



ACTION UPDATE

One Strong, United Voice for Minnesota Workers

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

afscmemn.org

At Home Living Workers Pick AFSCME
Congratulations to 77 workers of At Home Living in Duluth – the newest members of AFSCME Council 5.

The members actually won their union election in January. But they had to wait three months while owners of the private-sector mental-health facilities challenged the election results. The National Labor Relations Board rejected the challenge and made the union victory official on April 24.

Benefit Set for Local 2181 Member

A benefit for the Macy Kujava family takes place in Brainerd on Saturday May 16.

Kujava, 24, is a steward in DHS MinnesotaCare Local 2181. She and her 4-year-old daughter, Sophia, remain hospitalized with severe injuries they suffered when their car was hit head-on by a pickup truck near Brainerd in January. Their road to recovery continues to be lengthy and expensive.

Details: The benefit runs from 5-11 p.m. May 16 at the Brainerd Armory, 1115 Wright St. The evening includes a spaghetti dinner, silent auction, raffle, cash bar, and live music. Admission is \$8 for teens and adults; \$5 for children ages 4-12.

- Monetary donations can be made to the “Kujava Family Benefit” account at any Affinity Plus Credit Union in Minnesota.
- To donate door prizes, items for the silent auction or raffle, or for other information, call 218-513-9872 or contact KujavaFamilyBenefit@yahoo.com.

Scholarship Deadline is May 8

Friday May 8 is the deadline to apply for three Council 5 scholarships:

- The \$1,000 Richard E. Patterson Scholarship and the \$500 Clarence J. Moss Scholarship are for children of Council 5 members who will be entering college.
- The \$250 Robert Norberg Scholarships are for AFSCME members continuing their own education.

Details: For application and eligibility requirements, go to afscmemn.org; from the Resources tab, choose “Scholarships” from the drop-down menu.

Help Move MN Hit the Streets

It's crunch time for Move MN's campaign for a long-term, balanced, comprehensive, and gimmick-free transportation bill this legislative session.

To pressure legislators, the coalition is seeking volunteers to talk with their neighbors about Minnesota's transportation issues, including the need for reliable roads and bridges, transit that is more accessible statewide, and local streets that are safer for bicyclists and pedestrians.

- You can join a phone bank on Thursday April 30 in **Minneapolis** at the United Labor Center, or on Thursday May 7 at AFSCME Council 5's office in **South St Paul**.
- You can join a door-knock on Saturday May 2 in **Albert Lea**, in **Crosby-Ironton-Deerwood**, or in **St. Cloud**; on Sunday May 3 in **Rochester** or **Morris**; or on Sunday May 9 in **Faribault**.

To sign up and for full details, find the Move MN events at www.mnafcio.org/get-involved.

Give Yourself a Break, Locals Urge

Hennepin County Locals 34 and 2822 are honoring May Day by sponsoring a “break time” at nine county worksites on Friday May 1.

In recognizing the historical fight to establish the 8-hour day, the breaks will ask workers to fill out mock time sheets. The goal is to find out how many workers erode the 8-hour day by not taking their breaks or lunch. Instead, thanks to years of staff cuts, they work for free in order to get work done.

Breaks, with refreshments, take place at service center hubs in Brookdale, Maple Grove, North Minneapolis, Ridgedale, and Southdale; and downtown at Century Plaza, the Family Justice Center, the Hennepin County Government Center, and the Health Services Building. Most breaks run from 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

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Financial Training Heads to Duluth

Friday May 1 is the deadline to register for AFSCME's next Financial Responsibility Training class. Training takes place on Thursday June 4, from 9 a.m.-4 p.m., at the Duluth Holiday Inn, 200 W. 1st St.

The specialized training makes sure locals handle dues and expenses legally and transparently. The training is recommended for any local officer who signs checks or conducts audits. Cost is \$20 per person, which covers lunch and materials.

To register: Contact Council 5's Jackie O'Shea at 651-287-0524; toll-free at 1-800-652-9791 x524; or by email at jackie.oshea@afscmemn.org.

Lodging: Call the hotel at 218-727-7492 and ask for the AFSCME Council 5 rate.

Uncover Stories You've Never Heard

St. Paul's annual Untold Stories labor history series is under way. All events are free and open to the public.

Thursday April 30: "Running the Rails: Stories of African-American Railroad Workers," 7 p.m., Rondo Community Outreach Library, 461 N. Dale St.

Monday May 4: "How the Army Brought Slave Labor to Minnesota," 7 p.m., Hamline Midway Library, 1558 W. Minnehaha Ave.

Monday May 11: "The People's Music: Jazz in St. Paul," reception at 6:15 p.m., program at 7 p.m., Penumbra Theatre, 270 N. Kent St.

Wednesday May 13: "From There to Here: Immigration and Migration in the Making of St. Paul," 7 p.m., East Side Freedom Library, 1105 Greenbrier St.

For details on the entire series, go to www.thefriends.org/untoldstories.

University Locals Rally May 8

AFSCME locals at the University of Minnesota kick off their contract negotiations with a rally outside the Board of Regents meeting on Friday May 8 from 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

The rally is at the McNamara Alumni Center, 200 Oak St. SE, on the East Bank campus.

Are You Up to Date?

Can your union reach you when you're not at work?

To make sure we can, we need to have your current personal – not work – contact information.

Simply go to afscmemn.org/signup on the Council 5 website and fill out the form.

Concert May 10 Revives Joe Hill

One hundred years ago, legendary labor organizer and songwriter Joe Hill was executed on trumped-up murder charges. A nationwide tour, "The Joe Hill Roadshow," honors Hill's music and legacy with a concert on Sunday May 10 in St. Paul.

The concert features Anne Feeney, Jan Hammarlund, Bucky Halker, Lil Rev, and J.P. Wright, with local contributions by Paul Metsa, Emmett Doyle, and the Twin Cities Labor Chorus.

Details: The concert is May 10 at 2:30 p.m. at the East Side Freedom Library, 1105 Greenbrier St. Suggested donation is \$15. For details, see www.joehill100.com.

2 Elected to Executive Board

Congratulations to Sara Franck, from Hennepin County Medical Center Local 2474, and Bryce Wickstrom, from Metro DOT Local 221. Both were elected to Council 5's Executive Board on April 16.

Franck fills a vacancy from District 6 (West Metro); Wickstrom fills a vacancy in the State Sector.

Next Wave Plans National Assembly

Registration is now open for AFSCME International's 2015 Next Wave Assembly, June 12-14 in St. Louis, Mo.

The Assembly will focus on the AFSCME Strong campaign. Young activists will gain the training, skills, and tools they need to educate and engage their co-workers in building AFSCME, increasing union power, and making real change for working people.

Information on registration, lodging, and other activities is available online: go to www.afscme.org; under "Upcoming Events" on the home page, click the "Next Wave Assembly" link.