



ACTION UPDATE

One Strong, United Voice for Minnesota Workers

Tuesday, June 25, 2013

www.afscmemn.org

Walk with Pride on June 30

AFSCME members are invited to celebrate a year of victories for personal freedom by marching with other AFL-CIO union members in the annual Pride Parade, June 30. The parade begins at 11 a.m. at 3rd and Hennepin in downtown Minneapolis.

Details: Unions are in slot 106; for the exact location on where and when to line up, contact the AFL-CIO's Jessica Hayssen at 651-294-3092.

Duluth Features 'Norma Rae'

Duluth's Labor Movie Night on June 27 revives a hall-of-fame labor movie, "Norma Rae." Sally Field won an Academy Award for her portrayal of a Southern mill worker wrestling with the need to form a union.

Details: The movie is at 6 p.m. in Hall B at the Duluth Labor Temple, 2002 London Road. Admission is free.

Pitch in to Make Picnic Possible

The annual AFSCME family picnic is scheduled for Aug. 4 at Battle Creek Park in Maplewood.

The picnic thrives only because of contributions from locals and AFSCME volunteers. To help make the 2013 picnic a success, contact Local 2829's Duane Gatzke at kkirk77dg@comcast.net or 651-472-2787.

(Locals and individuals should make checks payable to: AFSCME Family Picnic/Duane R. Gatzke.)

Scholarships Keep the Dream Alive

This is the 50th anniversary of the "March on Washington for Jobs and Freedom," in which labor unions and civil rights groups united to demand more justice in our economy and society. The march is best remembered for Dr. Martin Luther King's "I Have a Dream" speech.

In commemoration, Union Plus and the AFL-CIO are awarding \$5,000 college scholarships for recent high school graduates from union households.

To apply: There's no time to waste: The deadline is 11 a.m. on July 1. For requirements and application materials, go www.aflcio.org; click the "Jobs and Freedom Scholarship" graphic.

Join Us at the Fair

The calendar and the weather all say summer is here – finally. That means it's got to be time to think about the State Fair.

You can join other AFSCME members and retirees by volunteering at the Council 5 kiosk at the Minnesota AFL-CIO Labor Pavilion. The Fair runs Aug. 22-Sept. 2. Shifts are available most evenings (4-7:30 p.m.) and at scattered times during the day. Volunteers get free admission.

Sign up: To find out if there's a shift that works for you, contact Michael Kuchta at michael.kuchta@afscmemn.org or 651-287-0537.

Let's Hear It for Great Work

Council 5 is accepting applications for our annual Achievement Awards, which honor outstanding activism by individuals and locals. Awards are given for political activism, organizing, local union development, and communications during 2012.

Details: For award criteria and information on submitting nominations, see the story at www.afscmemn.org. The application deadline is Aug. 16.

Don't Forget the Paperwork

Council 5 has mailed the annual Treasurer's Affidavit and Projected Expenditures forms, which each local is legally required to complete. Forms are due July 12.

Questions? Contact Ruth Harleen at 651-287-0525 or ruth.harleen@afscmemn.org.

Save the Dates

- **Labor Ball:** Sept. 6, Wabasha Street Caves, St. Paul
- **AFSCME Women's Conference:** Sept. 20-22, Denver (Hyatt Regency)
- **AFSCME Council 5 Convention:** Oct. 3-5, Duluth
- **AFSCME Councils 5 and 65 Day on the Hill:** March 25, 2014, St. Paul

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Exposing the Latest Trade Scheme

Congressman Keith Ellison will host a free forum on the Trans Pacific Partnership, a trade plan that's the largest corporate power grab you've never heard of.

Details: The forum takes place July 1, from 6-7:30 p.m., at the Minneapolis Regional Labor Federation, 312 Central Ave, Minneapolis. For more information, see the Minnesota Fair Trade Coalition's website: www.mnfairtradecoalition.org.

Getting Things Done Has Results

Minnesotans definitely like when the people they elect actually gets things done.

Gov. Mark Dayton has his highest approval ratings ever – 57 percent. The same Star Tribune poll says 58 percent support the DFL's income-tax increase on the state's richest residents. That means a solid majority agree with the kind of tax fairness AFSCME has been pushing for years.

The numbers also prove that residents appreciate when elected officials do their jobs and find a way to create all-day kindergarten statewide; provide real property tax relief; expand worker rights and civil rights; and balance the budget without shifts, borrowing, one-time accounting gimmicks – or a government shutdown.

Pitch in to a Great Cause

AFSCME retirees Wesley and Karen Quick again will be riding in the annual Minnesota Ride for Kids, which raises money for the Pediatric Brain Tumor Foundation and children being treated for tumors.

The fully escorted ride takes place Sunday July 21 and tours a 45-mile route through the East Metro.

Festivities begin and end at Jimmy's Event Center, 1132 E. County Road E, Vadnais Heights.

Details: To sponsor the Quicks, contact them at wquick022@gmail.com or 507-317-0277.

To join the ride, go to www.curethekids.org/rideforkids, then click Minnesota on the map.