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BUDGET BLUES

Horror show with slow remedies

pponents of the convoluted two-year budget rammed through in June by the GOP majority in the Wisconsin legislature often find themselves apoplectic and tongue-tied in trying to explain its contents and consequences.

It contains so many tricks and devices from the right-wing play-book that simple declarative sentences can't incorporate all the deliberately evasive "maybes" and "ifs" in the legalese. And dare to leave out one "if" and the simple-minded and the Milwaukee media -- sometimes the same people -- jump all over the critics. It's a technique that avoids exposing the horrors within the budget. Maybe that's the intention of how it was written.

Cover-up is essential because this budget even attacks basic, common sense policies on revenue collection, environmental respect and cooperative advance that Republicans of the past fought for, not against. It has twisted the old-fashion concept of frugality into a newfangled fear that we must save money at all costs -- while actually raising taxes on the average Wisconsinite. You hear the blather from all the novice members of the GOP who don't yet grasp it is easy to erase a deficit if you don't care who you wipe out in the process.

The budget that spares the richest while devastating the middle class led state AFL-CIO president Phil Neuenfeldt - hardly a tonguetied guy - into a devastating bullhorn call to action June 18 at the MALC annual fund-raiser. He ferociously outlined why the unions were no longer playing defense. He pointed out how many more citizens than union members have now been forced to join this class warfare through special elections, and then paused to ask more poignantly: "We've been talking about shared sacrifice -- When do we get back to talking about shared prosperity?"

The GOP majority is getting away with this smorgasbord of disaster, it is now apparent, by returning to a tired old Tommy Thompson era playbook -- seeming to stick it to Milwaukee, a la the Miller Park sales tax, while convincing right-wing backers that they all have been spared by Walker's approach. But that's a lie. Only the influential and lobbyists have been spared via inside tracks, tax credits and protection of excess profits. The devastation on Milwaukee public schools and services, while particularly harsh, will soon radiate out to all the state's communities. Conservatives who don't understand that simply haven't read the fine print or have fallen for one-sided ad campaigns.

This is why the recall elections have become so important, despite the desperate GOP maneuvers to change all the July races into primaries of a real Democrat facing the planted fake. See Story at right.

That is why the state GOP benefit from every small confusion about changes in the election law, what takes place now and what takes place next year, and why voters are unprepared to protect that basic right. For a full explanation, turn to Pages 4 and 5.

And that is why we can no longer be tongue-tied.

On Page 3, there is something to cut out, share and savor -- a hit list of views, quotes and analysis of the sneak attacks in the budget. It will help detail what's there and also expose the GOP pretenses that nobly they pulled back from the brink to correct Walker's approach, when all they did was tweak a few things and crawl to embrace federal money.

-- Dominique Paul Noth, Editor



Sheila Cochran introduces Phil Neuenfeldt for a penetrating speech that rocked the Empire Ballroom of the Hilton, packed with hundreds of union supporters June 18 for the MALC's honors banquet. Then Secretary-Treasurer Cochran handed out plaques, including to the Milwaukee Fabulous 4 of the Fabulous 14, notably top right Sen. Tim Carpenter. At right were other guests, from left: Assembly minority leader Peter Barca, another honoree, newly clean-shaven county executive Chris Abele and Rep. JoCasta Zamarippa.





GOP uses July primarily to delay ballot reckoning

By Dominique Paul Noth Editor, Labor Press

Senate District 8 have a simple choice July 12 -- the Real Democrat Sandy Pasch over a Republican ringer posing as a Democrat.

Pasch and her supporters were actually itching to use that Tuesday to take on incumbent GOP Sen. Alberta Darling, whose chirping rhetoric as cochair of the joint finance committee could not disguise how far she departed from traditional standards and the needs of her district's children as she helped plan then steer Walker's budget through the legislature. It was more than demeaning the rights

of teachers she still pretended to respect, it was abandoning the centrist rationale that previous generations of neighbors in the North Shore had once expected of her.

Darling has hardly shown remorse for her now typical hard right veer.

Instead she has helped engineer a delay in judgment day.

It is her longtime supporter and contributor who is pretending to be a Democrat, an undemocratic maneuver that mocks her previous welcome of the recall petitions as a chance to outline the differences between her and Pasch. Now she is running from the showdown, going to court to further delay the election and hoping that Aug. 9, the now

scheduled date, will give her a chance to run more ads, more evasion and create more distance from her actual actions in the legislature.

arling and the state
Republican Party are not acting embarrassed, as they should, at lying about party affiliation to force a primary.
They hope to cause Pasch supporters to spend money on the primary to protect her, if they can find enough Republicans craven enough to pretend to be Democrats simply to vote for their stand-in.

It's actually an insult to the principled families who have long respected their Republican affiliation, but desperation brings strange measures as well as bedfellows in politics.

Now Pasch backers have to vote for her twice, once July 12 and once in the expected race that would actually put Darling in a contest (expected Aug. 9 barring court delays). The GOP has actually introduced this fake Dems strategy (and virtually all the media has turned to the accurate term "fake Dem" to distinguish the bastardized pedigree in this competition) in all six of the July recall elections.

The Democrats had once feared the GOP would pull out one or two of these promised fake Dems to suddenly turn an expected primary into the real

Collective bargaining takes revealing turn on Internet

or decades American citizens assumed the benefits but never really discussed the meaning and importance of collective bargaining.

Recent evens have sure changed that. The actions of Gov. Walker in Wisconsin and a few governors elsewhere to strip robust rights from public workers have put in public debate rights long taken for granted and have led to furious discussions even in households that long considered themselves Republican conservative, and now wonder what that means.

Few places have shed light, humor and insight into the process. The AFL-CIO recognizes



the value of that approach, as well as emphasizing the real people and real impact of the issue in a new Internet exploration of the essential nature of workplace collective bargaining for all.

On June 17 it launched Collective Bargaining Facts at collectivebargainingfacts.com to explore with facts and wit, and in clear terms, this bedrock of unionism and fundamental right of all workers.

The launch of collectivebargainingfacts.com features three videos from Laughing Liberally revealing the consequences of being shut out by management.

It adds video testimonies from several workers - including a powerful Wisconsin AFL-CIO comment from a Racine firefighter. The site also includes a fun quiz on collective bargaining, a fact sheet and recent editorials.

Elections continued **Page 2**

From Page 1

final deal, allowing the GOP to pour protective ad money in. But now that all the fake Dems have cleared the final legal hurdles, the Democrats have dropped what I personally thought was a bad idea in the first place, the presence of real Democrats as placeholders in every July recall to prevent more GOP mischief.

There's still some confusion that makes genuine Republicans embarrassed to participate and supporters of the real Democrats determined to act protectively, reaching out to friends and relatives to get them out to vote.

Fortunately many citizens come from local families or vacation within the state, so relational campaigning could prove quite powerful.

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o here is a list of the July 12 Democrat primaries and a request from backers of the real Democrats for everyone to start thinking of who they know that lives in these areas and then get on the phone, get in the car -- certainly check out a variety of Internet hookups - to get the word to every legitimate voter you know to protect their own future and return Wisconsin to respectability in the face of the GOP party's dishonesty.

Senate District 8 Incumbent Sen. Alberta Darling (R-River Hills) has ducked facing any opponent until at least Aug. 9.

July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Rep. Sandy Pasch vs fake Dem Gladys

Includes Assembly Districts 22, 23 and 24, covering (a few wards of) the city of Milwaukee, then Shorewood, Whitefish Bay, Fox Point, River Hills, Bayside, Mequon, Brown Deer, Menomonee Falls, Thiensville, Germantown, Butler and Richfield.

Senate District 2 Incumbent Sen. Rob Cowles (R-Allouez) has ducked facing any opponent until at least Aug. 9.

.July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Nancy Nusbaum vs fake Dem Otto Junkermann.

Includes Assembly Districts 4, 5, 6, Oconto, Shawano, Brown and Outagamie counties.

Senate District 10



Before he went for the clean-shaven look (on our cover), Milwaukee County Executive Chris Abele attended the Democratic Party Blue Bash fund-raiser in June and immediately put on a T-shirt to proclaim his backing for Rep. Sandy Pasch in her race against incumbent GOP Sen. Alberta Darling. But first, of course, Darling has made sure Pasch must waste a little time and money in July fending off a stand-in pretending to be a Democrat.

Incumbent Sen. Sheila Harsdorf (R-River Falls) has ducked facing any opponent until at least Aug. 9.

July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Shelly Moore vs fake Dem Isaac Weix.

Includes Assembly Districts 28, 29, 30, Pierce, St. Croix, Polk and Burnett counties.

Senate District 14 Incumbent Sen. Luther Olsen (R-Ripon) has ducked facing any opponent until at least Aug. 9.

. July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Rep. Fred Clark (D-Baraboo) vs fake Dem Rol Church.

Includes Assembly Districts 40 41, 42, Waupaca, Waushara, Marquette and Green Lake coun-

Senate District 18 Incumbent Sen. Randy Hopper (R-Fond du Lac) has ducked fac-

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ing any opponent until at least Aug. 9.

July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Jessica King (deputy mayor, Oshkosh) vs fake Dem John D. Buckstaff.

Includes Assembly Districts 52, 53, 54, Fond du Lac County and such cities as Oshkosh, Algoma, Friendship, Taycheedah and Fond du Lac.

Senate District 32

Incumbent Sen. Dan Kapanke (R-La Crosse) has ducked facing any opponent until at least Aug. 9

July 12 Democrat primary pits Real Democrat Rep. Jennifer Shilling (D-La Crosse) vs. fake Democrat James D. Smith.

Includes Assembly Districts 94, 95, 96 and counties of Trempealeeau, La Crosse, Vernon and Crawford

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Drip. Drip. Drip.

or those seeking ammunition to explain to their neighbors what is about to land on them in the next few months from the Walker budget, select from this page:

LARSON'S 10 WORST

Milwaukee area Sen. Chris Larson provided his own top 10 of horrors in the new budget:

- 1). Cuts \$1.6 billion from our children's schools.
- 2). Increases spending by more than \$1 billion compared to the last budget.
- 3). Favors CEOs and big corporations by creating a \$196 million corporate slush fund and \$2.3 billion in tax giveaways.
- 4). Increases fees by \$111.3 million and taxes by nearly \$70 million on the middle-class.
- 5). Caps enrollment in the vital FamilyCare program, a cost-savings initiative that keeps loved ones out of nursing homes and in-patient facilities, saving taxpayers money.
- 6). Rejects an opportunity to safeguard the federal SeniorCare waiver beyond 2012. (Editor's note: This despite Alberta Darling's claims to voters that she saved SeniorCare when she was actually part of the effort to cut it.)
- 7). Cuts \$234 million from the Stewardship fund that protects our state's natural resources.
- 8). Broke the promise to restore the recycling program by decreasing funding by 40%.
- 9).Decreases transparency and accountability by approving without use details funding for the new Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation.
- 10). Eliminates the clean election initiatives, taking power from voters and giving more control to wealthy, out-of-state corporations

arson also points out that while Democrats introduced a barrage of amendments to halt the assault on Wisconsin's middle-class and working families, none were adopted.

(If you stroll the archives at www.wiseye.org, you can still find the wee hour eloquence June 16 of Democrats pleading on the Assembly floor to rethink amendments, while the GOP majority, like zombies in lockstep march or lemmings falling over a cliff, ignored even arguments many agreed with.)

QUOTES OF ANGER

"Budgets aren't just matters of arithmetic and account balances. They're moral documents too. This budget tells us that Wisconsin's current government thinks the best thing to do in tough times isn't to come together, be prudent, and share burdens with those who can shoulder them most easily, but to lash out at children and the poor, smack the middle class, weaken democratic institutions of all kinds, and shovel money to the rich and



Happy June 1 at the state Democratic convention, Sen. Chris Larson turned understandably sour analyzing the new state budget.

criminally irresponsible. That's no way to run a decent state. It's a disgusting betrayal of what made it great." - Joel Rogers, director, Center of Wisconsin Strategy (COWS).

"A job-killing assault.

Instead of more tax breaks for Wisconsin's most prosperous individuals and corporations, legislators should have generated revenue from these sources to lessen the severe cuts." -- Jack Norman, research director for the Institute of Wisconsin's Future.

"The budget is based on the false premise that Wisconsin has no choice but to balance the budget through deep, painful cuts to programs for children and families, but not only is it wrong to balance the budget on the backs of children, it is also short sighted from a deficit reduction perspective because these deep cuts will create additional problems that will cost more in the long

run to address." -- Ken Taylor, executive director of the Wisconsin Council on Children and Families.

LIES THEY TOLD ME

ou may have read the news stories that while first approving all the education cuts in Walker's budget, the GOP majority stepped in and saved \$113 million. That's still nearly an \$800 million cut in education aid -- and \$1.6 billion overall once you factor in vouch-

er funding, restrictions on revenue, elimination of successful programs, etc., all targeting public education. And while any relief is good, this is like teasing a drowning man with a peppermint Life-Saver.

It's our Chinese water torture budget,

hard to explain, impossible to defend

Because it works like this: Low-spending school districts would get a mere \$6.2 million more in state aid under a complicated formula along with the ability to levy \$94 million more each year -- through property taxes (yes, increase local property taxes around the state, not part of the GOP pitch). In the second year of the budget, \$42.5 million would be available in matching dollars -- matched to guess what. School districts have to raise their own tax-supported per-pupil aid to get the match, limited to \$50 per student.

This, despite the political rhetoric, is hardly manna. More like financial manipulation to cool the angry citizen.

OMG! GOP loves that federal money

They're changing budget laws mainly to salvage US cash

he most notable tweaks to Walker's budget concept seek to protect and even add federal dollars. That will be a shocker to those who remember how Walker ran for office demeaning federal help. He even turned down \$810 million and 5,000 construction jobs for higher speed train service as part of the national transit network.

Now, with his blessings, the GOP majority is grasping and gasping to preserve those federal dollars and Obama administration largesse, even stimulus money. Walker's efforts to cut rural broadband service and Wiscnet, which was supported by \$40 million in federal money, was put in, then cut out of the final budget. So was his idea of getting federal waivers on SeniorCare, trying to keep that US aid even as he gutted the program.

The desperation to preserve those once-scorned federal dollars has led, for the first time in memory, Walker's minions to create a favored category of workers with full bargaining rights completely based not on what they do but how they are paid.

Convoluted in a lengthy amendment to the original bargaining bill are instructions to the Wisconsin Employment Relations Commission. It may not work but it's there in case Walker's changes to the WERC - hiring a management fixated leader, turning key positions into political not civil service jobs -

doesn't deflect the commission from precise reading of the law, because Walker clearly didn't.

Remember that last February Walker's spokesman stated flatly that federal funds for transit were not in jeopardy from his bill decimating public worker bargaining rights -- though it is written into federal labor rules that states risk losing federal transit funds should they eliminate "collective bargaining rights" that existed when federal assistance was granted.

So in the final days came a long amendment simply to protect \$47 million from the feds for transit. Should Wisconsin be in danger of losing it, the WERC is instructed to create a new class of transit workers, not based on what they do but how they are paid. (Racine, Kenosha and others depend on federal aid. Milwaukee's ATU is already a private union working for the county through a firewall.)

This new class of transit workers, defined by being paid with federal money, will enjoy the same exemptions as fire and police --- full bargaining rights, making further laughable any suggestion that Walker wanted just to protect public safety officers and wasn't arbitrary or manipulative in deciding which were favored and disfavored workers.

For some reason this sudden craven obeisance to the federal dollar, and remarkable definition of "protected" workers only based on which government is paying them, has so far not blown up into a major media story.

-- Dominique Paul Noth



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Court challenges forming on voter

New newspapers to date ★ have explored the looming grounds for constitutional attack on the voter law (though big legal guns tell me they may focus court cases on the photo ID required in 2012, not the current minor muddles).

In simple terms, let's explore why the new voter bill could run afoul of voter suppression rulings because of whom it affects -- and how many -- by forcing unnecessary hurdles on the elderly, poor, disabled, transients and students (for a basic democratic right) in a state where hundreds of thousands don't have driver's licenses and the DMV doesn't have easy presence and hours.

n Indiana, where a similar bill was declared legal and served as a model for this one, surveys indicated a far more concentrated public and far fewer voters without photo IDs -- and that state took early steps to extend hours, services and availability to issue photo IDs. Wisconsin has done no such

Sen. Kathleen Vinehout (D-Alma) warned her colleagues that not all far-flung counties

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even have DMV service centers: Buffalo County has none, Pierce County has only open during typical working hours on Thursdays and Fridays and Price County only has hours on the first Wednesday of every other month and 2nd and 5th Thursdays monthly, she noted as examples. Moreover, cuts in state service have restricted hours at many existing DMVs.

The situation hurts people of all economic and racial stripes. It may actually impact voters Republicans have long relied on, since many older citizens loaded with credit cards and money have stopped getting driver's license and don't realize how this law affects them, one legislator told Labor Press.

omething old and not so smart is married to the photo ID bill. To be in accordance with the Real ID Act of 2005, a law forced through Congress by Rep. Jim Sensenbrenner when fear of terrorism outweighed obvious great costs to state budgets, citizens will have to provide a birth certificate to the Department of Motor Vehicles before obtaining

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a federal, tamper-proof driver's license or ID.

"People who have come here from Arkansas and Mississippi may not have a birth certificate, especially if they're elderly," Sen. Spencer Coggs (D-Milwaukee) told his colleagues. He didn't even discuss how back then black births were recorded differently, casually or not at all in the segregated South. "To get one from those states could take extra time and money."

The bill will also cost the state more than \$6 million over the next biennium, by its own count, due to providing free state IDs to avoid the appearance that the bill is an unconstitutional poll tax. But no money has been set aside for fuller compliance with such issues as access and education, and lawsuits will also address the now obvious attempt in so many identification and residency rules of making life difficult for Democrat-tending classes of vot-

Another state senator, Lena Taylor, sees a similar inequity in the new requirement forcing all

voters to sign a poll list. It smacks of an unnecessary extra step to chill and embarrass since there is no evidence of in-person voting fraud. The law would also eliminate party-line voting for all residents, with the exception of military personnel and overseas voters - and that may produce hardship and confusion for all voters accustomed to signing in one spot on a ballot rather than voting in each race.

Foremost among the voter suppression complaints is growing evidence of the predominant targets and enormous number of Wisconsin voters without any photo ID, unlike some early data that allowed Indiana to slip its law through court scrutiny.

A recent UWM study of those without photo IDs found 23% of Wisconsinites over the age of 65, 17% of white men and women, 55% of African American males and 49% of African American women, 46% of Hispanic men and 59% of Hispanic women, 78% of African American males age 18-24 and 66% of African American women age 18-24.

Statistical reports probably underestimate the real totals but show that 175,000 state residents

currently do not have driver licenses - and face a DMV operation unprepared to help. -- Dominique Paul Noth

TEACHING THE TEACHERS

The state's top educators gathered May 18 at the Audubon school to hear top no-holds barred advice on improving schools from Schott Foundation leader John Johnson (top). Among the listeners were state superintendent of schools Tony Evers (middle) and the newly elected president of the Milwaukee teachers MTEA, Rethinking Schools guru Bob Peterson (bottom).







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conomic difficulty has been \square particularly striking for those entering the workforce, yet interest in union membership and principles has simultaneously grown. It is in that atmosphere that the AFL-CIO expects big things from its 2nd annual Young Workers Summit.

Last year drew more than 400 young activists to Washington to launch the longterm outreach to working people under the age of 35. This year's "Next Up" summit will be held Sept. 29 to Oct. 2 in Minneapolis.

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Media muddy on now vs. later voter changes

By Dominique Paul Noth

Editor, Labor Press

e was laughing and off the record a few months ago when I asked a Republican legislator what in heaven's name was the purpose of the voter ID bill that is now Wisconsin law. "It's just to confuse the public," he chuckled, and turns out he was being honest.

Most of the required changes don't take place until the 2012 elections (do you think maybe the real target is supporters of Barack Obama?), and the newspaper pundits have already spent a lot of time discussing whether calling this law "disenfranchisement" of voters wasn't an overuse of an overused word. They don't spend time exploring the real constitutional issue that will be raised in the courts of "voter suppression." We do in our discussion on the facing page. There is dissembling that will clearly face court challenges and could affect the law in 2012.

But some little changes creating large confusion are taking place in time for the 2011 recall elections -- and many newspapers and radio/TV stations, in trying to shorthand the clear explanation to election professionals from the Government Accountability Board, have muddied the matter even further.

So let's simplify for 2011. Here are the changes at the polls to look out for:

- Everyone who enters to vote must sign a logbook, or poll list and that is new.
- No longer can you bring a corroborating witness to prove

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Attendance was light but the main panel was powerhouse and eloquent at Laborers Local 113 hall during the African American and Community Summit organized in May by the Milwaukee Area Labor Council. Speaking out on recent history, budget issues and impending disasters in the new state laws were from left new county supervisor Eyon Biddle, Rep. Barbara Toles, Sen. Spencer Coggs - see story opposite page – and Jack Norman, research director for the Institute for Wisconsin's Future and a leading advocate (see Page 3) for a rational approach to state economics.

your identify.

• You must prove an established residency of 28 consecutive days, not the current 10. (One change is not at the polls: In-person absentee balloting at election commission locations is shorter and ends the Friday before an election.)

And here are the 2011 changes that are causing confusion in news stories:

You will be asked to show a photo ID, but you don't need to have one or show one AND FRANKLY, IF YOU ARE TICKED OFF BY THIS WHOLE THING, YOU DON'T HAVE TO PULL A PHOTO ID OUT EVEN IF YOU ARE CARRYING IT.

Here's what's not always being made clear. If you say No, you will be handed a piece of information about how you have to show a photo ID next year (this is just a training exercise, expected to be carried out at every polling place). And then you can proceed to vote AS YOU HAVE IN THE PAST (with the above noted exceptions).

In other word, registered voters or those with older acceptable forms of ID can this year proceed as before after signing a log. The confusion in news reports came by juxtaposing the training exercise with the need for a provisional ballot to vote when you don't have an ID, and how you must return in a few days with an ID before your vote will count.

Too many stories or TV reports have linked that 2012

provisional ballot requirement with the 2011 "show us a photo ID" request, though they don't relate.

AB counsel told Labor Press, "The confusing part is that, in 2011 elections, there may still be provisional ballots cast, as there are under existing law, in limited circumstances." Those rare circumstances are first time voters who registered by mail without proof of residence or voters on Election Day who may not have their driver license number.

There are always wrinkles in election legislation—but the bottom line, for 2011, is the failure to have a photo ID does not trigger the need for a provisional ballot.

All this started some interesting arguments among election-knowledgeable citizens over whether some newspapers were just careless in reporting a confusing change or were deliberate in adding to the confusion.

I would like to vote for careless, given past practices. But if it was easy for me to check before writing, why not them?



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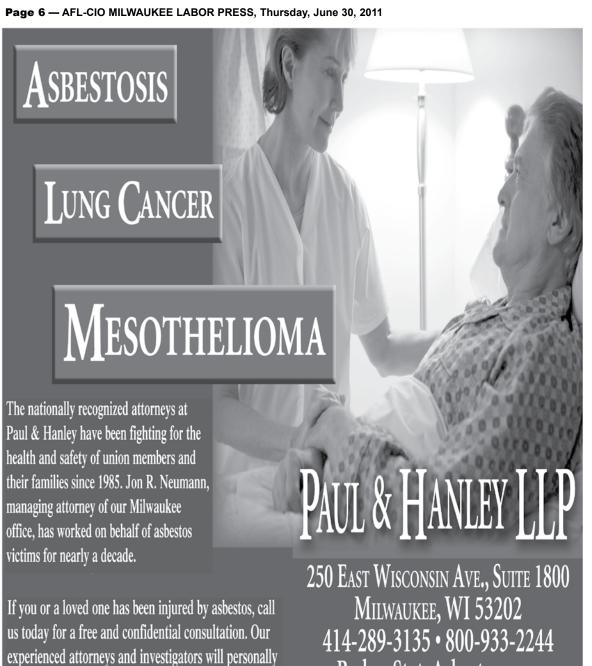
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Enter the rat, fully legal



Wisconsin unions such as Operating Engineers Local 139 boast ownership of such inflatables, both a rat and a pig. They have been loaned out in the past. So don't be surprised to see the big rat at a secondary boycott near you.

uck it up, businesses on the union bad boy list. You can stop panting and making exaggerated claims about being afraid of providing decent wages. The giant inflatable rat that seems to scare you is legal, the National Labor Relations Board ruled May 26 after extensive efforts to bar it from labor demonstrations in front of secondary employers.

The case has gone back and forth in court since 2006 because Sheet Metal Workers Local 15 was brought to D.C. court for creating a funeral procession with skeleton and using the big rat on a flatbed truck parked in pubic space more than 100 feet from the hospital entrance of Brandon Regional Medial Center, which hired below-wage non-union temps to build an addition. The court ruled the skeleton legal and sent the rat issue back to the NLRB for final cheese decision.

And that came back to basic labor law about whether the rat was intimidation or persuasion. The legal arguments were interesting, because you had to be frightened by old drive-in movies about attacks of 50 foot women to imagine a giant size rubber rat was more than a formidable prop.

It's persuasion, not intimidation, the court has now ruled - it's lawful even when the "purpose of the activity is to induce the secondary to cease doing business with a primary employer."

-- Press Associates, Inc.

Calenda

Visit www.milwaukeelabor.org for updated events

Wednesday, July 6

Delegate Meeting 6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

Tuesday, July 12

Senate District 8 Democrat Primary Real Democrat: Sandy Pasch Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Monday, July 18

Laborfest Planning Meeting 5 p.m., 633 S. Hawley Rd.

Wednesday, July 27

Executive Council Meeting 2 p.m., 633 S. Hawley Rd.

Wednesday, August 3

Delegate Meeting 6:30 p.m., Serb Hall, 5101 W. Oklahoma Ave.

<u>Thursday, August 4-14</u>

Union Label Booth Exposition Center, Wisconsin State Fair

Tuesday, August 9 (tentative)

Senate District 8 Election

Democrat Rep. Sandy Pasch (D-Whitefish Bay) our choice to replace incumbent Alberta Darling (R-River Hills)

Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Comparison shopping: GOP rhetoric

www.milwaukeelabor.org MALC delegates are keyed up about dumping Walker and restoring basic rights. One, International Brotherhood of Boilermakers Local 107 vicepresident Gerard (Jerry) Maciejewski, flexed his flesh and blood commitment at right. And it's real - the Solidarity logo tattoo he got just the day before the June town hall meeting at Serb Hall.

Trapshooting

fter 9 weeks of shooting In the Milwaukee Area Labor Council league, here are the results by team, reflecting wins, losses and ties:

Class AA W-L-T

Class AA W-L-1		
1. Pipe Dopes		
Plumbers Local 755-	3-1	
2. 6 volts to lightning		
IBEW 4943-	2-4	
3. Blind3-	3-3	
4. Pipers		
Plumbers Local 75		
2-	5-2	
Class A		
1. Lucky 13		
CWA 4603-16-	3-0	
2. Blind5-	3-1	
3. Wirenuts		
IBEW 4944-	4-1	

CWA 4603-2.....1-6-2 Class B

4. Blind Men

1. High Voltage	
IBEW 494	8-1-0
2.No Shorts	
IBEW 494	3-5-1
3. Blind	3-5-1
4. Team Steam	
Plumbers Local 75	3-6-0

LEAGUE HIGH GUNS	
Ed Geb	209
Russ Baumler	208
Ron Wahl	208
Greg Eiche	202
Jeff Jeske	202
Submitted by	

Ron Wahl, League Secretary



11 Waukesha unions ramp up

Eleven unions in the Waukesha County Labor Council and part of the Community Service Liaison of United Way in Waukesha County built 5 ramps and railings at Camp Pow-Wow in Menomonee Park in June for the Agency ARCh (The Association for the Rights of Citizens with Handicaps)

Participants included Jeff Arnold (IUPAT Local 781), Randy Krocka (SMWU Local 18), Andy White (Carpenters Local 344), Bruce Larson (IAM Local 66), Russ Engle (Bricklayers Local 8), Brad Sponag (Bricklayers Local 8), Ellen Talavera (IBEW Local 494) and guest Craig Collier, Doug Calvert (IBEW Local 2150), Mike Kluth (IAM Local 1377), Randy Hink (OPCMIA Local 599), Enrique Hernandez (Laborers Local 113) and Kurt Schmidt (DALU Local 2411 and United Way Waukesha County).

For more information on the camp and its association with Waukesha's United Way, contact Jennifer Horth, executive director of ARCh, 262-542-9811, or Kurt J. Schmidt, AFL-CIO Community Service Liaison, 262-547-8459.

Comment

against Chrysler and GM realities

nly cable TV paid much attention to the debate among the unimpressive GOP field seeking the presidential nomination, but at least the participants were uniform in their attack on the current president, specifically targeting such programs as health care, investment in America's workers and the bailout of US car companies.

By Dominique Paul Noth

Editor, Labor Press

The scion of a car-making fortune, Mitt Romney, led the way, insisting again that Chrysler and GM should just have been left to die or take their chances in bankruptcy, without concern for the success of their products, the US car industry, millions of employees and millions of related suppliers along the communities throughout American who would lose jobs and businesses as this economic pipeline crum-

Well, it would have been nicer if private financiers had stepped up to take a chance on the American worker and the car industry -- nice, too, if the GOP would ever sneer at the affluent who didn't and rather just sat on their profits as they still are

doing, expecting the citizens to risk their tax dollars instead.

But faced with that obstinacy, President Obama did step in, imposing conditions on management and costs while bailing out the auto industry using the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP) started under President Bush in a way the previous administration had not contemplated.

That background reveals why May 24 was so remarkable. That day, Chrysler Corp. repaid

SDC to hold jobs fair

Tob openings and access to valuable services will be the focus of the Social Development Commission's 5th annual Community Job and Resource Fair, held from 11 a.m. to 3 p.m. Saturday, July 9, at the Parklawn Assembly of God Church, 3725 N. Sherman Blvd.

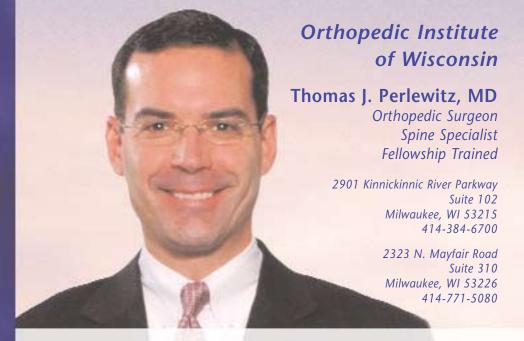
The free event will feature a wide range of businesses and organizations in such fields of health, education, housing and public safety.

the last of its \$8.5 billion in loans the Obama administration made to the troubled carmaker in April 2009 to help keep Chrysler afloat. Previously repaid were the loans to GM. Both companies are recording profits -- GM is actually a world leader, recording its biggest profits since 2000. The auto industry bailout has saved as many as 1 million jobs thus far and added 115,000 jobs in the expansion, results that led Obama in May to take a clearer trip down memory lane than Romney and company were

"I said if Chrysler and all its stakeholders were willing to take the difficult steps necessary to become more competitive, America would stand by them, and we did."

Former Michigan Gov. Jennifer Granholm was blunter in praising the return of the taxpayer money, with interest.

"We're bringing many jobs into this country because Democrats under the president's leadership understand the importance of manufacturing to the US. The Republican Party is doing nothing for the manufacturing base."



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A minor thing, but hey! At least Walker has produced a jobs bill

By Dominique Paul Noth *Editor, Labor Press*

inally. Gov. Walker's minions have produced a jobs bill! That's atypical and fairly amazing, but it happened -- without fanfare, practically dead of night, inserted by the joint finance committee into that two-year budget speeding 95% as Walker decreed.

So celebrate, Wisconsin! All you citizens who have been scouring this complicated legislation for something immediate about jobs right now while almost all the projected savings come from stuff like a 5% increase in UW system tuition.

Surely we can find one lousy tiny job-creating plan in an "emergency session" to address a

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deficit modest among all the states. Surely somewhere along with strangling union rights, rewarding corporate backers with lavish tax breaks and shrinking public services and aid to education, there must be SOMETHING in this budget to address the need to make it easier for Americans to find work.

And here it is! On June 6 it finally arrived. Some bleeding heart liberals may see a problem, because the proposal is all about making it easier to put kids to work for under adult minimum wage by loosening existing child labor laws. But those are jobs, aren't they?

he proposal revises child labor laws to end the prohibition on minors under age 18 working more than 40 hours or six days a week. After lifting that limit, it moves beyond to weaken the protection of minors under 16 who are now limited to working 24 hours a week. That would be replaced with a limit of 18 hours in a school week or a full 40 hours of work during a week with no school in session.

I've heard some weak-kneed kid-loving types scoff at this whole idea, but from Maine to Madison, the right-wing argues that hard work never hurt anyone and the changes are sorely needed to pound some American val-

ues into these lazy adolescents, to toughen up all those pampered little shrimps who now spend far too much time playing, studying and socializing. Now they can work 40 hours digging ditches, doing data entry, weeding, chopping and all the other drudge benefits that Walker's forces can now provide their friends in business on the cheap - and without health care!.

Many businesses could benefit from a new source of undemanding low-wage -- not to mention low-age -- workers. In Wisconsin, where agriculture is a major industry, the possibility of full weeks of work from 12-year-old fruit pickers and cranberry rakers getting the goods to market would clearly keep costs down for middle class shoppers.

response to society, not to complete high school at normal rates or get stuck on the bottom rung of our economy. There is always a small percent that responds to such brutality by rising to high levels, though admittedly they tend to be Democrats and Latinos.

The progressives outraged by all this are probably exaggerating the likelihood of abuse by small businesses from the weakening of child labor laws or the



possibility that desperate families might exploit their own children for economic gain if society lets them.

t least this budget item seems to have drawn less criticism within the GOP than did the "Jobs Now Fund" that Walker tried to insert. That one was scuttled by members of his own party as well as Democrats as a blatant reward to the CAPCOs that supported him. The plan was to give these out of state capital management firms \$250 million and immense profits to provide investments to Wisconsin companies with no state job strings attached.

That "job fund" idea didn't fly and neither did slashing SeniorCare (the state program that provides prescriptions drugs at far less cost to seniors and the government than Medicare Part D) -- . particularly when 14,000 citizens signed petitions of protests

So to provide cover to threatened recall targets, or to mollify public anger, some pressure has been working, over attacks on the elderly, the working mother, the ill, the teacher, etc.

Some observers expect that to happen to the proposal to weaken child labor laws once the public realizes its existence. Others think it's a Eureka moment to actually find something in a Walker budget that tries to put people to work - even little people.



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