

Have A Happy Holiday!
NORTHWEST LABOR PRESS

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VOLUME 117, NUMBER 24

PORTLAND, OREGON

DECEMBER 16, 2016

Bait and switch: Trump's Carrier deal

The man who put his byline on the Art of the Deal pulls a fast one in Indiana as tough talk turns to tax giveaways

By Don McIntosh

"You're going to pay a damn tax when you leave this country." That's what presidential candidate Donald Trump said about the Carrier firm at an April 2016 rally — after Carrier announced plans to close its Indianapolis factory and move production to Mexico.

Union manufacturing workers have waited a very long time to hear those words from a presidential candidate. More than 5 million U.S. manufacturing jobs have been lost since



NAFTA's passage. The 1,400 Carrier workers, members of United Steelworkers Local 1999, were to be next.

Trump, like most other

Americans, learned of the planned closure after Carrier employee LaKeisha Austin posted a video of a Feb. 10

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At the Standing Rock protest encampment: Isaiah Barnes of the Sioux nation, and Jamison Roberts and Steve Hunt of Vancouver ILWU Local 4.

Unions stand at Standing Rock

The standoff at North Dakota's Standing Rock Sioux Reservation — with Indian tribes and supporters on one side, and police and private security for the Dakota Access Pipeline on the other — also finds labor union members on both sides.

North America's Building Trades Unions and the AFL-CIO have come out in favor of the project moving forward, be-

cause it's a big source of union jobs. But other labor organizations have declared support for pipeline protesters, and in Oregon and Washington, a number of union members have traveled to Standing Rock to take part in the massive protest encampment — a nonviolent uprising that has united Indian tribes na-

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Making spirits bright

Norman Sylvester and Friends entertained several hundred children, parents, and grandparents Dec. 3 at a holiday party hosted by the Marion-Polk-Yamhill Counties Labor Chapter. The event, funded by local unions and unionized businesses, is in its 76th year. The party is held at the historic Elsinore Theatre in downtown Salem. This year, children sang holiday songs with Sylvester, a member of Musicians Local 99, watched a movie, and met Mr. and Mrs. Claus (played by Jack Rusen of Albany Steelworkers Local 6163 and his wife, right). After, everyone received a bag filled with union-made products purchased at unionized Fred Meyer. Above, program emcee Jeff Anderson of UFCW Local 555 greets families outside the theatre.



WORKERS RIGHTS

Instafab settles charges, offers strikers backpay/reinstatement

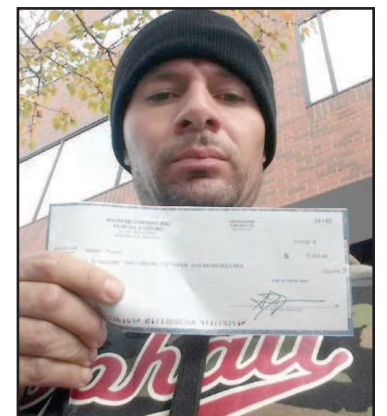
Despite that, the strike by a minority of workers continues.

By Don McIntosh

A strike by a group of ironworkers at nonunion Instafab is still under way 21 months after it began. Instafab, based in Vancouver, Washington, fabricates and installs structural and architectural steel.

The strike began Feb. 27, 2015, after company management refused to consider a list of demands five installation workers presented, including water and dry shacks on every job, safety training, company-paid medical and retirement benefits, and area standard wages.

Instafab responded by terminating the strikers, which is illegal under U.S. labor law. Other installers and fabrication shop employers later joined the strike, eventually bringing the number of strikers to about 20 in a work-



Instafab striker Will Russell holds up a check for backpay, part of a settlement approved Nov. 4 by the National Labor Relations Board.

force of about 75. The group also sought guidance from Iron Workers Local 29 and Iron Workers Shopmen's Local 516.

On Nov. 4, 2016, the National Labor Relations Board approved a voluntary settlement of charges that Instafab violated federal labor law when it fired the initial

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