



Mike Cofield (Local 638), Nailah Holman, Kaeli Larson and Paul Madison (Local 34) volunteer at the Minnesota State Fair at the Council 5 kiosk to celebrate all the good work AFSCME members do for our cities, counties and state. The fair runs through Labor Day.

Celebrate Labor Day

Communities across Minnesota are honoring the ways the labor movement has made lives better for workers, our families and our state. Join in the fun at multiple events this Labor Day Weekend:

- Congressman Keith Ellison's Annual Labor Day BBQ, Saturday, **Sept. 2**, noon to 2 p.m., North Commons Park, 1801 James Ave N., Minneapolis, RSVP to <http://www.keithellison.org/ngpvanforms/2053>.
- Central Minnesota Trades and Labor Assembly Labor Day Picnic, **Sept. 4**, noon to 3 p.m., Riverside Park, St. Cloud.
- Carlton County 98th Annual Labor Day Celebration features an Old-Timers Banquet **Sept. 3**, and a run, car show, parade, carnival and picnic in Cloquet on **Sept. 4**. <http://www.visitcloquet.com/labor-day-celebration>.
- Duluth Labor Day Picnic, noon to 4 p.m., **Sept. 4**, Bayfront Park, Duluth.

- Iron Range Labor Day Picnic, **Sept. 4**, noon to 4 p.m., Olcott Park, 801 9th St. N., Virginia.
- State Fair Labor Day Parade, **Sept. 4**, 2 p.m. The parade unit is full, but if you're at the fair, please take a moment to cheer on our brothers and sisters in the Saint Paul Regional Labor Federation sponsored entry.

Monitor Your Legislators

Wondering how your elected officials voted in the last legislative session, whether they truly were pro-worker?

There's an easy way to find out. AFSCME has tracked legislators' votes on a number of essential issues including banning private prisons, supporting paid parental leave, and funding Safe Staffing and child protection – rather than giving tax cuts to millionaires.

Find your 2017 Legislative Scorecard at <http://afscmemn.org> under the Political tab.

See Governor Candidates

AFSCME is excited to host a Gubernatorial Candidates Forum on **Friday, Oct. 6** from 1 to 3 p.m. at the Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center. Moderator Barbara Reyelts will ask the candidates to respond to our questions on issues that matter to workers.

Working people must unite to elect a pro-worker governor in 2018. Our survival depends on it. We hope you'll join us in getting to know the candidates better.

This exclusive event is only for AFSCME Council 5 members. Seating is limited, and members can register on a first-come, first-served basis: <https://actionnetwork.org/events/gubernatorial-candidate-forum>. Seats are already reserved for convention delegates.

Members will need to print their tickets, then exchange them for name badges to get into the ballroom. Our forum will be live-streamed on The UpTake and televised later on WDIO (Ch. 10) and WDSE (Ch. 8 & 31) in the Northland.

CoreCivic is at it Again

CoreCivic (aka CCA) didn't succeed in reopening its prison in Appleton, thanks to staunch opposition from correctional officers in AFSCME. Now CCA is trying to do an end run around our state. They're asking the Trump administration for a grant to reopen Appleton, this time as a federal facility with CCA guards: <http://ow.ly/qHe430eLhD5>

Locals Challenged to Help Shelter

AFSCME is raising funds and collecting supplies for Safe Haven Shelter and Resource Center in Duluth, and challenging locals to a little friendly competition to see who can collect the most for this great cause. The center is staffed by members of AFSCME Local 3558, who help women and children affected by domestic violence.

Locals are challenging each other to donate money and supplies. Council 5 is posting the three highest-donating locals each week.

Follow the friendly competition on the Safe Haven Supply Drive Facebook page and in Action Update. We'll count donations toward your local's score as soon as the check arrives. Members have already raised \$1,975!

These locals are leading so far:

Place	Local	Amount
1st	34	\$500
2nd (tie)	2508, 735	\$300
3rd	4001	\$250

Make checks payable to AFSCME Council 5. Drop them at one of our offices or mail them to:

AFSCME Council 5, c/o Trisha Harms, 300 Hardman Ave. S., South St. Paul, MN 55075.

For details or to brainstorm other ways to take part, email trisha.harms@afscmemn.org. Mark your calendars for **Sept. 20**. We'll make fleece blankets for Safe Haven clients from 5 to 9 p.m. at the Council's South St. Paul office. Pizza and fellowship are provided.

Visit AFSCME at the State Fair

Council 5 members are volunteering in more than 150 shifts to spread the message about the great work AFSCME members do across our cities, counties and state. Please come say "Hello" at our kiosk in the Labor Pavilion at the corner of Cooper Street and Dan Patch Avenue. Our theme this year is "We Do Minnesota's Work."

If you stop by, please take a selfie at the booth and tweet it @AFSCMEMN5.

Candidates Try to Divide Minnesota

Some candidates for governor are working to divide Greater Minnesota from the metropolitan area with false claims about Local Government Aid, the revenue that helps our libraries, parks and public safety. GOP candidates Matt Dean and Jeff Johnson are alleging

that the metro area takes money from rural areas, and that LGA was intended for small towns, not both small and big cities. Neither claim is true, says columnist Lori Sturdevant, who fact-checks them in the *Star Tribune*: <https://tinyurl.com/y9fjq5t8>.

Cities keep facing increased property taxes largely because lawmakers keep starving LGA. North Star Policy Institute data shows LGA shrank a whopping 64.5 percent per person from 1990 to 2017.

Who Built Our Capitol?

The Labor Education Service is offering a fascinating glimpse behind the building of our beautiful state Capitol. A special website provides photos, biographies and historical documents about stone cutters, painters, sculptors, brick layers and many others. The website also traces the legacy of these workers in their communities and through their descendants.

Explore it at <http://www.whobuiltourcapitol.org/>.

Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. Download a copy for your workplace bulletin board at www.afscmemn.org or share news by emailing Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org.

Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place/details
AFSCME at the Minnesota State Fair	Aug. 24 through Sept. 4	Labor Pavilion, State Fairgrounds
Blanket-making party for Safe Haven	Sept. 20, 5 to 9 p.m.	Council 5 offices, South St. Paul
AFSCME Council 5 Annual Convention	Oct. 5 to 7	Duluth Entertainment Convention Center
Gubernatorial Forum	Oct. 6, 1 to 3 p.m.	Duluth Entertainment Convention Center