

THE LOCAL 34 BANNER

Who's in Local 34?

Job Classifications Covered by Our Contract

- ◆ Case Management Assistants
- ◆ Community Health Specialists
- ◆ Chemical Clinical Health Specialists
- ◆ Child Protection Social Workers
- ◆ Child Support Officers
- ◆ Clinical Nursing Specialists
- ◆ Community Health Workers
- ◆ Corrections Counselors
- ◆ Dental Assistants and Hygienists
- ◆ Financial Case Aides
- ◆ Health Care Assistants
- ◆ Health Care Quality Improvement Specialists
- ◆ HHS Medical Services Coordinator
- ◆ Human Services Representatives
- ◆ Interpreters
- ◆ Licensed Practical Nurses
- ◆ Medical Assistants
- ◆ Medical Examiner Investigator Assistants
- ◆ Medical Examiner Technicians
- ◆ Psychiatric Social Workers
- ◆ Psychologists and Clinical Psychologists
- ◆ Public Health Nurses
- ◆ Record Information Specialists
- ◆ Sentencing To Serve Crew Leaders
- ◆ Social Workers and Senior Social Workers
- ◆ Special Programs Counselors
- ◆ Sterile Processing Technicians
- ◆ Training Specialists
- ◆ Veterans Service Representatives
- ◆ Volunteer Coordinators
- ◆ WIC Public Health Nutritionists

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Standing Up for Joseph Gomm, Safe Staffing

Following the death of CO Joseph Gomm, the AFSCME Council 5 Correctional Policy Committee released this statement Friday:

We and our 2,000 correctional brothers and sisters from across Minnesota have spent the past week and a half mourning the loss of our fallen brother, correctional officer Joseph Gomm. We send our condolences to his mother, brothers and sisters, nieces and nephews, and friends. We will hold Joe and his wicked sense of humor, his great sense of integrity and his commitment to our mission close in our hearts. We want to thank all of the correctional workers, other law enforcement officers and the communities who helped us through this past week. We greatly appreciate the outpouring of love and support for Joe and our correctional family. We will not let Joseph Gomm die in vain. We want to ensure that every person who works in corrections can come home safely, and that we can keep our institutions and communities safe. Although the Department of Corrections has communicated during this time of mourning, they have not communicated with us about the safety measures presented Friday nor given us an opportunity to work with them to find solutions. We have several policy issues that we will be demanding get resolved. We have dangerously low numbers of correctional officers, levels that are far worse than the statistics reported by DOC Friday. This is unacceptable. Officers are not given all the equipment they need to safely do their jobs, and that also must be addressed. After years of asking legislators for enough funding to do our jobs safely, we are demanding bipartisan support, communication and collaboration from the department and all levels of state government to provide us with the adequate level of correctional officers, tools, resources and policies we need to do our job and to keep our institutions and the public safe.

Memorials can be sent to the Joseph Gomm Memorial Fund c/o BMO Harris Bank, 1520 - 109th Ave. NE., Blaine, MN 55449.

President's Report Aug 2018

Sisters and Brothers:

Janus who? The Supreme Court case, which sought to weaken the power of Unions and strip us workers of the Freedom to join together and negotiate a fair return for a hard days' work has occurred. The decimation of unions that the rich & corporate elites hoped for hasn't happened. Just like the generations before us who have given sweat, tears, blood, and their lives standing up for our freedom to join together, workers today are continuing to stand up for dignity and respect in the workplace, for due process, the ability to provide for their families, and the ability to retire in dignity.



If you have not joined our AFSCME union in the fight for these things, Sign a Maintenance of Membership card today! If you want to keep our AFSCME Dental and keep it solvent, Sign a Maintenance of Membership card today! Go to <http://afscmemn.org/> and click on MemberLink to sign online, or call 651-450-4990 to sign up via voice authorization. If you haven't previously signed a Maintenance of Membership card, when you do so, you receive one of our AFSCME Local 34 t-shirts!

WICKED AFSCME! 14 of our Sisters and Brothers just returned from being Delegates and Alternates at our AFSCME International Convention in Boston. Our AFSCME Union is **STRONG!** Thousands of our Sisters and Brothers conducted the business of our Union, but also learned how to strengthen our rights in the workplace, and were **FIRE UP** by our International President Lee Saunders & re-elected Secretary Treasurer Elissa McBride. In Bostonian's terms We Are **WICKED AFSCME!!!**

While in Boston, we received devastating word of the death of our AFSCME Brother Officer Joe Gomm, a Corrections Officer at Stillwater Prison. He was murdered by an inmate serving time for murder. Staffing levels have been dangerously low in all of our State facilities. This is why Politics matters. The State Legislature has to approve funding for additional staffing to provide for safety in our workplaces. It matters who is in power making decisions about our workplaces, our safety, and our ability to provide for our families. Please hug those you love, as you never know when the last time will be that you can.

Our Local's **WEAR GREEN** on **TUESDAYS** has gone viral!! Our AFSCME Council 5 has taken it Statewide! Keep wearing that new AFSCME Local 34 t-shirt or any green shirt you have! Keep the pressure on the County to give us respect and dignity in the workplace and pay a fair wage for a hard days' work by attending the County Board meetings on Tuesdays at 1:30pm in **GREEN**. It takes all of us to give what we can of our talents, time, and treasure to bring equity and justice for all our AFSCME members. Additional actions are being planned in the near future! Watch your e-mail and Facebook for more info.

Do not hesitate to reach out to me at any time with questions or concerns. My personal e-mail is jbgm99@gmail.com and my personal phone is 763-300-1047.

Always in Solidarity,
Grace Baltich

GA Highlights:

Announcement that the deadline for applications for the Minnesota Leadership Union Program (MULP) has been extended to 7/31/18. The local has already moved to cover the \$1500.00 fee for two members and moved to cover the fee for two other members if their applications are accepted by LES. Let President Grace Baltich know if your application has been accepted.

Motion approved to send up to 15 members covering 2 days lost time and mileage for three days at attend the Council5 Regional Organizing 101 Training held Thursday, August 23rd –Saturday, August 25th, with the President to appoint via first come, first approved method. Contact President Baltich if you are interested.

#GreenTuesdays Facebook contest was so successful that a motion was approved for another \$25.00 gift card for the next round - see the announcement on page 11.

Motion approved to send our delegates to the Minnesota State AFL-CIO Convention held September 20 – 22, 2018 paying 2 days lost time, registration costs, parking & mileage for 3 days with election to be held at the August 1, 2018 General Assembly. We are entitled to 8 delegates per the convention call.

Motion approved to contribute \$340.00 to the AFSCME Family Picnic held Sunday, August 19th from 1:00 - 5:00 PM at Battle Creek Regional Park in Maplewood.

Motion approved to send 100 delegates to the Council 5 Convention held September 27 - 29, 2018 at the DoubleTree Hotel in Bloomington, MN with the local covering 2 days lost time, mileage for 3 days with election to be held at the August 1, 2018 General Assembly. This is an election year with all seats for the Council 5 Executive Board open. Registration for delegates closes at 9:30 AM sharp on Thursday, September 27th.

Anyone interested in putting their name forward for either Council 5 or the Minnesota AFL-CIO conventions should plan to attend the 8/1/18 GA or contact President Grace Baltich to add your name to the list for the event of your choice before 4:00PM on 8/1/18.

Executive Board highlights:

Aaron Gardner-Kocher was elected to fill the Member-at-Large seat that was vacated when Sametta Hill was elected as 2nd Vice President. Aaron's term of office will expire April 30, 2019. Please join the Executive Board in welcoming him as he assumes his new role in our local.

Motion approved to hold a Local 34 delegate reception on Friday, September 28th as part of our Council 5 convention activities. Treasurer Paul Madison is in charge of making the arrangements.

Motion approved to contribute \$200.00 to the memorial fund for Brother Joseph Gomm, Correctional Officer killed while working at the Stillwater Correctional Facility. See page 1 for statement from Council 5.

The four days that I spent at the Midwest School for Women Workers were amazing. It was a time to not only learn about the labor movement, but also to discuss the issues that we face specifically as women workers. This was a liberating experience full of laughs, hugs, and tears. I learned about labor history in MN. I learned how to successfully plan an action. I found it beneficial to have a safe space to discuss what being a union member means to me. I also enjoyed being able to reflect on and share my personal short and long term goals within my union. The biggest thing that I learned is that although we all come from different lines of work, states, and backgrounds we can all take our experiences and find ways to work together. We all have a goal of making the labor movement a success. Our differences are our biggest asset.

Bobbie Miller Thomas

I had a great experience at the Midwest school and got to meet many amazing people. With classes covering diversity, immigration, and other current issues it was really informative, especially with working in the Human Services field. My favorite part would have to be the bus ride around the city and the guest speakers we had, also participating in the rally to raise the minimum wage was eye opening and a great experience.



I attended the School for Women Workers hosted by the Labor Education Service University of Minnesota Twin Cities from June 24-28, 2018. I took advantage for the track class "Your Rights in the Workplace." In these classes we learned about the Weingarten Rights. Worker's "Weingarten Rights", provide the employee union representation for any meeting with a supervisor. The employee only needs to request representation.

We also learned that most union contracts contain language that management needs "just cause" to discipline an employee. The burden of proof is on management that they had just cause for disciplinary action. Most arbitration defines "just cause" based on seven criteria.

- Was the employee aware of the rule?
- Was the employer's rule reasonable?
- Was there an investigation?
- Was the investigation fair?
- Did they find proof of guilt?
- How was this rule, investigation applied to other employees?
- Did the punishment fit the crime?

The union's role is to demonstrate that the employer lacked just cause. The training I received at Midwest Women Worker's Conference was very helpful to me as a new steward. I highly recommend this conference and training.

Sheri Peterson, Social Worker & Local 34 Steward

Wow and thank you all for sending me to the 2018 Midwest School for Women Workers. This conference was 4 very full days of learning here at the U of M. I chose the learning track on rights in the workplace. The presenters, both of whom have practiced law, discussed Civil Rights and Discrimination Law, how to determine “just cause” for disciplines, and expanded my understanding on Weingarten Rights.

We discussed particular concerns that women (of all races and identities) face in the workplace and ways that we as Union activists can help address these for ourselves and our coworkers. There were plenary sessions relevant to the national tone and environment for Unions and workers as well as site visits of current and historical action places.

The information we covered will all be incorporated in the upcoming Stewards Trainings for our Local and I have already begun applying my new knowledge in meetings with members and management alike.

With the utmost solidarity and thanks, **Remy.**

Midwest School for Women Workers , June 25th-28th, 2018

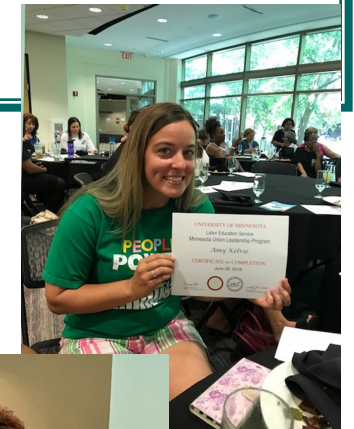
I really enjoyed this conference, it enhanced my understanding of what is going on in the world today and how the union makes a difference. It was great to be able to talk to each other about the Janus vs AFSCME case and find out the results together and take in what it all means. The Twin Cities Labor Bus Tour was definitely one of my highlights. It was extremely moving being able to listen to the St. Paul Mayor and Philando Castille’s Mother and friend give speeches. My favorite track class was Understanding the Worker Center Movement. I learned some great activities I am bringing back to my team at work to use in our next team meeting. The more we as a union get others involved the stronger we become, I think our MAT quarterly meetings do a great job at this. This conference was a great tool to learn from others and be able to share the knowledge. I learned so much information, the seven tests of just cause had to be one of the most useful tools for stewards.

It was awesome meeting people from other locals and they shared information from the classes they took as well. One lady even gave a few of us a book about Clara Day called, “A Teamster’s Life”. The more we do the more we can achieve together. If you need more information about anything please let me know.

Sincerely,
Amy N. Kelvie



The highlight of the week for me was meeting the Mayor of St. Paul and mother of Philando Castile.
Tamika Hannah



My experience with my 9 Union Sisters at the 2018 Midwest School for Women Workers was INCREDIBLE!

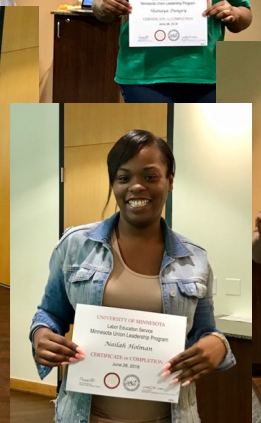
I attended the following workshops:

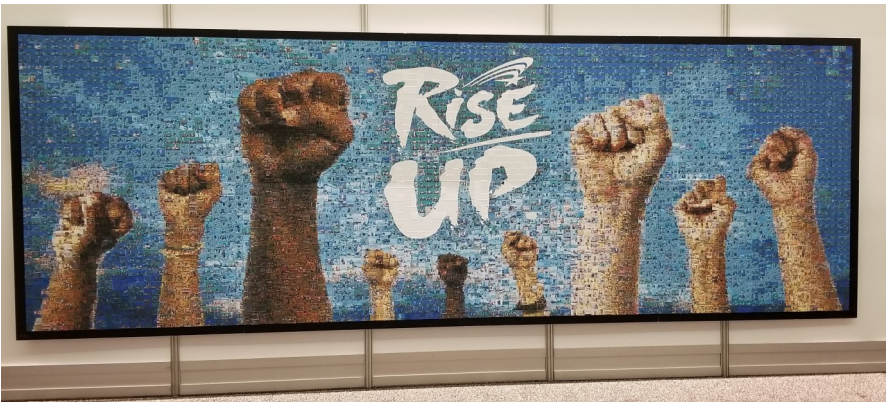
1. Immigration & Globalization
2. Leading with Strength & Solidarity
3. Racial Justice in the Union and at Work
4. LGBTQ 101

Afterwards, we had an Emergency Janus vs AFSCME rally (along with a few others); No Sister hesitated in joining in Solidarity!

I still get butterflies thinking about this glanderous opportunity! As your Union Sibling, I'm proud to serve my Brothers & Sisters as your Member-At-Large!

Yunuén Ávila





I was inspired by the solidarity and spirit of our union at the convention. It makes me proud to be a member fighting for the rights of all workers and peoples.

I completed the workshops in the Communications Track and learned how to use different tools and technology to reach our members. It was awesome to hear from other public workers from all over the county about their similar struggles and successes in their union and in the services they provide to the public.

Lindsay M Schwab



Boston International Convention

What an awesome and inspiring experience! I can't seem to get the theme song "Rise Up" by Andra Day out of my head.

Tamika Hannah



I am honored to have been selected to attend AFSCME's 43rd International Convention in Boston, MA. The theme was "Rise Up", which as the Convention's Delegate Guide stated, captures "the determination with which we will overcome the threats and attacks we face...to protect the basic rights we have worked so hard to secure since AFSCME was formed..."

The two principal daily events consisted of "Rise Up" Institute workshops which were held in smaller breakout sessions, and the General Sessions which were held in the main convention room to fit the more than 5,000 attendees. I selected to attend the workshops

focused on organizing, which included courses such as The Power of One-on-One Conversations, and Communication Structures That Work. These small group workshops served as a wonderful way to meet other AFSCME Sisters and Brothers from across the country, giving us an opportunity to share each other's successes and struggles back home, share strategies, and learn from one another. To name a few, I learned how to better communicate our union vision, captivate new members, and motivate others to take action by demonstrating the strength of collective action.

All in all, not only did I build better relationships with my Local 34 Sisters and Brothers who also attended, but the experience of being able to be share a week with my international AFSCME Brothers and Sisters was absolutely amazing. I have returned with new knowledge I hope to share with others, motivation, and a renewed commitment to continue working together towards strengthening and protecting OUR UNION.

Abby Korenchen

"I really enjoyed the Int'l conference...it was great to see how strong we were across the states, standing together to fight for what is right! The workshops were very informative in teaching strategies for organizing. It was clear at this conference that information is being shared; states are paying attention to what is going on in other states and no matter the recent change, a clear presentation of our strength, compassion and empathy for one another was highly visible in the connectedness we shared with everyone present...RISE UP!!!

Sametta Hill



WHO ARE WE!! AFSCME!!! RISE UP!!!

Woo hoo!!! I'm still pumped from AFSCME's 43rd International Convention in Boston, MA!

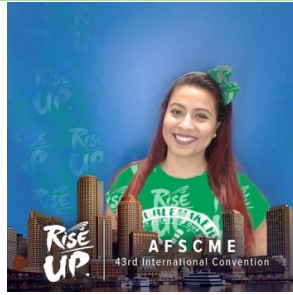
I was privileged to be an Alternate & serve along with my Alternate & Delegate Brothers & Sisters.

I decided to take the Political Action Track, which included the following workshops:

- Become a Better Advocate
- Connecting the Dots: Race, Gender, & Economic
- Mobilizing Members in the Current
- Shape the Future: Running for Office, amongst others.

I desire to get more involved with our: Local, P.E.O.P.L.E., & overall our members. As you all know, being knowledgeable in all these areas is key. Through the workshops offered, I was able to expand my understanding in the politics involved with our Union, a topic I've struggled with in the past. To be able to take something I viewed as a personal weakness & turn it into something I'm excited to get more involved in, shows you how effective the Convention as a whole was for me. I would advise each & every one of you to come experience what AFSCME, OUR UNION, has to offer for all its' members!

Yunuén Ávila



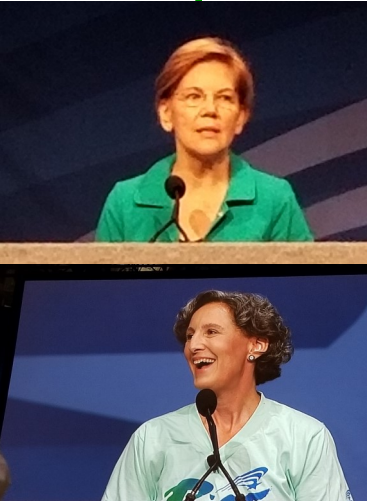
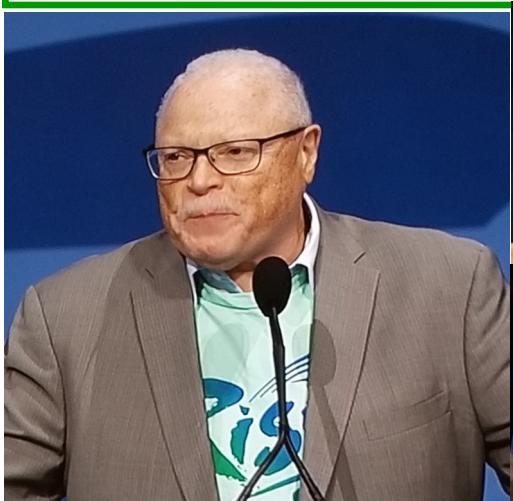
34@43

Local 34 sent 14 members to the 43rd AFSCME International Convention this year in Boston, Ma. I was lucky enough to be elected as one of those representing 34 at 43.

For me, understanding how our Local and the work we do fits in the larger picture of our Union helps guide me and my actions. The convention was a week of learning sessions, nationally recognized speakers, and presentations by members at every stage of their lives and careers. From the Parkland Florida student who lived through that school shooting to the workers who marched with Martin Luther King Jr. in the Memphis Sanitation Strike in 1968, each person brought ideas and understandings from every corner and laid them on the table for us to examine.

The exchange of ideas with AFSCME members from Juno, Alaska, to Oahu, Hawaii, and sitting at the table with members in corrections, healthcare, or even the same job I do in a different state, allowed me to gain perspective on a multitude of situations and new angles we can use to address member needs. Finding commonalities in our values and starting dialogues where we may differ is the heart of being a family. I am so proud and thankful for my spot in the AFSCME family and am grateful for the continued growth and learning that this family continues to provide.

Remy K. Huerta-Stemper



August 2018

AFSCME Council 5's Executive Director John P. Westmoreland was elected International Vice President (covering Minnesota, North Dakota and South Dakota) during the AFSCME Convention in Boston.

Convention-goers also honored retired Executive Director Eliot Seide for his service.

A large contingent of Council 5 members from across Minnesota attended the Convention, which had the theme Rise Up!, a message of strength and solidarity.



AFSCME's 43rd International Convention was held in Boston the week of July 16—20, 2018. Local 34 sent 7 delegates: Grace Baltich, Jean Diederich, Kenneth W. Garnier, Tamika Hannah, Paul Madison, Sheri Peterson & David Yang and 7 alternates: Yunuen Avila, Sametta Hill, Nailah Holman, Remy Huerta-Stemper, Abby Korenchen, Andrea Lazo-Rice & Lindsay Schwab. Nailah Holman was upgraded to delegate status when Sheri Peterson had to leave.

Our delegation participated in all aspects of the convention –attending classes at 7:30AM each morning; sitting on the convention floor or in the alternate/guest section listening to speeches by Elizabeth Warren, AFT President Randi Weingarten, SEIU President Mary Kay Henry, NEA Secretary-Treasurer Princess Moss, Boston Mayor Marty Walsh, New Jersey Governor Phil Murphy as well as presentations on PEOPLE Power, external and internal organizing, standing up to fight anti-union operatives with their lies about right-to-work and Memphis sanitation workers, President Lee Saunders and Secretary-Treasurer Elissa McBride; getting up early on Thursday to vote for our Secretary-Treasurer - Elissa McBride won with an overwhelming vote - and vote on the amendments to our International Constitution and resolutions



(I spoke to a resolution on harmful tax cuts - thank you to Julie Bleyhl from Council 5 for the information) which will guide our union in the coming years. We were there to do the work that you sent us to do.

We honored four of our union's giants - past Presidents Arnold Zander, Jerry Wurf & Jerry McEntee and past Secretary-Treasurer, Bill Lucy. President Saunders awarded plaques to the families of Arnold Zander and Jerry Wurf and to Jerry McEntee & Bill Lucy who were present. Listening to the stories from family members about the importance of union work was very moving. What we do casts ripples that will travel far and wide for years to come.

We also honored three retiring International Vice Presidents - Gary Tavormina, Chair of the Retiree Council, Sal Luciano, Council 4 (Connecticut) Executive Director and our very own Eliot Seide, retired Executive Director of Council 5. They have over 100 years of service to AFSCME members. President Saunders stated, "I've seen them organize, I've seen them fight and I've seen them inspire. I've seen their dedication to public service workers and I've seen them move people to collective action. I admire their leadership, and I'm grateful for their advice and their strong voice on our International Executive Board."

Eliot thanked us for this recognition closing with the following statement "Thank you for the honor and the privilege of fighting for workers for the last 40 years. There is no greater privilege. And thank you to Council 5, the greatest fighting force I've had the opportunity of working with."

It was not all work. We did have fun – pin trading (Remy is the champion), going on walking tours of Boston, eating out, going to Fenway Park, attending the delegate reception, shopping, eating out, going on a whale watch, taking in the sights of Boston, making use of the hotel's pool and workout room, did I mention eating out? Our entire delegation went to the Summer Shack on Wednesday evening to eat. The food was good and the company better.

Thank you for sending me to represent you! **RISE UP!!!** Jean Diederich



AFSCME Endorsed Candidates - VOTE!!!

U.S. Senate

Amy Klobuchar
Tina Smith

U.S. Congress

District 1: Dan Feehan
District 2: Angie Craig
District 3: Dean Phillips
District 4: Betty McCollum
District 5: Keith Ellison
District 7: Collin Peterson

Minnesota Governor & Lt. Governor

Erin Murphy with Erin Maye Quade

Minnesota Auditor

Julie Blaha

Minnesota House

District 3A: Rob Ecklund
District 6A: Julie Sandstede
District 19A: Jeff Brand
District 20A: Barbara Kline
District 23A: Heather L. Klassen
District 23B: Melissa Wagner
District 24A: Joe Heegard
District 24B: Yvette Marthaler
District 27A: Theron (Terry) Gjersvik
District 27B: Jeanne Poppe
District 35A: Bill Vikander
District 35B: Katheryn Eckhardt
District 36A: Zach Stephenson
District 36B: Melissa Hortman
District 37A: Erin Koegel
District 37B: Amir Malik
District 38A: Kevin Fogarty
District 38B: Ami Wazlawik
District 39A: Ann Mozey
District 39B: Shelly Christensen
District 40B: Cindy Yang
District 41A: Connie Bernardy
District 41B: Mary Kunesh-Podein
District 42A: Kelly Moller
District 42B: Jamie Becker-Finn
District 43B: Leon Lillie
District 44A: Ginny Klevon
District 44B: Patty Acomb
District 48A: Laurie Pryor
District 48B: Charlie Kotyaza-Wittuhn
District 49B: Steve Elkins
District 50A: Michael Howard
District 51A: Sandra Masin

District 51B: Laurie Halverson
District 52A: Rick Hansen
District 52B: Ruth Richardson
District 53A: Tou Xiong
District 53B: Steve Sandell
District 54A: Anne Claflin
District 54B: Tina Folch
District 55A: Brad Tabke
District 56A: Hunter Cantrell
District 56B: Alice Mann
District 57B: John Huot
District 58A: Maggie A. Williams
District 58B: Marla Vagts
District 59A: Fue Lee
District 59B: Raymond Dehn
District 60A: Diane Loeffler
District 61A: Frank Hornstein
District 61B: Jamie Long
District 63B: Jean Wagenius
District 64A: Kaohly Her
District 64B: Dave Pinto
District 65B: Carlos Mariani
District 67A: Tim Mahoney
District 67B: Jay Xiong

Hennepin County Attorney

Mike Freeman

Hennepin County Board

District 2: Irene Fernando
District 3: Marion Greene
District 4: Peter McLaughlin

Ramsey County Board

District 3: Janice Rettman
District 4: Toni Carter
District 5: Rafael Ortega
District 6: Jim McDonough

Ramsey County Attorney

John Choi

Ramsey County Sheriff

Jack Serier

Washington County Board

District 2: Stan Karwoski

Washington County Attorney

Peter Orput

Washington County Commissioner

John Thorson

Washington County Sheriff

Dan Starry

Brooklyn Park

Mayor: Hollies Winston

Maplewood

Mayor: Nora Slawik

City Council: Kathleen (Kathy) Juenemann

City Council: Nikki Villavicencio

Richfield

City Council: Mary Supple

Saint Paul

City Council District 4: Mitra Jalali Nelson

The primary is coming fast on **Tuesday, Aug. 14**, and it's an exciting chance to vote for candidates who truly support workers, our families and our Communities.

AFSCME Council 5's Executive Board – elected by members, for members – endorsed state Rep. Erin Murphy for governor. She is a nurse, and a former organizer and executive director of the Minnesota Nurses Association. She serves on the House Health and Human Services Finance Committee, and the Ways and Means Committee. She's former Majority Leader of the Minnesota House. Murphy will stand up for our freedom to join unions and to raise our voices together for better wages, benefits and working conditions.

So will the candidates AFSCME members endorsed for state, county and local offices.

Check polling places at www.sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/.

Remember to vote on August 14th! Your vote matters.

Have you ever wanted to stand up for your coworkers? Do you feel that advocacy is in your blood? When you see something is not right, do you feel that you are obligated to speak up? Then you should join us as a steward for Local 34! Help your coworkers and defend employee rights! Send your answers to the following questions to us and join us in fighting the good fight.

Email Remy.Huerta-Stemper@hennepin.us and Kenneth.Garnier2@hennepin.us today!

1. Have you been a full dues paying member for at least 1 year as of today?
2. Why do you want to become a steward for Local 34?
3. What is your perception of our Union?
4. What do you think our Union does?
5. What is your current job class, work site and how flexible is your job position?
6. Would you be able to attend meetings with members or the Employer on short notice?
7. Are you willing to travel between Hennepin County work sites for meetings with members and the Employer?
8. What is your primary work location?

Thank you,
Remy & Kenneth, Co-Chief Stewards



Hello, I work in Child Support.

I wanted to become a union steward because I strongly believe in empowerment, fairness, and due process!

Woohoo!
Derek Noles

From the July 10, 2018 Labor Wire:

Working people are already grappling with a brand of corporate, right-wing judicial activism that has taken hold of whole swaths of the justice system. In her dissent in *Janus v. AFSCME, Council 31*, **Justice Elena Kagan** warned against those who would act as a “black-robed ruler overriding citizens’ choices.”

Judge Kavanaugh has made it clear he would be more of the same. He has spent his career ruling against working families, undermining our rights at work and enabling discrimination on the job:

American Federation of Government Employees, AFL-CIO v. Gates: Handed down an opinion that his colleagues argued would allow the secretary of defense to “abolish collective bargaining altogether.”

Agri Processor Co. Inc. v. National Labor Relations Board: In a dissent, wrote that a company should not be ordered to bargain with a union, arguing that undocumented workers were ineligible to vote in a union election (in direct conflict with long-standing Supreme Court precedent).

SeaWorld of Florida LLC v. Perez: Dissented from a majority opinion upholding a safety citation against SeaWorld following the death of a trainer.

Venetian Casino Resort LLC v. NLRB: Overturned an NLRB decision finding that a hotel engaged in unfair labor practices when it requested police officers issue criminal citations to union demonstrators who were legally protesting.

July 5, 2018 Labor Wire

Signed into law by President Franklin D. Roosevelt 83 years ago today, the National Labor Relations Act marked a critical step forward for working people’s right to join together in unions and bargain collectively.

As Roosevelt said at the time, “By preventing practices which tend to destroy the independence of labor, it seeks, for every worker with its scope, that freedom of choice and action which is justly his.”

218%: Rise in union density 10 years after passage of the NLRA.



I . WILL . NEVER . FORGET . THIS . DAY.

Brother Brad Sigal, Secretary of AFSCME Local 3800 & Member of M.I.R.A.C. (Minnesota Immigration Rights Action Committee) invited me to speak & Represent AFSCME at the “Families Belong Together-National Day of Action March” to stop the separation of children from their families at the border. 7,000 Union Siblings gathered in Solidarity to rally against the Trump’s Administration. There were many powerful speakers & I was privileged to be one of them! Council 5 endorsed me & assisted me from: helping compose my speech, which my Sister & Secretary of Local 34, Deborah Konechne, helped write. Sister Lynette Kalsnes, Coordinator of AFSCME Council 5, helped edit it. My brother Kudakwashe Deve from Council 5, delivered a heartfelt speech next to me. And then finally, my Sister Trisha Harms, AFSCME Council 5’s Communications Professional helped me stay in the loop with the agenda. I am beyond grateful & ecstatic to continue to be as active as I can possibly be with OUR Union, AFSCME. In solidarity, I stand before you all & fight the fight of doing what’s right & fair for ALL. TOGETHER WE RISE UP!



Yunuén Ávila

July 11, 2018

AFSCME MAT leaders created temperature charts to show the number of members committed to our union at our different worksites.

AFSCME 34 ROCKS!! #WE'RE STICKING WITH OUR UNION!!



Artists needed!

Local 34 needs a new banner to display at events around town. So if the spirit of solidarity moves you, grab a pen and paper and sketch an idea! Get an electronic copy of your design to me by **8/14/2018** and the e-board will vote on the best design. Your design will be featured in the next newsletter and will be on a cloth banner used at official AFSCME functions! Send your design to Remy.Huerta@gmail.com.

Green Tuesdays are BACK!

The Member Action Team would like to make Green Tuesdays go viral! Contract Negotiations have started and we want to show our solidarity. There will be a contest from 7/31/18-8/28/18. To enter the contest please follow these steps:

Wear green on Tuesdays

Take a selfie or a group picture in your green

Post your picture on the AFSCME Local 34 FB page using #greentuesdays <https://m.facebook.com/groups/25684399949>

***If you are not on FB feel free to email your picture to Bobbie Miller Thomas and she will post it on your behalf.**

At the end of the contest a random winner will be contacted by Bobbie Miller Thomas and will receive a \$25 gift card for their participation.

*Each weekly picture submitted constitutes an entry for the random drawing. Only one picture per week will count.

August

Wed. the 1st—Local 34 General Assembly Meeting

5:30 p.m. Human Services Building
525 Portland Avenue, Room 110, Minneapolis 55415

Sun. the 19th - AFSCME Family Picnic

1:00-5:00 PM, Battle Creek Regional Park in Maplewood
Potluck items welcome

Wed. the 15th—Local 34 Executive Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. Human Services Building
525 Portland Avenue, Room 917, Minneapolis 55415

September

Wed. the 5th—Local 34 General Assembly Meeting

5:30 p.m. Human Services Building
525 Portland Avenue, Room 110, Minneapolis 55415

Wed. the 19th—Local 34 Executive Board Meeting

5:30 p.m. Human Services Building
525 Portland Avenue, Room 917, Minneapolis 55415

Thurs. the 27th - Sat. the 29th - Council 5 Convention

DoubleTree Hotel, Bloomington MN

August 2018

Nuts and Bolts

A brief guide to your Local 34

STEWARDS

Jamoda Acevedo	Watchen Marshall
Brenda Blaisdell	Thomas Moore
Julio Blee Alarcon	Derek Noles
Teisha Broomfield	David Paurus
Jacqueline Coleman	Sheri Peterson
Delia Dilday	Rita Phelps
Shanaya Dungey	Shawnice Reid
Cassandra Dutrieuille	Amorette Robeck
James Edin	Alyssa Saby
William Fernow	Lindsay Schwab
Katherine Folta	Sean Watkins
Emily Frazier	Florence Williams
Sarah Haigh	All Stewards serve a year long appointment beginning in May and lasting until April the following year.
Tasheema Hopson	
Caroline Malone	

LOCAL 34 OFFICERS

President— Grace Baltich

First Vice President — Tamika Hannah

Second Vice President — Sametta Hill

Treasurer—Paul Madison

Secretary—David Yang

Membership Secretary— Deborah Konechne

Sergeant-At-Arms— Andrea Lazo-Rice

Senior Chief Steward— Kenneth W. Garnier

Junior Chief Steward— Remy Huerta-Stemper

Members-At-Large—

Angel Alexander

Yunuén Ávila

Dawn Coburn-Paden

Aaron Gardner-Kocher

Brian Olson

Bobbie Miller Thomas



<https://www.facebook.com/groups/Local34/>

Closed group: [email Amanda Abell](#) for an invite



@AFSCME

@AFSCMEMNS

Council 5 Member Action Center

651-450-4990 - call if you are not able to reach an officer or our Field Representative. Field Representatives are on hand to answer your questions Monday - Friday, 8:00 - 4:30

Memberlink - sign up now to access/update your information with Council 5

<https://members.afscmemn.org/>

“At the core, labor unions (we) are working men and women, unified as one force. Despite any personal differences that may exist between us, we have banded together to protect and improve the lives of workers. We rise up together for the greater good. We defend one another like family” -Sue Carney, 2014

AFSCME

We make America Happen

Contact us:

AFSCME Local 34
P.O. Box 15222
Minneapolis, MN 55414-0222

<http://afscmelocal34.org/>
Email the editor: jean.diederich@hennepin.us

August 2018