

NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS



VOLUME 118, NUMBER 1

PORTLAND, OREGON

JANUARY 6, 2017

Big Day for Billionaires

Trump inauguration means a billionaire in the White House and cabinet spots for 5 more.

Just after the election, national AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka pledged to work with Donald Trump to enact at least some of his agenda, like renegotiating NAFTA and reviving American manufacturing. Trump's campaign proposals had come with so few details that you could imagine that was possible. But the weeks since then have dampened those hopes, as Trump announced plans to nominate one ultra-wealthy individual after another to his cabinet and advisory councils. We take a look



at those nominees, and labor's reaction to them, on Page 2.

Now national and local labor and community groups are planning massive protests on inauguration weekend. The Oregon AFL-CIO is encouraging affiliates to join with other labor unions for protest actions, including the Portland event below.

LABOR-LED INAUGURAL PROTEST IN PORTLAND

Saturday, Jan. 21, 10-11:30 a.m.
Shemanski Park, 1010 SW Park Ave.
Rally followed by a march to Salmon Street Springs at Tom McCall Waterfront Park; there marchers will join with a much larger women's march.

WORKERS RIGHTS

Long day *and* long week? Double the pay

Oregon factory workers may be owed time-and-a-half twice

Oregon's Bureau of Labor and Industries (BOLI) has changed how it interprets overtime laws — in a way that could fatten the paychecks of Oregon factory workers. The change follows a lawsuit filed by the non-profit Northwest Workers Justice Project (NWJP) on behalf of a group of workers at Portland Specialty Baking, which quashed a union campaign in early 2016. The suit says the bakery violated an Oregon law that requires overtime pay when workers “employed in a mill, factory or manufacturing establishment” work more than 10 hours in a day. BOLI enforces that law as well

as a separate law that requires overtime pay for *all* hourly workers if they work more than 40 hours a week. Before the lawsuit, BOLI's advice to employers was that they had to pay the *greater of the two* overtime pay amounts, but not *both*. But NWJP attorney Corinna Spencer-Scheurich says that advice was wrong.

Suppose an Oregon factory worker put in three 12-hour shifts and one six-hour shift in a week, totaling 42 hours. That's six hours of daily overtime and two hours of weekly overtime. Under BOLI's old interpretation, the worker would have been paid at the overtime rate for six hours — the greater of the two. Under the new interpretation, the laws operate inde-

pendently, so the worker must be paid eight hours at the time-and-a-half overtime rate.

BOLI spokesperson Charlie Burr said NWJP's lawsuit led BOLI to take another look at the way the laws operate, and the agency ended up agreeing with plaintiffs.

“The two statutes enact distinct overtime requirements and serve different purposes with respect to restrictions on hours worked by employees,” says an updated manual for BOLI compliance agents.

The change applies to an estimated 187,477 manufacturing workers in Oregon.

No trial date has been set yet in the bakery lawsuit. The two sides are still submitting preliminary legal arguments.

Unions making spirits bright

Labor unions helped bring smiles to the faces of 300 children at the 21st annual Presents from Partners holiday party. The event for kids of union families in need, plus families from Snowcap charities, Bethel Lutheran Youth Drop In Center, Right 2 Dream Too, Immigrant & Refugee Community Organization, and Portland Tenants United, was held Dec. 17 at Sheet Metal Workers Local 16 in Northeast Portland. It is sponsored by Labor's Community Service Agency — with lots of help from the Northwest Oregon Labor Council and its affiliated unions, United Way of Columbia Willamette, and union allies who stepped up more than ever this year. At the party each child received a Christmas stocking hand-sewn by a group of union volunteers. Kids filled their stockings with items



Turn to Page 12

PORTLAND

To counter big money, City Council votes for public campaign finance

Starting in 2020, Portland's new system will match small donors so candidates can focus on regular voters, not big donors

Portlanders are about to find out what a City Council looks like when candidates don't need to rely on big campaign contributors. In a 3-2 vote Dec. 14, Portland City Council approved a public campaign finance program. Starting in 2020, the City will provide a six-to-one match for small contributions of up to \$50 — for candidates for mayor and City Council who agree to certain limits on campaign contributions. City Council candidates in the program could get up to \$144,000 in public funds for the primary and \$216,000 for the general election — if they agree to accept no more than \$250 from any individual, and to limit total contributions to \$250,000 in the primary and \$300,000 in the general election. The figures are about double that for mayoral candidates. The ordinance limits the pro-

gram to 0.2 percent of the City's General Fund — about \$1.2 million a year.

The program was modeled on similar programs in New York City and Los Angeles, and states such as Connecticut, Arizona, and Maine. Portland was the fourth jurisdiction to pass some kind of public campaign financing in 2016.

The ordinance was sponsored by Commissioner Amanda Fritz, but she said the proposal was driven by a coalition of unions and non-profit groups. United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555, Communications Workers of America Local 7901, Service Employees Oregon State Council, and Oregon Working Families Party were among the 31 groups in the coalition.

Fritz was joined by outgoing Mayor Charlie Hales and outgoing Commissioner Steve Novick in voting for the ordinance. Commissioners Dan Saltzman and Nick Fish voted against it, arguing that it should go before voters for approval.

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Drain the swamp? Trump cabinet would be richest ever

Presidential candidate Donald Trump pledged to “drain the swamp of corruption” in Washington, D.C., and proposed a five-year ban on executive branch officials becoming lobbyists. Lobbyists are considered to be a problem because they work behind the scenes to get laws and rules written for the benefit of the wealthy and powerful. But with his cabinet appointments, president-elect Trump would cut out lobbyist middlemen and put the wealthy and powerful directly in charge of federal agencies.

If Trump’s nominees are confirmed by the Senate, they’ll be by far the wealthiest cabinet in U.S. history, with a combined net worth of \$14 billion — 50 times wealthier than George W. Bush’s cabinet. Many of the nominees are a lot like Trump: They were born wealthy, attended elite schools, and went on to amass even larger fortunes as adults. And a number of them were big donors to the Trump campaign.

It’s not like President Barack Obama’s cabinet was filled with working stiff either. Secretary of Commerce Penny Pritzker is from a Chicago family worth \$29 billion. Secretary of State



EDUCATION: Billionaire Betsy DeVos thinks taxpayers should pay for private school. **LABOR:** Fast food CEO Andrew Puzder opposes minimum wage increases. **COMMERCE:** Billionaire investor Wilbur Ross once rescued Trump casinos. **TREASURY:** Former Goldman Sachs partner Steve Mnuchin profited from foreclosures.

John Kerry is worth over \$200 million and is married to the widow of a billionaire.

But Trump’s cabinet tops them by far:

His pick for Secretary of Commerce, worth an estimated \$2.5 billion, is investor Wilbur Ross, a specialist in leveraged buyouts. Ross once helped Trump when his Atlantic City casinos were in financial trouble, and he gave \$200,000 to Trump’s election campaign.

His pick for Secretary of Education is Betsy DeVos, who was born rich and married richer. Her husband is CEO of Amway and is son and heir to the Amway founder’s \$5.1 billion fortune. Betsy DeVos —

who never attended public schools herself — is a longtime advocate of taxpayer funding to charter and private schools.

Trump’s nominee for Secretary of State is Rex Tillerson, chairman and CEO of Exxon-Mobil. America’s 29th highest paid CEO, Tillerson has a net worth estimated at \$150 million.

Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, whose signature could soon be on U.S. currency, was the chief fundraiser for the Trump campaign. A former Goldman Sachs partner, hedge fund owner, and Hollywood film investor, he made millions on films like American Sniper and Mad Max: Fury Road, and as part owner of a bank that foreclosed on 36,000 homeown-

ers. His net worth is estimated at \$40 million.

Trump’s nominee for Secretary of Labor is Andrew Puzder, CEO of the company that owns the Carl’s Jr. and Hardee’s fast food chains. Puzder has a net worth estimated at \$25 million, and he and his wife gave \$300,000 to Trump and the Republican National Committee. Puzder would oversee enforcement of wage and hour and occupational safety laws and the administration of unemployment insurance, workers compensation, and work visa programs.

In a Dec. 1 statement reacting to Trump’s cabinet picks, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka called the appointments inconsistent with the pledges Trump made in the campaign: “After the election, we made clear that we would hold Donald Trump accountable to the promises he made to working people. His initial nominations fundamentally threaten these promises. Taken together, the appointments push President-elect Trump away from the values and issues that working class voters said were most important to them.”

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UNION ORGANIZING



At AFT Healthcare in Vancouver, Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals members and PeaceHealth workers celebrate the Dec. 15 union vote.

900 PeaceHealth SW Medical Center support workers join OFNHP #5017

VANCOUVER — As a result of a Dec. 15 vote, 886 hospital support workers at PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center will be represented by a local affiliate of American Federation of Teachers (AFT). An earlier vote on Nov. 22 showed that a clear majority of the workers wanted to unionize, but neither of the two

unions seeking to represent them had an outright majority. So the Dec. 15 vote was scheduled as a runoff between Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals (OFNHP) Local 5017, and Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 49. The result was 319 for OFNHP, and 110 for SEIU.

The newly unionized group is referred to as the service and maintenance unit. It consists of certified nursing assistants, food service workers, laundry workers, and several dozen other occupational classifications. They'll now be members of PeaceHealth Southwest Caregivers United, a sub-local of OFNHP Local 5017.

UNIONIZATION → NOV-DEC 2016

The following are Oregon and Southwest Washington workplaces where workers have decided whether to be represented by a union. The thumbs-up symbol means workers will be union-represented. Thumbs-down means they'll be on their own. "Decert" means a decertification election, where union-represented workers voted whether to remain union. The information comes from the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board.

Union election results

Employer (Location) Union	Yes-No	
The Lighthouse School (Coos Bay) OSEA ▪ 16 full-time professional employees, including teachers	10-5	👍
Christenson Oil (Portland) Teamsters Local 162 ▪ 2 warehouse and plant employees	0-2	👎
Providence Willamette Falls (Oregon City) UFCW Local 555 ▪ 8 pharmacists	1-6	👎
PeaceHealth St. John Medical Center (Longview) SEIU Local 49 ▪ 107 technical employees, including radiology, ultrasound, mammography, and LPNs	61-34	👍
PeaceHealth SW Medical Ctr. (Vancouver) AFT-SEIU-no union 297-176-171 — Runoff Election: 319 for AFT, 110 for SEIU ▪ 886 hospital support workers, including CNAs, food service, laundry, and lab assistants		👍

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Toothless law: 3 years in, still no penalty for flagrant unionbuster

By Don McIntosh

When bosses at Edwards Painting found out there was a union campaign among their employees, they squashed it, and broke federal labor law 18 different ways.

Edwards, based in Oregon City, employs about 20 workers to paint multifamily residential buildings for general contractors like R&H Construction. The company wanted nothing to do with the Painters and Allied Trades union. So they fired four union supporters, one for wearing a union T-shirt. They threatened to fire others if they attended a union meeting. They interrogated workers about union activities. They told workers the company would never be a union shop. They called the police when some employees handed out union fliers at their home office. To avoid hiring union supporters, they put a question about union affiliation on their employee application form, told applicants the company doesn't hire union painters, and hired nonunion applicants while passing over better-qualified union-member applicants.

Every one of those acts was illegal. But violating the law got the job done: The union campaign was obliterated. All this was in the summer and fall of

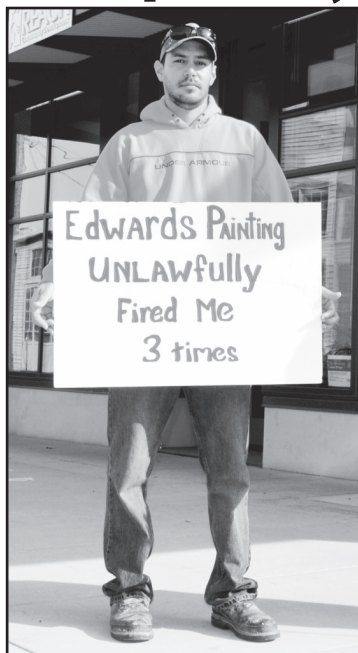
2013. Over three years later, the company has faced next to no consequences.

Sure, the union filed charges with the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB), the independent federal agency that is supposed to defend workers' right to form a union. But owner Gene Edwards told the NLRB's investigating agent flat-out that he would rather have closed his 45-year-old business than allow his workers to unionize.

When the case went before an administrative law judge in May 2014, Edwards, his wife Connie, and their son Grant, went without an attorney. They gave contradicting testimony and shredded a document they were subpoenaed to hand over. On Sept. 26, 2014, the judge ruled against them, ordering the company to hire or reinstate seven union painters and pay back wages with interest — within two weeks.

Three weeks later, Edwards hired an attorney, Paul Ostroff of the Lane Powell law firm. The company then requested extension after extension, took up time in fruitless settlement talks, and a year after the judge's order, appealed that decision to the NLRB's five member Board in Washington, D.C., objecting to 97 separate elements.

On Nov. 30, 2016, the Board



Sean Carter, fired by Edwards Painting, protests Oct. 13, 2014 outside the office of a developer. Two years after the firing, he settled for \$7,000 and waived reinstatement.

upheld the judge's decision, increased the amount of money Edwards owed, and ordered Edwards to comply within two weeks. One month later, nothing has happened. [The NLRB gave Edwards until Jan. 5 to respond — after this issue went to press.]

"The Edwards case is such a good example of the ineffectiveness of the NLRB," says Seattle labor attorney Daniel Hutzenbiller, who represents the Painters Union. "Nobody's been rein-

stated, and any organizing campaign we had is dead."

Edwards had to shell out for the legal help, and paid \$7,000 to settle with one of the fired painters. It may also have lost some business due to union pressure and bad publicity. But it's still operating, and hasn't complied with the NLRB order.

Painters union rep Scott Oldham — who got a job at Edwards to help organize the shop — is one of the workers Edwards fired. He says Painters District Council 5 has learned a lesson from the Edwards case: Think twice about organizing "bottom up" by appealing to workers, because employers can just fire union supporters and escape consequences indefinitely. Instead, the union is focusing on "top down" organizing — pitching less hostile employers on the value of signing on with the union in order to access affordable high-quality employee benefits and a ready supply of skilled workers through the union hiring hall.

Ironically, the Edwards saga comes at a time when the NLRB is the most energetic it's been in decades. Under the leadership of Obama appointees, the agency has worked hard to modernize operations, make its processes more efficient, and fulfill the law's official mandate of encour-

aging collective bargaining.

If Edwards Painting has escaped justice so far, the blame is not with the NLRB agents and attorneys, who worked hard to assemble a case and enforce the law. It's because the law they enforce was weak to begin with.

Other employee-protection statutes give wronged workers the right to sue, and if they win, to collect actual and punitive damages plus attorney fees. The Civil Rights Act of 1964 is an example. Those sanctions are a serious deterrent to employer wrongdoing. The National Labor Relations Act, on the other hands, provides no penalties, only "remedies" — meaning the wronged employee must be "made whole." The employer must pay the worker any wages they lost because they were unlawfully fired — and, incredibly, any wages the worker earned in the meantime from another employer count against the back pay award.

Though the sanctions are toothless, employer fear of attorney's fees might deter lawlessness in some cases. And unions do try to use the law as a shield to protect workers' rights. But the Edwards case shows what a flimsy shield it is, given how tough it is to force compliance on an employer who is determined to disregard the law.

What would a 'get-tough' labor law look like?

The National Labor Relations Act, passed in 1935, is supposed to encourage collective bargaining and protect workers' right to join a union. But because of toothless sanctions and adverse court rulings, the law isn't strong enough to accomplish those purposes. What would fix it? Here are some proposals, none of which are expected to pass a GOP-led Congress.

Employee Free Choice Act

A decade ago, labor put its hopes into this bill, which would require employers to recognize a union if a majority of workers sign union cards; allow fines of up to \$20,000 per violation, plus triple back pay, when workers are fired for supporting a union; and provide binding arbitration of first-time union

contracts if the two sides can't work it out on their own. It passed the House 241-185 in 2007, but died in the Senate in 2007 and 2009 because all Republicans and at least five Democratic senators opposed it.

Workplace Democracy Act

Sponsored by Sen. Bernie Sanders (I-Vermont) and Rep. Mark Pocan (D-Wisc.), it would require an employer to recognize a union if a majority of workers sign union cards.

Giving Workers a Fair Shot Act

Sponsored by Rep. Jared Polis (D-Colo.), it would increase penalties for violating federal labor laws and prohibit companies that receive taxpayer money from using those funds to bust unions.

— Don McIntosh



James Coon



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2016 in review

As chronicled in 24 issues of the Northwest Labor Press, here are some of the year's most important stories

■ NATIONAL

Scalia's death ends Friedrichs threat

In a case known as *Friedrichs vs. California Teachers Association*, the U.S. Supreme Court was getting ready to impose so-called "right-to-work" status on all public employees in the United States — making dues strictly voluntary and thus weakening unions considerably. But the death of conservative Supreme Court Justice Antonin Scalia in February resulted in a 4-4 deadlock on the case. The threat to labor could return, however, if a similar case is filed after another anti-union justice is appointed.



Antonin Scalia

Unions count Verizon strike as a win

America's biggest strike in four years took place in April and May as 39,000 members of CWA and IBEW struck Verizon's East Coast landline operations rather than accept contract concessions at the highly-profitable company. The strike ended after 45 days with a deal brokered by U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez on terms the union called a win, including 10.5 percent raises over four years, and protections against outsourcing of call center jobs.



Solidarity in Portland: IBEW 48's Terry Reigle

Clinton loses in the electoral college

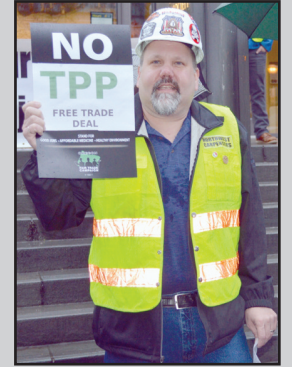
In the general election, Hillary Clinton had the support of nearly every labor union in the country, and she won nearly 3 million more votes than Donald Trump. But she lost where it mattered: The electoral college, thanks to narrow Trump wins in Michigan, Pennsylvania, and Wisconsin.



A cardboard cutout at Hillary Clinton campaign offices was her only public appearance in Oregon.

Trans-Pacific Partnership, dead at last

For the first time since NAFTA, a corporate-written trade deal died on the vine. The 12-nation Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) was one of Obama's top priorities, but broad public hostility to the deal — and the defection of some Republicans over industry concerns — prevented ratification in Congress. Trump's election sealed its fate.



Carpenters Local 146 union officer Norm Curry protests the TPP March 21, 2016.

■ OREGON

Top legislative win: Minimum wage

With unions prepared to put minimum wage increases on the ballot, the Oregon Legislature stepped up to do the job and put the minimum wage on track to 12.50 to 14.75 by 2022, depending on the region. That amounts to an hourly raise of \$3.25 to \$5.50 an hour for hundreds of thousands of Oregon workers.



Gov. Kate Brown signs minimum wage legislation, a top priority of the AFL-CIO.



Photo courtesy of the Yes on 97 campaign

Biggest ballot defeat: Measure 97

Despite \$16 million in local and national union money, a proposal to raise taxes on the biggest corporations doing business in Oregon was rejected by voters. As a result, instead of new investment in schools, health care and senior services, the state of Oregon faces a budget shortfall next year, once again.

Biggest union organizing wins

- 886 support workers at PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center joined OFNHP Local 5017.
- 793 PSU grad students joined American Federation of Teachers /AAUP.
- 310 hospital technicians at PeaceHealth Southwest Medical Center joined AFT.
- 165 workers at Boeing paint contractor Commercial Aircraft Painting Services joined the Machinists.
- 80 DirecTV workers joined CWA Local 7906.
- 61 alcohol and drug treatment workers at Volunteers of America joined AFSCME.



Biggest union organizing losses

- 205 workers at a Jeld-Wen door plant in Chiloquin rejected the Machinists union in a 52-137 vote.
- 179 workers at Portland Specialty Baking rejected the Bakers union in a 38-123 vote.



Oregon Bernie vote: a mandate for bolder action by Democrats?

Hillary Clinton won among Democrats nationwide, but in Oregon, Democrats showed an appetite for a bolder kind of politics — backing a candidate who rejected Wall Street money and called for universal health care, free public college tuition, and a \$15-an-hour minimum wage. In Oregon, Bernie Sanders packed arenas and outpolled Clinton by over 70,000 votes, 56 to 44 percent.

■ WASHINGTON

Minimum wage and sick leave

Raise the minimum wage to \$13.50, and give workers the right paid sick leave? Voters did it, approving union-backed I-1433 by 59-41 percent.



Sound gets serious transit investment

Another ballot victory was voter approval for an ambitious 25-year plan to make \$54 billion worth of transit improvements in the Puget Sound region, including 62 miles of light rail and new bus and heavy rail service to King, Pierce and Snohomish counties. The project will mean union jobs, less congestion, and a cleaner environment.

Madore is no more, in Clark County

Flamboyantly anti-union Clark County Commissioner David Madore — who once pushed unsuccessfully for a local "right-to-work" ordinance — lost reelection in the August primary. In the general election, union-backed candidate Tanisha Harris lost to John Blom, but local unions were still pleased to see their nemesis go.



Berry boycott ends with union deal

A three-year union boycott against Sakuma and Driscoll berries ended in September, when Skagit Valley agri-giant Sakuma Berries agreed to allow a union election and recognize and bargain a contract with the farmworkers union.



UNION MEETING NOTICES

AFSCME 189

Executive Board meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10.
General membership meets 6:15 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24.
Meetings are at 6025 E. Burnside St., Portland.

Bakery, Confectionery, Tobacco Workers and Grain Millers 114

Executive Board meets 8 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, at 7931 NE Halsey, Portland. PLEASE NOTE: An Executive Board position will be filled at this meeting.

Bricklayers and Allied Craftworkers 1

Members meet 7 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Cement Masons 555

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Elevator Constructors 23

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, preceded by a 5:30 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 12067 NE Glenn Widing Dr. #108, Portland. PLEASE NOTE NEW LOCATION.

Fire Fighters 452

Members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 4, at 2807 NW Fruit Valley Rd., Vancouver, Wash.

Fire Fighters 1660

Members meet 8 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, at 4411 SW Sunset Dr., Lake Oswego.

Glass Workers 740

Executive Board members meet 5 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE
Portland area members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12 at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. PLEASE NOTE DATE CHANGE and SPECIAL CALL to vote on Local 740 bylaws.

Eugene area members meet 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9, at Best Western Grand Manor Inn, 971 Kruse Way, Springfield. SPECIAL CALL to vote on Local 740 bylaws.

Salem area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, at Best Western Plus, Mill Creek Inn, 3125 Ryan Drive SE, Salem. SPECIAL CALL to vote on Local 740 bylaws.

IBEW 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 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 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. 2510, Ned L. Hafer; No. 2511, John L. Fetherree; No. 2512, Herman F. Graves; No. 2513, Larry L. Holthusen; No. 2514, Mickey C. Richmire; No. 2515, Cecil R. Beyers; No. 2516, James E. Yakkel; No. 2517, Christopher C. Kraemer; and No. 2518, Gordon Fitzsimmons. The Jan. 2017 assessment is \$1.50.

Insulators 36

Executive Board meets 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11.
Members meet 7 p.m. Friday, Jan. 13.
Meetings are at 11145 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Iron Workers 29

Members meet 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 2, 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, Jan. 12.
Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26.
Meetings are held at 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle, Portland OR.

Laborers/Vancouver 335

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

Laborers 483 Municipal Employees

Members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17, preceded by a 4:30 p.m. stewards meeting, at the Musicians Hall, 325 NE 20th Ave., Portland.

Laborers 737

Members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, 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 February at Central Point Labor Temple, 4480 Rogue Valley Hwy # 3, Central Point.

SPRINGFIELD: Members meet 6:30 p.m. the second Wednesday in February at 2861 Pierce Parkway, Springfield.

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

Linoleum Layers 1236

Executive Board meets 5 p.m. Monday, Jan. 9.
Portland area members meet 6 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 26.
Meetings are at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Molders 139B

Members meet 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, preceded by a 6 p.m. Executive Board meeting at the Carpenters

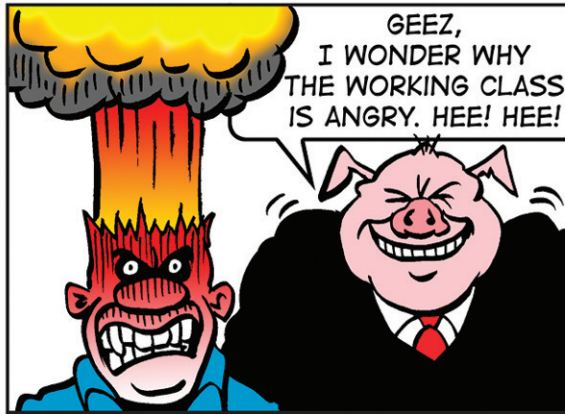
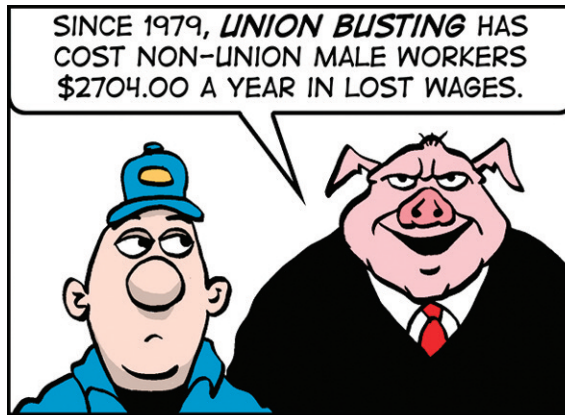
Restaurant, 2047 NW Front Ave., Portland.

Iron Workers 29

Retirees meet 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at the Union Hall meeting room, 11620 NE Ainsworth Circle #200, Portland for a catered lunch.

United Association 290

Retirees meet 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 19, at 20210 SW Teton Ave., Tualatin. The topic is "Identity Theft and Tips for Protecting Yourself Online."



Hall, 2205 N. Lombard, Portland.

Operating Engineers 701

District 4 members meet 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 1, at the Oxford Suites, 1050 N. First St., Hermiston.
District 1 members meet 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, at Cousin's Restaurant, 2114 W. 6th St., The Dalles.

District 1 & 5 members meet 7:30 p.m. Friday, Feb. 3, at 555 E. First St., Gladstone.

District 1 members meet 7:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 6, at the Red Lion, 510 Kelso Dr., Kelso.

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

District 3 members meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 8, at the Courtyard Marriott, 600 Airport Rd., Medford.

District 2 members meet 7:30 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 9, at the Comfort Suites, 969 Kruse Way, Springfield.

Painters & Drywall Finishers 10

Members meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland. Website: www.iupatocal10.org

SPECIAL CALL MEETINGS: Local 10 Bylaws vote and nominations for District Council 5 Delegate.
Salem: 6 p.m. Jan. 5, 2017 at Best Western – Hood Room; 3125 Ryan Dr SE; Salem.
Portland: 6 p.m. Jan. 18, at Local 10; 11105 NE Sandy Blvd; Portland.

Eugene: 6 p.m. Jan. 12, at Plumbers & Pipefitters 290 Training Center; 2861 Pierce Parkway; Springfield.

PLEASE NOTE CORRECTED DATE.
Election of District Council 5 Delegate

Salem: 6 p.m. Feb. 2, at Best Western–Hood Room; 3125 Ryan Dr SE; Salem.

Portland: 6 p.m. Feb. 15, at Local 10; 11105 NE Sandy Blvd.; Portland.

Eugene: 6 p.m. Feb. 9, 2017 at Plumbers & Pipefitters 290 Training Center; 2861 Pierce Parkway; Springfield. **PLEASE NOTE CORRECTED DATE.**

Sign Painters & Paint Makers 1094

Members meet 3:30 p.m. Monday, Jan. 16, in the District Office, at 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Portland.

Plasterers 82

Members meet 5 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, at 12812 NE Marx St., Portland.

Plumbers and Steamfitters 290

Portland area members meet 7:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, 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, Jan. 26, at the Astoria Labor Temple, 926 Duane St., Astoria.

Brookings area members meet 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24. Please contact agent Craig Spjut at 707-496-1767 for location confirmation.

Coos Bay area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, at the Coos Bay Training Center, 2nd & Kruse, Coos Bay.

Klamath Falls area members meet 5 p.m. Tuesday,

Jan. 24, at 4816 S. 6th St., Klamath Falls.

The Dalles area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24, at the United Steelworkers Local 9170 Union Hall, The Dalles.

Roofers & Waterprooferers 49

Members meet 7 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 12.
Executive Board meets 7 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 2.

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

Sheet Metal Workers 16

Portland members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the Sheet Metal Training Center, 2379 NE 178th Ave., Portland.

SPECIAL ORDER OF BUSINESS: There will be nominations for Worden and approval of additional union policies at the Feb. 14, 2017 Portland meeting.
Medford area members meet 4 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11. Please call Dennis Dover for location – 541-517-9644.

Eugene area members meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, 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, Jan. 19, at Abby's Pizza, 997 First St., Coos Bay.
Women of Sheet Metal Workers Local 16 (WOSM) meet 4:30 p.m. Friday, Jan. 20, at Beulahland, 118 NE 29th Ave., Portland. Children are welcome.

CENTRAL LABOR CHAPTERS

Central Oregon

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

Eastern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at AFSCME, 308 SW Dorion, Pendleton.

Lane County

Delegates meet 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, at 1116 South A St., Springfield.

Linn-Benton-Lincoln

Delegates meet 7 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 18, preceded by a 6:30 p.m. Executive Board meeting, at 1400 Salem Ave., Albany.

Marion-Polk-Yamhill

Executive Board meets 5:30 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, followed by a 6 p.m. general meeting at 4735 Liberty Road, S., Salem.

Southern Oregon

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10, at the Labor Temple, 4480 Rogue Valley Hwy. #3, Central Point.

CENTRAL LABOR COUNCILS

Northwest Oregon

Delegates meet 7 p.m. Monday, Jan. 23, at IBEW Local 48 Hall, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

Southwest Washington

Delegates meet 6 p.m. Wednesday, Feb. 1, preceded

by an Executive Board meeting, at LIUNA Hall, 2212 NE Andresen, Vancouver.

BUILDING AND CONSTRUCTION TRADES COUNCILS

Columbia-Pacific

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 10 and Jan. 17, at Kirkland Union Manor II, 3535 SE 86th, Portland.

Lane, Coos, Curry & Douglas

Delegates meet at noon Wednesday, Jan. 25, at the Springfield Training Center, 2861 Pierce Pkwy., Springfield.

Salem

Delegates meet 10 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, at the IBEW 280 Training Center, 33309 Hwy 99E, Tangent.

METAL TRADES

Executive Board meets 10 a.m. Thursday, Jan. 12.

Delegates meet 5 p.m. Tuesday, Jan. 24.

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

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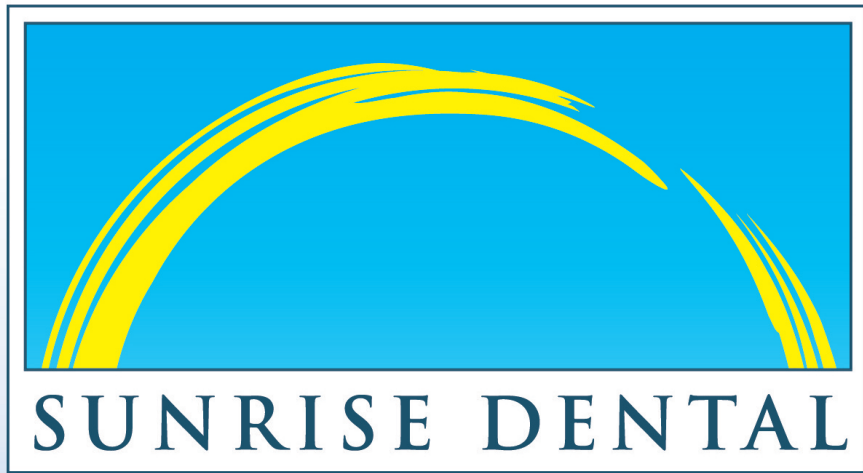
Retirees meet 10 a.m. Tuesday, Jan. 17 at the AFSCME office, 6025 E. Burnside, Portland. Call Michael Arken for information at 1-800-521-5954 ext. 226.

Elevator Constructors 23

Retirees (ONLY) meet 11:30 a.m. Wednesday, Jan. 11, at Westmoreland Union Manor, 6404 SE 23 Ave, Portland.

Insulators 36

Retirees meet for breakfast 9 a.m. Thursday, Feb. 2, at the Dockside



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- Kennewick - 509.361.5511
- Moses Lake - 509.361.5522
- Pasco - 509.361.5533
- Spokane - 509.361.5544
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HAPPENINGS

Retirement party for Labor's Community Service Agency's Vickie Burns Jan. 17

A retirement party for Vickie Burns, executive director of Labor's Community Service Agency (LCSA), will be held Tuesday, Jan. 17 from 5 to 8 p.m. in the banquet room at 1125 SE Madison, Portland. The event is an "open house" with appetizers and a no-host bar.

Burns, who is retiring this month, has served as executive director of LCSA since May

2010. Prior to that she was the agency's office manager for 17 years. Over the years she has worked tirelessly to ensure unions know where to go when they have a member in need, whether for food, shelter or just to talk with.

Burns has also served as labor's voice on several workforce investment boards and dislocated worker programs throughout the region.

"Her decades of service to thousands of labor families in need are unparalleled and deserving of a celebration," said Bob Tackett, executive secretary-treasurer of the Northwest Oregon Labor Council, and president of LCSA's Board of Directors. LCSA is a partnership of labor and United Way of the Columbia-Willamette.

For more information, call 503-915-0083.

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Happy New Year

*From the Officers, Members and Staff
of IBEW Local 48*



ROOFERS STEP UP TO HELP TOY & JOY MAKERS: Members of Roofers Local 49 donated \$1,283 in cash and four bags of toys to Portland Fire and Rescue's Toy & Joy Makers. Making the presentation to a representative of Portland Fire and Rescue are Business Manager Russ Garnett (left) and Local 49 President Travis Hopkins (right). Local 49 donates to the Toy & Joy Makers every year. Toys are collected at the union's annual Christmas party, and money is raised through a 50/50 raffle. Toy & Joy Makers is a local toy drive founded by Portland Fire & Rescue in 1914, to help out local families in need around Christmas time.

Jordan Cove LNG terminal: Not dead yet

Veresen Inc., the Canadian company behind the proposed Jordan Cove liquefied natural gas (LNG) plant in Coos Bay, says it will file a new, revised application after being denied construction permits by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC).

The company wants to build an LNG storage facility on the North Spit in Coos Bay. The original proposal included an adjacent 420-megawatt power plant, and a 234-mile connector pipeline. The price tag was \$6 billion, all privately-funded, without any taxpayer incentives.

A project labor agreement is in place with the Oregon Building and Construction Trades Council to build the facility with all-union labor. It also has support from the Oregon AFL-CIO.

The new filing with FERC will not include a power plant.

Last March, FERC denied the construction permit applications, stating that market support wasn't there, and that the public benefits of the pipeline didn't outweigh the potential for adverse impacts on landowners and communities.

Veresen's request for a re-hearing was denied by FERC on Dec. 9.

"While the decision was disappointing, we remain committed to this project," said Betsy Spomer, CEO of Jordan Cove Energy Project, L.P. and Pacific Connector Gas Pipeline, LP, in a press release.

On Dec. 13, Jordan Cove LNG withdrew its application with the Oregon Energy Facility Siting Council to build a power plant.

"Through feedback from stakeholders and extensive engineering work, we have designed a more efficient facility that does not require a power plant, and will reduce overall environmental impacts," said Spomer, emphasizing that the 2015 Final Environmental Impact Statement remains valid and has already confirmed that the project is environmentally responsible.

As Jordan Cove LNG readies

the applications for re-filing, important agreements, such as the project labor agreement, will stay in place.

"It's business as usual," said Tim Frew, executive secretary of the Oregon Building & Construction Trades Council.

"Jordan Cove's investment will rank among the largest private investments in Oregon's history," State Sen. Arnie Roblan said in a press release issued by Boost Southwest Oregon, a coalition of organizations, politicians, and individuals that support the project. "The project will generate hundreds of millions in tax revenue for schools, infrastructure improvements and public safety that will take the burden off the backs of local taxpayers."

Boost Southwest Oregon has put out a call for more people to join their coalition "to make our voices heard." To become a booster, go to boostsouthwest-oregon.org/boosters.

Oregon, Washington buck national trend as job-related deaths decline

A total of 4,836 fatal work injuries were recorded in the United States in 2015, a slight increase from the 4,821 fatal injuries reported in 2014, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported Dec. 16 in its Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries.

Oregon and Washington were among 29 states to buck the national trend and see their job-related fatalities decrease.

Oregon registered 44 job-related deaths in 2015, compared to 69 the previous year. That equates to 2.6 deaths per 100,000 workers.

Washington had 70 workplace fatalities in 2015, compared to 88 in 2014. That equates to 2.1 deaths per 100,000 workers.

Key findings of the 2015 Census of Fatal Occupational Injuries:

- Annual total of 4,836 fatal workplace injuries in 2015 was the highest since 5,214 fatal injuries in 2008.
- The overall rate of fatal work injury for workers in 2015, at 3.38 per 100,000 full-time equivalent (FTE) workers, was lower than the 2014 rate of 3.43.
- Hispanic or Latino workers incurred 903 fatal injuries in 2015—the most since 937 fatalities in 2007.

- Workers age 65 years and older incurred 650 fatal injuries, the second-largest number for the group since the national census began in 1992, but decreased from the 2014 figure of 684.

- Roadway incident fatalities were up 9 percent from 2014 totals, accounting for over one-quarter of the fatal occupational injuries in 2015.

- Workplace suicides decreased 18 percent in 2015; homicides were up 2 percent from 2014 totals.

- Heavy and tractor-trailer truck drivers recorded 745 fatal injuries, the most of any occupation.

- The 937 fatal work injuries in the private construction industry in 2015 represented the highest total since 975 cases in 2008.

- Fatal injuries in the private oil and gas extraction industries were 38 percent lower in 2015 than 2014.

- Seventeen percent of decedents were contracted by and performing work for another business or government entity in 2015 rather than for their direct employer at the time of the incident.

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To see the full report, go to <https://www.bls.gov/news.release/foi.nr0.htm>

LABOR HISTORY

Song of the Stubborn One Thousand

By Don McIntosh

It's said that those who go through a strike never forget it. Peter Shapiro took part in a mid-'80s cannery strike as a community supporter, and never forgot it. Thirty years later, retired from a career in the U.S. Postal Service, he wrote a book about that remarkable strike — a rare union victory during an era of union-busting.

Song of the Stubborn One Thousand: The Watsonville Canning Strike, 1985-87 tells the story of an 18-month struggle by 1,000 frozen food workers in Watsonville, California during which not a single striker crossed the picket line. Instead, a union workforce composed mostly of Mexican immigrant women forced the company owner into bankruptcy, and waged a five-day wildcat strike against the new plant owner to keep their health benefits intact.

Shapiro studied labor history at University of California Berkeley, but in 1975, decided he'd rather try to make labor history as a



Peter Shapiro

union activist than study it in a university setting. He later became a union officer in Portland-based National Association Letter Carriers Branch 82. But in the mid-'80s, he was working at the Oakland post office, and serving as the labor editor of *Unity*, a left-wing newspaper. When the strike in Watsonville began, he attended support rallies, helped co-workers collect canned goods for the strikers, and spread word about the strike in his newspaper.

In the 1980s, Watsonville, 30 miles south of San Jose, was the frozen food capital of the world, with eight frozen food plants and 5,000 workers. Watsonville Canning, with 1,000 employees, was the largest.

Teamsters Local 912 had negotiated industry-leading multi-employer contracts for 30 years. That meant frozen food companies had the same pay and benefits, so they didn't need to compete by keeping wages low.

What set the Watsonville struggle in motion was a disastrous deal that local union president Richard King made with Watsonville Canning owner



To dramatize their plight and appeal to God for help, striking cannery workers marched on their knees from the plant gates to a Catholic church.

Mort Console in 1982. Console claimed he needed a temporary pay cut in order for the company to stay profitable, and King agreed to reduce wages from \$7.06 to \$6.66 an hour.

King, union president since 1967, had close personal relationships with the cannery owners, including Console's father, the company founder. But the younger Console had new ideas about how to run the company.

The '80s was when business executives lost any shame about living large and flaunting excess while busting unions and demanding pay cuts from workers. Console embodied that lifestyle. He had expensive cars, two private jets, a large house, and \$200,000 worth of furniture.

Console's sweetheart union deal angered competitor Shaw Canning, so in 1985, Shaw withdrew from the master agreement and demanded the same favorable terms.

Meanwhile, Console, instead of being grateful for the last pay cut, now demanded a further cut to \$4.65 an hour — a \$2 an hour cut. Not that he was serious. Console had hired Littler Mendelson, one of the earliest and most significant union-busting law firms in the country. On their advice, he was attempting a strategy then being employed across America: provoke a strike with outrageous demands, hire permanent replacements, operate with scab labor for 12 months, then legally move to decertify the union in a government-administered election in which scabs get to vote. To weather any business difficulties, Console had secured an \$18 million line of credit from Wells Fargo and built up inventory in

the months before.

Rejecting the demands, workers at both Shaw and Watsonville Canning went out on strike. Local 912 was totally unprepared. It had no strike fund. Strikers had to do everything themselves, organizing the food bank, the hardship fund, the picket line, security. King didn't even speak Spanish, the language most of the workers spoke, and after the strike got under way, he soon disappeared and announced his retirement.

Government repression began immediately. Just 15 hours after the first pickets went up, a California judge issued a restraining order that effectively outlawed mass picketing: no more than four pickets within 20 feet of



"Just because you're Catholic doesn't mean you can't throw rocks at scabs."

— Gloria Betancourt

each of the plant's eight gates; pickets had to be at least 10 feet from each other; and no one else was allowed to congregate within 100 yards of Watsonville Canning unless they were entering the premises to go to work. To enforce the restraining order, the local police chief immediately put his entire force on 12-hour shifts, ensuring that at least a dozen officers would be on the scene at all times.

Violence and property destruction did play a role in the strike. Women strikers filled socks with sand to bust out windows of buses ferrying the scabs, or followed buses and hid behind bushes while throwing rocks at them as they passed. Trucks were sabotaged, and no one was ever caught. As one of the strike leaders, Gloria Betancourt, put it: "Just because you're Catholic doesn't mean you can't throw rocks at scabs."

At length, higher-ups in the Teamsters Joint Council leadership stepped in and reached a deal with the canning companies that weren't trying to bust the union. To preserve the master agreement, workers at all the other canneries took a wage cut to \$5.85 an

hour, with a "me-too" clause so the union couldn't let Watsonville further undercut their rate. That isolated Watsonville Canning, the true rogue in the bunch, and upped the stakes for the strikers.

Shapiro says the turning point was the defeat of the attempt to decertify the union. Console's union-busting plan required that scabs outvote strikers so that legally there'd be no more union. But he had a hard time getting enough scabs, and strikers made an incredible effort to stay together.

In the end, Console lost everything and declared bankruptcy. Creditors took over the company and negotiated a union contract workers could accept.

Was it truly a victory? Workers were making \$6.60 when they went out, and \$5.85 when they went back in. But as United Farm Workers leader Cesar Chavez said at the time, these workers had had no functioning union after 30 years without a strike. Now they had a union, and it would make a difference going forward. And it did, for a few years at least.

In the '90s, Watsonville's frozen food industry fell victim to

Turn to Page 11



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Photo by TVF&R

House fire claims UFCW #555 member; injures spouse, of Cement Masons #555

Gayle Brown, a longtime member of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555, died Dec. 21 from injuries sustained in a fire that destroyed the family's home in Sherwood, Oregon. Her husband, Chris, 58, a 21-year member of Cement Masons Local 555, was seriously injured in the Dec. 14 blaze. He suffered burns on his hands and arms, and broke bones in his foot after jumping from the second story of the house.

Gayle, 56, was burned over 50 percent of her body and sus-

tained a broken back after falling from the upper level.

According to a news release from Tualatin Valley Fire & Rescue, crews were dispatched at 10:23 p.m. to a report of a fully-involved residential fire. The two occupants inside the home woke up to the sound of a crackling fire and inhalation of smoke. Their smoke alarms were not working.

A Go Fund Me account has been started to help the family. Brown has three adult children.

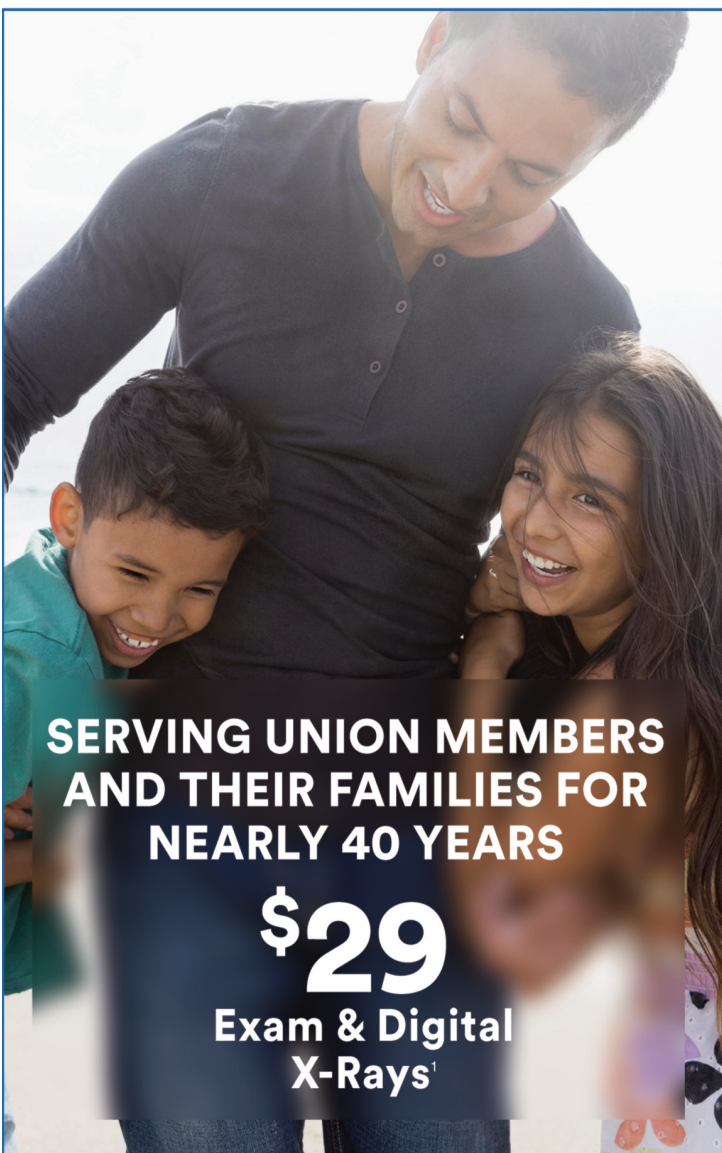
To donate, go online to: gofundme.com/av-house-fire.

Cements Masons recognize longtime members

Cement Masons Local 555 recognized longtime union members at their annual Christmas Party Dec. 3. In the photo right, Sheridan Foss receives his 60-year pin from Business Agents Geoff Kossak (left) and Noah Jones.

Also recognized, but not present, was 60-year member DeWayne Bruce. In the center photo, Kelly Willis holds a plaque for 30-years of membership. Fred Lane also was recognized for 30-years in the union, but he wasn't present.

In the photo below, Business Manager Brett Hinsley (left) presents 25-year pins to Ed Ostlund, Howard Waldo, E. Russell Desbrisay, and Steve Meyer. With them is Business Agent Noah Jones. Not present to pick up their 25-year pins were Gary Breese, Larry Fish, Michael French, Lewis Ochs, Brian Owens, and Jeff Pierce. Thomas Lytle and Paul Ouder Kirk, Jr. were recognized for 50 years of membership. Neither was present. Also receiving accolades were new journeymen Jose Gonzalez Gabriel and Jake Prouty.



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...The Stubborn One Thousand

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a corporate consolidation and closures, a shift in consumer preferences, and NAFTA, which drove what frozen food processing remained to Mexico.

“Since the 1980s, an entire generation of workers has grown up with little or no conception of what it means to walk a picket line,” Shapiro said.

Shapiro walked that picket line with strikers, and 30 years later, his book tells their story.

BOOK PRESENTATION – PLUS A DRAMATIC RE-ENACTMENT

When: Wednesday, Jan. 18, 7 p.m.

Where: Milagro Theatre
525 SE Stark Street, Portland

Admission: Free

What: Author Peter Shapiro will give a presentation, answer questions, and sign copies of the book, and actors from the Milagro Theater will perform a dramatic readings from a 1996 play about the strike, “Watsonville: Some Place Not Here” by playwright Cherrie Moraga.

...Making Spirits Bright

From Page 1

from a “stocking stuffer” table as carolers sang Christmas songs. Everyone was served a hot lunch, followed by a visit with Santa Claus. Each child received an age appropriate book from Mrs. Claus, then talked to Mr. Elf before heading upstairs to the “Toy Room,” where hundreds of toys, bikes, balls, and gift cards were waiting. But they weren’t done yet! Parents and/or guardians were led to a waiting room as chaperones took kids to the “Parent Room.” There, each child was allowed to select a gift for their mom and dad (or guardian). Those gifts were beautifully wrapped by more volunteers, for parents to unwrap on Christmas morning. All the extra toys and bikes were later donated to nearby charities for distribution. Here is the final tally:

- 300 children, plus 150 more**
- 200 parents**
- 500 hot lunches served**
- 1,500 toys**
- 2 U-haul trucks**
- 120 volunteers**
- 3 dozen unions**
- 13 community sponsors**



Mr. Elf amused children of all ages.



120 volunteers from three dozen union locals and 13 community sponsors helped set up, operate, and tear down the Presents From Partners Holiday Party held Dec. 17 at the Sheet Metal Workers Local 16 Hall in Northeast Portland.



Each child received a hand-sewn Christmas stocking and their choice of stocking stuffers.



Families had their pick in the “Ball Room.”



Carolers entertained families with Christmas songs.



Hot lunch for 500 kids and adults was provided by Spin Catering and served by union volunteers.

Photos by Michael Gutwig



The IBEW and United Workers Federal Credit Union sponsored a “Parents Room,” where kids got to pick out a gift for their parents/guardians and have them wrapped to put under the Christmas tree at home.



Union Cab provided rides for some families (above left), and Mrs. Claus handed out age-appropriate books to all the kids.

