



October 22, 2007

Statement by AFL-CIO President John Sweeney on the Nurses' Strike at Appalachian Regional Hospitals

The 10 million members of the AFL-CIO stand firmly with the more than 800 striking nurses at nine Appalachian Regional Healthcare (ARH) hospitals who are seeking stronger patient care protections. The nurses - members of the United American Nurses in Kentucky and West Virginia - are standing up for the communities they serve even as ARH tries to crush their spirit through intimidation and threats.

Patient care must be any hospital's primary concern. By forcing its front-line care providers to be understaffed and overworked, ARH is recklessly putting its patients at risk. The nurses at ARH deserve respect and decent working conditions that include fair pay and benefits as well as manageable hours. It is absolutely unacceptable that ARH is putting communities at risk by refusing to listen to nurses' concerns about staffing and other patient care issues.

The ARH nurses have shown their commitment to their patients time and time again. They are putting their jobs on the line in support of safe staffing levels. It is time for ARH to show its nurses they are committed to doing everything in their power to improve patient care at their hospitals, which includes negotiating a fair contract and addressing the nurses' urgent concerns about patient care.

**Join the Beckley & Summers County
Appalachian Regional Healthcare Registered Nurses**

Community Rally & Candlelight Vigil

Thursday, October 25, 2007

6:00 PM – Rally

6:45 PM – Candlelight Vigil

**Beckley Pharmacy Parking Lot
(Across from the Hospital)**

Come and Support Our Patients, Your Nurses and Our Community

**Sponsored by: Dr. Hassan Jafary,
Dr. Hassan Amjad,
Dr. Mustafa Rahim**

LIGHT A CANDLE FOR A LOVED ONE



West Virginians United for Social and Economic Justice

Our Mission is Justice And Prosperity In Our Community

Gary Zuckett - Chair

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“Shared Prosperity” Topic of Town Hall Meeting

Contact: Gary Zuckett 304-346-5891 or Matt Wender 573-5980

WV United hosts next in a series of meetings in Fayette County

Fayetteville – WV, West Virginians United, a coalition of progressive state organizations, is holding the next of several state-wide community town hall style meetings at the Cathedral Café on **Wednesday, October 24th at 6:30 PM.**

The meetings are to promote their “Agenda for a Shared Prosperity” – a set of values and policy proposals to strengthen our middle class while creating the conditions necessary for more families to realize the “American Dream”

Speakers will outline the basic prosperity agenda with brief comments and then open the discussion up to the community members attending. The topics to be addressed are:

- **Health Care Reform** – making health care affordable and assessable to all West Virginians;
- **Cost of War** – connecting the extreme costs of the conflict in Iraq to the cuts in spending for education, housing, social services and other domestic spending in West Virginia;
- **Justice in the Workplace** – how workplace issues affect quality of life; and
- **Economic Fairness** – how public policy can level the playing field and work toward a shared prosperity.

What: Town Hall Meeting on an “Agenda for Shared Prosperity”

When: Wednesday, October 24th at 6:30 PM

Where: Cathedral Café, 134 S. Court St, Fayetteville, WV 25840

Moderator: Dan Doyle, MD

Speakers:

Renate Pore, Exec. Director, WV Healthy Kids & Families Coalition

Larry Matheny, Sec./Treas. WV AFL-CIO

Rev. Jim Lewis, WV Patriots for Peace

Ted Boettner, Mountain State Education & Research

One Voice, One Agenda, One Movement!

www.WVAFLCIO.org