



Tuesday, November 9, 2021



Honor, celebrate veterans by taking action

Make sure you and your union participate in 'Operation Union Veterans Day'

WASHINGTON, D.C. —This Thursday, Nov. 11 is Veterans Day. In the labor movement, it's a day we join together to remember and celebrate union veterans and their families for their past and current service to our country. This year for the first time, the Union Veterans Council, AFL-CIO is launching Operation Union Veterans Day. "Like all workers, one of the greatest challenges facing veterans and transitioning service members is financial instability," said WSLC President and U.S. Navy veteran Larry Brown. "Unions can and do play a critical role in helping those who have served our country find stable jobs with fair wages so they can support their families and live with dignity. That's why the Washington State Labor Council is urging all of its affiliated unions to participate in Operation Union Veterans Day. Let's lift up the stories of union veterans and help all veterans have access to training, good jobs, a fully funded VA, and the right to join a union." [Read more](#) to learn how you and your union can participate.



Larry Brown

From **[The Calendar](#)** at The Stand

**IMMIGRANT & WORKER
JUSTICE TOOLKIT**

LUNCH & LEARN

TUESDAY, NOV. 9 @ 12PM
REGISTER AT: bit.ly/IWJTforum

Sponsored by the WSLC Labor & Immigration Committee,
APALA Seattle & Washington LERC



TODAY -- The Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO invites and encourages all to attend a special Lunch and Learn event celebrating the official launch of the WSLC's new **Immigration and Worker Justice Toolkit**. The event via Zoom will be at noon on Tuesday, Nov. 9. [Get details.](#)

TONIGHT -- The WSLC and several of its affiliated unions will present "**Bridging the Divide: Tools for Building Union Solidarity**," a Race and Labor workshop for union members in Central and SE Washington on Tuesday, Nov. 9 from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Spanish interpretation available. [Get details.](#)

TONIGHT -- Join the Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies for a **Labor Awards celebration**, a special evening on Zoom as we honor student and faculty achievements and raise funds for Labor Studies at the UW. This event will be Tuesday, Nov. 9 at 6 p.m. and is free and open to the public. [Get details.](#)

PLUS... [the rest of today's news](#)



LABOR BACKS KAISER WORKERS -- "When you attack one of us, you attack all of us." So begins a joint statement from AFL-CIO President Liz Shuler, AFSCME President Lee Saunders, AFT President Randi Weingarten, IBT General President James P. Hoffa, IUOE General President James. T. Callahan, UFCW International President Marc Perrone, UNITE HERE International President D. Taylor, and USW International President Thomas M. Conway.

TRUSTEESHIP-- The Northwest Labor Press reports: The Pacific Northwest Regional Council of Carpenters has been placed under trusteeship by its national organization, the United Brotherhood of Carpenters. According to a Nov. 3 letter to members, Evelyn Shapiro, the regional council's top elected officer since 2018, has resigned her position and her union membership, along with Juan Sanchez, organizing director, and Dan Hutchins, director of contract administration.



EDITOR'S NOTE — This Carpenters are an independent union that is not affiliated with the AFL-CIO or the Washington State Labor Council.

NOT ENOUGH TEAMSTERS -- In "The biggest kink in America's supply chain: Not enough truckers," The New York Times reports: Truck drivers have been in short supply for years, but a wave of retirements combined with those simply quitting for less stressful jobs is exacerbating the supply chain crisis in the United States, leading to empty store shelves, panicked holiday shoppers and congestion at ports. Warehouses around the country are overflowing with products, and delivery times have stretched to months from days or weeks for many goods. The shortage has alarmed trucking companies, which say there are not enough young people to replace those aging out of the work force. Trucking companies have also struggled to retain workers: Turnover rates have reached as high as 90 percent for large carriers.

EDITOR'S NOTE -- Better headline: "The biggest kink in America's supply chain: Not enough TEAMSTERS." The trucking companies can't find people willing to do the job because they've busted what was once a heavily unionized industry and created horrible working conditions. As one driver pointed out in a [similar report](#) last week:

"The shippers, they treat us like criminals, basically. Don't use the bathroom, don't get out of your truck. The port-a-potty's in the yard, but it's 25 degrees out."

There's not a labor shortage in the trucking industry, there's a shortage of jobs that pay livable wages and have decent working conditions. And the biggest single reason that's true is because America's labor laws are broken. When truckers vote to exercise their right to join together in unions and try to improve their working conditions, [they get fired](#). That's illegal, but our labor laws are so weak that companies routinely break the law to avoid unionization. If lawmakers are serious about fixing America's supply chain, they should immediately [pass the Richard L. Trumka PRO Act!](#)



All that and MUCH MORE news about working people standing together... [today at The Stand.](#)