

SEIU News

Issue 15/4

Pub. Date:
14 April, 2010Serving the Westmoreland County Members of the Service Employees
International Union; Healthcare Pennsylvania AND Local 668 (PSSU)

UPDATE

The 2010 U.S. Census:

Article I of The Constitution Of The United States sets forth the reasons for a count of all the persons living in the U.S. and establishes that it take place each ten years. It is nothing new, or illegal, contrary to what you may have heard from some people.

Those same people, through misinformation, are also trying to get others to refuse to be counted, which means less representation for those who do refuse.

“Representatives and direct Taxes shall be apportioned. . .” all based on the numbers of all free Persons within our borders.

It matters to you! It’s easy, it’s important, 10 questions—10 minutes. Please take the time to fill it out. Federal and State dollars depend on it!

If you haven’t already returned you questionnaire, please do it now. Phone calls and home visits follow for non-responses. Log onto www.census.gov for more information.

Health Insurance Reform:

For more than a decade, SEIU members were a national force driving the passage of the historic health-care legislation which President Obama signed into law on Tuesday, 23 March, 2010.

Health insurance reform means families will have secure, affordable healthcare they can count on, insurance companies won’t be allowed to deny coverage based on pre-existing conditions, or take your coverage away if you get sick, and America will be able to strengthen its economy by cutting the deficit and growing more good jobs.

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act is an enormous victory for every working family who ever worried about how they were going to pay for their children’s healthcare, struggled in the face of medical bankruptcy or saw their dreams taken away by skyrocketing healthcare costs. SEIU members should be very proud to share this good news with their family, friends, and neighbors.

(continued next column)

Quote of the Month

“Down in their hearts, wise men know this truth: the only way to help yourself is to help others.”

- Elbert Hubbard, *in The Philistine*

UPDATE (cont.)

It’s Budget Time Again!:

The FY 2010-2011 budget will affect the future of working families all across Pennsylvania and the services that State and County employees provide.

Logic tells us that when the economy is distressed, more services are needed to assist those in need.

SEIU Healthcare PA are supporting Governor Rendell’s 2010-2011 budget; while SEIU Local 668 (PSSU) supports the revenue side of the budget.

For Local 668’s position, check out www.SEIU668.org and click on the “Human Services Campaign.” For Healthcare’s position go to www.SEIUHealthcarePA.org and click/read “Governor Rendell’s Budget...”

Save My Home Hotline: [\[unionplus.org\]](http://unionplus.org)

If you are worried that the next change in your adjustable rate mortgage (ARM) will put payments out of reach, the Union Plus Save My Home Hotline may be able to help. Members can arrange a confidential, free consultation with expert housing counselors who can provide advice, help find answers, and develop an action plan to get your financial house in order.

It’s free and confidential! Don’t wait till it’s too late—call 1-866-490-5361, any time day or night.

(UPDATE cont. next page)

PLEASE
POST

Have a Wonderful Earth Day!

PLEASE
POST

LEADERSHIP Local 668 (PSSU)

Kathy Jellison—Local Pres.
Roni Hamiel—
(Secretary-Treasurer)
John Terpko—Chapter 4 Chair
Bud Santimyer—Chap.4 V.P.
Tim O'Donnell—
Chap. 4 Treasurer
Rachel Deckard—
Steward Chair / W.C.
Karen Klimaszewski—
Business Agent

Puzzler

March Puzzler: How long has the Service Employees International Union existed?

A) 42 years, since 1968. It was formerly the Building Service Employees International Union.

Sadie the Union dog offers congratulations to **Candy Pecoraro** of the Tax Office; for being the this months winner!

April Puzzler: When did President Obama sign the health insurance reform law and what is it called?

All Westmoreland County employee members of SEIU; and their family members; are eligible. Submit answer with Name, Dept., Phone.

Deadline is the first of next month (Mon. 5/1//2010).

Winner is drawn from all sealed entries, then checked for membership status and correct answer.

The winner receives a selection of Union merchandise.

Please send answers by U.S. Post to Puzzler, c/o 608 S. Broadway St., Scottdale, PA 15683 .

HOLIDAYS

Our 2010 holidays are: New Years Day (1/1); Martin Luther King, Jr. Day (1/18); Presidents' Day (2/15); Good Friday (4/2); Memorial Day (5/31); Flag Day (6/14); Independence Day (7/4) [5-day operations get the following Mon. off]; Labor Day (9/6); Columbus Day (10/11); Veterans' Day (11/11); Thanksgiving Day & Day After (11/25&11/26); Christmas Day (12/25) [5-day operations get the preceding Friday off]; AND your remaining Personal Days.

Other Days to Remember:

Earth Day—Thurs., 4/22
Armed Forces Day—Sat., 5/15

LEADERSHIP Healthcare PA

Neal Bisno—President /
HealthcarePA
Kevin Hefty—V.P. /
Long-term Care
Matt Yarnell-V.P. /
Long-term Care
Marie Marsh—Executive
Board Member
Doris Hardy—Chapter Pres.
Vacant—Chap. V.P.
Chris Bureau—Chap. Sec.
Mike Harenski—Chap. Treas.
Cheryl Long—Organizer

Important 2010 SEIU 668

Dates:

April 12-15, 2010 - PA
AFL-CIO Convention, Pittsburgh Convention Center.

June 5, 2010 - SWEB
Meeting - Holiday Inn East -
Harrisburg.

June 15, 2010—Statewide
Lobby Day, Harrisburg.

September 11, 2010 -
SWEB Meeting - Holiday Inn
East - Harrisburg.

December 4, 2010 - SWEB
Meeting - Holiday Inn East -
Harrisburg.

This years 20th Annual lobby effort; "SEIU 668 Building Safe and Healthy Communities," takes place Tuesday, 15 June. Registration forms are available through your Stewards.

UPDATE (cont.)

Nurse Alliance of PA of SEIU:

A study by a University of Pennsylvania researcher, Linda Aiken, determined that each additional patient over four under a registered nurse's care, the risk of death increases 7%.

Registered nurses across Pennsylvania are working to pass HB 147 to create safe RN-to-patient ratios in our hospitals and other health care facilities.

www.nursealliancepa.org has more information on HB 147.

Mortgage Assistance:[unionplus.org]

Union Plus Mortgages give working families unique budget-stretching benefits found nowhere else: First-time homebuyers who use it are eligible to apply for \$500 in grocery gift cards from a union store; Closing costs with non-third-party fees are capped at \$100; Provides loans and grants to help to disabled, striking, or unemployed workers to stay in their homes.

A Home Buyer Tax Credit is available to qualified home-buyers who bought or buy in 2009-2010.

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GET THE FACTS !

Visit seiu.org ;
seiuhealthcarepa.org ; seiu668.org ; and
seiu668CH4.org !

SEIU News has been put together and edited since January, 1995 by members of the Joint Bargaining Committee of the Westmoreland County units of SEIU.

Content submissions can be made to: SEIU News, attn: Bud Santimyer [editor], 608 S. Broadway St., Scottdale, PA, 15683 OR by email to seiuwc@zoominternet.net