

Clay takes helm at UFCW #555

Dan Clay has been appointed acting president of Tigard-based United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555.

Clay was elected president of the union in October, but the term of office doesn't officially start until Jan. 1, 2009. Clay defeated Secretary-Treasurer Jeff McDonald in a race to succeed four-term incumbent Gene Pronovost, who did not seek re-election due to retirement.

Jeff Anderson, a union organizer and longtime member of Local 555, was elected secretary-treasurer. He defeated Executive Vice President Roberta Cunningham for the open seat.

Rather than wait two months for the new administration to be installed, Local 555's Executive Board worked out a deal whereby McDonald resigned as secretary-treasurer. Clay then was ap-



DAN CLAY

pointed by the Executive Board to complete McDonald's term of office. Pronovost then resigned as president.

Under the union's constitution, the secretary-treasurer becomes acting-president until a successor is named. No successor will be named.

This all happened Nov. 6.

Local 555 represents approximately 18,500 workers in Oregon and Southwest Washington. It is the largest private-sector union in the state.

The union is in the midst of contract negotiations for some 6,000 grocery workers, meat cutters and central checkout clerks at Kroger (Fred Meyer, QFC), Albertsons, and Safeway stores in the Portland area. Employees have been working under contract extensions since July 26.

Clay, Anderson and the bargaining committee met with the employer representative on Nov. 24. Further talks have been scheduled for Dec. 18-19.

AFL-CIO prioritizes '09 legislative agenda

The Executive Board of the Oregon AFL-CIO on Nov 18 approved five legislative concepts that it will introduce when state lawmakers convene in Salem in January 2009.

The state labor federation will lobby for bills that:

- Change the definition of "managerial employee" back to its previous definition of "supervisory employee" in the Public Employee Collective Bargaining Act. The definition was changed in 1995's Senate Bill 750 to exclude some employees from being eligible to join a union.
- Require state governmental departments to demonstrate an actual overall cost savings that is not based solely on lower pay and benefits, before public-sector jobs can be contracted out to private-for-profit and non-profit companies. Under the proposal, displaced workers would be offered jobs with the contractor at current pay and benefits.
- Establish labor standards for busi-

ness energy tax credits and renewable energy. The 2007 Legislature increased business energy tax credits for renewable enterprises, but the statute did not define labor standard requirements. The AFL-CIO bill would specify that 80 percent of jobs covered should be full time, local jobs that pay a living wage of at least 300 percent of the federal poverty level for a family of four, and should include health insurance and paid leave. Businesses receiving energy tax credits would have to file an annual report showing they are meeting the criteria.

- Make it illegal for employers to hold "captive audience" meetings relating to religion, politics and union organizing and give employees the right to sue their employers if they are disciplined or fired for not attending such meetings.

- Reform Oregon's Products of Disabled Individuals Law. The current law, written in 1977, allows non-profit qualified rehabilitation facilities to take public contracts without competitive bid-

ding, and requires them to replace the current workers doing the job with workers who are disabled. The law is administered to allow literally anyone with any type of disability to qualify, regardless of severity or degree. The state labor federation's proposal would redefine severely disabled.



Zachary Zabinsky

- Social Security
- SSI - Disability Claims

Personal Attention To Every Case

Working For Disability Rights Since 1983

**NO FEE WITHOUT RECOVERY
621 SW Morrison, Portland**

223-8517

HEMORRHOIDS

The Non-Surgical Treatment

We specialize in the non-surgical treatment of hemorrhoids. For over 40 years people throughout the region have turned to the Sandy Blvd. Clinic for fast and effective relief. For more information, FREE consultation and/or a FREE informative booklet call:

Write or call for a FREE information booklet and/or a FREE consultation.

**(503) 232-7609
THE SANDY BLVD. RECTAL CLINIC PORTLAND**

Steven G. Cranford, DC, ND
FORMERLY THE BEAL-OLIVER CLINIC
CHIROPRACTIC/NATUROPATHIC PHYSICIANS
2026 NE SANDY BLVD., PORTLAND, OR 97232

Insurance accepted/pre authorization required.

HOW LABOR CAN
LIVE UNITED:
JOIN HANDS.
OPEN YOUR HEART.
LEND YOUR MUSCLE.
FIND YOUR VOICE.
GIVE AN HOUR.
THINK OF WE BEFORE ME.
REACH OUT A HAND TO ONE AND
INFLUENCE
THE CONDITION OF ALL.



GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED™

www.unitedway-pdx.org



United Way of the Columbia-Willamette

Tired of Working in PAIN?

Most Insurance Plans Accepted!

PROUDLY SERVING
PORTLAND WORKERS
FOR OVER 29 YEARS

Beeson Chiropractic helps bring the relief you need!

- ♦ Treatment for pain due to overuse and repetitive motion
- ♦ Chiropractic adjustments
- ♦ Treatment for accident and sports-related injuries
- ♦ Rehabilitation exercises
- ♦ Therapeutic massage
- ♦ Internal diagnosis and treatment
- ♦ Lab tests and x-rays



Dr. Dan Beeson, Chiropractor
7215 SE Thirteenth Ave. in Sellwood

CALL 503-238-7025