-231-4962.

The 28th annual **Machinists District W24 Guide Dogs of America Golf Tournament** will be held **Monday, Sept. 12** at Heron Lakes Golf Club in Portland. Registration begins at 7 a.m., with a shotgun start at 8:30 a.m. Entry fee is \$125 per person, and includes green fees, cart, practice range, and lunch. Hole sponsorships are still available, ranging from \$250 to \$1,000. For more information, contact John Hall at 503-449-0969, or John Kleiboeker at 503-863-7304.

The Labor Roundtable of Southwest Washington is hosting its annual **Labor Awards Banquet** Friday, **Sept. 23** at the **Vancouver Hilton**, 301 West 6th St. A no-host bar starts at 4:30 p.m., with dinner at 6 p.m., followed by an awards ceremony recognizing labor unions, labor leaders, union members, and community leaders for their outstanding service to the labor movement and the community. Roger Millar, secretary of the Washington Department of Transportation, will be the keynote speaker. Tickets are \$60 per person. For more information or to order tickets, contact Roy Jennings at 360-936-0045 or by email at eboctran@comcast.net.

National Association of Letter Carriers Branch 82 will hold a **rally** and informational picket at the Portland

Main Post Office, 715 NW Hoyt St. (off Broadway), Thursday, **Sept. 29**, from 4:30 to 6 p.m. to inform the public and build grassroots opposition to a section of the Postal Service Reform Act of 2016. Section 202 of the bipartisan bill advanced by the U.S. House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform proposes significant cuts to door-to-door delivery. The union says doing so will reduce the quality of service and undermined the financial health of the Postal Service. Learn more about the impact of HR 5714 at the rally.

TriMet is hosting a **hiring event** Saturday, **Sept. 17**, at the **Oregon Convention Center**, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., 777 NE Martin Luther King Jr. Blvd., Portland. TriMet is hiring 20 bus operators every three weeks for the foreseeable future. New hires will be members of Amalgamated Transit Union Local 757. Student operators will earn \$14.25 per hour during a six-week training period. Once training is complete, bus operators work part time and earn \$15.63 an hour for the first six months. Pay increases occur every four months until the top rate of pay \$28.39 is reached at 35 months. Part-time operators get medical, dental and vision benefits, as well as a retirement plan and other fringe benefits. Those who attend the hiring event can apply for a job, as well as talk to staff about what it's like to work for TriMet.

RETIREE MEETING NOTICES

AFSCME

Retirees meet 10 a.m. Tuesday, Sept. 20, at the AFSCME office, 6025 E. Burnside, Portland. Call Michael Arken for information at 1-800-521-5954 ext. 226.

Elevator Constructors 23

Retirees meet 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 14, at Home Town Buffet, 10542 SE Washington St., Portland.

Iron Workers 29

Retirees meet at noon Wednesday, Sept. 14, at 11620

NE Ainsworth Circle, Portland for a catered lunch.

Transit 757

Retirees meet 9:30 a.m. Wednesday, Sept. 7, at Westmoreland Union Manor, 6404 SE 23rd, Portland.

United Association 290

Retirees and spouses meet 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Thursday, Sept. 15, at the UA Training Hall, 20210 SW Teton Ave., Tualatin (and simulcast at Salem, Springfield, Medford, Redmond, and Eureka training centers). The topic is "Understanding Elder Law."

Cowlitz Family Health Center workers join Machinists Union

Support staff at the Cowlitz Family Health Center-Drug Abuse Prevention Centers in Longview, Washington voted 22-10 on Aug. 16-17 to join the Machinists Union.

The bargaining unit, consisting of full-time, regular part-time, and on-call residential assistants, case managers, cooks, maintenance assistants, office assistants, child care workers, and billing clerks in the center's behavioral health division, will join Longview Local Lodge W536. The local is an affiliate of Machinists District Lodge W24 headquartered in Gladstone, Oregon.

The election was conducted by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

Machinists grand lodge representative Matthew McKinnon told the Longview Daily News that workers unionized in response to unfair treatment from management, explaining that some people in leadership roles yelled, screamed and berated employees.

"It's outrageous, and the workers are just tired of it," he told the newspaper, adding that there are also concerns about inadequate pay.

In a separate election conducted by the NLRB, chemical dependency professionals and trainees at the Family Health Center voted 6-0 against the union.

Machinists Lodge W536 represents a separate unit at the health center consisting of medical and dental assistants, clerks, and community health workers. They organized in 2014.

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Oregon Building & Construction Trades Council is proud to announce the winners of our 2016 college scholarships



Asia Wooten
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Asia is the daughter of Hal Wooten of Cement Masons Local 555 in Eugene. She attends Lewis & Clark College.



MaryAnn Ellis
\$1,000

MaryAnn is the daughter of Lennie Ellis of IBEW Local 659 in Williams, Oregon. She attends George Fox College.

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Longview - 360.639.3388

Milwaukie - 503.821.0089 **NEW LOCATION!**

Salem - 503.914.4007

Salmon Creek - 360.639.3399

Southern Oregon - 541.227.6966 **COMING SOON!**

Working Families Party endorses Clinton for president

The Working Families Party has endorsed Hillary Clinton for president. The organization surveyed its membership last month, and 68 percent favored the endorsement, as did WFP's national board.

WFP was an early, strong supporter of U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders' campaign.

The Working Families Party is a minor political party that is backed by many labor unions. WFP endorses and helps to elect major party candidates who commit to its working families agenda. It has an active chapter in Oregon.

Elections are about choices, said WFP National Director Dan Cantor. "And when we wake up on Nov. 9, either Hillary Clinton or Donald Trump will have been elected president. We choose Secretary Clinton, as Bernie did. We make this announcement knowing we'll need to work to hold her accountable to her campaign's promises. But we need to elect her first."

WFP said Clinton has announced good policies on many issues that are important to the

middle class and working poor.

But it's not just the policy proposals, Cantor said. It's the enormous power of appointments, and not just the U.S. Supreme Court. The National Labor Relations Board and Department of Labor can make it harder or easier for workers to form unions. The Environmental Protection Agency makes critical choices about clean water and climate change. And 401(k) account holders need serious regulators at the U.S. Treasury and the Security Exchange Commission.

The Working Families Party says GOP nominee Donald Trump is unfit to be president, calling him "the most dangerous figure in mainstream American politics since George Wallace."



HAVING A BLAST: Ken Kogle (shooting) and his son Zack (photo left), both members of Machinists Lodge 63, and Roofers Local 49 member Noble Hodgin (photo right) participated in the Hot August Nights clay shoot Aug. 27 sponsored by Sunrise Dental. The third annual event raised \$4,370.57 each for Labor's Community Service Agency and Sunrise for Children, a program to help end child slavery. Top financial sponsors were Vancouver Energy Project, the Alliance for Northwest Jobs and Exports, IBEW Local 48, the American Federation of Government Employees, and seven Sunrise Dental clinics. Thirty-four people participated in the shoot. The four-man team from Roofers Local 49 captured first place with a score of 239. They donated their cash winnings back to the charity.

Portland Painters Local 10 says 'no' to both Hillary and Donald

At the Aug. 17 general membership meeting of Portland-headquartered Painters Local 10, members passed a resolution saying the local does not support Democrats or Republicans, which "are and have always been strike-breaking, war-making parties of the bosses." The resolution was introduced by Wyatt McMinn, vice president and chair of the union's Volunteer Activist Committee. It passed unanimously.

Specifically, the resolution calls on the Painters international union to repudiate its earlier endorsement of Hillary Clinton for president, and it calls on the labor movement to break

from the Democratic Party and build a "class-struggle workers party." See the full resolution at bit.ly/2btnifr.

Most unions on the national level have endorsed Clinton by now, including the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades—Local 10's parent organization, and the national AFL-CIO has made defeating Donald Trump a priority.

Some national unions—like American Federation of Teachers and Service Employees International Union—were early and enthusiastic supporters of the Clinton campaign. Others—and the national AFL-CIO—waited until after the primary season had played out and Clinton had outpolled Bernie Sanders to clinch the nomination.

International Association of

Fire Fighters decided not to endorse either Clinton or Trump, after polling showed members were very sharply divided. And only one union has endorsed Trump—the National Border Patrol Council, which represents 18,000 U.S. Border Patrol agents. That union is a division of American Federation of Government Employees, which itself endorsed Clinton Dec. 10.

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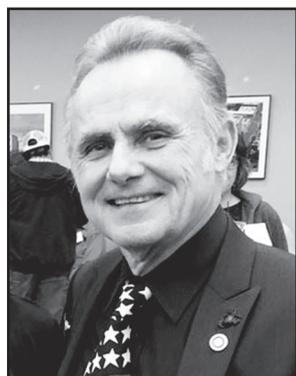
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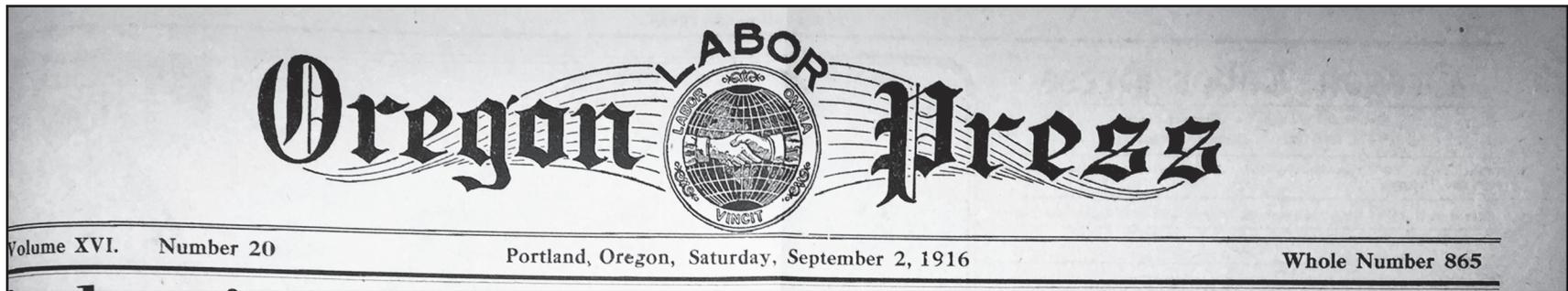
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Labor 100 Years Ago — Sept. 2, 1916

A look back at the stories of the Oregon Labor Press, Sept. 2, 1916. A digital version of the front page can be seen at www.nwlaborpess.org/100yearsago



Preparedness Parade Labor Day, September 4, 1916



Each section and its unions will fall in behind preceding section in the following order: Central Labor Council, Allied Printing Trades, Building Trades, Trades, Metal Trades, R. R. Brotherhoods, Theatrical Federation, Waterfront Federation, miscellaneous trades, family section (children, 10a; adults, 10b), friends and friends of labor.

Every one should be in place by 9:30 A. M. The head of the parade (Central Labor Council) will start north from 4th and Columbia at 10 A. M. sharp. Each shall should start his section promptly and keep it moving.

Marchers will form six abreast, lines four feet apart with **NO BREAKS BETWEEN UNIONS.**

The line of march is as follows: From Columbia north on Fourth to Oak; west on Oak to Sixth; south on Sixth to Columbia; west on Columbia to West 29th. Total march, 29 blocks.

All marshals and aides will meet at Labor Temple, Friday evening, 8 P. M., September 1st, for final arrangements and instructions.

Solidarity is Hope of Laborers of World

(The following is an editorial written by union leader E.J. Stack that appeared in the Sept. 2, 1916 Labor Day edition.)

Labor Day celebrations have their fullest effect when labor's cause is brought to the attention of all the people.

Our life is such a busy one, that we do not grasp in its entirety, the magnitude of the labor problem.

Our thoughts on labor's holiday ought to comprehend all of the activities of organized labor, which embraces every phase of human progress.

The most essential factor in the struggle of human rights vs. property rights is peace.

It seems, therefore, that the laboring man's duty is to carefully study the causes that destroy peace and civilization.

It is certain that if the American trusts in Mexico and the foreign capitalists, who own 75 per cent of the land in Mexico, could have created "public opinion" strong enough, American intervention in Mexico would have resulted.

The peace meeting at Washington, D.C., between representatives of labor in Mexico and the officials of the American Federation of Labor has done much to clear up misunderstandings and lessen race prejudice.

First-hand information proves the truth which will finally prevail — **WORKING PEOPLE OF THE WORLD HAVE NO QUARREL WITH EACH OTHER.**

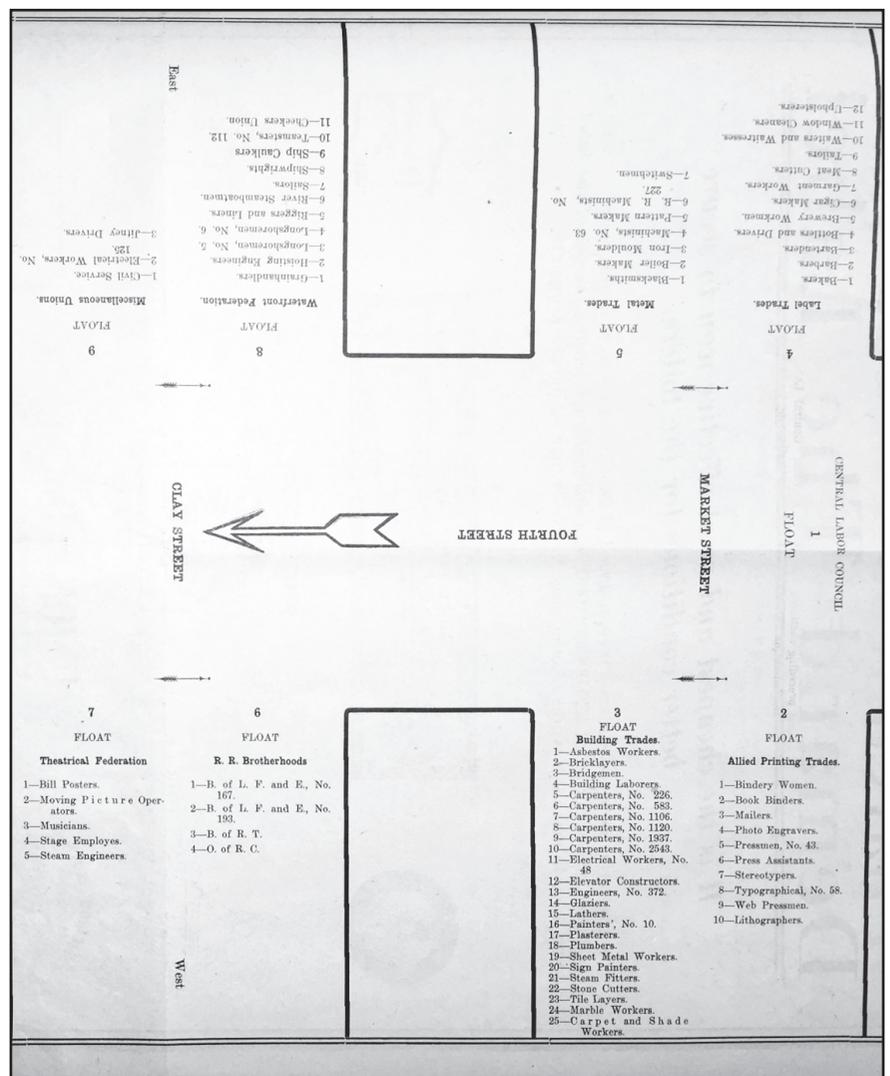
But carried away with preparedness movements, rushed off their feet by false patriotism, their interest is forgotten by themselves because crooked business in league with crooked politics has invented new catch words and phrases, in order to divert their attention from the economic problems which confront them.

In this country the catch words are "preparedness and Americanism." In other countries some other phrase or catch word has the workers at each others' throats.

However, the soldiers in blood-soaked trenches of Europe's great war are learning, and those who return from the front will have a lesson to teach to the workers of the countries engaged in war.

This lesson will be that warfare further enslaves the common people, and further, that the allegiance that a working man owes to his country is no greater than the obligation of his employer, yet he finds himself in the trenches fighting other working men, while the employers' patriotism consists of flag waving and if he be thoroughly imbued with the spirit of patriotism, he "holds a job open" and maybe contributes a dollar or two for the families of the men at the front.

But he doesn't risk his precious hide. So the hope of tomorrow is for solidarity of labor. Then disputes will be settled without bloodshed, by a parliament of men who make property rights a secondary consideration.



Ed Barnes tapped Second VP of NOLC

Ed Barnes, a retired business manager of IBEW Local 48, was elected second vice president of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council. The vote, held Aug. 22, was by acclamation.



Ed Barnes

Barnes succeeds Everice Moro of Oregon School Employees Association Local 6732. Moro vacated the second vice president's seat after winning election as first vice president.

Barnes has been on the Northwest Oregon Labor Council Executive Board for 37 years.

JOBS

Google Fiber pulls the plug on Portland

So much for that idea. Google was all set to begin installing a high-speed fiber-optic network in Portland this year, but the company is shelving those plans. According to an Aug. 15 article in the Wall Street Journal, Google Fiber is exploring the use of wireless technology — instead of fiber — to connect homes, and is putting planned fiber roll-outs in Portland and other cities on hold.

Several Portland-area general contractors that employ union members had submitted bids to manage the work for Google, but they never got to the stage of signing a contract, says Tracy Harness, manager of the union-signatory Northwest Line Constructors Chapter of the National Electrical Contractors Association (NECA).

Google Fiber has installed fiber networks in six metro areas around the United States, offering Internet at 40 times the speed of broadband for \$70 a month and cable TV for an extra \$60.

COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

At Malarkey Roofing Products, talk of a strike

By Don McIntosh
Associate editor

Labor relations have taken a turn for the worse at a North Portland roof shingle maker. Leaders of United Steelworkers Local 330 say family-owned Malarkey Roofing Products has hired a known union-buster to lead negotiations over a new contract for the plant's 115 union workers.

Consultant Jim Frazer of United Employers Association has proposed a near complete rewrite of the previous three-year contract, which expired May 31. Frazer is proposing to strip out key union provisions, and union bargaining team members think he may be trying to drag out negotiations until production slows after September.

Past negotiations were simple and short, says union Vice President Shawn Graham, a millwright at Malarkey. This time, managers began the negotiations saying they'd been too busy to come up with proposals.

"I said, 'How could you be too busy? You had three years to get ready for this,'" Graham recalls. "I have another job besides this, and I came up with a proposal. And you have a lawyer and all these managers and you can't come up with it?"

"That was a pretty good indi-

cation right off the get-go that we were going to have problems," says Local 330 President Bob Tackett, who's also executive secretary-treasurer of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council. Tackett said he observed several bargaining sessions where part-owner Greg Malarkey seemed to want to be reasonable, but was silenced by Frazer, the consultant.

"To hear the guy tell the grandson of the founder to sit down and shut up was a little weird, to say the least," Tackett said.

Malarkey Roofing has been family owned since Herbert Malarkey founded it in 1956. His son Michael Malarkey, president since 1975, died in 2012. The company has done extremely well in the last five years, Graham said. For about eight months of the year, the plant is in operation 24 hours a day. Workers have achieved productivity increases of 10 percent a year, and are now putting out 1.9 million shingles a week at the Portland plant, with no lost-time accident in the last three years. The company has also expanded, adding production facilities in South Gate, California, and Oklahoma City, Oklahoma. Both are nonunion.

Under the union contract in

Portland, wages range from \$16.50 to \$25.96, depending on job classification. But workers also get lots of overtime, including double-time for some weekend work: During high season, employees work eight-hour shifts 13 days in a row, followed by one Sunday off.

But now the company is proposing changes to 28 pages of a 32-page contract. It wants to add 21 causes for immediate termination (the current policy is standard union "just cause" language requiring progressive discipline.) And the profitable company is proposing annual raises of just 1 percent (the union proposes 5 percent). Malarkey also proposes to pay \$6.1 million to withdraw from the union's multi-employer pension plan. Instead, the company proposes to match employee contributions to a 401(k). [The union counterproposes that Malarkey put its current \$1.37-an-hour pension contribution into a 401(k).]

Malarkey also is proposing to get rid of two key union provisions: its obligation to deduct union dues from paychecks, and any requirement that employees become union members. The

provisions are known as "dues checkoff" and "union security."

"Trying to get rid of union security is the first step toward breaking down our union," explains bargaining team member Tom Souther. "People could come and have all the benefits and not have to pay for it."

As a consultant, Frazer has a decades-old history of involvement in bitter union disputes, including a 22-month strike at Voith Sulzer in 1996 in which 65 Machinists were permanently replaced; an 11-month strike by 65 members of United Auto Workers at Williams Controls in 2002; and a four-month strike at Cummins Northwest in 1999, where the strategy of permanent replacement contributed to the suicide of one striking Machinist.

Workers want a fair contract, not a labor dispute, Souther said. Except for a strike in the 1970s, Malarkey and the union have gotten along for 50 years.

"They're setting us up for a strike," Souther says. "They've turned down everything we've asked for. We're diehard employees for these guys, and it's just sick the way they want to take us out."

Glass contractor remains nonunion, and pro-union workers skedaddle

In a 9-to-6 vote on Aug. 24, workers at Heritage Glass said no to unionizing with Glaziers, Architectural Metal & Glass Workers Local 740.

Workers at the Northeast Portland company do high-end glass installations like glass doors and custom shower enclosures, for wages that range from \$12 to \$25 an hour. That's well below the union scale for the same work (\$37 an hour plus \$16 an hour in fringe benefits).

That's chiefly why Heritage employees contacted the union in July to see about unionizing. Local 740 is part of Painters and Allied Trades District Council 5. The council assigned organizer Mike James to assist the union campaign.

On July 24, when Local 740 asked the National Labor Relations Board to schedule an election, the union had support from a majority of the company's 15 employees. But an anti-union campaign by the owner per-

suaded several workers to reconsider support for the union. James alleges some of Heritage's tactics broke federal labor law, including threats that the company would close its doors if workers voted to unionize.

Still, James says he's not mourning the election loss, in part because it would have been challenging for the union to negotiate a single-employer first contract with an employer who is hostile to the union. Local 740's 21 union-signatory contractors operate under the same master agreement, and James said the union would never undercut them by offering better terms to a newly unionized employer.

After the vote, three pro-union workers left Heritage for better-paying jobs with union-signatory glass contractors. James said more may do the same as union jobs become available.



...Volunteers of America workers ready for a union

From Page 3

ment improve, the client outcome improves," Lauer said. "If we become successful, it's ultimately going to benefit our clients."

So far, management hasn't

actively campaigned against the union. Nicholson said she hopes they'll remain neutral and respect employees' right to decide for themselves.

The vote will be held in person Sept. 14 and also by mail, with ballots due Sept. 28.

AFSCME represents Volunteers of America employees in New York and New Jersey, as well as workers in Portland at Central City Concern, Transition Projects, and Janus Youth Programs who do similar work.



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NLRB clears way for private university graduate students to form a union

The National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) ruled Aug. 24 that students who work as teaching and research assistants at private universities have the right to organize unions on campus to negotiate for wages, benefits, and working conditions.

The case involved teaching and research assistants (TAs and RAs) at Columbia University who are campaigning to join United Auto Workers.

Over the past two decades, the NLRB majority has shifted positions on the rights of student workers, depending on which political party was in control. Twelve years ago, Republicans held a majority vote on the Board when they heard a case involving Brown University. They ruled that graduate students cannot be statutory employees because they “are primarily students and have a primarily educational, not economic, relationship with their university.”

That ruling overturned a prior case in which grad students were deemed employees. That Board had a Democratic majority.

In the most recent decision, the NLRB ruled 3-1 that the relationship between TAs and RAs and their employing university or college is mostly economic.

“Our starting point in determining whether student assistants are covered by labor law is

its definition of ‘employee,’” the majority, led by Chairman Mark Gaston Pearce, explained.

Pearce and his colleagues called the TAs and RAs “statutory employees” who “perform work, at the direction of the university, for which they are compensated. Statutory coverage is permitted by virtue of an employment relationship. It is not foreclosed by the existence of some other, additional relationship” — being a grad student — that labor law does not cover.

Given that labor law ‘encourages collective bargaining, plus the broad definitions of “employee,” the Board majority called it “appropriate to extend coverage to students working for universities covered by the act unless there are strong reasons not to do so.

“It’s been a two-and-a-half year’s long campaign. When we started it, we were hoping to still be in grad school to witness it, so, of course, it’s really exciting,” student and union organizer Olga Brudastova told Workers Independent News. “By standing together, graduate workers have already won major university-wide improvements, and with a union, we’ll be able to secure those improvements and make Columbia do even better.”

(Editor’s Note: Press Associates Inc. contributed to this report.)

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A DAY FOR PICNICS

Every year on Labor Day, union members come together to celebrate family and community. Here are this year's events.

PORTLAND — The region's largest Labor Day picnic takes place at Oaks Amusement Park in Southeast Portland, sponsored by the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, AFL-CIO.

Members and their families from dozens of unions — up to 20,000 people — turn out for barbecue, games, carnival rides, raffle drawings, music, and a chance to hear from local

politicians. The picnic runs 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Politicians take the stage at 1 p.m. There will be a blood drive challenge, kids scavenger hunt, and free scrip for out-of-work union members. For more information, call the Northwest Oregon Labor Council at 503-235-9444.

Best way to get there: Parking can be scarce in and around Oaks Park on Labor Day, the park's busiest day of the year. But there's plenty of parking five miles

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north at OMSI, the McLoughlin Overpass, McCoy Millwork, and the Portland Opera. The Oregon Pacific Railroad shuttles between OMSI and Oaks Park from 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. — \$5 round trip for adults, free for kids 12 and under. The train boards at Southeast 4th and Caruthers.

ASHLAND — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Emigrant Lake, Picnic Shelter D, 5505 Highway 66, Ashland. Lunch will be served at noon. Sponsored by the Southern Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

BEND — 12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Pioneer Park, NW Wall St., Bend. There will be food, drinks, and music. Please

bring dessert; everything else is provided. Bring your family! Invite your friends! Sponsored by the Central Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

COWLITZ-WAHKIAKUM COUNTIES — Toutle River RV Resort, 150 Happy Trails, Castle Rock, Washington, Exit 52 off I-5. Grilling hamburgers and hot dogs from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Bring your favorite side dish to share. There will be music, swimming, kids' games, a bouncy house, a giant croquet tournament, and more. Please bring a school supply or two to donate to the local school district.

EUGENE/SPRINGFIELD — Willamalane Park Shelters, 6100 Thurston Road, Springfield (behind splash pool). Starts at noon. Please bring a side dish to share. Sponsored by the Lane County Central Labor Chapter.

NORTH BEND/COOS BAY — 11 a.m. to 3 p.m., Ferry Road Park, North Bend. Music, games and fun for the whole family. Please bring a donation of non-perishable food items. Sponsored by the Southwestern Oregon Central Labor Chapter.

SALEM — 11 a.m. to 2 p.m., Waterfront Park. A barbecue, side dishes and soft drinks will be provided from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Cost: two non-perishable food items per person, or \$2 per person for the Marion/Polk Food Bank. Sponsored by Marion-Polk-Yamhill Central Labor Chapter.

McConnell says TPP won't get Senate vote in lame-duck session

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-Kentucky) on Aug. 26 said he will not bring up the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement for a Congressional vote in the post-election lame duck session.

The sweeping trade deal between the United States and 11 Pacific Rim nations was negotiated in secret by government officials and corporate lobbyists. It received fast track status, allowing for an up-or-down vote by Congress, with limited debate and no amendments.

The Obama Administration has made a major push to round up majority support for the TPP and have Congress vote on it this year—before a new administration takes over in 2017. The TPP is opposed by both major party presidential nominees.

McConnell's announcement was applauded by opponents of the trade deal, including organized labor.

"Oregon's unions have not typically agreed with the decisions made by Sen. McConnell, but the choice not to hold a vote on the Trans-Pacific Partnership is absolutely the right call," said Oregon AFL-CIO President Tom Chamberlain.

Chamberlain said Oregon and the United States can't afford another NAFTA-style free-trade deal that sends more jobs

overseas for the sake of corporate profits. "What we need are trade policies designed to give working people opportunities instead of shuttered factories,

unemployment, and a global race to the bottom," he said.

U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley (D-Oregon) said pushing the trade deal through at the last minute

before a new administration takes over "would simply be wrong."

Merkley said the U.S. needs trade policies that work for

working Americans, "not a rush to ram through giant trade agreements that repeat the mistakes of past job-killing trade deals."



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