






Local Motion

April 2009

Union certifications and decertifications in Oregon and Southwest Washington, as reported by the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board

Recognition elections

Date	Name of employer	Name of union	Location	Results:		Icon
				Union Yes	Union No	
4/2	Rogue Valley Medical	Oregon AFSCME	Medford	60	138	
4/10	Mercy Flights (DECERTIFICATION)	Teamsters Local 962	Medford	0	3	
4/14	Albertsons	UFCW Local 555	West Linn	3	0	
4/16	REpower USA	IBEW Local 125	Goldendale	2	0	
4/21	Mercy Flights (DECERTIFICATION)	Teamsters Local 962	Medford	31	19	

Requests for recognition election

Name of employer	Name of union	Location	Number of employees
Alstom APCOMP Power	Laborers Local 320	Troutdale	3
Pioneer Memorial Hospital (RNs)	Oregon Nurses Association	Prineville	50
Lincoln County Transportation Service District	Lincoln Cnty Emp Assn vs Communications Workers of America	Newport	15
Lincoln County Road Department	Lincoln Cnty Emp Assn vs Communications Workers of America	Newport	15
City of Ontario	Ontario Police Assn vs SEIU Local 503	Ontario	23
McMinnville Water & Light	Employees of McMinnville Water & Light	McMinnville	9
McDonald Wholesale Company	Teamsters Locals 206 and 962	Eugene	60
UPS Freight (DECERTIFICATION)	International Association of Machinists	Portland	10
Pacific Roofing (DECERTIFICATION)	Roofers Local 49	North Plains	9

...Nursing home worker fired

(From Page 8)

tions. But more than that, she loved her job, her co-workers and the nursing home residents.

"There's this misperception that people who want to unionize are disgruntled workers," Lehr said. "I was organizing because I love my job. I would never have done it if I didn't love this place."

The union campaign slowed dramatically after Lehr was fired, organizers say. A drop-in union meeting, which had 27 workers the week before Lehr's firing, had three attendees the week after. Before the firing, 21 workers were serving on the union organizing committee, each agreeing to communicate with five to 10 co-workers and act as the eyes and ears of the union drive. Two-thirds of them dropped away after the firing, and stopped returning what had been almost daily calls from staff organizers.

At work, managers patrolled the halls. Known union supporters were watched, and called in to meetings with managers.

The shift in atmosphere was really noticeable, said certified nursing assistant Andrea Glaser, an organizing committee member. Glaser said most workers she approached said yes to signing union authorization cards, before Lehr's termination. Now most were declining to sign, and half of those told her it was because they didn't want to lose their jobs. Local 503 organizer Guillermo Galarreta said 77 Laurelhurst Village workers have signed union cards, out of

about 150 workers; so the union is right on the edge of majority support.

Union campaigners decided it was time to shift the campaign's focus from getting new signatures to getting Lehr's job back. Supporters handed out a sort of open letter to management with names and pictures of pro-union workers calling for Lehr's reinstatement.

The union worked with Lehr and others to file a series of "unfair labor practice" charges with the National Labor Relations Board. The union is seeking a court injunction ordering Laurelhurst Village to reinstate Lehr and cease and desist from other violations of federal labor law.

The union turned for support to allies like State Sen. Rosenbaum and

State Rep. Jules Bailey, whose legislative districts include Laurelhurst Village. The two wrote letters to Laurelhurst Village calling on the company to respect its workers' right to unionize. The company gets most of its revenue from taxpayers, via Medicaid and Medicare.

The union is also appealing to the community for support, calling on trade unionists and members of the public to contact company CEO Hannah Austin at 503-535-4861 or by e-mail at haustin@laurelhurstvillage.com and demand Lehr's reinstatement.

SEIU is organizing a community forum to take place Tuesday, May 19, at 5:30 p.m. Columbia Heights Presbyterian Church, 2828 SE Stephens St.

Story ignores Fire Fighters

To The Editor:

I am writing in response to your article "Retired Painter Named Firefighter of the Year," which was published in the April 17, 2009 edition of the Northwest Labor Press.

I appreciated the Labor Press taking the time to recognize union members and their contributions to the communities they live in. As a labor publication, I think that the article left out one important piece of information: Estacada Fire is a union shop organized by the International Association of Fire

OPEN FORUM

Fighters Local 1159. I would assume that if the story were about a retired union firefighter volunteering to show up and paint for free on one of the Painters Local 10's jobs, the story would have included that fact.

Some communities benefit from having volunteer firefighters, but they do not replace the highly skilled and trained members of the International Association of Fire Fighters.

Jason Hachmuth
Tualatin Valley Fire Fighters
Local 1660
Aurora



James Coon



Raymond Thomas



Cynthia Newton



Kimberly Tucker



Chris Frost

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