

AFT bans Coke

American Federation of Teachers (AFT) on Oct. 15 became the latest union to ban Coke products. The AFT Executive Council passed a resolution, held over from its convention in July, which declares that Coca-Cola Company is complicit in violence against union leaders in Latin America, particularly Colombia and Guatemala. The resolution also holds the company responsible for purchasing sugar produced with child labor in El Salvador.

Since the "Campaign to Stop Killer Coke" began in 2004, several dozen union locals and state and central labor councils have passed resolutions. AFT is the fifth international union to do so, following American Postal Workers Union, Communications Workers of America, International Longshore and Warehouse Union, and Service Employees International Union.

AFT's resolution says it will refrain from serving or selling Coca-Cola products at its offices or at any venue for events or meetings, recommend the same to all affiliates, and encourage them to participate in campaigns to remove Coke products from schools, colleges, hospitals and other workplaces.

In the United States, Coke bottling and distribution employees are mostly represented by the Brewery and Soft Drink Workers Conference of the Teamsters. The union has not taken a position on the Killer Coke campaign.

For its part, the Coca-Cola Company denies the allegations. In 2001, the Colombian union Sinaltrainal filed suit in U.S. District Court against Coca-Cola and two Colombian bottlers, alleging involvement by the bottlers in the murders of three union workers by right-wing paramilitaries. The judge dropped Coca-Cola as a defendant in 2003, and dismissed the case against the two bottlers in 2006. The dismissals were upheld by an appeals court in 2009.

Apprenticeship Opening

Glaziers

The Oregon & SW Washington Glaziers Joint Apprenticeship & Journeyman Training Program will be open to accept applications to create a pool of eligible applicants. Applicants must be at least 18 years old. Must apply in person and furnish a copy of a high school diploma and grade transcript or GED and test scores at time of application.

Applications will be taken

Jan. 5 thru Jan. 16, 2015
Monday thru Friday,
9 to 11 a.m. and 1 to 3 p.m.

Glaziers Training Center
Mt. Hood Community College,
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26000 SE Stark St., Gresham, OR

Women and minorities
encouraged to apply



National AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler (right) joins striking Klamath Falls Walmart employee Jennifer Sanchez at a Black Friday rally outside a Walmart store in Southeast Portland. The demonstration, which drew more than 100 people, was one of 1,600 held throughout the country Nov. 28 to protest Walmart's retaliatory discipline against workers who speak out for better wages and more consistent full-time work schedules.

...Walmart employees strike

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unfair labor practices.

Sanchez said no one at her store has been fired for strike activity, so her decision to strike was primarily in support of workers elsewhere.

"They've been retaliating across the country when we speak up about low wages," Sanchez said.

Sanchez and Nuñez have been Walmart stockers for 11 years. They work full time and make \$14.88 an hour. They have health insurance through Walmart, but the \$5,000 deductible makes it unaffordable to use.

The Klamath Falls workers ended their strike Saturday and went back to work without incident.

...UFCW Local 555 rejoins AFL-CIO

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At the Dec. 1 quarterly meeting of the Oregon AFL-CIO Executive Board, Local 555 President Dan Clay and Secretary-Treasurer Jeff Anderson were sworn in as members, and were received with a spirit of "welcome back" by other Board members.

"In Oregon, labor has always oper-

ated as one movement even after the split, but when large unions like this structurally show that unity, that's really important for working people," said Oregon AFL-CIO spokesperson Elana Guiney. "This comes at a time when working people, union and nonunion, are tying to increase solidarity and show our strength and unity."



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7206 NE Cornell Road
503 640-9999

Milwaukie

17186 SE McLoughlin Blvd.
503 659-2525

Portland

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503 777-0761

Salem

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503 362-8359

Vancouver-Fishers Landing

3250 SE 164th Ave., #102
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Austin Phoenix D.D.S. M.S.
Peter Vu, D.M.D., Stirewalt, P.C.

Vancouver-Salmon Creek

2101 NE 129th St.
360 574-4574
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Jeff Pearson, D.D.S., Stirewalt, P.C.

Wilsonville

25700 SW Argyle Ave.
503 682-8552