

**benjealous**  
**susie turnbull** FOR GOVERNOR  
 + LT. GOVERNOR

**CWA Endorses Ben Jealous For MD Governor**

**Join Us For a CWA "Day of Action"**

**Saturday, May 19th at 10am**

**with Ben Jealous, the Communica-  
 tions Workers of America, and,  
 special guest, actor Harry Lennix**



**Join Ben Jealous and the  
 Communications Workers of America  
 for a Day of Action Rally, followed by  
 canvassing in Prince George's County  
 from 11am to 2pm.**

**10782 Rhode Island Ave,  
 Beltsville, MD 20705**

**Verizon Declares Voluntary EISP**

Verizon notified CWA of a volunteer surplus declaration in the Potomac Region. Verizon intends to offer an EISP. Volunteers will be accepted as necessary to meet business needs.

The terms of this offer are similar to previous EISP offers. Employees accepted for the offer will receive \$2200 for each year of service up to 30 years along with a \$10,000 voluntary termination bonus.

Packages will be distributed to targeted employees beginning April 24, 2018. The volunteer period will begin on May 1, 2018 and end on May 30, 2018. Volunteers whose applications for EISP are accepted will have an off payroll date of June 24, 2018.

Scott Ferguson from Networth Financial Services will also be conducting retirement planning seminars throughout the month of May to discuss your retirement and financial planning options. So, whether you were offered the Enhanced ISP or want to get your questions answered to be prepared if you receive the offer in the future, you are welcome to attend.

In CWA Local 2108's jurisdiction, The company has extended the EISP offer to the following work-groups:



<u>Director</u>	<u>Job Title</u>	<u>Number Surplus</u>
Murray	Communications Representative	2
Murray	Service Representative	3
Chandler	Coin Collector	1
Chandler	Engineering Assistant	4
Chandler	C.O.T.	5
Ramos	Office Clerical Assistant	1
Breymeyer	General Clerk	2
Luque	Special Clerk	1
Pfaff	Special Clerk	1



**LABOR NIGHT AT  
 NATIONALS PARK**



**Friday, July 20, 2018 - 7:05PM**

**Washington Nationals –vs– Atlanta Braves**

Tickets are \$15.00 each and will be sold on a first come/first served basis by calling the Local on 301-595-2108. Only a limited number of tickets are available. Call today !!

# CWA Member Hailed as a Hero in Waffle House Massacre

CWA Local 3808 member James Shaw Jr. is being hailed as a hero for his actions that saved numerous lives during the deadly attack at the Waffle House in Nashville, Tennessee on April 22, 2018. The incident left four people dead and several others wounded.

James Shaw Jr. has been an active member of CWA Local 3808 since he was hired a Wire-line Technician for AT&T in 2016.

Police praised Shaw for preventing further bloodshed in the shooting. They said Shaw, 29, rushed the suspect, wrestled him to the ground and tossed the weapon. Shaw's hands were severely burned from grabbing the AR-15 but he still managed to push the suspect out of the establishment.

"He is the hero here, and no doubt he saved many lives by wrestling the gun away and then tossing it over the counter, and prompting the man to leave," the police said.

Shaw said he wasn't going to make it easy for the shooter to kill him and said he knew he only had one chance. "I figured if I was going to die, he was going to have to work for it," Shaw told reporters.

"I saw an opportunity -- my window -- so I took it. I ran through the door as fast as I could and just kind of jammed him up with the gun when it pointed down. We started wrestling and fighting for it. I just took it and tossed it over the counter. I pushed him out of the restaurant and he walked off," Shaw told reporters after the incident.

Shaw told reporters that what he did was a "selfish act." "I was completely doing it just to save myself," he said. "I don't want people to think that I was the Terminator or Superman or anybody like that."

While the gunman was still on the loose the following day, Shaw went to church with his father, mere hours after he'd confronted the gunman.

"It definitely helped," he said. "I prayed for the victims." Shaw broke down thinking about the people he couldn't save and apologized to their families. "There's four families that are grieving right now. So much life was lost for no reason. I feel like it could be very selfish of me if I didn't point it out. And I apologize," he said.

Recently, the mayor of Nashville and the CEO of Waffle House both sung his praises as he was honored at the Tennessee State Capitol with the following resolution:

*"If a hero is 'a person noted for courageous acts or nobility of character,' then James Shaw Jr. is a hero twice over, for he has demonstrated both his courage and character in a manner few could ever attempt to emulate."*

Shaw now looks to the future and says the the honor means a lot to him. He calls what happened "a life-changing moment," adding, "I'm going to try to use this moment as a platform to bring awareness to shootings and just violence."

In order to raise money for the Waffle House shooting victims, Shaw set up a GoFundMe page which has already raised over \$231,000 at the time 2108 News went to press. CWA Local 2108 members interested in donating to the victims of this tragedy can follow this link to the GoFundMe page:

<https://www.gofundme.com/5g07bvs?member=100700>



James Shaw Jr. with CWA Local 3808 President Deborah Sisco after the ceremony honoring Shaw at the Tennessee Legislature.

## The Health Effects of Lead Exposure are Heavy

Why should we care about "Lead"? For CWA members in the telecommunications industry who frequently work in manholes, cable vaults or on a pole, exposure to lead is a common occurrence. But do you really understand the health and environmental issues caused by lead?

Lead exposure can result in workers experiencing headaches, fatigue, irritability, nervousness, high blood pressure, sleeplessness, pain in joints, aching muscles, poor appetite, stomach pains, and constipation.

Even more severe effects of lead exposure such as cancer, damage to the nervous system, kidney damage, sterility and birth defects, anemia, and interference with the body's blood forming mechanism may afflict some workers.

Lead poisoning usually occurs over a period of months or years. It can cause severe mental and physical impairment. Lead poisoning can be treated, but any damage caused cannot be reversed.

Lead poisoning can best be controlled by removing the lead from the workplace. However, in many cases, this is not possible. Lead exposure occurs when lead dust or fumes are inhaled, or when lead is ingested via contaminated hands, food, water, cigarettes or clothing. Lead entering the respiratory and digestive systems is released to the blood and distributed throughout the body. More than 90% of the total body burden of lead is accumulated in the bones, where it is stored. Lead in bones may be released into the blood, re-exposing organ systems long after the original exposure.

An example would be working on lead-encased telecommunications cables. Fumes are tiny particulates that boil-off when lead is heated. Lead dust/particulates may be formed during carding, grinding, filing, and lead removal operations.

Protective procedures and methods that must be provided by our employers to prevent lead exposure include:

**Local Exhaust Ventilation-** Local exhaust ventilation uses hoods, ducts, fans, and filters to remove lead fumes and dust at the point where they are produced.

**Personal Protective Equipment-** This includes the use of gloves, goggles, clothing protection, boots, and where necessary, respirators.

**Personal Hygiene-** Personal cleaning materials such as waterless cleaners and paper towels must be made available to all workers at their work locations.

Another concern associated with lead exposure is "take home" lead. "Take home" lead are tiny particles or dust that can be brought into the home or family vehicle on work clothes and equipment and it can harm anyone who is exposed.

Young children are most vulnerable.

Children absorb more lead than adults and are at a higher health risk. More than one million American children may have blood lead levels needing medical attention, and more than one million children may be somewhat mentally or emotionally impaired by lead exposure. Lead is more harmful to children because their brains and nervous systems are still developing.

So when working in environments where you could potentially be exposed to lead contaminants, make sure to follow all established safety practices. You and your family's health and safety depend on it.



POISONING



## “For Pete’s Sake” Golf Tourney Battles ALS

For nearly 10 years the family and friends of former CWA District 2 Vice President Peter Catucci have carried on the fight to find a cure for ALS, also known as Lou Gehrig’s disease.

The 4 Pete’s Sake ALS Foundation was formed in 2009 in honor of Pete Catucci, who passed away from ALS that year. While Pete was alive, he personally assisted PALS (Person(s) with ALS) who were in need and found it tremendously rewarding. At that time, he realized there was a big gap between patient services provided by great organizations like the ALS Association, and the individual needs of patients.

The foundation was created with the mission statement “We are your Voice” with the hopes that we could help advance research endeavors as well as assist ALS patients in the Baltimore/ Washington D.C. communities. The foundation has raised over \$300,000 since its inception.



**CWA Local 2108 President Marilyn Irwin (far right) presents former District 2 Vice President Peter Catucci’s wife, Terry Catucci and daughter Traci Catucci, who is a CWA Local 2108 member, with a donation from CWA Local 2108 at this years charity golf tournament.**

## RMC 2108 Retirees Corner

The month of May welcomes in the promise of spring weather and more pleasant temperatures. The RMC would like to reach out to our new retirees and urge them to come get reacquainted with some old friends and shake off those winter blues. Our RMC meetings provide you with an avenue to keep on top of changes that could impact you and your family while treating yourself to a great lunch and social time. Last month we discussed Medicare, Social Security and the rising costs of prescription drugs.

Our next meeting will be on Wednesday, May 9th at 11:00 am, and we will be nominating and voting on Delegates to represent us at CWA’s Legislative Conference in June.

**Calvin C Foster Jr**  
**President- RMC 2108**



**RMC 2108**

## Personals

*We wish to extend sincere sympathy to the family and friends of:*

Retiree **Martin E. Poole Jr.**, who passed away March 29, 2018.

Retiree **Stu Robbins**, who passed away March 31, 2018.

**Howard W. McElroy JR**, brother of **Scot McElroy** passed away on April 18, 2018.

**Gregory Reed**, father of **Dinika Reed** passed away on April 15, 2018.

**Antonio Libero DeCarlo**, father of member **Jim DeCarlo**, who passed away April 20, 2018.

## Welcome to Local 2108

### Transferred Members



**Tammy Nelson**  
Sabree Ghani  
Edgar Hutchinson



### Congratulations to Recent Retiree:

Mark Wheeler

**Are you “WEARING RED” on Thursdays?**

## Thinking About Retirement?

You may want to check out one of the listed workshops presented by **Nettworth Financial Group** for a retirement check-up and a free meal!!

### Retirement Benefits

**Tuesday, May 8<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM** – Stoney River Steakhouse, 825 Dulaney Valley Road, Towson, MD

**Thursday, May 17<sup>th</sup> @ 6:30 PM** – Brio Tuscan Grille, 305 Sail Place, Annapolis, MD

**Wednesday, May 23<sup>rd</sup> @ 6:30 PM** – Elks Lodge, 2210 Old Washington Road, Waldorf, MD

**Thursday, May 31<sup>st</sup> @ 6:30 PM** – Ruth’s Chris, 106 Crown Park Avenue, Gaithersburg, MD

Reservations are required and to RSVP you may call Nettworth at (877)-534-2860, or email them to register online at [Nettworth.net](http://Nettworth.net). Space is limited!

In addition, if you feel your fellow co-workers may be interested, please do not hesitate to bring them along and let Nettworth know how many will join you at the seminar. Please no guests under the age of 30.



# CWA Fights Back against Corporate Giveaways on Tax Day

CWA members across the country held events on Tax Day to highlight how the Republican corporate tax cut bill is a massive giveaway to big corporations paid for by working families, and to rally their communities to fight back.

Former AT&T call center worker and CWA Local 4004 President Merle Milton of Detroit spoke at a rally in Washington, D.C., calling out the company for recent layoffs in Michigan and across the country.



"This December, AT&T announced that they were closing the call center where I've worked for 25 years," said Milton. "My co-workers and I worked hard to provide quality customer service and help grow AT&T into the successful company it is today. But instead of rewarding us for our dedication, AT&T is pulling out of our community and taking our jobs overseas – undermining customer service and hurting hardworking families. Workers deserve better, AT&T customers deserve better, and cities like Detroit deserve better."

AT&T CEO Randall Stephenson promised to create 7,000 jobs if the GOP tax plan passed. Instead, despite a \$20 billion windfall as a result of tax cuts in the bill, AT&T announced thousands of layoffs. The layoffs come as the company continues to eliminate good, middle-class jobs and rely increasingly on low-wage contractors overseas, devastating families and communities across America.

CWA members are pushing Congress to pass legislation to fix some of the worst parts of the tax bill.

Senator Tammy Baldwin (D-WI) has introduced the Reward Work Act, supported by CWA, which would prohibit harmful stock buybacks. Instead of raising wages and creating jobs, companies have been using their tax cut windfall to purchase their own stock, which enriches top executives and large shareholders.

Despite promises from House Speaker Paul Ryan and other top Republicans that the tax bill would end off-shoring, the tax bill actually contained incentives for companies to send jobs overseas. Democrats in Congress are rolling out legislation to remove these off-shoring incentives and keep jobs in the U.S. Congressman Lloyd Doggett (D-Tex.) and Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro (D-Conn.) have introduced the No Tax Breaks for Outsourcing Act with Senator Sheldon Whitehouse (D-R.I.).

# Local 2108 Calendar

## MAY 2018

- 9 RMC 2108 Meeting - 11:00am  
Local Office, Beltsville, MD
- 9 Membership Meeting - 6:00pm  
Local Office, Beltsville, MD
- 13 Mother's Day



- 28 Memorial Day  
Local Office Closed



## JUNE 2018

- 6 Chief Stewards Meeting - 9:00am  
Local Office, Beltsville, MD
- 11 CWA Presidents Meeting  
Washington, DC
- 12-13 CWA Legislative-Political Conference  
Washington, DC
- 13 RMC 2108 Meeting - 11:00am  
Local Office, Beltsville, MD
- 13 Membership Meeting - 6:00pm  
Local Office, Beltsville, MD
- 19 Father's Day
- 26 Maryland Primary Election Day

### WEINGARTEN RIGHTS

*If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated or have any effect on my personal working conditions, I respectfully request my union representative, officer or steward to be present at this meeting. Without union representation, I choose not to participate in this discussion.*

**MARK YOUR CALENDAR:** Membership Meeting - Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 6:00pm  
RMC 2108 Meeting - Wednesday, May 9, 2018, 11:00am



10782 Rhode Island Avenue, Beltsville, MD 20705

Web Address: [www.cwalocal2108.org](http://www.cwalocal2108.org)

Local Office: (301) 595-2108 :: Local Fax: (301) 595-2412

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LaTasha Carpenter - Vice President

Johnny Brown - Secretary-Treasurer

Amory Proctor - Executive Vice President

Marilyn Irwin - President

Printing Done In-House

Published Monthly

# 2108News

Communications Workers of America Local 2108

ISSN: 0162-248X

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

10782 Rhode Island Avenue

Beltsville, MD 20705-2513

LOCAL 2108

COMMUNICATIONS WORKERS OF AMERICA

Non-Profit Organization  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
Permit No. 5128  
Hyattsville, Md.