

...Labor reactions to Trump's election

From Page 1

"More than anything, this election is an indictment of politics as usual. For too long, the political elites have embraced economic policies that hold down wages, increase inequality, diminish opportunity, and ship American jobs overseas. Voters in both the primary and general election have delivered a clear message: Enough."

There *are* things that organized labor and Trump agree on, like NAFTA. Trump has called it the "worst trade deal in history." As president, Trump will have the authority to withdraw the United States from NAFTA—after giving six months notice. But he has said he would only withdraw if he can't renegotiate the terms of the agreement to get a better deal.

"The President-elect made promises in this campaign—on trade, on restoring manufacturing, on reviving our communities," Trumka said. "We will work to make many of those promises a reality. If he is willing to work with us, consistent with our values, we are ready to work with him. But make no mistake, we can never back down from our values. The presence of racism, misogyny, and anti-immigrant appeals caused damage in this campaign and we must all



"It's 30 years of getting screwed by both parties, Democrats and Republicans. They were willing to take a chance on anything."

— North America's Building Trades President Sean McGarvey

try to repair it with inclusion, decency and honesty."

Trump won't be sworn in until Jan. 20, but his election has already had an impact on trade policy. Earlier this year, President Obama and the U.S. Chamber of Commerce had hopes of ratifying the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) during a lame-duck post-election session of Congress. Now, Republican leaders of the House and Senate say they won't hold such a vote. There's more: Obama had also conducted se-

cret negotiations with the European Union on a trade deal called Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership (TTIP) that he saw as a companion to the TPP. After the election, the EU trade minister admitted the talks are likely moot for now.

It's hard to know yet what a Trump presidency will mean, because his campaign pledges so often lacked detail or consistency. He said both that he was for and against a minimum wage increase. He called for tax cuts, particularly on investment income, but never published a detailed plan. He's also said he supports right-to-work, and the Republican Party platform calls for a national right-to-work law. But since the election, he appears to have backpedaled on some of his pledges: His Mexican border wall now might be in part a Mexican border fence (which already exists.) And he now says he'd keep some popular parts of Obamacare.

"The fundamental duty of America's president, symbolized by swearing to uphold our Constitution, is to protect and preserve our democracy and the institutions that make it real," Trumka said. "We hope to work with President Elect Trump to help him carry out this solemn responsibility."

PEOPLE

Merkley hires new labor liaison, field rep

Dan Mahr has been hired as a field staff representative and labor liaison for Oregon U.S. Sen. Jeff Merkley. He succeeds Ed Hall, a retired firefighter who stepped down in May after serving seven years in that position.

Mahr, 36, was introduced to the labor movement in 2005 when he took a job as national field rep for Working America, a community affiliate of the AFL-CIO that reaches out to people who don't have a union at work, but share the same economic principles that unions stand for. Working America has enlisted 3 million people nationwide.

After opening offices in New Mexico, Virginia, and Kentucky, Mahr was assigned to Portland in 2008 to work on the No on 64 campaign. Measure 64 was Bill Sizemore's attempt to limit the ability of unionized public employees from participating financially in politics. The measure failed.

In that same election, Merkley defeated incumbent U.S. Sen. Gordon Smith, and Barack Obama was elected president.

"I loved it here (Oregon), so I decided to stay," Mahr told the Labor Press. "I loaded all my stuff in the back of a truck and moved from Philadelphia to

Portland. The American Dream." Working America had created a full time position in Portland, and in 2009 Mahr was hired as the Western Regional Director, covering Oregon, New Mexico, and Colorado.

In 2013, Mahr was hired as the enrollment director for the Oregon State Council of the Service Employees International Union. In that position he helped build a program to enroll individuals into health care plans through Oregon's health care exchange, Cover Oregon. And even though the state's exchange website never functioned, 10,000 people were able to enroll in health care plans.

Mahr served as campaign manager for the 2014 Ballot Measure 91, which legalized marijuana in Oregon. He also managed the 2013 Portland Children's Levy renewal campaign.

A native of rural Iowa, Mahr graduated from the University of Iowa with a degree in political science.

As labor liaison, Mahr will be Merkley's point person communicating with organized labor. He also will serve as Merkley's field rep in Clackamas County.

Mahr can be reached at 503-326-3386 or at Dan_Mahr@merkley.senate.gov.



Dan Mahr

BUILDING COMMUNITY

Labor's Community Service Agency puts out call for holiday party donations

Labor's Community Service Agency (LCSA) and the Northwest Oregon Labor Council (NOLC) are accepting donations of toys and cash for the 20th annual Presents from Partners Holiday Toy Party now through Dec. 13. The event—for families of unemployed union members and those facing temporary hardships—will be held in mid-December. Entrance is by ticket only. Members must be referred by their union local. Referral forms will be sent to unions and must be returned to LCSA by Dec. 13. Unwrapped toys for kids up to 18 years of age can be dropped off at the following locations:

IBEW Federal Credit Union, Northwest Oregon Labor Council (Suite 305), or **LCSA** (Suite 211). All are located in the same building at 9955 SE Washington St., Portland.

Oregon AFL-CIO, 3645 SE 32nd Ave., Portland.

OPEIU Local 11, 3815 Columbia St., Vancouver.

AFT-Oregon, 10228 SW Capitol Hwy, Portland.

Portland Federation of School Professionals Local 111, 1110 SE Alder, Suite 205, Portland.

Laborers Local 483, 1125 SE Madison, Suite 206, Portland.

Painters District Council No. 5, 11105 NE Sandy Blvd., Suite A, Portland.

Oregon Federation of Nurses and Health Professionals Local 5017, 1500 NE Irving, Suite 575, Portland.

IBEW Local 48, 15937 NE Airport Way, Portland.

Sunrise Dental Beaverton, 14425 SW Allen Blvd.

Sunrise Dental Gresham, 13908 SE Stark, Space B.

Sunrise Dental Hillsboro, 627 SE Baseline, Suite C.

Cash donations can be sent to **LCSA**, 9955 SE Washington, #211, Portland, Ore., 97216.

The team at THOMAS, COON, NEWTON & FROST can help you:



James Coon



Raymond Thomas



Cynthia Newton



Chris Frost



Melissa Haggerty



Sydney Montanaro



Scott Sell



Get Workers' Compensation benefits for on-the-job injuries or illness.

Get Social Security benefits if you can't work.

Recover damages if you are injured by someone's negligence.

Helping injured people for over 25 years.

THOMAS, COON,
NEWTON & FROST
ATTORNEYS AT LAW
820 SW Second Ave, Ste. 200
Portland, Oregon 97204
www.stc-law.com

Workers' Compensation

Construction Injuries

Death Claims

Personal Injury & Product Liability

Medical Malpractice

Social Security Disability

Mesothelioma

Call us today at
503-228-5222

Straight answers.
No cost for consultation.
Our law offices are located on the MAX Light Rail at SW 2nd & Yamhill.