



Ricardo Campos and Jonathan Quinonez took part in an Oregon AFL-CIO citizenship clinic.

Union movement helps workers become citizens

The Oregon AFL-CIO is helping legal permanent residents become U.S. citizens.

Thanks to a \$50,000 grant from the national AFL-CIO, which was matched by local unions, the state labor federation is hosting immigration "clinics" at its Portland headquarters at 3645 SE 32nd Ave.

To hold the clinics, the Oregon AFL-CIO partners with the Latino civil rights group Causa — its office mate at the Oregon Labor Center since March. Immigration attorneys volunteer their time to help people fill out the lengthy forms required to

apply.

Oregon AFL-CIO field specialist Jessica Giannettino-Villatoro, who coordinates the program, says private legal help filing the paperwork can cost \$1,500; at the clinics, it's free, though applicants must still pay the U.S. government's \$685 application fee. Giannettino said the hope is that new citizens will stay in touch by becoming members of Working America, the AFL-CIO's community organization.

Three clinics have taken place so far, with two more planned in the coming months.

IBEW member injured at race track 'pays it forward' with motorcycle giveaway fundraiser

On July 26, 2014, Bruce Barnes, a member of IBEW Local 48, was critically injured while volunteering at Washougal Motocross Park when he was struck by a motorcycle that came off the track.

After being life-flighted to OHSU, family and friends (his father is Ed Barnes, a retired business manager of Local 48) gathered by his hospital bed in the ICU and prayed for his recovery. A Gofundme page was set up in the days following the accident and quickly grew to over \$29,000.

Bruce Barnes was humbled by the outpouring of both emotional and financial support from people across the country and vowed that he would "pay it forward" in the future.

As he recovered, Barnes be-

gan thinking of what he could do to make an impact and help those who had helped him. He began calling on his friends throughout the motocross industry to share with them his vision of a fundraiser. They decided to sell a chance to win a 2015 Kawasaki KX 250F motocross motorcycle. A \$10 donation gets you a chance to win the bike. The winner will be announced Sept. 20 at the motothenw.com Dream Race.

All proceeds will be donated to Medics at the Washougal MX track, Asterisk Mobile Medical, the IBEW Injured Workers Fund, and the Brandon Layton Memorial Fund.

For more information or to donate, go to [facebook.com/payingitforward2015](https://www.facebook.com/payingitforward2015) or [gofundme.com/payitforwardmx](https://www.gofundme.com/payitforwardmx).

LOCAL MOTION → JUNE/JULY 2015

The following are Oregon and Southwest Washington workplaces where workers are determining 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 vote whether to remain union. The information comes from the National Labor Relations Board and the Oregon Employment Relations Board.

Election Requests

Employer (Location) Union

Fred Meyer (Tillamook) UFCW Local 555

- 10 meat and seafood employees

First Student (Gresham) Oregon School Employees Association **DECERT**

- 120 school bus drivers

Janus Youth Programs (Portland) Oregon AFSCME

- 70 workers — all employees in residential and re-entry services

Waste Management (Klamath Falls) Teamsters Local 962

- 21 drivers, mechanics and laborers

Con-Way (Clackamas) Teamsters Local 162

- 15 workers — mechanics, parts personnel, custodian

Sunshine Dairy Foods (Portland) Teamsters Local 305

- 4 dairy lab technicians

Election Results

Employer (Location) Union

Yes-No

Food Front Cooperative Grocery (Portland) UFCW Local 555 64-11

First Student (Dillard) Oregon School Employees Association 10-0

Oregon Shakespeare Festival (Ashland) IATSE 37-25

Janus Youth Programs (Portland) Oregon AFSCME 26-12

West Linn-Wilsonville School District (Tualatin) OSEA **DECERT** 102-57

...Group seeks \$13.50 minimum wage

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2015. The other four pieces of legislation passed—dealing with paid sick leave, retirement savings, ban the box, and racial profiling. Raising the minimum wage was the one big exception to the progress made in 2015, Chamberlain said.

To pledge support and stay updated on the campaign, backers can sign up online at raisethewageoregon.org. The campaign

also hit the streets of Portland, Eugene, Woodburn, Bend, Coos Bay, and Pendleton July 25, talking to local residents.

Meanwhile, a separate union-backed effort seeks to qualify a November 2016 ballot measure to raise the minimum to \$15 an hour by 2019. That campaign turned in 1,808 valid signatures on June 30, and is now waiting for a final official ballot title before heading out to raise another 86,376 signatures by July 2016.

Roofers to merge with UA

Citing strong ties and common interests in water conservation, the general presidents of the United Association of Union Plumbers, Pipefitters, Sprinklerfitters, Welders and HVAC Technicians (UA) and the United Union of Roofers, Waterproofers and Allied Workers announced on July 30 that the two unions will merge effective Nov. 1, 2015.

Under the agreement, the 22,000-member Roofers Union will affiliate with the 410,000-member UA. The agreement maintains the two unions' autonomy and structure while providing for close cooperation between the two organizations in

relation to training, organizing and other areas.

According to UA General President William P. Hite and Roofers President Kinsey M. Robinson, the agreement with the Roofers was motivated in large part by a shared passion for water conservation and a desire to offer client/owners environmentally responsible building solutions that will improve their bottom line.

In recent years, the UA has inked affiliation agreements with the Plumbing Trades Employees Union of Australia, and the Technical Engineering and Electrical Union of Ireland.

...TPP on ice

From Page 1

human rights provision that was added to the Fast Track bill. Some opponents have criticized the TPP because it includes Vietnam, Malaysia and Brunei, countries considered to be human rights abusers. Malaysia, in particular, was classed by the U.S. State Department as one of the worst countries in the world on human trafficking. That's because Malaysian industries from electronics to apparel to palm oil employ two million foreign workers, many in conditions of forced labor. In May, mass graves were discovered near abandoned jungle camps in Malaysia. The camps, which featured bamboo cages and watch towers, were used by smugglers bringing in workers from Myanmar. Aware of that horror, members of Congress added a provision that no country classed in Tier 3 of the State Department's human trafficking list would be eligible for a trade treaty with the United States. On July 27, the State Department upgraded Malaysia to Tier 2 in its annual human trafficking report, even though no progress has been made. That's after 160 members of the U.S. House and 18 U.S. senators wrote to Secretary of State John Kerry urging him to keep Malaysia on Tier 3. On Aug. 3, Reuters reported that political staff had overruled the department's own specialists to make that change.

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