

# NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS

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VOLUME 117, NUMBER 5

PORTLAND, OREGON

MARCH 4, 2016

## Bernie or Hillary? AFL-CIO won't pick sides

The national AFL-CIO will remain neutral in the presidential primary this year. At the Feb. 23 AFL-CIO Executive Committee meeting



Clinton



Sanders

in San Diego, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka limited political discussion to efforts to raise the minimum wage and defeat the Trans-Pacific Partnership, and tamped down talk about the presidential race.

Northern Virginia Labor Federation president Dan Duncan, who attended the meeting, said union leaders decided there will be no endorsement now in the presidential race between former secretary of state Hillary Clinton and U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders of Vermont.

“And when anybody started commenting on one of the two, Rich would pull the mike,” cutting the speaker off.

At least 23 unions — including several that are not affiliated with the AFL-CIO — have endorsed Clinton. Three AFL-CIO-affiliated unions are backing Sanders. An AFL-CIO federation-wide presidential endorsement requires votes from delegates representing a two-thirds majority of the federation's members. Previous to the Executive Committee session, other union leaders ruled out endorsing any of the Republican presidential hopefuls, all of whom oppose unions in one way or another. — (PAI)

## Deal ends ATI Steelworker lockout

Locked-out workers in six states will return to work March 14 under a settlement between United Steelworkers of America (USW) and Allegheny Technologies Inc. (ATI). The two sides reached a tentative four-year agreement Feb. 22, and members voted on it March 1. ATI locked out the 2,200 workers Aug. 15, 2015 — after USW didn't schedule a vote on the company's final offer by a deadline the company set. The lockout included about 180 workers at ATI's Oremet titanium plant in Albany, Oregon.

The settlement came 10 days after a National Labor Relations Board complaint that the company didn't bargain in good faith, and thus its lockout was illegal. The complaint was scheduled to be heard by a judge May 23, and if upheld, would have made the company liable for back pay — minus any wages or unemployment insurance compensation workers received

since the lockout began. But USW agreed to withdraw charges as part of the settlement. Under the settlement:

- New hires won't be eligible for pension benefits; instead ATI will contribute \$2.65 an hour to a 401(k) plan.
- New hires won't get retiree health insurance, but will get an extra 50 cents to their 401(k)
- ATI may use outside contractors, but assures USW that it won't result in any active employee losing employment.
- ATI will pay 90 percent of health insurance premiums, down from 100 percent previously.
- Health insurance benefits remain the same.
- Workers will get a \$3,500 signing bonus spread out over four years.
- A \$1.50-an-hour quarterly bonus is eliminated; instead base pay is raised \$1 an hour and ATI will contribute 50 cents an hour to a retiree medical fund.
- ATI will reinstate a profit-sharing plan; workers would get from 2 to 6.5 percent of profits each quarter, up to a cap of \$3.75 million.

- All replacement workers hired by ATI will be let go.

ATI also increased a company-paid supplemental unemployment insurance benefit for workers who are laid off when a plant is temporarily idled. That may end up being used immediately for some workers: Two plants in Pennsylvania will remain idled for now, and other plants will be reducing the workforce. All workers will be laid off their first day back, with most then recalled immediately.

In Albany, 130 workers will return, and 30 will be laid off; 12 others retired since the lockout. Picketing will continue until workers are back on the job.

The lockout prompted lawmakers in Oregon and Massachusetts to introduce bills extending unemployment six months for workers locked out in a labor dispute. In Oregon, the bill was heading toward passage as of press time.

## OREGON'S FREE-TRADE DEMOCRATS

# TPP divides labor from U.S. Reps. Blumenauer, Bonamici, and Schrader

Last year, five out of six House Democrats voted against Fast Track — a law that will make it easier for Congress to pass more NAFTA-style trade deals over the next six years. So how is it that all three Portland-area Democrats — Earl Blumenauer, Suzanne Bonamici, and Kurt Schrader — voted for it? Maybe pro-Fast-Track Nike and Intel speak more sweetly and carry a bigger stick? Thanks to Fast Track, President Obama could ask Congress to implement his Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) deal, and within 90 days, Congress would have to vote on it, with limited debate and no amendments allowed. Obama can start that clock ticking at any time.



At a Feb. 17 breakfast meeting, Congressman Kurt Schrader (D-Oregon) and Northwest Oregon Labor Council Executive Director Bob Tackett lock eyes. Tackett — a member of United Steelworkers — worked at the Reynolds Aluminum plant in Troutdale until it closed in 2000. Schrader voted last June to “fast track” future NAFTA-style trade agreements through Congress.

## Schrader: Still reading up on it

By Don McIntosh  
Associate editor

Going into a Northwest Oregon Labor Council (NOLC) breakfast with Clackamas County Democratic Congressman Kurt Schrader, I wasn't sure what to expect. Labor's ties to Schrader frayed last summer when the

“Blue Dog” Democrat voted to “fast track” Congressional approval of future NAFTA-style trade agreements. Schrader was later quoted in a DC blog calling national AFL-CIO president Rich Trumka a “bully” because

## Bonamici: Still undecided

By Michael Gutwig  
Editor and Manager

U.S. Rep. Suzanne Bonamici says she is still undecided on how she will vote on the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP), a major initiative of the Obama Administration.

The Oregon Democrat told the Executive Board of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council on Feb. 22 that she is still reviewing the complex two-thousand-plus page document that was negotiated in secret starting in 2010. The full text of the agreement was released last November.

The United States and 11 other Pacific Rim nations (40 percent of the world's economy) — Australia, Brunei, Canada,

Chile, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, Vietnam and Japan — signed the TPP on Feb. 4, 2016. It now must be ratified by Congress on a “fast track” vote, which means the deal must be voted up-or-down without any amendments. Bonamici supported the bill that implemented fast track — formally known as Trade Promotion Authority.

The AFL-CIO strongly opposes the TPP, while corporate America strongly supports it. Bonamici's district includes Nike and Intel.

The labor federation said it provided the Obama Administration with ideas to improve



Bonamici

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# Portland Parks & Rec to end use of 'permatemps'

By Oct. 1, at least 130 more workers at City of Portland recreation and community centers will have union wages and benefits than a year ago — thanks to an agreement with Laborers Local 483 that was ratified by Portland City Council Feb. 17.

The agreement is the result of a decade-long campaign by the union to end the City's over-use of temp and casual workers. Last May, an arbitrator ruled that the city was violating its collective bargaining agreement with Local 483 by assigning bargaining unit work to low-wage nonunion employees at the rec centers. The agreement City Council ratified on Feb. 17 spells out how the city will comply with the arbitrator's order to "cease and desist" doing that.

"For years, so-called 'casual' staff working in our recreation centers have been doing the same work as their permanent counterparts for almost half the pay," Local 483 President Wesley Buchholz told City Council Feb. 17. "These casual staff — many who have worked for the city nine, 10, even 24 years, year after year — have had to make



Local 483 President Wesley Buchholz and Business Manager Erica Askin speak to Portland City Council before a Feb. 17 vote on a settlement.

do with poverty wages in a city that now has the fastest rising rents in the nation.... City employees, like any type of worker, deserve a wage that allows them to live in the city they serve."

Last July, in a first phase of complying with the arbitrator's ruling,

the city agreed that pre-school teachers, assistant pool managers, and customer service reps should be in the Parks and Rec bargaining unit. The two sides then continued to negotiate over what kinds of work will be union-represented, and the agreement approved Feb. 17 codi-

"City employees, like any type of worker, deserve a wage that allows them to live in the City they serve."

— Local 483 president  
Wesley Buchholz

fies what they agreed to.

Managers estimate the bureau will need an additional \$4.4 million a year to fund all the new positions. If economic conditions prevent the city from funding all the new permanent positions, union, management, and City Council agree to discuss alternatives to reducing the workforce.

Mayor Charlie Hales praised Local 483 for conducting itself in an honorable way, and all five members of City Council praised union and management for their work on the deal before voting for the agreement.

"I consider this agreement one of the most significant achievements of my service on the City Council," said Commissioner Amanda Fritz.

Commissioner Steve Novick was the one killjoy amid all the praise, warning that funding the Parks arbitration settlement has to compete with other budgetary priorities, like the Bureau of Emergency Communications, which he oversees.

"We are going to have to cut services somewhere unless we come up with additional revenue somehow," Novick said.

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## POLITICAL ENDORSEMENTS

# Labor unions weigh in on May 17 primary races

## NW Oregon Labor Council backs Novick in Portland, Schroeder in Multnomah Co.

Delegates to the Northwest Oregon Labor Council issued endorsements for the May 17 primary.

At the **City of Portland**, delegates endorsed commissioners Steve Novick and Amanda Fritz for re-election. The council took no action in the mayoral race, where 12 candidates have filed to succeed Charlie Hales, who is not running for re-election. The top two contenders are state Treasurer Ted Wheeler and Multnomah County Commissioner Jules Bailey. Wheeler is term-limited from office and Bailey is giving up his post to run.

In **Multnomah County**, five candidates are running to succeed Bailey. All of them — Brian Wilson, Eric Zimmerman, Sharon Meieran, Mel Rader, and Marisha Childs — are considered “strong” candidates for labor, so no action was taken to single out just one.

NOLC supports Jessica Vega

Pederson in District 3. The seat is currently held by Judy Shiprack, who is term-limited.

In District 4, delegates endorsed union activist Amanda Schroeder to succeed Diane McKeel, who also is term limited. Lynn Lehrbach, a retired union rep for Teamsters Joint Council No. 37, had filed to run for the seat, but has since withdrawn. Schroeder is president of the American Federation of Government Employees and serves on the Oregon AFL-CIO Executive Board.

In **Clackamas County**, delegates issued a “no endorsement” for incumbent Chair John Ludlow, as well as for District 4 Commissioner Tootie Smith. A no endorsement means the council will actively work to defeat the two Tea Party Republicans. Two current Clackamas County Commissioners — Paul Savas and Jim Bernard — are running against Ludlow for chair. NOLC delegates consider both men decent on labor issues, so they stayed out of the race. Neither Savas or Bernard will

lose their seat if they lose.

Tea Partier Smith faces two opponents — Sandy Mayor Bill King, and Ken Humbertson, a retired probation officer who serves on the Clackamas River Water Board and the Clackamas County Economic Development Commission. Humbertson has some union endorsements, but NOLC decided to stay out of the race for now. Delegates did endorse incumbent Commissioner Martha Schrader for Position 3.

Delegates endorsed a Clackamas County Emergency Communications bond measure, as well as a Milwaukie Library bond measure.

At **Metro**, the labor council endorsed incumbents Sam Chase in District 5 and Bob Stacey in District 6.

In **Columbia County**, NOLC supports Margaret Magruder for commissioner, Position 1, and incumbent Commissioner Tony Hyde for Position 3. The Position 1 seat is an open seat now held by Earl Fisher, who is not seeking re-election.

In **Washington County**, del-

egates backed incumbent Dick Schouten in District 1.

## AFSCME Local 189 endorses both Bailey and Wheeler for Portland mayor

The American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees (AFSCME) Local 189, the union that represents about 1,000 Portland city employees, has dual-endorsed Jules Bailey and Ted Wheeler for mayor in the May primary.

Twelve candidates have filed for the open seat. If no candidate receives 50 percent plus one vote, the top two will advance to the November general election.

“We are aware from their track record in other positions that both Bailey and Wheeler have been great for working people,” said Local 189 President Mark Gipson. “Neither one has worked for the city directly before, but both candidates have been excellent with our fellow AFSCME members in their roles with Multnomah County and in state government, and we simply couldn’t zero in on one or the other.

“It is a good ‘problem’ to have,” Gipson added.

Local 189 also endorsed incumbent city Commissioners Amanda Fritz and Steve Novick.

“We are thrilled that Commissioner Fritz helped pass the city’s family leave and sick leave laws,” said Gipson. “Commissioner Novick has always been accessible to hear our concerns, and he has long been a local supporter of working people.”

## AFSCME Local 88 endorses in Multnomah County races

AFSCME Local 88, which represents about 3,500 workers at Multnomah County, as well as employees at Transition Projects Inc. and Central City Concern, has issued a series of commissioner endorsements for the May primary election.

Local 88 President Jason Heilbrun, a senior business systems analyst for the county, announced the following endorsements:

- **Multnomah Commission Dist. 1:** Dual endorsement for Brian Wilson and Eric Zimmerman.
- **Multnomah Commission Dist. 3:** Jessica Vega Pederson.

## ▪ Multnomah Commission

**Dist. 4:** Amanda Schroeder.

“The dynamics of District 1 changed, in particular, when Commissioner Jules Bailey announced his candidacy for mayor in early January,” said Heilbrun. “Given the short notice and the presence of two candidates who really rose to the top, we ultimately decided a dual endorsement in that race was the best option.”

Heilbrun said Schroeder has strong labor roots as the president of her federal government employees local union when she worked for the Veteran’s Administration. Schroeder also is a member of the Oregon AFL-CIO Executive Board.

Local 88’s endorsement process included a written questionnaire, an interview with the union’s Political Action Committee and a candidate forum with all candidates. Ultimately proposed endorsements are debated and voted on at a general membership meeting. Heilbrun notes all Local 88 endorsements came by a two-thirds majority vote.

## Tim Probst gets early backing from Washington AFL-CIO

The Washington State Labor Council (WSLC) has endorsed Tim Probst, Democratic candidate for State Senate in the 17th District covering eastern Vancouver and other parts of southwest Clark County east of I-205.

The seat is currently held by Republican Don Benton. He announced earlier this year that he will not seek re-election.

Probst is the first candidate the WSLC has recommended for the 2016 election cycle. It’s only the third time in the labor federation’s history that it has endorsed a candidate prior to its political endorsement convention (to be held May 21). The other candidates receiving early support were U.S. Sen. Maria Cantwell and former State Rep. Tami Green.

But with the importance of the 17th District, and an incumbent not running, the Southwest Washington Central Labor Council urged the WSLC to take action at its February Executive Board meeting.

Earlier this year, Probst received endorsements from IBEW Local 48 and Vancouver Fire Fighters Local 452.

Probst served two terms as a state representative for the 17th Legislative District. In 2012, he gave up his seat to run against Benton. He lost by 78 votes.

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## NATIONAL

# Teamsters retirees fight plan to cut Central States Pension benefits

By Larry Sillanpa  
Editor, Duluth Labor World

DULUTH, Minn. (PAI) — A half mile from their union hall, over 220 retired members of Teamsters Local 346 gathered at Holy Family Catholic Church in Duluth Jan. 21 to fight for their pensions.

But it's not just a Teamsters fight. As many as 200 multi-employer pension funds covering 1.5 million American workers could be in jeopardy.

The Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act (MPRA) of 2014, signed into law as part of the omnibus spending bill, gives trustees of underfunded pension plans the green light to cut pension payouts for current retirees — in order to save the funds going forward.

Decades ago, the Teamsters Central States Pension Fund was one of the best union pension funds in the nation. Teamsters were retiring after 30 years of service to a signatory employer and taking home pensions in the \$3,000-a-month range. Central States trustees say those days are over: The Chicago-based fund has been in "critical" status for some time.

In October, trustees notified 273,000 retirees in 38 states that their pensions would be cut by as much as 50 to 70 percent. The "rescue plan" will ultimately affect 400,000 Teamsters and will decimate the pensions of many young members working today. Trustees filed an application with the U.S. Treasury Department to begin cutting benefits for current and future Teamster retirees on July 1, 2016.

To fight back, Teamster retiree chapters have created Committees to Protect Pensions. Committee members say it was Central States managers and trustees, the Wall Street fund managers they used, and the federal government that fell asleep at the wheel and caused most of the pension fund's financial problems.

Congressman Rick Nolan (D-Minn.) attended the Teamster re-

tiree meeting in Duluth to say he's in their fight with them.

The head of Central States supports the application for benefit cuts, but Teamsters President Jim Hoffa Jr. doesn't. Hoffa strongly supports legislation (S. 1631) introduced last year by U.S. Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vt.), and U.S. Representatives Nolan and Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) to undo the Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act. So do several other unions, notably the Machinists. They argued hard against the law before Congress approved it.

Retired Teamster Local 346 Secretary-Treasurer Sherm Liimatainen — part of the Duluth area's leadership group fighting the pension cuts — has traveled to Ohio, Illinois, and Wisconsin to help the fight-back effort.

"We have been betrayed by our fiduciary agents," Liimatainen told the Duluth gathering. "[The Central States trustees] failed to protect us from Wall Street predators."

Liimatainen said Wall Street firms charged exorbitant fees and then used Teamster pension funds to shore up weak funds that they (the firms) had created for their rich VIP investors. Now

Central States trustees are telling retirees the rescue plan is the one and only solution. Trustees want retirees to vote "yes" for it in a "Participants' Ratification Process" that the Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act requires. Foes of the rescue plan say the whole idea is bogus, because no matter how retirees vote, the Treasury Department can go ahead and approve the pension cuts. Plus, not voting is considered a "yes" vote, and many retirees may not be healthy enough, or technologically savvy enough, to understand what is happening to their pensions.

So the fight-back committees are asking retirees to sign petitions against the plan and to vote "no" so they could have legal status to continue to challenge the cuts. The committees also cre-

ated a Teamsters Pension Protection Hotline, 1-888-979-9806, to allow retirees and members to urge lawmakers to pressure the Treasury Department to reject the Central States application.

Workers' pension committee members also say the Central States trustees allowed many employers to not make full pension contributions by creating a "distressed employer" provision — and they didn't offset those losses. The committees are calling for Central States trustees to resign — and they want a federal investigation into how things got so bad.

Under a 1989 consent decree, the government looked over everything the Teamsters did after mob-related connections and illegal activity were uncovered. The consent decree was lifted just a year ago, ending 25 years of government supervision of the Teamsters. Retiree committee members say the oversight flopped. They also fault the U.S. Department of Labor, the Treasury Department, and the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) for poor oversight.

The PBGC was created in 1974 as part of the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA), a federal law that sets minimum standards for most pension and health plans in private industry to provide protection for individuals in the plans. PBGC is supposed to protect pensions, but is almost insolvent itself. The agency's looming financial crunch allows Central States trustees to argue that PBGC will be insolvent at the same time as their pension fund — in what the retirees call another excuse for the need for their "rescue plan."

Just in recent U.S. history, the federal government has bailed out savings and loans, Fannie Mae, Freddie Mac, the auto industry, and Wall Street ("too big to fail") banks. And it was the federal government that allowed PBGC to operate undercapital-

## Cuts coming to some union pensions

Under the Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act of 2014, trustees of severely distressed multi-employer pension plans can reduce benefits for current and future retirees — if doing so can save the plan from future insolvency. Plans are allowed to cut benefits if they're forecasted to run out of money within 15 years (or 20 years if they have more than twice as many retirees as active workers). Benefits can't be cut at all for retirees aged 80 or over, or who are receiving a disability pension, and retirees ages 75 to 79 are subject to smaller cuts than those under 75. And trustees are required to start the cuts with those whose employers went out of business or otherwise withdrew from the plan without paying all of their

obligations. Trustees can't cut benefits more than the amount needed to prevent insolvency. And no benefits can be cut below 110 percent of the amount guaranteed by the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC) — its maximum benefit is \$1,072.50 a month for a retiree with 30 years of service.

The Treasury Department has received applications under the MPRA from Teamster Local 469 Pension Fund in New Jersey, and Iron Workers Local 17 Pension Fund of Ohio.

The Pension Rights Center, an advocacy group, maintains a list of multiemployer plans that have notified the federal government that they are in "critical and declining" status, and could file proposals to reduce benefits. It currently has 52 entries.

ized for 40 years, jeopardizing the retirement security of the taxpaying American workers it was created to protect.

"We can fix this thing," Congressman Nolan told the Local 346 retirees in Duluth. "By God, if we found a way to fix Wall Street when they needed it, we can fix the pensions of those who paid into them."

Nolan, Kaptur and 16 other House Democrats are urging Treasury to reject the Central States rescue plan. They are pushing the Keep Our Pension Promises Act (HR2844) to repeal the Multi-Employer Pension Reform Act and shore up the PBGC by closing two tax loopholes used almost entirely by wealthy estates to reduce their tax burdens.

Another bill, the Pension Accountability Act (S2147, HR4029) would restore fairness and credibility in the voting process for pension cuts that may be proposed by plans.

Pat Radzak, retired secretary-treasurer of Teamsters Local 346, said he was sick about what was happening to their retirees.

"We told them forever to let wage increases go and put everything they could into their pensions so they'd have secure retirements," Radzak said. "And look what they got for it. It's just not right."

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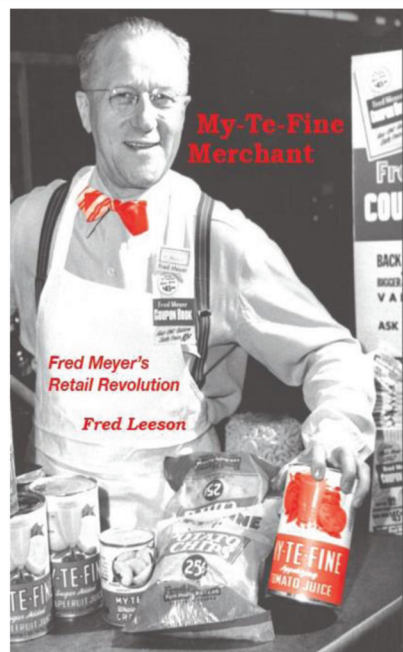
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## STAT OF THE MONTH

Between 2007 and 2012, the Sunlight Foundation reports, CEOs at 200 top U.S. corporations had their firms spend \$5.8 billion on federal lobbying and campaign contributions.

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## IBEW 48: Diversity on the rise

A new online video by the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers (IBEW) calls attention to diversity in Portland-headquartered Local 48. Local 48 was an all-white all-male union until 1941, but today, about one in five are women and minority members.

The online video, produced by Denver-based Oswego

Creative Inc., is part of IBEW Hour Power, a weekly series sponsored by the IBEW to highlight union pride, professionalism and success.

IBEW Hour Power's Feb. 4 episode, “IBEW Local 48: Committed to Diversity,” features archival images and brief interviews by host Matthew Walton of African-American members of Local 48, includ-

ing former business manager Keith Edwards, retirees Ricky Brames and Terry Tims, and current apprentice Domonique Lartigue. Also appearing are current business manager Gary Young, female apprentice Theresa Riehl, and Asian-American apprentice Kevin Eng.

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## UNION MEETING NOTICES

### AFSCME 189

Executive Board meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 8.  
General membership meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, March 22.  
Meetings are held at 6025 E. Burnside, Portland.

### Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers 114

Executive Board meets 8 a.m. Tuesday, March 29, at 7931 NE Halsey, Suite 300, Portland.

### Cement Masons 555

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, March 17, 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.

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 meets 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 the Meeting Hall. Doors open at 5:30 p.m.

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

DEATH ASSESSMENT: No. 2470, Stephen A. Foster and No. 2471, Claude E. Chamberlin. The March 2016 assessment is \$1.50.

### Elevator Constructors 23

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, March 10, preceded by 5 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 12779 NE Whitaker Way, Portland.

### Fire Fighters 452

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

### Fire Fighters 1660

Members meet 8 a.m. Thursday, March 10, at 4411 SW Sunset Dr., Lake Oswego.

### Glass Workers 740

Eugene area members meet 5 p.m. Monday, March 7, at Best Western Grand Manor Inn, 971 Kruse Way, Springfield.

Salem area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at Best Western Plus, Mill Creek Inn, 3125 Ryan Drive SE, Salem.

### Insulators 36

Executive Board meets 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 9. Members meet 7 p.m. Friday, March 11.

Meetings are at 11145 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

### Iron Workers 29

Members meet 7 p.m., Thursday, April 7, 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, March 10.

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24, in the event a quorum is not present and for the purpose of conducting regular union business and Nominations and Election of Judges of Election and Nominations for International Convention Delegates (2). Must present dues receipt paid through February or March to enter meeting. Nominees must be present. Nominees must be members in good standing for 24 months (2 years) as of date of nomination and date of election.

Meetings are at 11620 NE Ainsworth Cir., Portland.

### Laborers 483 Municipal Employees

Members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 15, at the Musicians Hall, 325 NE 20th Ave., Portland.

### Laborers/Vancouver 335

Members meet 7 p.m. Monday, March 7, preceded by a 6:15 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at the Vancouver Labor Center, 2212 NE Andresen Rd., Vanc., Wash.

### Linoleum Layers 1236

Executive Board meets 5 p.m. Monday, March 7.

Portland area members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, March 24 – SPECIAL CALL TO VOTE ON WAGE ALLOCATION.

Meetings are at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

### Molders 139B

Members meet 6:30 p.m. Thursday, March 17, 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, March 8, at 3815 Columbia St., Vancouver. PLEASE NOTE: Nominations for Office & Professional Employees International Union, Local 11 will be held at this meeting.

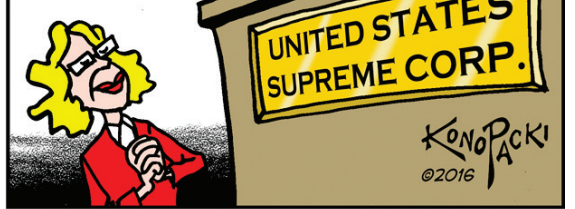
### Operating Engineers 701

District 4 members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6,

I DON'T CARE IF WORKERS DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED A LABOR UNION, I REFUSE TO PAY THE DUES THAT BENEFIT ALL!



YOU ARE A CHAMPION OF INDIVIDUAL FREEDOM! AN EXEMPLAR OF PERSONAL LIBERTY!



I DON'T CARE IF CITIZENS DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED A GOVERNMENT, I REFUSE TO PAY THE TAXES THAT BENEFIT ALL!



at the Fairfield Inn, 2014 W 7th St, The Dalles. PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION.

District 4 members meet 6 p.m., Thursday, April 7, at the Pheasant Cafe, 149 E. Main St., Hermiston.

District 1 members meet 6 p.m. Friday April 8, at the Red Lion, 510 Kelso Dr., Kelso.

District 1 & 5 members meet 10 a.m. Saturday, April 9, at 555 E. First St., Gladstone.

District 3 members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 13, at North Bend/Coos Bay Labor Center, 3427 Ash St., North Bend.

District 3 members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, April 14, at Holiday Inn Express, 285 Peninger Rd., Central Point.

District 3 members meet 6 p.m. Friday, April 15, at Sleep Inn and Suites, 2855 Edenbower Blvd., Roseburg.

District 2 and District 5 members meet 10 a.m. Saturday, April 16, at Comfort Suites, 969 Kruse Way, Springfield.

### Painters & Drywall Finishers 10

Members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, March 16, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.  
www.iupatlocal10.org.

### Plasterers 82

Members meet 5 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

### Roofers & Waterproofers 49

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, March 10.  
Executive Board meets 7 p.m. Thursday, April 7.  
Meetings are at 5032 SE 26th Ave, Portland. (Phone: 503 232-4807)

### Sheet Metal Workers 16

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS will be held in March to discuss and the possible action to elect a fourth Trustee for Local 16. If approved, nominations and the election will be held in April at the Portland/Eugene meeting only.

Portland members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at the Sheet Metal Training Center, 2379 NE 178th Ave., Portland.

Medford area members meet 4 p.m. Wednesday, March 9, at Wild River Pizza, 2684 N. Pacific Hwy., Medford.

Eugene area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at the 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, March 17, at Abby's Pizza, 997 First St., Coos Bay.  
Women of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16 (WOSM) meets 4:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, at Beaulahland, 118 NE 29th Ave., Portland. Children are welcome.

### Sign Painters & Paint Makers 1094

Members meet 3:30 p.m. Monday, March 21, in the District Office, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

### United Association 290

Portland area members meet 7:30 p.m. Friday, March 18, 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. Brookings area members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 22. Please contact agent Craig Spjut at 707-496-1767 for location confirmation.

Coos Bay area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at the Coos Bay Training Center, 2nd & Kruse, Coos Bay.

Klamath Falls area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at 4816 S. 6th St., Klamath Falls.

The Dalles area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 22, at the United Steelworkers Local 9170 Union Hall, The Dalles.

### CENTRAL LABOR CHAPTERS

#### Central Oregon

Delegates meet 5:30 p.m. Monday, March 28, at the Social Justice Center, 155 NE Irving Ave., Bend.

#### Lane County

Delegates meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, at 1116 South A St., Springfield.

#### Linn-Benton-Lincoln

Delegates meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, March 23, preceded by a 7 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 1400 Salem Ave., Albany.

#### Marion-Polk-Yamhill

Executive Board meets 6:30 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, followed by a 7 p.m. general meeting at 4735 Liberty Road S, Salem.

#### Southern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, March 8, at the Labor Temple, 4480 Rogue Valley Hwy. #3, Central Point.

#### Southwestern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Monday, March 7, at the Bay Area Labor Center, 3427 Ash, North Bend.

### CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

#### Northwest Oregon

Delegates meet 7 p.m. Monday, March 28, at IBEW Local 48 Hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

#### Southwest Washington

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, April 6, preceded by an Executive Board meeting, at the Laborers Hall, 2212 NE Andresen, Vancouver.

### BUILDING TRADES COUNCILS

#### Columbia-Pacific

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 8 and March 15, at Kirkland Union Manor II, 3535 SE 86th, Portland.

#### Lane, Coos, Curry & Douglas

Delegates meet at noon Wednesday, March 23, at the Springfield Training Center, 2861 Pierce Parkway, Springfield.

#### Salem

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Thursday, April 7, at the IBEW 280 Training Center, 33309 Hwy. 99E, Tangent.

### METAL TRADES COUNCIL

#### Portland and Vicinity

Executive Board meets 10 a.m. Thursday, March 10.

Delegates meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, March 22.

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

### HAPPENINGS

The annual **Public Employment Relations Conference** will be held Thursday, April 14, at the Salem Conference Center. Hosted by the Labor Education and Research Center at the University of Oregon, the conference features workshops and guest speakers. For more information, visit [lerc.uoregon.edu/events/perc-xxix](http://lerc.uoregon.edu/events/perc-xxix).

**The Inner City Blues Festival** in the 1980s & 1990s was a community event for various civil rights and social justice causes. It has returned for the past five years to support Health Care for All-Oregon ([www.hcao.org](http://www.hcao.org)) the campaign to bring universal health coverage to everyone. Musicians support this movement with two stages of eight performances. For tickets and more information visit the event page.

- **Time:** Saturday, April 16, 6 p.m. to midnight; doors open at 5:30
- **Place:** Eagles Lodge, 7611 N Exeter, Portland

## RETIREE MEETING NOTICES

### AFSCME

Retirees meet 10 a.m. Tuesday, March 15, 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, March 9, at Hometown Buffett, 10542 SE Washington St., Portland.

### Iron Workers 29

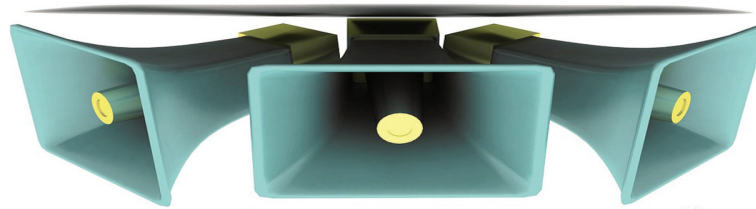
Retirees meet at noon Wednesday, March 9, at 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle, Portland for a catered lunch.

### Sheet Metal Retirees

Retirees meet 11:30 a.m. Thursday, March 10, at Izzy's Pizza, 10307 NE 102nd, Portland.

### United Association 290

Retirees meet 10 a.m. Thursday, March 17, at 20210 SW Teton Ave., Tualatin for class entitled "Meeting the Challenges of Family Caregiving." Learn about resources in your community, how to cope with the stress and meeting the challenges of caregiving. The class is facilitated by Deborah Letourneau, program coordinator for Washington County Disability, Aging and Veteran Services and Kay Kirkbride, Master Trainer for the Powerful Tools for Caregivers Program.



## "Calling All Shooters! ...Calling All Shooters!"

Rank-and-File Union Members, Family and Friends, register as an individual shooter for only \$75!

You must register **before March 31** to receive the discount (regularly \$150)

For more information or to register, contact Shannon Walker at 360-761-8922 or email to: [shannon@sunrisedental.com](mailto:shannon@sunrisedental.com)

**Saturday, August 27, Salem Trap & Skeet Club, Gervais, Oregon**



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503.914.4005**

**Longview  
360.639.3388**

**Salem  
503.914.4007**

**Salmon Creek  
360.639.3399**

**Western Washington**

- Arlington - 360.282.0803
- Auburn - 253.220.4104
- Bellevue - 425.201.0600
- Bellingham - 360.282.0804
- Bonney Lake - 253.220.4105
- Bothell - 425.201.1703
- Carnation - 425.201.1934
- Everett - 425.201.4343
- Federal Way - 253.220.4106
- Issaquah - 425.201.4411
- Kent - 253.220.4107
- Lakewood - 253.220.4108
- Lynnwood - 425.201.4422
- Maple Valley - 425.201.4433
- Marysville - 360.488.4400

Monroe - 360.639.3300

Mount Vernon -  
360.639.3311

- Olympia - 360.639.3322
- Poulsbo - 360.639.3344
- Puyallup - 253.220.4109
- Redmond - 425.249.3415
- Renton - 425.249.3416
- SeaTac - 206.432.4706
- Seattle - 206.432.4707
- Sequim - 360.639.3355
- Shoreline - 206.432.4708
- Silverdale - 360.639.3366
- Snohomish - 425.577.6755
- Tacoma - 253.220.4110
- Tukwila - 425.577.6775

**Eastern Washington**

- Ellensburg - 509.361.5500
- Kennewick - 509.361.5511
- Moses Lake - 509.361.5522
- Pasco - 509.361.5533
- Spokane - 509.361.5544
- Spokane (North) -  
509.361.5566
- Spokane Valley -  
509.361.5577
- Wenatchee - 509.361.5588
- Yakima - 509.361.5599

## COLLECTIVE BARGAINING

## Nabisco wants to end Bakers' pension

Members of Bakery Confectionery Tobacco and Grain Millers (BCTGM) at Nabisco continued to work after their contract expired Feb. 29. BCTGM refused a request by Nabisco parent company Mondelez International for a temporary contract extension. As a result, the union could strike, or the company could lock out workers, at any time. Further contract talks are scheduled for Baltimore starting March 7.

The Bakers Union represents about 2,200 workers at six Nabisco plants and two distribution centers in the U.S. Local 364 represents 200 workers at Nabisco's Portland Bakery at 100 NE Columbia Boulevard.

During two weeks of bargaining that began Feb. 16 in Charlotte, North Carolina, Mondelez proposed to withdraw from the union's multi-employer B&C

Pension Fund — and instead contribute an equivalent amount to a 401(k)-style retirement savings plan. BCTGM called that unacceptable. With traditional pensions like the B&C Pension Fund, employers invest funds to make sure they can pay a guaranteed monthly benefit; with 401(k)s, all the investment risk is on individual employees.

Mondelez says it wants out of the B&C Pension Fund because the fund is projected to be insolvent within 17 years. But BCTGM negotiator Ron Baker said that doesn't make financial sense: If Mondelez withdraws, by law it would still be required to pay \$900 million to make good on its existing obligations. Baker said that's about \$25 million a year for several decades — about the same as Mondelez is paying now without the extra 401(k) style payments it's pro-

posing.

In what Mondelez called its final offer, emailed to the union Feb. 25, the company is also proposing to reduce its contribution to employee health insurance to 90 percent; right now it pays 100 percent.

BCTGM continues to protest Mondelez' decision to replace several bakery production lines in Chicago with new facilities in Mexico. BCTGM is getting ready to launch a consumer boycott of Mexican-made Nabisco products.

"We are going to be on it like a dog on a bone, and we are not going to let up," Baker said.

## ONLINE EXTRA

BCTGM has produced a powerful video about the 600 Nabisco workers in Chicago who are fighting to save their jobs: [youtu.be/l4gNcoYg\\_qc](http://youtu.be/l4gNcoYg_qc)

## NLRB issues split decision in Walmart case

By Mark Gruenberg  
Press Associates Inc.

WASHINGTON, D.C. — A National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) administrative law judge (ALJ) issued a split decision in a notable case involving anti-union retailer Walmart.

ALJ Jeffrey Carter ordered the firm to rehire 14 workers it illegally fired for standing up for their rights in 2013, and to rescind discipline against 41 more. He ordered the 14 reinstated with back pay.

But that was all. Carter limited the reach of his ruling.

He decided their job actions, part of OURWalmart's nationwide campaign of one-day strikes in 2012 and its "Ride for Respect," which saw members of the workers' group descend on Walmart's Arkansas head-

quarters during its annual meeting the following spring, affected only 30 of the corporation's 4,300 stores in the United States.

The action, aided by the United Food and Commercial Workers, launched its campaign to put public pressure on the giant retailer to improve wages, hours and working conditions at the stores.

After the one-day strikes, and despite prior company statements, Walmart fired the 14 workers and disciplined the others. Both moves broke labor law, Carter found. Walmart illegally threatened the workers for planning to take "protected concerted activity," Carter said. It also illegally "issued disciplinary personal discussions" to workers "because they participated in labor activity on their own time,"

he added.

Walmart officials illegally read the workers "talking points that they could reasonably construe" as a work rule with an illegal ban on strikes, Carter added. And it illegally "coached" the workers for engaging in the protected strike, he explained.

In his 137-page ruling, Carter ordered standard NLRB notices posted at those 30 stores. The notices say Walmart admits it broke labor law against OURWalmart members and promises not to do it again. Carter did not order Walmart to tell workers and managers at other U.S. stores about the ruling. And labor law doesn't issue fines.

OURWalmart, which has since reorganized into another form, had no comment on Carter's decision.

## CELEBRATING BAD-ASS FASHION

Mercy Sham, a recent graduate of the Oregon Tradeswomen pre-apprenticeship program, models workwear at Curious Comedy Theater for the first-ever Tradeswomen Fashion Show. The sold-out Feb. 24 event raised money for Oregon Tradeswomen Inc., a non-profit that works to get more women to enter high-skill, high-wage construction and metal trades.



Photo by Dawn Jones of Redstone / Hearts + Sparks Productions

## COMMUNITY SERVICE



## LOCAL 48 VOLUNTEERS HELP FEED HOMELESS

On Saturday, Feb. 13, members of IBEW Local 48's Reach out and Engage Next-gen Electrical Workers (RENEW) group put together over 140 sack lunches and handed them out to the homeless in downtown Portland. Above, journeyman Perry Fellman and apprentice Kim Cole prepare sandwiches. Left, apprentices Kevin Lux and Kennitha Wade, and material handler Doug Hines get ready to hand out lunches. "It's another great way that Local 48 members are giving back to their communities," said Union Rep Terry Reigle.



## HAPPENINGS

## Knitting for Newborns kicks off 2016 TeamLabor! volunteer program

Labor's Community Service Agency (LCSA) is calling on organized labor's knitting, crochet, and sewing hobbyists in the Portland Metro area to register to participate in an afternoon of crafting benefitting hospitalized children with barriers to health care.

Knitting for Newborns will be held on Sunday, March 13, at the Beaverton Library from 1 to 3 p.m. Admission is by registration only.

The event is sponsored by Hands On Greater Portland and benefits children hospitalized at Virginia Garcia Health Center and Randall Children's Hospital. The knitting program is part of LCSA's TeamLabor!, in partnership with the Northwest Oregon Labor Council and United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

For more information, or to register, go online to [lcsaportland.org](http://lcsaportland.org) and click on the "get involved" tab, or call Eryn Byram at 503-231-4962.

SW Walker Road, Beaverton. Registration opens at 11 a.m. The event is coordinated by the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) Branch 82 and the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, and includes a silent auction. Since its inception in 1989, union members have raised nearly \$400,000 for MDA. For more information, or to sign up and receive fundraising packets and instructions, call Jim Falvey, president of Letter Carriers Branch 82 at 503-493-5903. To donate silent auction items, call Kyle Ellerbe at 503-223-3177 or email [kellerbe@mdausa.org](mailto:kellerbe@mdausa.org).

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Mon-Fri 9-6, Sat 9:30-5:30, Sun 12-6

The 27th annual **Labor Bowl Challenge for Muscular Dystrophy** will be held Sunday, April 17, from noon to 2:30 p.m. at Sunset Lanes, 12770

# Labor 100 Years Ago — March 4, 1916

A look back at the front page stories of the Oregon Labor Press, March 4, 1916. A digital version of the front page can be seen on our web site at [www.nwlaborpess.org](http://www.nwlaborpess.org)

## \*What Cigar Industry Means to Portland

Editor Labor Press: In your issue of the 26th inst. I read with satisfaction that the Portland grocers have decided to boost "Home Industry," and as an

evidence of good faith have through their organization taken practical steps to that end.

The cigar industry can be

made a valuable asset to Portland if the grocers and other dealers in cigars will carry out the program, which the Retail Grocers' Association declares

is the proper method of aiding Portland manufacturers.

In order to bring forcibly to the attention of retail merchants, and also to the users of cigars, I want to show just what it means to Portland when a "home made" article is

given the preference (the same logic applies to all commodities made here, whether they be candies, brooms, shoes, furniture, clothing, food products, or cigars), but I will illustrate by giving a few figures dealing with that branch of our industry.

In Portland there are some 250,000 people. Of that number about 50,000 are male adults, and of the latter number about 30,000 use cigars. A conservative estimate of the number of cigars used every day in Portland is 100,000 — 3,000,000 a month — 36,000,000 a year. The average cigarmaker turns out about 50,000 cigars a year, working 48 weeks, which means that it would require 720 cigarmakers to supply the Portland trade. At the rate figured the average weekly wage would be about \$18 per man, or \$622,080 a year—a payroll not to be sneezed at.

Of course there is no likelihood of the complete success of a home industry, but if one-half of the cigars used here are made here, it means in round numbers a yearly payroll of \$300,000 distributed among more than 300 workmen.

We see in the great dailies of the city, occasionally, that the Chamber of Commerce is boosting "Home Industry"; that the Ad Club is doing good work for the city; but Portland, despite its mild climate, its wonderful highway, its attractive scenery, its splendid location, will never be a successful city in the broad sense, until it becomes a city of "industries"; and it will never become a city of industries until its citizens conclude that home-made goods are worthy of preference, all things being equal.

The grocers are to be commended upon their initial, practical step. The manufacturers and the consumers should co-operate.

E.J. STACK



Volume XV. Number 47 Portland, Oregon, Saturday, March 4, 1916 Whole Number 839

### Kay Opposes State Guaranty Of Bonds

Editor, Oregon Labor Press: In answer to many requests for an expression as to the proposed initiative bill to amend the Constitution, which will provide for the bonding of the State for irrigation, drainage and rural credits, not to exceed two per cent (which would mean \$18,000,000), have to say that I am opposed to the proposed measure for several reasons.

The proposition to initiate this amendment first came from the irrigation Congress, which met in Portland in December and, therefore, came from people particularly interested in reclaiming desert lands. A similar measure, which came from the same source, was put on the ballot two years ago, and provided for bonding the State for irrigation and road building; the latter being the more popular issue of the two, yet the amendment did not carry in a single county in the State, it being defeated by one hundred and thirty-five thousand (135,000) against forty-nine thousand (49,000).

There is a popular demand for some system of rural credits and the people interested in irrigation have taken advantage of this and propose to amend the Constitution, which will link together the bonding of the State for irrigation, drainage and rural credits, thinking the latter issues will carry the former one through.

Now, in my opinion, there is absolutely no demand at this time for the State bonding itself for irrigation purposes, inasmuch as there are now on the market

thousands of acres of reclaimed lands ready for settlement, for which there is absolutely no sale. In three years ago the State appropriated \$450,000 to reclaim twenty-two thousand five hundred acres of land, known as the Tumalo Project. There were seven thousand same on new contracts in the old Columbia Southern Company, which the State permitted the renewal of; they receiving credit for amount paid the Columbia Southern Company. This leaves fifteen thousand five hundred acres of land reclaimed by the State for sale, of which there have been sold less than one thousand acres, although it has been on the market for nearly two years. This land is favorably located and is considered first class, yet the Desert Land Board is unable to find purchasers for it. There are over seven thousand five hundred acres of patented lands, or listed for patents, in the Central Oregon Irrigation Company for sale. And still further, of the fifteen thousand acres of reclaimed lands in the Government project in Umatilla County there are about five thousand three hundred acres actually being cultivated; the rest being in the hands of speculators or the title remaining with the Government. There are likewise thousands of acres of reclaimed lands for sale in the hands of

(Continued on Page 8.)

PRINTERS WILL DISCUSS BASEBALL ORGANIZATION

New Developments Cause Change of Procedure—Strictly Printer Organization Thought Possible.

Immediately following the regular meeting of M. T. U. No. 58, Sunday, March 5, there will be a gathering of baseballists, who will proceed to find out what sentiment exists as to the forming of a baseball league for the coming season. Many of the players of the past season are now getting interested and some of these have called at our headquarters to give assurance of their support in case a printers' league is to enter the field.

It is hoped that all interested will give a few minutes of their time to this first meeting, that we may be able to get on a working basis as soon as possible if it is decided to go ahead.

A few suggestions here would not be amiss, Treasurer Lindquist should be on hand to tell what he knows of financing such a league. Manager Robertson should also be on hand to tell how he pulled in the pennant last season. We already have one application for the position of umpire—Henry Knight. We need others. Some of us do not think he would do. We should have a first-class scorekeeper—one who really knows the game. Who will come forward? We have plenty of boosters (some of them make too much noise), so we will not be shy in that regard. Even those of us who umpired a game or two last

season and got in bad with most of the players should come to this meeting. Most of the mistakes were minor ones, and would not happen again—perhaps. We have many new men among us this year—and they are willing to get in the game. We should give them a chance.

President Howard will undoubtedly hurry the meeting along in order that he may get into this gabfest himself. "Chas." is some ballplayer, too, if you care to know.

At any event most of the old reliables will be there. Some of us will not have as much to say this year; but we can at least look on.

If we decide to start—let's do it right away—that we may arrange for grounds and other important items before it is too late.

You may think this notice a little late; it is. But there is less time to forget it. Get that?

MRS. SHARP TO SPEAK.

Mrs. Josephine Sharp will speak at the regular meeting of the Oregon Single Tax Association, Saturday evening in Room H, Central Library. Subject, "The public market necessary to the success of the vacant lot development movement."

### CIVIL SERVICE WORKERS

Editor Labor Press, Portland, Ore.: Sir, I have waited, no doubt in vain, for Mr. Irving's excellent defense of the Civil Service Workers, to make its appearance in the Oregonian, Journal and Telegram, as it did in the Labor Press, but to date I have not found it. This, of course, is due to their space being so valuable that it can not be used to advance so unimportant a cause as that of the working people; and not at all to their being unfair to the working class; for we all know how these papers are devoted to our interests, and Civil Service Workers are workers just the same. However, this same valuable space always spreads itself before any official who sees fit to knock the Civil Service Worker, or the general cause of labor.

The big dailies of the city seem desirous of creating the belief that Civil Service is a sort of polite charity, maintained for the purpose of caring for the city's incompetent citizens, who are unable to care for themselves; and that these same incompetent drones have been so particularly efficient and energetic that they have fastened a leechlike institution upon the city, that is rapidly sucking its blood, and from which the city has no hope of escape.

Even the Mayor said, in his address before an audience of ministers, that he could increase the efficiency of his department 25 per cent if he could discharge a few men he regards as incompetent. It would have been better said had he had told the plain truth and said he could make some increase in the efficiency of his department if he would discharge a few men who are incompetent, for there are men in his, and other departments, who are decidedly incompetent, but who are not discharged.

This, however, is the fault of the men in charge, for neither the Civil Service Commission, nor the Civil Service Workers' Association stand in the way of the discharge of incompetent men, and such men are retained on the city's pay roll only when the officials in charge of their particular departments chose to retain them.

One great benefit that the Association has for its members is the co-operative retaining of an able attorney who will defend them in the event of a trial before the Civil Service Commission, and I am unable to see that this benefit does or can work any injury to the city, for the city can make no permanent step forward by denying or attempting to deny a fair trial to its accused workers, and a trial without a good attorney for the accused is not a trial but a farce. And so far as I can learn this is the aim of the Civil Service Association and all it means to do.

INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS COMMITTEE.

The recently appointed City Industrial Relations Committee will meet in Room G of the Central Library, Tuesday evening, March 14, at 8 o'clock.

At this meeting the committee will organize by the election of officers and will outline the work to be undertaken.

Each member of the committee is urged to be present.

### What Cigar Industry Means To Portland

Editor Labor Press: In your issue of the 26th inst. I read with satisfaction that the Portland grocers have decided to boost "Home Industry," and as an evidence of good faith have through their organization taken practical steps to that end.

The cigar industry can be made a valuable asset to Portland if the grocers and other dealers in cigars will carry out the program, which the Retail Grocers' Association declares is the proper method of aiding Portland manufacturers.

IN ORDER TO BRING FORCIBLY TO THE ATTENTION OF RETAIL MERCHANTS, AND ALSO TO THE USERS OF CIGARS, I WANT TO SHOW JUST WHAT IT MEANS TO PORTLAND WHEN A "HOME MADE" ARTICLE IS GIVEN THE PREFERENCE (THE SAME LOGIC APPLIES TO ALL COMMODITIES MADE HERE, WHETHER THEY BE CANDIES, BROOMS, SHOES, FURNITURE, CLOTHING, FOOD PRODUCTS, OR CIGARS), BUT I WILL ILLUSTRATE BY GIVING A FEW FIGURES DEALING WITH THAT BRANCH OF OUR INDUSTRY.

STEREOTYPERS RAISE WAGES.

President Freil, of the International Stereotypers and Electrotypers' Union, reports wage increases in the following cities: Indianapolis, Detroit, Seranton, Utica, Lincoln, Neb., San Antonio, Texas, and St. Joseph, Mo. Contracts have been signed in all cases.

BARBERS ORGANIZE.

Barbers at Christopher, Ill. have organized and received a charter from the international affiliated to the A. F. of L. Retail clerks are discussing organization, as are several other crafts in this vicinity.

LINEMEN WIN STRIKE.

Electrical Workers' Union has won its strike at St. Louis, Mo., against the Kinloch Telephone Company, which attempted to abolish a wage scale. About 175 men are affected.

WEBSTER'S DICTIONARY UNFAIR TO PRINTERS.

The following resolution was adopted by the A. F. of L. Convention in San Francisco: "Whereas, The G. and C. Merriam Company, of Springfield, Mass., are having Webster's New International Dictionary and other dictionaries published in non-union or unfair offices; and

SENATOR HOKE SMITH OBJECTS TO REPORT.

Senator Hoke Smith, of Georgia, blocked an attempt to have the Senate consider printing the report of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations, which has been partially approved by the House.

When Senator Fletcher, chairman of the committee on printing, asked for unanimous consent to consider the joint resolution, Senator Smith objected. This forced a postponement of the question.

It is believed that the Senators who favor publicity will not permit one of their colleagues to defeat the purpose by continually objecting, and that eventually a rollcall will be demanded.

The joint resolution which Senator Fletcher attempted to have considered is as follows: "Resolved by the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, that the final report of the United States Commission on Industrial Relations, including the report of Basil M. Manly, director of research and investigation, and the individual reports and statements of the several commissioners, together with all the testimony taken at its hearings, except exhibits submitted in printed form, which shall be appropriately referred to in said testimony, be printed as a Senate document under the direction of the joint committee on printing; and that 10,000 additional copies be printed and bound in cloth, of which 2500 copies shall be for the use of the Senate and 7500 copies for the use of the House of Representatives; and that of the final report of said commission 100,000 additional copies be printed, of which 30,000 copies shall be for the use of the Senate and 70,000 copies for the use of the House of Representatives. Provided, that the superintendent of documents is hereby authorized to reprint copies of the same for sale or distribution as provided by law."

SOCIALIST LECTURE.

"Syndicalism" is the subject for the Sunday night lecture at Arion Hall, headquarters of the Socialist party. The lecture is under the direction of the city central committee. Jack Gearty is the speaker and the lecture will commence at 8:15. Free to the public.

AGE LIMIT IS LOWERED.

The age limit for the issuance of marine licenses has been lowered from 21 to 19 years by the steamboat inspection service of the Fed-



UNFAIR MEAT SHOPS

Following is a partial list of the shops that are unfair to the Meateuters' Union: Day City Market, Fourth and Yamhill streets. Boston Packing Co., Third and Ankeny streets. Jones Market, Fourth and Alder streets. Multnomah Market, 512 Washington street. Pacific Market, 186 Fourth street. Bennett's Market, Fourth and Yamhill streets. Sawyer's Market, 413 Everett street. Parker's Market, 149 First street. State Market, First and Salmon streets. People's Market and Grocery Co., First and Taylor streets.

# ... Schrader: Still reading up on it

From Page 1

the labor federation began running ads against Democrats who voted for fast track. At a private meeting between Schrader and NOLC's executive board Dec. 14, things were reportedly

heated, and the Feb. 17 breakfast was a follow-up to that.

Schrader showed up in cowboy boots, jeans, and an oversized belt buckle, and opened the breakfast meeting with a run-through of Congress' recent accomplishments. Under re-

cently-deposed Speaker John Boehner — “a good man who tried to get things done” Schrader said — Congress passed a government budget and highway fund extension, ended some punitive features of No Child Left Behind, and fixed a cost-of-living-increase problem for Social Security beneficiaries.

“I’m bullish on America,” Schrader told the several dozen labor officials. “You look at the basics, and most of you all are at work, which is a great thing. . . . You can’t get a home, can’t build them fast enough these days. Car sales are going great, and the country looks pretty god-dang good.”

Then it was time for questions. Nearly every question and comment was about trade policy, particularly the pending Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) deal. If approved by Congress, the TPP would eliminate tariffs and expand the rights of foreign investors in 11 other Pacific Rim nations — including Vietnam, Malaysia, and Brunei, where workers lack basic labor rights. Schrader voted against a NAFTA-style trade deal with Colombia, but he voted for similar deals with Korea, and Panama, and there’s every expectation he’ll vote for the TPP.

“I feel like you turned your back on American workers,” Teamsters Joint Council 37 rep-

resentative Mark MacPherson told Schrader at the breakfast.

The text of the secretly-negotiated TPP was released to Congress and the public Nov. 5. Schrader said he’s currently reading through the TPP’s labor chapter, but he spoke of the deal as if it’s still unknown what’s in it: “For me to vote yes on a trade agreement, the trade agreement would have to show significant progress on the issues you talked about . . . . This new agreement has to have core labor standards in it.”

Union trade policy experts say the TPP’s labor rights provisions are stronger than any previous trade deal, but are still too weak. For example, under a side agreement, Vietnam is committing to allow independent unions within five years, but if it doesn’t keep that commitment, there would be up to two years of consultations, and only then could there be a return to tariffs — and that’s only if the U.S. president at the time chooses to enforce Vietnam’s commitment.

Schrader didn’t get into those specifics.

“It’s a win-win,” Schrader said of the TPP. “Our brothers and sisters around the world have better opportunities to earn a decent wage, and in so doing, they’ll be risen into the middle class of their respective countries, and we can sell them our stuff that we make here in America.”

What about the trade deficits that have followed nearly every trade agreement going back to NAFTA? Oregon Fair Trade Campaign director Michael Shannon asked Schrader to think about that, and the impact on American jobs if Congress approves more such agreements.

Schrader said NAFTA “clearly took American jobs and workers to Mexico,” but he blamed America’s trade deficit on the strong dollar and bad economic conditions overseas — not on past trade agreements — and said Oregon blueberry, small fruit and vegetable farmers think the Korea agreement is a good deal.

After 40 minutes, Schrader said he had to go. As he made his way out of the room, I asked him if he still thinks the national AFL-CIO president is a bully. [In June, he referred to Trumka as “the bully” in an interview with the blog Roll Call]

No, Schrader said: Trumka has since softened his tone and apologized.

“Do you think it’s wrong for labor to run ads critical of Democrats who voted for fast track?” I asked.

“Not wrong, just foolish,” Schrader said — given the risk of losing seats to Republicans.

After Schrader left, several labor leaders gave him credit for appearing before them and listening. But none thought he’s likely to vote against the TPP.



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TC CONTENDER 222 scoped and 22 scoped barrels, dies/cases, \$600. 541-

544-2030

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CASH PAID, old fishing tackle, wood plugs, reels, creels, salmon fishing photos, etc. 503-775-4166

COLLECTOR PAYS cash for older toys, oil paintings, American art pottery, and costume jewelry. 503 703-5952

NEED 1916 INDIAN PARTS for cannonball run; Harley parts for restorations. 503-351-5054

1974 FORD 250 pickup body parts or whole truck. 503-852-6791

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### HOW TO SUBMIT A CLASSIFIED AD

Indicate which union you are a member of, and send your ad to [michael492@comcast.net](mailto:michael492@comcast.net) or by mail to PO Box 13150, Portland OR 97213. We publish the first and third Fridays of each month, and the deadline is one week prior to that.

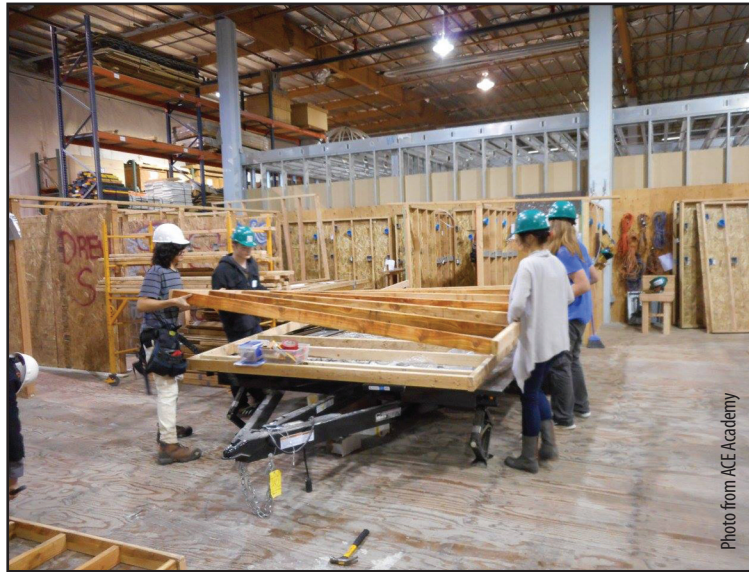
# Construction charter school in East

Enrollment dwindled at union-backed ACE Academy, and the Carpenters needed the space.

The Architectural, Construction and Engineering (ACE) Academy, a public charter school located at the Pacific Northwest Carpenter's Institute (PNCI) in East Multnomah County, will close at the end of the school year. PNCI ended its lease with the academy because it needs the space to train more of its own carpenter apprentices following a sharp increase in construction projects.

The ACE board of directors and administrators searched for a new location, but nothing could be found within the time frame required to transition into the 2016-17 school year. An option to partner with Mount Hood Community College (MHCC) and rent space there was taken all the way to the conceptual design phase. However the retrofitting costs (\$250,000), permitting requirements, and construction schedule limitations became insurmountable obstacles, said ACE Academy Director Mark Clifford.

On top of that, enrollment at the academy had been dwindling, as had support from some of the participating school dis-



tricts. The Parkrose School Board had recently voted to end its participation, and support from the Reynolds School Board reportedly was also wavering.

So, on Feb. 9, ACE's board of directors voted unanimously to end the charter.

ACE Academy was launched in September 2008 by the Oregon Building Congress, in partnership with Reynolds, Centennial, Parkrose and Gresham-Barlow school districts, and five apprenticeship training programs — the Carpenters, NECA-IBEW Electrical Training Center, the HVAC & Metals Institute of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16, the Northwest Laborers-Employ-

ers Training Trust, and the open-shop Northwest College of Construction.

Reynolds School District was the sponsor of the charter. Charter schools are independently run, but publicly funded.

ACE's board, comprised of building industry representatives, a union official, a parent representative, and superintendents from the four participating school districts, formulated policies, curriculum and budgets. Among the directors are Dan Drinkward, operations manager of Hoffman Construction; Jeff Wheeler, a project manager at Portland General Electric; Tom Goodhue, executive director of

the Oregon Building Congress; and John Steffens, executive director of Pacific Northwest Carpenter's Institute.

The two-year program offered graduation credits in math, science and English, as well as opportunities to intern and job shadow. All juniors took construction courses to learn the basics. As seniors they could specialize in architecture, engineering or one of the trades. Students spent half a day at the academy, and half a day at their home school.

There were nine employees at the Academy — Clifford, an administrative assistant, and seven employees filling 5.8 FTEs.

When it opened in 2008 there was room for 250 juniors, with optimism that it could double once juniors and seniors could attend. It never reached that mark. Peak enrollment was 142 students, Clifford said. This school year only 114 students were enrolled.

In a letter sent to industry partners last month, the board of directors said over 500 students graduated from ACE Academy since its inception.

Clifford told the Labor Press

that a little more than a dozen students went on to apply at one of the affiliated apprenticeship training programs. Last year, six students (out of 23 taking construction) entered into the carpenters training program, and another student applied for the electricians program. Clifford expects to put at least six more students into the carpenters program at the end of this school year.

"We know they all benefitted greatly from their ACE experience. The hands-on learning experience, small class sizes, excellent facilities, and programs focused on ensuring their success, fostered a unique opportunity for every student that attended ACE," the board of directors said in a statement.

Board members say they want to be involved in a regional conversation focusing on a long-term location of a Career Technical Education Academy at MHCC. They say the ACE Academy served as a model of such a program, and that successes and challenges it experienced over the last eight years would be helpful in the development of a new academy.

## ... Bonamici: Still undecided

From Page 1

U.S. trade positions so that they would benefit rank and file workers, not just the 1%ers. Their ideas were rejected.

"The final TPP will not create jobs, protect the environment or ensure safe imports," the AFL-CIO said in a statement. "Rather, it appears modeled after the North American Free Trade Agreement, a free trade agreement that boosts global corporate profits while leaving working families behind."

At the Feb. 22 NOLC meeting, Bonamici acknowledged that NAFTA "was a disaster." She said labor and environmental protections were side agreements in that trade pact, and that she is looking to see if the TPP fixes some of that language. She said she wouldn't support the TPP if it doesn't contain strong labor and environmental protections and enforceable language.

"I don't want to see more jobs go overseas," she said. "I want to see more Oregon products exported overseas."

The AFL-CIO says commitments to improve labor rights

and environmental practices in the TPP are vague, and the proposed enforcement scheme relies wholly on the discretion of the next Administration.

"The TPP contains strict, clear and stronger protections for foreign investors and pharmaceutical monopolies," the labor federation said in a statement. "It is clear that, as currently drafted, the TPP would increase corporate profits and skew benefits to economic elites, while leaving workers to bear the brunt of the TPP's shortcomings, including lost jobs, lower wages and continued repression of worker rights."

It is uncertain when the agreement may come up for a vote. Republican leaders in the Senate say they may wait until after the presidential election. Bonamici predicts "it will be a long while" before a vote is held.

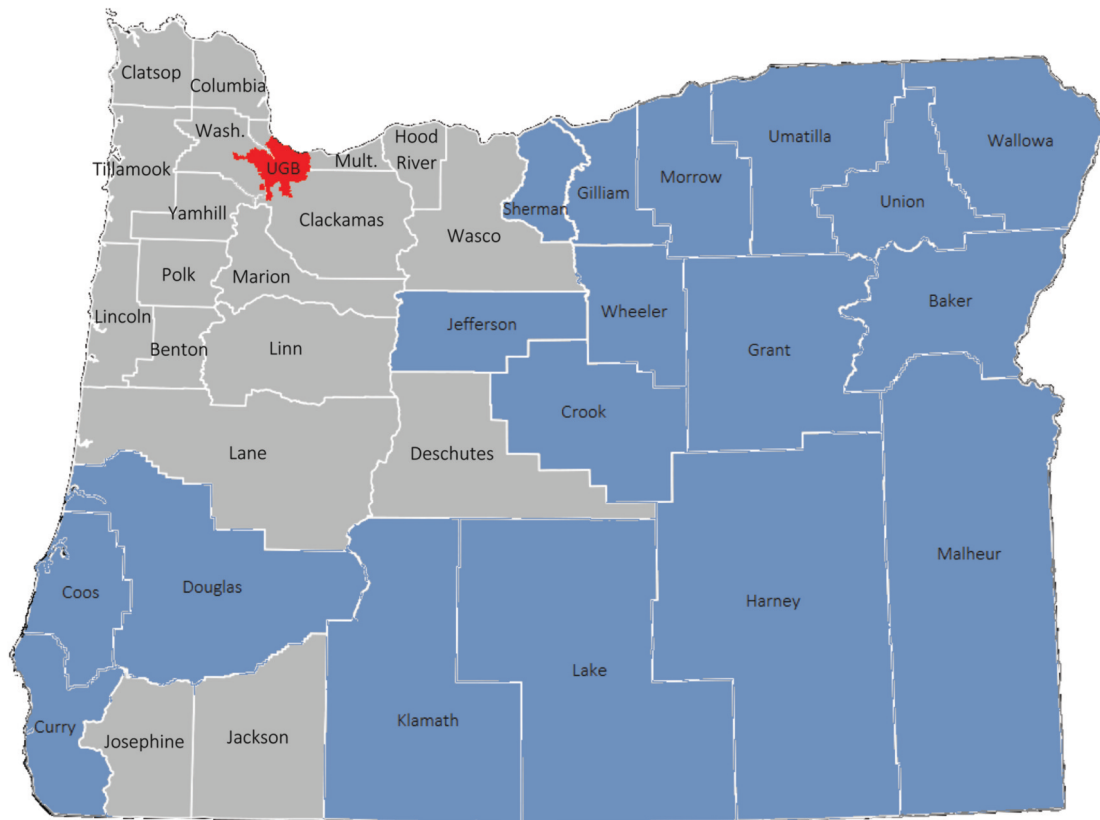
(Editor's Note: To date, U.S. Rep. Peter DeFazio and U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley are the only members of Oregon's congressional delegation to publicly oppose the TPP.)

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# Oregon set to have nation's highest minimum wage



SB 1532, a bill to raise the minimum wage, passed the Oregon Senate on Feb. 11 by 16-12, and the Oregon House on Feb. 17 by 32-26. Once signed by the governor, it will raise Oregon's minimum wage from its current \$9.25 an hour to \$13.50 over six years, with a lower wage for Oregon rural counties and a higher wage for the Portland area (within the Urban Growth Boundary).

The bill's passage led the union-backed Raise the Wage coalition to announce Feb. 29 it will drop its \$13.50 minimum wage ballot initiative and a related initiative to let local jurisdictions go higher.

The steering committee of a separate union-backed ballot initiative campaign for a \$15-an-hour minimum was expected to determine whether to continue at its March 1 meeting (after this issue went to press.)

|           | Portland area wage | Oregon base wage | Rural wage    |
|-----------|--------------------|------------------|---------------|
| July 2016 | \$9.75             | \$9.75           | \$9.50        |
| July 2017 | \$11.25            | \$10.25          | \$10.00       |
| July 2018 | \$12.00            | \$10.75          | \$10.50       |
| July 2019 | \$12.50            | \$11.25          | \$11.00       |
| July 2020 | \$13.25            | \$12.00          | \$11.50       |
| July 2021 | \$14.00            | \$12.75          | \$12.00       |
| July 2022 | \$14.75            | \$13.50          | \$12.50       |
| July 2023 | Base + \$1.25      | \$13.50 + CPI    | Base - \$1.00 |

## Washington ballot measure would secure sick leave and \$13.50 minimum for workers

Raise Up Washington, a coalition of union, faith and community organizations, has filed a ballot initiative to raise Washington state's minimum wage — and allow all workers in the state to earn paid sick leave.

Unions are expected to take a leading role in gathering the 250,000 valid signatures needed by the end of June to qualify Initiative 1433 for the November 2016 ballot. If it qualifies and is approved by voters, it would mandate up to seven days of paid sick leave per year, and raise Washington's minimum wage to \$13.50 over four years. The minimum wage would rise from its current \$9.47 an hour to \$11 in 2017, \$11.50 in 2018, \$12 in 2019, and \$13.50 in 2020 — after which it would continue to rise in line with the Consumer Price Index.

The campaign is holding its kickoff event March 5 at the Washington State Labor Council's Seattle office.

The sick leave component of the measure allows workers to

earn one hour of paid sick leave for every 40 hours worked, which they can use to take care of themselves or their family members when they're sick.

The campaign estimates that 730,000 low-income workers in Washington would get raises under the measure. An increase from \$10 to \$13.50 per hour

would provide an additional \$607 per month to a low-wage worker — equivalent to feeding a family of four for a month, or covering the cost of buying

health insurance for an adult in most parts of the the state.

Currently, one million people in Washington lack paid sick leave at their jobs.

### ALL HANDS ON DECK

To help gather signatures for I-1433, the ballot measure that would win paid sick leave and a higher wage for working people, sign up at the campaign web site at [raiseupwa.com/get-involved](http://raiseupwa.com/get-involved)

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