



Labor Fax

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GET WELL SOON!

By Charles Wovkanech & Laurel Brennan

Since the first edition of Labor Fax was published in 1997, we have often used this section to tout a legislative priority, announce an organizing victory or endorse a candidate for public office. It is those things, it has seemed, which we have been most focused on as we have pushed forward with our efforts, as well as those of our affiliated unions, to grow and strengthen the labor movement.

However, the events of last Thursday, and the days after have put much back into perspective. It is family and friends that are most important, and as long as we are rich in both we will always have all that we truly need.

Since he entered public life with a run for the U.S. Senate in 2000 Governor Corzine has proven himself to be a true friend of working families and a tireless advocate for the residents of our great state. During this difficult time we want him to know that the labor movement is united in wishing him a full recovery.

We are also thankful that those traveling with Governor Corzine came out of the accident with only minor injuries. Having hosted Governor Corzine many times, we all know firsthand the commitment and dedication of the staff and State Troopers that spend countless hours traversing our state's highways offering scores of New Jersey residents the opportunity to speak directly to our state's highest elected official.

It is also reassuring that while Governor Corzine recovers, Governor Codey will steer state government. Governor Codey has proven that he is up to the task of Chief Executive and will undoubtedly serve in this position with the distinction and class we have come to expect from him.

Once again we extend our best wishes to our friend, Governor Jon Corzine.



1998
Labor Fax
APEX Award

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UNION MEMBERS SEEK ASSEMBLY SEATS

IUOE Local 825 member John Amodeo and IBEW 269 Assistant Business Manager Wayne DeAngelo have announced their campaigns for seats in the New Jersey General Assembly. Brother Amodeo is seeking election in the 2nd Legislative District while Brother DeAngelo is running in the 14th Legislative District. Their elections will bring the total number of rank-and-file union members serving in the New Jersey Legislature to 8.

SCHOOL BOARD CANDIDATE VICTORIES

Voters across New Jersey went to the polls yesterday to vote in local school board elections. The New Jersey State AFL-CIO is proud of all of the rank-and-file union members that participated in these elections and congratulates the following members that were elected with the support of the Labor Candidates Program:

Ida Renne	IBEW 1158	West Paterson
Ken Carman	IBEW 351	Magnolia
Maria Lavigne	IBEW-retired	Magnolia
Gary Chavin	IBEW 456	Pine Lands Regional
Mario Christina	Roofers 30	Delsea Regional
Matt McDevitt	IBEW 98	Pennsauken
Carl Ingram	BAC 7	Mount Ephraim
Christian Estevez	UA 24	Plainfield
Cindy Simon	AFT 1796, 6229	Wayne

We once again would like to thank all our unions that made these victories possible bringing the total number of union members elected to public office since 1997 to 437.

MORE CASINO DEALERS SEEKING UNION

The NLRB has set May 11, 2007 as the election date for the casino dealers at Trump Marina. Additionally, the UAW has filed a petition on behalf of 1200 casino dealers at Bally's to hold a union election at that property.

FIGHTING FOR RESPECT

Representative Robert Andrews (D-1), chairman of the House Health, Employment, Labor, and Pensions Subcommittee (HELP) and Senator Chris Dodd (D-CT) announced legislation last month to restore the freedom to organize and collectively bargain to millions of workers stripped of these rights due to several National Labor Relations Board (NLRB) decisions. The RESPECT Act will serve to restore that freedom by addressing a series of decisions which stray dramatically from and undermine the original intent of the National Labor Relations Act (NLRA). We thank Representative Andrews for his continued service to New Jersey's, and our nation's, work-

LABOR SCORES POLITICAL VICTORY

Earlier this year the Bergen County Central Labor Council and IBEW 164 hosted a campaign kick-off rally in support of Senator Loretta Weinberg and Assembly members Gordon Johnson and Valerie Vainieri Huttle in the 37th Legislative District. Participants and speakers at this rally were representative of the diversity of the district and included organizations such as Garden State Equality, Democracy for America, the Sierra Club and many others. After several weeks of discussions, and thanks to the support of many Party leaders including Governor Jon Corzine, we were pleased to learn last week of Bergen County Democratic Chairman Joe Ferriero's endorsement of the Weinberg/Johnson/Huttle team. We look forward to working together with the BCDO to help reelect our friends in the 37th District and to support efforts to elect other pro-working family candidates throughout Bergen County.

"UNION LABOR IS THE BEST LABOR"

Acknowledging the workmanship and quality that accompanies union-built projects, Jersey City Mayor Jerramiah Healy proposed an ordinance requiring developers receiving tax abatements on private projects over \$15 million and public projects over \$5 million to use union labor. Additionally, under this proposal, developers would have to establish apprenticeship programs to get more local residents onto local work sites. This bill is currently under review and is expected to be discussed further at an upcoming City Council meeting. Currently, of the 24 large tax-abated construction projects under way in Jersey City, 18 are being done union.

SMLR ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

The Rutgers University School of Management and Labor Relations will host a sixtieth anniversary celebration on Friday, May 11, 2007 from 1:00-4:00 p.m. To RSVP for this event email rsvp@smr.rutgers.edu.

15th ANNUAL NALC FOOD DRIVE

On Saturday, May 12, 2007, the National Association of Letter Carriers (NALC) will hold their 15th annual food drive. Last year the NALC collected more than 70.5 million pounds of food. More than 1,500 NALC branches nationwide will participate in this year's effort. If you would like to help make this Food Drive a success please leave a bag of non-perishable food items by your mailbox on Saturday, May 12.

IN MEMORIAM

George Taylor, 95, an AFL-CIO leader who helped draft the Occupational Safety and Health Act in 1970 passed away on March 23. After passage of the groundbreaking legislation, Brother Taylor continued to fight for worker's rights for safer workplaces.

Santiago Rafael Cruz, a Mexican employee of the U.S. based Farm Labor Organizing Committee (FLOC) was murdered in the union's office on April 9, 2007. Following speculation that Brother Cruz' murder may have been intended as a message to union organizers in Mexico, AFL-CIO President John Sweeney released a statement declaring that the "AFL-CIO will not rest until justice is done."

Upcoming Events

April 24-26, 2007	LEAP Training Labor Education Center New Brunswick
May 15, 2007	Retirees Committee Eldercare Conference UAW Region 9 Edison
June 12-13, 2007	Legislative/COPE Endorsement Conference Borgata Hotel & Casino Atlantic City
August 4-5 2007	Labor Candidates School Eagleton Institute of Politics New Brunswick
September 25-26	Legislative Conference Bally's Atlantic City

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

On April 28, 2007 the labor movement will once again observe Workers' Memorial Day to remember workers that have been killed or injured on the job. With the theme "Good Jobs. Safe Jobs. It's Time", this year's Workers' Memorial Day will also be an opportunity to renew our fight for strong safety and health protections.

We hope that you will consider joining us at one of the following Workers' Memorial Day commemorations:

On **Monday, April 23, 2007**, the Mercer County Central Labor Council and Mercer/Burlington Counties Building Trades Council will celebrate a mass in honor of Workers' Memorial Day. The mass will begin at 6:00 and be celebrated at St. Joachim's Church, 20-56 Butler Street in Trenton. A dinner at Roman Hall will follow this mass. Please RSVP to Mercer County CLC President Michael Maloney by calling 732-792-0999, ext. 118.

On **Friday, April 27, 2007**, the Atlantic/Cape May County Central Labor Council will host their annual memorial at the Workers' Memorial Monument across from Boardwalk Hall in Atlantic City. The event will begin with a procession beginning at 3:30 p.m. at the Holiday Inn on Chelsea and the Boardwalk. For more information about this event please contact Atlantic/Cape May CLC President Roy Foster at 609-704-8351.

On Saturday, April 28, 2007, Mayor Dan Reiman, Council President Ron Rios and the Borough of Carteret will hold a memorial service in honor of Workers' Memorial Day. This event will be held at the Thomas J. Deverin Community Center, 100 Cooke Avenue, Carteret.