

# NEWSLETTER

Communication Workers of America

108 West Main St.  
Sun Prairie, WI 53590

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*This is an official Publication  
of Local 4671 and is intended for  
Union use only.*

## Scholarship application inside!!

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Dear Local 4671:

I would like to thank CWA Local 4671 for sending care packages to my son, Captain Tide Gile, stationed in S. Korea and daughter-in-law, 1st Lieutenant Lindsey Gile, stationed in Iraq.

I'm sure that they appreciated them very much and it's great knowing that the union supports our soldiers who don't get to enjoy the comforts of home.

Sincerely, Tim Gile

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**The Union needs to keep our records up-to date, please send any mail or email address changes to:**

Secretary Tim Gile

N2856 U.S. Hwy. 12

Humbird, WI. 54746

Email: [tg-gg@centurytel.net](mailto:tg-gg@centurytel.net)

## WISCONSIN WORKERS AND FAMILIES COME UNDER ATTACK

Last November Wisconsin voters thought they had elected a governor, it turns out they may have elected an Emperor. In a lightning quick strike Mr. Walker has attacked unionized labor, particularly in the public employee arena. And he's not done yet. Now, he's coming for you. His plans include a total takeover of the decision making process and making himself the "decider" as to who gets what. He has some very high priced campaign backers and he's indebted to them and he'll stop at nothing to pay them back. He has crippled the public employees and outlawed their right to bargain over it. Let that sink in for a moment. He has made it illegal to bargain over wages (beyond the CPI) and most benefits and working conditions! The gall of this person is repugnant. He has made the public employee the scapegoat of everything that is wrong. Some within our own union have said that "the union needed to be tamed" Tamed? Does that mean the public employees were "running wild"? Hardly. Let's look for a moment at the two public employee groups that belong to our Local, the cities of Edgerton and Reedsburg. At those cities the top wage is around 20\$ an hour or less. Reedsburg public employees have contributed to their health insurance for quite a number of years already! These public employees run the city hall clean and maintain the sewer systems, clean and maintain the streets and roads, keep clean drinking water available, treat the sewage, plow the snow, keep the parks, shelters and ball fields in pristine condition and so much more! For all of that and being available to do it any hour of the day or night in all kinds of weather, 20\$ an hour is too much? I think not. And what about Walker's (and other misguided people's) claim that the public employee is way ahead of the private sector worker? Another lie. Workers at Frontier, Century Link and Verizon make much more per hour than the public workers described here. So do those private sector employees "make too much too". Why is it that the public employee is always the target of the politicians and the angry voter? They want the same things that you and your family do: good pay, decent benefits, a pension at the end of the road, job security and an opportunity to bargain for it. Walker has dumped on that dream and if you think he's not coming for you, you're a fool in waiting. He and the money machine behind him wants it all, the dismantling of the public sector is but step one in their plan.

Next he is going to cut 900 million from public education, so he can tell those 50k a year classroom teachers and their 6+ years of post high school education to take it on the chin. How do the school districts deal with that cut? Not Walker's problem, it's yours. Then he eliminates shared revenue to the cities and towns. How do they then pay for services? Not Walker's problem, it's yours. Ask yourself (and hopefully your state representatives), if Wisconsin is so broke why has Walker given away 137 million \$\$\$\$ to business in less than 2 months? Isn't the sacrifice supposed to be shared? Hundreds of thousands of Wisconsin citizens, old and young, union and non union, workers and retirees have begun to take action to stop the assault on working families. I've joined that fight, for the long haul, so have a bunch of other CWA Local 4671 members, banning together as perhaps never before to stand with our brother and sister workers, union and non union and I hope you will too. Call for details on how to get involved. Remember when it comes to working folks, that which weakens one weakens us all.



## THREE YEAR CONTRACT RATIFIED AT CENTURY LINK

The members at Century have ratified a new 3 year agreement. The agreement includes a 2% wage increase in the first year and 1% each in years two and three. There were a few improvements in working conditions and vacation restrictions. Although the company had a major load of give backs on the table they were successfully removed prior to contract voting. Full wage retroactivity will be paid. The committee would like to recognize and thank all those who came to the explanation meetings to hear the presentations, ask their questions and make their comments.

## FRONTIER

There are a number of items starting to boil at Frontier that could have major impacts on the workforce there. As those things unfold we will keep the membership as informed as possible. There's no point in putting out rumors at this time. Let's just say for now things are not all coming up "roses".

Yours In Unity,

Mike Oliver CWA Local 4671

# CWA Local 4671 Scholarship Drawing 2011

## Who is eligible:

Children of dues paying CWA Local 4671 members, CWA Local 4671 dues paying members and spouses of CWA Local 4671 dues paying members. Children of dues paying members must be graduating High School Seniors (winter or spring) or a currently enrolled post High School student.

## Additional criteria:

Student must be planning to attend or is currently attending a post High School, accredited college, university, trade or technical school.

## Selection process:

A simple random lottery style drawing will be held after July 15<sup>th</sup> 2011 conducted by the Local's Scholarship Committee. No one individual may receive the scholarship more than once.

## Applications:

The form below must be received by the Committee no later than July 14th 2011. Please submit only one request per student. Send your applications to:



Vice President Jane Vander Kooy 702 Gerald Avenue Sun Prairie WI. 53590

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Name of Student/Member/Spouse \_\_\_\_\_ Male Female  
(circle one)

Address \_\_\_\_\_

High School and Address \_\_\_\_\_  
(if graduating senior)

Parents name and address \_\_\_\_\_

Parents employer and work location/job title \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone Number (s) \_\_\_\_\_

School you are planning to attend \_\_\_\_\_

Student signature

Parents signature

## April 4 Website Up and Running

Will your local be rallying April 4? Leafleting outside a union-busting business? Protesting at city hall or the state legislature? With just 2 1/2 weeks to go until the nationwide day of action, CWA is making it easy for you to plan, share and join events in your community. Go to [www.cwaaction.org](http://www.cwaaction.org) or click the logo to the right to find out what other locals are doing and add your activities to an interactive map. The site is also the place to order "Stand Up for Workers' Rights" stickers, signs and flyers.



Dozens of allies, including other unions, the Sierra Club, NAACP, La Raza, the Urban League, faith groups, the National Association of People with Disabilities, Common Cause and more, are also planning events. To find out what they're doing in your area, the website lets you search for events using your zip code. If you don't find something immediately, check back. New events are being added all the time.

Mar 17, 2011

## ***Ohioians rally for workers rights, good jobs and strong communities***

Fighting for good jobs and strong communities, CWA members and thousands of allies turned out in pouring rain across Ohio on Tuesday to condemn attacks on public workers' collective bargaining rights and Gov. John Kasich's deep budget cuts targeting schools, cities and essential services.

More than 10,000 people demonstrated in 13 small towns and big cities, events that were coordinated by a new coalition that CWA helped create, "[Stand Up for Ohio: Good Jobs and Strong Communities](#)."

The public's anger is further reflected in new poll numbers. Kasich was elected last November, but if the vote were held today, polls show that his opponent, Democrat and former Gov. Ted Strickland would win handily. Further, 54 percent of respondents say they'd vote to repeal the union-busting Senate Bill 5, with just 31 percent saying they'd vote to keep it.

Tuesday's events included 1,500 people marching to Kasich's home in Westerville, near the capital of Columbus. The crowd chanted and sang, although Kasich wasn't there to listen.

In rural Jefferson, Ohio, a speaker from the Ashtabula Farmers Union addressed a crowd of 300, describing a century of farmers supporting workers' collective bargaining rights. A local history teacher described historic strikes and protests that cost some workers their lives as they fought for rights that now are under assault again.

In the Cleveland suburb of Strongsville, 2,000 people heard a wide variety of speakers, sang songs of solidarity and waved signs at a major intersection.

"The fights faced by workers in Ohio and the Midwest can't be won by union members alone," CWA District 4 Vice President Seth Rosen said. "We need a broad alliance of unions, community organizations faith groups and other groups standing up for each other's fights. These events in Ohio are an exciting start to building a broad movement."

### [Grievance Report – CWA Local 4671](#)

#### **NEW FRONTIER**

The company has violated a contract article as well as past regional practices. Pay upgrade for CZT II classification for performing circuit work. Appealed to Arbitration.

#### **VERIZON**

The company is eroding the bargaining unit membership by the use of contractors in the position of BTL Techs. Appealed to top step.

#### **CENTURY LINK**

The company is using none union engineering employee to Continually and consistently perform bargaining unit work for the Rice Lake area exchanges. Company declined to hold grievance meeting. Top step meeting held awaiting written answer.

#### **FRONTIER RHINELANDER**

CWA. Security Clause Requires all Bargaining unit members must apply for member ship as a condition of employment. Met at top.

Management employee transferring to craft wanting time bridged for seniority recognition. Arbitration Approved.