



ACTION UPDATE

One Strong, United Voice for Minnesota Workers

Tuesday, October 13, 2015

afscmemn.org

General election Nov. 3

House special elections:

- Nov. 3 (46A): We've endorsed Peggy Flanagan
- Dec. 8 (3A): We've endorsed Rob Ecklund
- Polls are open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Convention Highlights

A crowd of 725 delegates, alternates, and guests gathered in Duluth for the 11th Annual AFSCME Council 5 convention Oct. 1-3. "Stronger Together" was the theme of this year's event. Due to popular demand, we've compiled a collection of the exciting things that participants saw, heard, and had to say.

Check out all the highlights – from Governor Mark Dayton's speech to the nation's largest AFSCME Strong training - by visiting afscmemn.org and clicking on "Convention Highlights."

Scholarship winners announced

Council 5 awarded five scholarships during its 2015 convention in Duluth:

Robert Norberg Scholarship. \$250 grants were awarded to Council 5 members continuing their own education. The 2015 winners:

- Tomy Cassalom, of MnSCU Local 4001, who is attending St. Cloud Technical and Community College.
- Angela Louricas, of Scott County Local 2400, who is attending Hamline University.

Clarence J. Moss Scholarship. A \$500 grant is awarded to a graduating senior in an AFSCME family. The 2015 winner:

- Grace Macor, daughter of Julie Macor, of Local 66 at the Western Lake Superior Sanitary District. Grace is attending the College of St. Scholastica.

Richard Patterson Scholarship. A \$1,000 grant is awarded to a graduating senior in an AFSCME family. The 2015 winner:

- Seth Derosier, son of Sandra Derosier, of Local 3800 at the University of Minnesota. Seth is attending the university's Crookston campus.

Honoring Outstanding Achievement

Council 5 awarded its annual achievement awards during its 2015 convention in Duluth. The winners:

- Jerry Wurf Organizing Award: **Hawo Gurey**, Child Care Providers Local 3400.
- Communications Award: The "safe staffing" campaign by DHS locals. Singled out were efforts by **Jackie Spanjers**, of Anoka Local 1307; and **Tim Headlee**, **Eric Hesse**, and **Matt Stenger**, of St. Peter Local 404.
- Mike Buesing Local Union Development Award: **Hennepin County Social Services Local 34.**
- Rick Scott Political Activism Award: **Dan Buckanaga**, Local 66 at the Duluth Public Library.

Legislators to Act on Contract

The Legislature's Subcommittee on Employee Relations is scheduled to meet on Thursday Oct. 29 to consider approval of contracts that cover 15,600 AFSCME members who work for the Executive Branch in Unit 2 (craft and maintenance), Unit 3 (service), Unit 4 (health care), Unit 6 (clerical), Unit 7 (technical), and Unit 25 (radio communications).

The committee's actions will determine when the contracts legally take effect. That will determine when AFSCME members can expect retroactive pay raises.

Corrections Unit 8: The table team will meet with a mediator for the first time on Oct. 26 to try to settle the unresolved contract for the 1,800 Council 5 corrections members in Unit 8.

AFSCME Puts Video Webinars Online

AFSCME International has opened an online video library on basic union practices for local officers and activists. The videos cover topics such as Weingarten rights, fair representation, and just cause.

To watch any of the webinars, go to www.afscme.org; click the "Video" tab and, from the "Categories" menu, select "AFSCME's Got Skills Webinars."



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Council 5 Seeks Field Representative

Council 5 is accepting applications for a field representative based in Duluth. Applications must be received no later than 4 p.m. on Monday October 26. For a complete job description and application details, go to afscmemn.org; click the "Work for Us" tab.

The Story Behind the First Grape Strike

Before Cesar Chavez, there was Larry Itliong. "The Delano Manongs" tells the story of Itliong and the 1,500 migrant Filipino farm workers who carried out the successful Delano Grape Strike of 1965. The strike – which Chavez's Latino workers refused to break -- paved the way for migrant worker solidarity in California and the later success of the United Farm Workers union.

Details: Labor Movie Night features "The Delano Manongs" at 6 p.m. Friday Oct. 16 at the Minneapolis Labor Center, 312 Central Ave. SE. Admission is free, but donations are appreciated. Snacks and beverages are available. Labor Movie Night is co-sponsored by AFSCME Locals 34, 1164, 2822, and 3800; Council 5 Next Wave; Minneapolis Labor Review; Teamsters Local 638; and UNITE-HERE Local 17.

LES Launches New Skills Courses

Labor skills courses from the University of Minnesota's Labor Education Service start this month.

The classes run on Saturdays from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. on the Twin Cities' West Bank campus. Tuition for the noncredit classes is \$50. The fall schedule includes:

- "Introduction to the Labor Movement," Oct. 24.
- "Social Media for Organizing and Mobilizing," Nov. 7.

To register: Call 612-624-5020 or email les@umn.edu. For full class details, click the "Labor Education" tab at www.workdayminnesota.org.

Labor Looks Ahead to 2016

The Minnesota AFL-CIO holds its Legislative and Political Conference Nov. 12-13 in St. Paul. The conference focuses on labor's 2016 legislative priorities, policy initiatives, and the work necessary to win 2016 elections. Cost is \$75. The registration deadline is Wednesday Nov. 4.

To register: Go to www.mnaflcio.org; click the story on the home page.

Scholarship Applications Available

AFSCME International is accepting applications for its annual Family Scholarship. The renewable, \$2,000 scholarship is for current high-school seniors in AFSCME families who will graduate in 2016.

Details: For application materials and full eligibility requirements, go to www.afscme.org/family. The application deadline is Dec. 31.

Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5. If you have an event people should know about, email Jennifer Munt at jennifer.munt@afscmemn.org.

- For the most current AFSCME news and events, visit afscmemn.org.
- Download and print a letter-size copy of Action Update to distribute or post on your bulletin board.

Keep Your Calendar Up to Date

Labor Move Night: "The Delano Manongs," Oct. 16, 6 p.m., Minneapolis (United Labor Centre)

General Election: Nov. 3, 7 a.m.-8 p.m., municipal elections statewide

Minnesota AFL-CIO Legislative and Political Conference: Nov. 12-13, St. Paul

Labor Move Night: "Burning Season," Nov. 20, 6 p.m., Minneapolis (United Labor Centre)

Labor Move Night: "Chicken Run," Dec. 17, 6 p.m., Minneapolis (United Labor Centre)

Council 5 Retirees United Convention: April 19, 2016