



Members of Local 744 share their AFSCME spirit at a picnic at the Minneapolis Veterans Home. Tracy Alsaker hands Tsewang Namgyal a card to recommit to keep their union strong.

## Friedrichs Rehearing Denied

The U.S. Supreme Court on June 28 denied a request by anti-labor forces to rehear the *Friedrichs* case. Wealthy extremists weren't happy with the court's 4-4 decision earlier this year, which retained public unions' ability to charge workers a fair share of the costs of bargaining. While that means *Friedrichs* is dead, there are a number of anti-union cases still in the pipeline.

We can never quit our AFSCME Strong effort to create an even stronger union with members who are more engaged. With the next President set to nominate multiple justices to the Supreme Court, now is the time to double down on our organizing efforts before the upcoming election.

## Contracts ratified

**Local 772** (Regions Hospital business office) approved a two-year contract

that includes a 2 percent raise in 2016 and 1.5 percent in 2017; a \$1 per hour raise for those completing assigned competency testing; holds the line on an employer attempt to impose large premium increases to \$5 more a month; and ensures that bonuses for unscheduled weekend work will continue.

**Local 9** (Minneapolis Parks) ratified a three-year agreement that includes: a 2 percent raise, steps and longevity the first year; 2 percent and steps plus 5 cents for each longevity step the second year; 2.5 percent, steps and longevity in 2018; expanded sick leave that includes caring for a sick or injured family member; unpaid leaves of absence with approval; a requirement to provide notice of any privatization attempts and to meet and confer with AFSCME; creating a team to investigate tuition

## Help Elect Great Candidates

Take part in a phone bank at AFSCME Council 5 to help elect candidates who support workers and their families. The Council is holding phone banks every Monday and Thursday from now until the state primary election on **Aug. 9**.

Phone banks are taking place at the South St. Paul and Duluth offices, starting with dinner at 5:30 p.m., and then calling from 6 to 8:30 p.m. To attend in South St. Paul, email [Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org](mailto:Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org) or [Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org](mailto:Zach.Sias@afscmemn.org) in Duluth.

If neither location is convenient, gather at least six AFSCME members from your area. We can bring a phone bank on the road to you. For details, contact [Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org](mailto:Laura.Askelin@afscmemn.org).

reimbursement; and improvements to holiday pay and uniform allowances.

## Back Pay Won

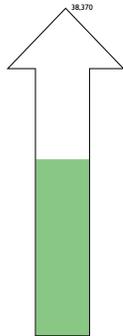
**Local 1842** (City of St. Paul Technical) prevailed in winning back pay. Management hadn't paid the snow emergency night-shift differential for years and was offering to pay only a fraction of what workers were owed. The workers banded together, requesting payroll audits and performing other actions to successfully pressure the city. Workers who are owed back pay will receive from \$23 to \$1,400 each.

## Dental Care Unchanged

State workers won't see changes in their dental networks. The state initially thought insurance providers Delta and HealthPartners would terminate several clinics, but after an analysis, found that all dentists in the network are compliant with the rules.

## AFSCME Strong Is Growing

AFSCME Strong is our program to determine our own destiny by building a stronger union with members who are more engaged. Sign a membership card to protect your job, defend our rights and preserve the quality of services we provide our communities.



We're 53 percent of the way toward our goal of 94 percent membership. To

reach that goal, we need to sign up **17,109** more workers. If each local signs up just eight people a day, we're there.

## Tentative Agreement Reached

**Local 2822** (Hennepin County Clerical and Related) has reached a tentative agreement with Hennepin County Library over the impact of restructuring. Office specialist (OS) IIIs who are becoming associate librarians will get a 5 percent increase and go to the nearest step; associate librarians at steps 11-13 will move up a step; and public service assistants (PSA) who are becoming OSIIIs will slide up the OSI and OSII scales, plus get a half-step increase, except those already at the top of the scale (who are moving up a step). Teen PSAs are not excluded from the bargaining unit; and subs move to the same classification they're subbing in. AFSCME used direct action to beat back attempts to put everybody on probation.

## Aid Orlando

AFSCME is working together with other unions to provide support and resources to the Orlando community in the wake of the horrific shooting on June 12. Find resources online at <https://sharemylesson.com/orlando> to teach children how to cope with fear, grief, bullying, gun violence, traumatic events, stereotyping and scapegoating, as well as on how to be an ally. It also includes a link to provide financial support to the shooting victims in Florida.

## Help Injured Worker

Kaija McMillen, a security counselor at the Minnesota Security Hospital in St. Peter, suffered a traumatic brain injury a year ago when a teen patient grabbed by her by the hair, bashed her head against a brick wall three times and kneed her in the back of the skull. That injury, which caused PTSD and seizures, is still preventing her from returning to work.

She had to move back home with her parents to get help caring for her 4-year-old daughter. Because she's been out of school so long due to the attack, she's had to start repaying her student loans. You can help her with her mounting medical bills and living expenses by donating here: <https://www.gofundme.com/ndzqmekc>.

## AFSCME is Hiring

Council 5 is looking for a political organizer to seek common ground and build relationships while engaging

and mobilizing support for our union's electoral and legislative activities and priorities. The job is based out of the South St. Paul office, but requires some travel throughout the state. The application deadline is 4 p.m. Monday, **July 11**. Find the details online: [http://afscmemn.org/job\\_listing](http://afscmemn.org/job_listing).

## Sing in Solidarity

Join the Twin Cities Labor Chorus for a night of song and solidarity: The chorus is hosting the 4th Annual Twin Cities Labor Sing on **July 26** at 7 p.m. at the East Side Freedom Library in Saint Paul.

All donations benefit the library and the Saint Paul and Minneapolis Regional Labor Federations' Community Services Programs. Make checks out to the: Twin Cities Labor Chorus, P.O. Box 40095, Saint Paul, MN 55104.

## Labor Movie Night

"The Organizer," which tells the story of a former high school teacher turned unionist who tries to organize a 19th-century textile factory, screens at 7 p.m. Friday, **July 15**, at the United Labor Centre in Minneapolis.

## Get in on the Action

Action Update publishes twice a month for locals and activists in AFSCME Council 5.

You can share an event by emailing [Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org](mailto:Lynette.Kalsnes@afscmemn.org) or download a copy for the bulletin board at [www.afscmemn.org](http://www.afscmemn.org).

### Mark Your Calendars

Event	Date	Place
Labor Movie Night	July 17 at 7 p.m.	United Labor Centre, Minneapolis
AFSCME 42nd Annual International Convention	July 18 to 22	Council 5 will be staying at the Paris Hotel, Las Vegas.
AFSCME Family Picnic	Aug. 21 from 1 to 5 p.m.	Battle Creek Regional Park, Maplewood
AFSCME at the State Fair	Aug. 25 to Sept. 5	State Fairgrounds, Saint Paul
AFL-CIO Central Body Labor Day Picnic	Sept. 5	Bayfront Festival Park, Duluth