

# IOWA AFL-CIO NEWS



Volume 18, Issue 2

Official Publication of the Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO

September 2018

## The Secretary-Treasurer's Notes . . .

# I'm Sticking With The Union: Vote YES On Recertification



IFL Secretary-Treasurer  
Charlie Wishman

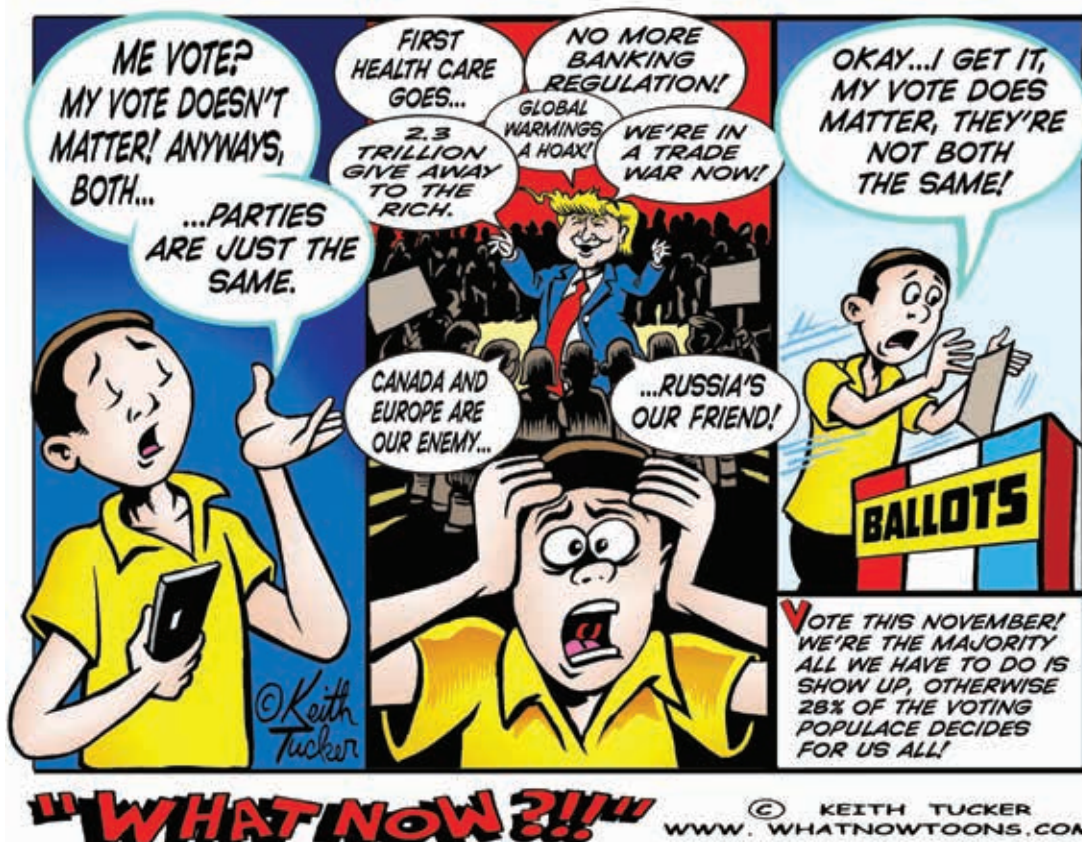
Again this year, as required by the changes in collective bargaining in 2017, thousands of public employees will be again voting to preserve their bargaining units. As many of you know, before a contract is negotiated, a public sector bargaining unit must vote on retaining their union status. If someone does not vote, the state will automatically vote a "no" for them. For your bargaining unit to continue to exist, the unit must reach 50%+1 of the entire bargaining unit, not just members.

It is imperative that you talk to

your co-workers to vote "yes." While the scope of bargaining was drastically reduced, your union fights for you in many different areas including at the bargaining table. The truth is, no matter what the law says, the only way to have an effective long-term voice at your workplace is through collective action, or through the union.

Last year, members and non-members overwhelmingly approved almost all bargaining units that were up for recertification. This was due to a lot of work put in by a lot of dedicated union representatives and organizers, but that wasn't the only thing that contributed to success. Members and non-members alike realized that the union has value to them and saw through the new collective bargaining law's pettiness.

Remember, no one can take your union away from you but yourself by dropping out or not participating. There are many ways to fight back against this law – at the ballot



box, through rallying the community to support public employees, through exposing this terrible law to our allies outside of labor, and more. However, all those things take collective action.

There will never be a time when labor is not being attacked, and this

is just the latest major attack spreading across the nation. We will have a chance to overturn this law in Iowa and even expand the bargaining rights of public employees, but until that time comes – remember to vote "yes" for you, your family, your co-workers, and the union.

## Labor 2018 In Iowa

The 2018 Midterm elections are just a few weeks away. We will need volunteers to help get Union endorsed candidates elected.

Please stop by one of these offices and volunteer to help.

More information on specific walks and needs will be shared soon,

### Western Iowa Federation of Labor

- **Council Bluffs** – 217 S Main St., Council Bluffs. Scott Puntenev 402-657-1007

- **Sioux City** – CWA 7103, 1325 Lewis Blvd, Sioux City Scott Puntenev 402-657-1007

### South Central Iowa Area Federation of Labor

- **Des Moines** – IFL Office, 2000 Walker St, Suite

A, Des Moines. Sandy Opstvedt 515-262-9571

- **Ottumwa** – 609 Church Street, Ottumwa. Sandy Opstvedt 515-262-9571

### Hawkeye Area Labor Council

- **Cedar Rapids** – IBEW 405, 1211 Wiley Blvd, Rick Moyle Cedar Rapids 319-396-8461

- **Waterloo** – Black Hawk Labor Temple, 1695 Burton Ave, Waterloo. Jerry Hageman 319-230-3757.

### Great River Area Labor Federation

- **Quad Cities** – UFCW 431, 2411 W. Central Park Ave, Davenport. Sheri Carnahan 563-210-7685

- **Dubuque** – Labor Temple, 1610 Garfield, Dubuque. Julia McMeekan 309-738-1446.



**IFL 2018 Election Endorsements**

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**What Unions' Win In Missouri Means For Iowa Campaigns**

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## The President's View . . .

# Politics And The Little Red Hen

Does anyone remember the children's story called, "The Little Red Hen?" You remember how the hen asked everyone to help at the different stages of the process of growing the wheat and milling the flour. You also remember that everyone wanted to take part in eating the bread portion of the story.

Politics is much the same. We ask everyone to help plow the ground to make sure we have a fertile field to spread our message about candidates who will support working family issues. We ask everyone to help cultivate the crops to make sure our members are receptive to hearing about the stands our candidates take on issues important to working families.

We ask everyone to help us work the mill to turn out the votes to make sure that we have a successful election.



We know that everyone wants to lobby a legislature that is open to passing legislation that will support

working families and our issues. We know we want education to be funded, worker's compensation repaired, infrastructure adequately funded and bargaining rights restored, to say nothing of the host of other issues that we all want.

None of which will happen if we can't get volunteers to do the work to get our members registered, informed and to the polls to vote for working family candidates.

It is really that simple.

Make a difference, spend some time at a labor walk, knock on some doors of fellow union members, call some or talk to them in the plant or on the job site. Our issues of jobs, education, health care and retirement



IFL President Ken Sagar

are universal for all working people. Help us elect worker friendly candidates. Our future depends on it.



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[iowaaflcio.org](http://iowaaflcio.org)

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(812) 923-1111

## Union Brothers And Sisters In Marshalltown Need Your Help

On July 19 a string of tornados hit all over Iowa, and Marshalltown was hit very hard.

Over the past month, many unions have stepped up and working with those in need. The recently formed Chapter, Iowa River Labor Coalition, of the Hawkeye Area Labor Council, has been leading the way in facilitating those efforts.

They have set up food banks, clean up crews and opened their union halls to the community. Union first responders and law enforcement have been busy keeping the community safe, while other unions work hard on getting services back up for the city.

"Many of our brothers and sisters lost their homes, cars and jobs when the tornado hit." Said Carrie Knipfer, Chair of the Iowa River

Labor Coalition. "Lennox being a major employer in the area is looking at being down for around a year before they are up and running again. The UAW has a food pantry set up to assist those workers that is accepting non perishables and personal items. The Lennox workers are by far the hardest hit. What we need the most is for union leaders in the Marshalltown area to speak with their members and get us a list of their needs as they vary from union to union. AFSCME, IUP and UFCW have state workers who have been displaced and lost personal property while at their jobs, some have lost homes and are living in hotels."

The chapter will be meeting soon, to discuss how to best to distribute the donations.

"We would like to give a shout

out to Representative Mark Smith and city council woman Susan Cahill for their continued support of their unions, the AFL-CIO and their tireless efforts in the community during this time." Said Knipfer. "Also to those union members who stepped up everyday to go out everyday cleaning up, tarping roofs and supporting the community."

Another example of people helping out, donations were accepted at the Des Moines, Save the Labor Center Public Hearing, and over \$650 was received.

Donations are being accepted through the Hawkeye Area Labor Council - 1211 Wiley Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids, Iowa. 52404. Please make payable to HALC, with Iowa River Labor Coalition on the memo line.

## Resolution Opposing Postal Service Privatization Introduced In House

A bipartisan group of lawmakers introduced a resolution on Monday that would put the House of Representatives on record as opposed to privatizing the United States Postal Service.

The resolution proclaims that "Congress should take all appropriate measures to ensure that the United States Postal Service remains an independent establishment of the Federal Government and not subject to privatization."

The non-binding measure was introduced by longtime postal ally Rep. Stephen Lynch (D-MA), along with nine Republican and Democratic lawmakers. The resolution counters the controversial stance of the Trump Administration toward

privatizing the Postal Service. On June 21, the Office of Management and Budget proposed that the Postal Service be privatized as part of a wide-ranging plan to reorganize the federal government. A task force created by President Trump to review the operations of the Postal Service, is expected to provide further privatization details when it releases its report on August 9.

In the meantime, the House resolution serves as resistance to the drumbeat for privatization and calls for the House to take all measures to preserve the Postal Service's status as an "independent establishment of the Federal Government." The resolution rec-

ognizes the Significant role the Postal Service plays in the nation's economy and the harmful impact that privatization would bear upon consumers and the larger economy. "[P]rivatization of the United States Postal Service would result in higher prices and reduced services " especially in rural communities," the resolution notes. "[It] would jeopardize the booming e-commerce sector and cripple a major part of the Nation's critical infrastructure."

You can contact your representative through the Capitol switchboard, 202-224-3121.

If you need help identifying your elected official, please visit [www.house.gov](http://www.house.gov).

# What Has The GOP Done For You Lately?

By Rick Moyle, Executive Director,  
Hawkeye Area Labor Council AFL-CIO

So, the Republican Party in Iowa is hanging its hat on trying to convince working people that Fred Hubbell is anti-worker? Well that is rich, considering the fact that the Republican Party in Iowa has done everything it can in the past two sessions to hurt working families.

They voted to lower minimum wage by taking away the ability of local governments to raise or change the minimum wage. Keep in mind, many communities had already raised the minimum wage. Thus, when this bill passed, was signed by the Governor and became law the minimum wage was effectively lowered for an estimated 85,000 Iowa workers.

They voted to dismantle Chapter 20 in the state. By doing so they stripped public sector workers of many bargaining rights and built into this horrible law requirements for recertification votes every contract and eliminated the ability of workers to pay dues through their paychecks. This was all clearly an attempt to achieve what the Republican platform called for and that read "we support legislation that eliminates all public-sector unions."

They dismantled workers' compensation laws that protected workers who are hurt on the job by lowering benefits. They passed a bill that increased the amount the employee must earn to eight times the weekly benefit to be covered for a second year of unemployment. They also pushed a bill that would make just about any

termination outside of layoff a reason to disqualify workers for unemployment benefits.

They have eliminated project labor agreements (PLAs) that assured local workers would be used on public construction projects. PLAs were a way to assure that local tax dollars being spent stayed in the state, but no more.

They passed a bill that bypassed federal Made in America laws that required US steel and manufacturing to be used if federal funds are used on a project. This bill also allows local government to bypass Davis-Bacon Act prevailing wage requirements when awarding construction projects.

They passed a bill that made it much harder for families to sue a responsible party if they or a family member has suffered due to asbestos exposure.

They have ignored the vast misclassification of workers so that companies can avoid paying payroll taxes. They have ignored wage theft by denying any debate on the issue. The list goes on and on, but please tell me, Iowa Republican Party, how gubernatorial candidate Fred Hubbell is anti-worker.

Fred Hubbell has received endorsements from almost every pro-worker group in the state. These organizations have a vetting process before endorsement for any candidate is made to assure they will support working families.

So, let the false accusations and mudslinging flow on the radio and TV if you must but, know that working people in Iowa care about facts and are seeking the facts. Perhaps it is time to change your campaign tactics by letting Iowans know what exactly it is your party is running on instead of throwing mud.

You can do better — we deserve better.

## ACTION IS POWER



## Support The United Way 2018 Campaign

By Ken Sagar,  
IFL President

Sisters and Brothers.

I am writing to encourage you to support the 2018 United Way campaign.

For over 75 years, the United Way has been a key partner with labor. Local United Ways and the labor movement across the country have worked to create beneficial partnerships. In communities across Iowa, there have been innovative and collaborative programs developed that have improved the lives of working families, assisted workers in their time of need and raised millions of dollars annually from union members to support United Way initiatives.

Much of this work has been made possible through the successful efforts of the AFL-CIO Labor Liaisons. Their work to create a bridge between United Way and local labor organizations have enabled the development of strategic partnerships with the community allies.

Our labor movement cannot tackle the problems of working people alone. To advance the common good in our communities, it is critical for us to work to develop partnerships with effective local organizations who share our values.

The United Way and the AFL-CIO share a common vision. A vision where every member of the community has access to a quality public education, fair wages, productive work opportunities, and accessible, affordable, quality health care. A vision where every member of our inclusive and diverse communities is safe, and everyone prospers.

I enthusiastically endorse and support this year's United Way campaign and encourage you to do the same.



## CONGRATULATIONS 2018 Labor Hall of Fame Inductees

### LANCE COLES

American Postal Workers Union (APWU)

### TOM COURTNEY

United Auto Workers (UAW)

### JACK E. McCOY

United Packinghouse Workers of America (UPWA)  
*(Posthumous Award)*

## Labor Hall of Fame Dinner & Ceremony

The Meadows, Prairie Meadows Casino, Altoona, IA

**Thursday, September 20th**

Bishop Ballroom  
6:00 pm Hospitality  
7:00 pm Dinner

Tickets \$50 each  
Table for Eight (8) \$400

To Order Tickets Call 515-262-9571 and ask for Jamie

**Deadline to Purchase Tickets-Wednesday, September 5th**

# Iowa Federation Of Labor 2



US Congress – CD 1  
Abby Finkenauer



US Congress – CD 2  
David Loeb sack



Iowa G  
Fred H



Iowa Attorney General  
Tom Miller



Iowa Secretary of State  
Didre Deje ar



Iowa A  
Rob

## IOWA HOUSE OF

HD 1 Karen Larson  
 HD 2 Ryan Odor  
 HD 6 Rita DeJong  
 HD 7 Debra Jensen  
 HD 8 Connie Price  
 HD 9 Megan Srinivas  
 HD 10 Jake Thompson  
 HD 12 Peter Leo  
 HD 13 Chris Hall  
 HD 14 Tim Kacena  
 HD 15 Charlie McConkey  
 HD 16 Steve Gorman  
 HD 17 Jan Creasman  
 HD 20 Warren Varley  
 HD 21 Denise O'Brien  
 HD 22 Ray Stevens  
 HD 23 Chuck Larson  
 HD 24 Jim Uhlenkamp  
 HD 25 Ryan Marquardt  
 HD 26 Scott Ourth

HD 27 Richard Foster  
 HD 28 Ann Fields  
 HD 29 Wes Breckenridge  
 HD 30 Kent Balduchi  
 HD 31 Rick Olson  
 HD 32 Ruth Ann Gaines  
 HD 34 Bruce L. Hunter  
 HD 36 Marti Anderson  
 HD 37 Andrew Rasmussen  
 HD 38 Heather Matson  
 HD 39 Karin Derry  
 HD 40 John Forbes  
 HD 41 Jo Oldson  
 HD 42 Kristin Sunde  
 HD 43 Jennifer Konfrst  
 HD 45 Beth Wessel-Kroeschell  
 HD 47 David Weaver  
 HD 48 Tim Winter  
 HD 49 Brenda Brink  
 HD 50 Dennis Evans

HD 51 Tim Knutson  
 HD 52 Todd Prichard  
 HD 53 Sharon Steckman  
 HD 55 Kayla Koether  
 HD 56 Lori Egan  
 HD 57 Nancy Fett  
 HD 57 Leo Gansen  
 HD 59 Bob Kressig  
 HD 60 Dave Williams  
 HD 61 Timi Brown-Powers  
 HD 63 Eric Stromberg  
 HD 64 Bruce Bearinger  
 HD 65 Liz Bennett  
 HD 66 Art Stead  
 HD 67 Eric Gjerde  
 HD 68 Molly Donahue  
 HD 69 Kirsten Running-Marquardt  
 HD 70 Tracy Ehlert  
 HD 71 Mark Smith  
 HD 72 Mindy Benson

# 2018 Election Endorsements



Governor  
Reynolds



US Congress – CD 3  
Cindy Axne



US Congress – CD 4  
JD Scholten



Auditor  
Landon



Iowa Secretary of Agriculture  
Tim Gannon



Iowa Treasurer  
Mike Fitzgerald

## REPRESENTATIVES

- HD 73 Jodi Clemens
- HD 74 Dave Jacoby
- HD 75 Paula Denison
- HD 76 Ann Egley
- HD 77 Amy Nielsen
- HD 78 Kimberly Davis
- HD 79 Samantha Keith
- HD 80 Susan McDanel
- HD 81 Mary Gaskill
- HD 82 Phil Miller
- HD 83 Jeff Kurtz
- HD 84 Jason Moats
- HD 85 Vicki Lensing
- HD 86 Mary Mascher
- HD 87 Dennis Cohoon
- HD 88 Lanny Hilliard
- HD 89 Monica Kurth
- HD 90 Cindy Winkler
- HD 91 Laura Liegois
- HD 92 Jean Simpson

- HD 93 Phyllis Thede
- HD 94 Joan Marttila
- HD 95 Christian Andrews
- HD 96 Reenie Montgomery

- HD 97 Tim McClimon
- HD 98 Mary Wolfe
- HD 99 Lindsay James
- HD 100 Charles Isenhardt

## IOWA SENATE

- SD 1 David Johnson
- SD 3 David Dawson
- SD 5 John J O'Brien
- SD 7 Jackie Smith
- SD 13 Vicky Brenner
- SD 15
- SD 17 Tony Bisignano
- SD 19 Amber Gustafson
- SD 21 Claire Celsi
- SD 23 Herman Quirnbach
- SD 25 Tracy Freese
- SD 27 Amanda Ragan

- SD 29 Tod Bowman
- SD 31 Bill Dotzler
- SD 33 Rob Hogg
- SD 35 Todd Taylor
- SD 37 Zach Wahls
- SD 39 Kevin Kinney
- SD 41 Mary Stewart
- SD 43 Joe Bolkcom
- SD 45 Jim Lykam
- SD 47 Marie Gleason
- SD 49 Jodi Robinson

# Labor Allies Gather To Support Continuation Of University Of Iowa Labor Center

By Mark Sarcone, American Postal Workers Union

With the litany of attacks on organized labor since 2017 in the state of Iowa, the working class is in no mood for further attacks.

However, that is exactly what has happened to the University of Iowa Labor Center. On Friday July 6, Jennifer Sherer, Director of the University of Iowa Labor Center, was notified by Kevin Washburn, Dean of the University Of Iowa College Of Law, that the near-70 year-old Labor Center would be closed due to budget cuts. The Labor Center is part of the University of Iowa College of Law.

This decision was made with *no prior discussion* with the Labor Center or any other of the many stakeholders who rely on the educational programs, research and outreach of the Labor Center. In the wake of this decision, Iowa's working people, of all stripes, joined together at the Labor Center on July 11th to express their outrage and disappointment of this decision and to express their support for the continued existence of the Labor Center

"Quite frankly, said Jesse Case, Secretary-Treasurer with Teamsters Local 238, the College of Law



In Des Moines, the APWU's Mark Sarcone addresses the media at a July press conference to save the U of I Labor Center.

is stealing the money. This is not a shortage of money. This is not missing money. This is simply, highway robbery!" He said the College of Law is stealing money that has been raised and dedicated to educating and training working Iowans for almost 70 years."

Jeff Kurtz, with the Brotherhood of Railway Engineers and Locomotives, spoke about how the Labor Center helped him develop a program for railway workers that has

saved countless lives. He is currently the Democratic candidate for Iowa House District 83. "The Labor Center helped us get a whole new perspective about how to look at safety. To a person, we did not realize that safety could encompass all that it does. I'm sure that what we have done here . . . has saved lives."

Rodney Blackwell, a telephone worker and member of the Communications Workers Union, said the Labor Center is important "to educate a few, to educate the masses." He said the information he has learned in classes in the past 15 years "has given me the essential tools in the struggle for equality and economic progress for all Iowans."

Marcela Hurtado, Vice President with the Center for Worker Justice, discussed the widespread abuses that low-wage workers experience in today's workplaces, such as wage theft, high injury rates, and sexual harassment. She gave examples of how a woman, who had just moved to the U.S. from Africa, suffered wage theft and another woman who suffered sexual harassment at the hands of her co-workers. "The Labor Center has played an important role with our center. It has helped, in different languages, to help locate our workers and it has helped connect us with a lot of the departments at the University." The Labor Center helped the Center for Worker Justice recover \$60,000 in wage theft. "The knowledge of the Center is essential to our workers," she added.

Stacey Andersen, representative for GMP/Steelworkers, spoke about the often dangerous and demanding work her members do, and the impact the Labor Center has had on her members lives. "It wasn't until I was introduced to the University of Iowa Labor center that I realized that I didn't know everything I needed to know about worker safety. That was 20 years ago. I wanted my co-workers to walk out of the foundry in the same condition they were in when they came in to the foundry that morning. The University of Iowa Labor Center gave me the tools to do that. To implement committees for health and safety and not, just go thru the motions." She added

that the Labor Center helped her combat workplace harassment and discrimination. Further, the Labor Center reaches far more than the 2,100 students enrolled here each year.

Mark Sarcone, with the American Postal Workers Union in Des Moines, said that although he has never attended the Labor Center, his co-workers have and they "rave about all that they learned." One co-worker, who took the Labor Short Course, in 2006, still talks about all that he learned and "I'm more than happy to listen." Sarcone added that he has had exposure to the Labor Center through their outreach program. He said he took the



course, *Common Sense Economics*, in the late 1990's with his wife and "we still talk about it. It was breathtaking how much we learned." More recently, he took a class taught by Sherer, *Gender Harassment in the Workplace*. He said the information imparted was "invaluable . . . and timely."

State Representative, Kirsten Running-Marquardt, said that it's state universities' duty to improve the lives of Iowans and said that the Labor Center is a successful example of private-public partnership. "It was successful before private-public partnerships were a cool thing." She said, as a state representative, my duty is to put Iowans first. The Labor Center puts hard working, tax-paying Iowans first. I know a lot of other legislators have worked really hard to make sure we have appropriate investments in the University of Iowa and for, all of a sudden . . . on a Friday, bring the Labor Center in, and I get a phone call on Saturday saying 'Oh-my-God, they're going to close us' is a shame. It's not what the legislature intended." She added that state funds have been committed and recommitted many times and the idea that it would be hijacked for other purposes, cutting off Iowa workers from health and safety, discrimination, wage payment education is unacceptable. "The University of Iowa and our Law School are crown jewels for the State of Iowa. I really hope we can find some sort of resolution to this and that we can count all Iowans in and not just a few."

Ashley Dorn, UI Graduate Student  
*Continued on page 8*

IOWA FEDERATION OF LABOR, AFL - CIO  
**62nd ANNUAL CONVENTION**  
 September 19-21, 2018  
 The Meadows  
 Prairie Meadows ♦ Altoona, Iowa

"Working Together For All Iowans"

**CREDENTIALS DEADLINE—AUGUST 29**  
**Mail By August 20**

**HOTEL RESERVATIONS**

**ALL ROOM RESERVATIONS MUST BE MADE DIRECTLY BY THE DELEGATES**

Book Reservations by Phone or Online  
**Prairie Meadows Hotel**  
 (515) 957-3000 or 800-325-9015 or [www.prairiemeadows.com](http://www.prairiemeadows.com)  
 Reference Group Code 08202018AFL ♦ Room Rate: \$109.00 + tax /night  
**DEADLINE TO RESERVE ROOMS SEPTEMBER 5, 2018 BY 5:00 PM**

**SCHEDULE**

Tuesday, Sept. 18	10:00 am-Noon	IFL Executive Council Meeting 2000 Walker St, Des Moines
		<b>NO EARLY REGISTRATION</b> at Prairie Meadows Tuesday Afternoon/Evening
Wednesday, Sept. 19	8:00 am-5:00 pm	Registration at Prairie Meadows
	9:00 am	Convention
Thursday, Sept. 20	9:00 am	Convention
	6:00 pm Hospitality 7:00 pm Dinner	Iowa AFL-CIO Labor Hall of Fame
Friday, Sept. 21	9:00 am	Convention until Completion of all Business

# What Unions' Win In Missouri Means For Iowa Campaigns

By Rick Smith

The defeat of Missouri's anti-union "right-to-work" law is likely to carry national repercussions. These unions' huge success in a largely red state that Trump won with 54% suggests that voters support and believe in the value of unions.

The right-to-work law was repealed by an overwhelming 67% to 33% margin. Since only 7.5% of Missourians are represented by unions, it's clear the general population of the state sees the benefit of them. It mirrors the increasing favorability of unions in national polling.

This sudden burst of public opinion in favor certainly offers hope that Iowa Democrats' pro-union agenda will appeal to a broad spectrum of mid-term voters.

The Missouri unions waged an intense and expensive battle to win public support for opposition to the Republican right-to-work law. They knocked on 500,000 doors, collected 300,000 signatures and union-backed groups spent \$15 million in order to get it on the ballot and get it repealed. They framed their message to voters as a choice between workers and greedy billionaires. They pointed to research showing significantly higher average pay for union workers vs. non-union. They also linked stagnant wage gains and increased poverty associated with a weakened union movement.

Here in Iowa, restoring public unions' rights to collective bargaining is a critical campaign issue for Democrats. *Public Policy Polling* shows, "three in five voters said the state should be required to negotiate with public employees over workplace benefits and safety policies."

Democrat Fred Hubbell has made restoring public sector employees' collective bargaining rights a key part of his campaign for governor. He has characterized Reynolds support for the repeal of Iowa's public sector collective bargaining law as an "unprecedented, brazenly partisan action."

"Public sector workers across our state provide invaluable services that enable Iowa to be successful, yet Republican leaders are determined to further undermine their well-being by stripping fundamental union rights," Hubbell has said. "As governor, I will work tirelessly to reverse this disastrous law and restore collective bargaining. Rather than punishing Iowans for serving their state, we must respect and value working families, empowering them with the support and guaranteed benefits they've worked hard for."

A deeper dive into the public vote in Missouri and the apparent Iowa polling in support of public unions match an improving trend for unions nationwide. According to the *Pew Charitable Center*, national public support for unions is improving. Over half of Americans believe that the decline in union membership since the 1950's has had a negative effect.

The total U.S. percentage of wage and salaried workers belonging to labor unions has fallen from 20.1% in 1983 to 10.7% in 2017. Unionization peaked in 1954 at 34% according to the *Congressional Research Center*.

Likewise, Americans' favorable view of unions peaked in the 1950s at nearly 75%. Today, according to recent Gallup polling, 61% of Americans have a positive view of unions.



That's an increase of 5% from last year and the highest favorable rating since 2003. More importantly, in the 18-34 age category 66% are in favor of unions. It's crucial that younger Americans see the value of unions.

The Missouri vote suggests fighting for increased union membership and influence is not only a winning formula for Democrats but essential to increasing wages and benefits for all Iowans. Democrats are often asked what they stand for? They should proudly proclaim they stand with union workers.

— *The Iowa Daily Democrat*

## 2018 Iowa Labor Day Events

**Burlington: September 3 – 4 pm.** 40 & 8 Park (Located behind Community Field in Burlington) Single \$5 and family \$10. Ticket includes: Meal, Door Prizes, Kid Games and Bounce House. Ryan Drew rdrew@local150.org 319-759-3188.

**Cedar Falls: September 3 – 11 AM to 3 PM.** Gateway Park – Lincoln and East Main St., Cedar Falls. Thank a Union Member for Labor Day. Entertainment for Kids. Door Prizes. Watermelon, Bouncy House, Balloon Twister. Jerry Hageman 319-230-3757 slinky1.jh@gmail.com.

**Cedar Rapids: September 3: 11 Am – 4 PM.** Hawkeye Downs Speedway and Expo Center. 4400 6th St. SW. Cedar Rapids. HALC ANNUAL LABOR DAY PICNIC 2018. CEDAR RAPIDS Monday, Thank a Union Member for Labor Day! Food served from 11:30am to 1:30pm Music by members of the Musicians Union Entertainment for the Kids too! Door Prizes!!! Contact Rick Moyle. 319-396-8461. rmoyle@hawkeyelabor.us.

**Clinton: Day Before Picnic – September 2.** Eagle Point Park Lodge. Noon. Free Food Beverages, prizes and kids games. Politics Too! Dave Keefer at dkeefe@lu25.org. 309-230-6476.

**Council Bluffs: September 3: 4 PM.** Lake Manawa State Park, Shelter #6. Scott Puntney. 402-657-1007 spuntney@wilfaficio.org.

**Des Moines: September 3: 11:00 AM.** Starts at State Capitol and goes to the State Fairgrounds. Call 515-265-1862 or mark@scifl.org.

**Dubuque: September 3 – Parade and Picnic.** Parade starts at Jackson Park at 9 am, 16th and Main and ends at 7 and Locust. Post Parade Picnic at Swiss Valley Park from noon to 2 pm. Tom Townsend tom@ibew704.com or 563-543-4708. Peter Hird pete@ibew704.com 563-542-5546.

**Fort Dodge: Sunday September 2 – 2 PM.** Oleson Park, 1258 Oleson Park Ave. Scott Puntney. 402-657-1007 spuntney@wilfaficio.org.

**Iowa City: September 3 – Noon to 4 PM.** Upper City Park. People are encouraged to bring a side dish to share. All members, families and friends are invited to attend. Greg Hearn 319-361-2374, GHearn@iowalabor.com.

**Keokuk: September 3 – Parade and Celebration all day at the Labor Temple.** Pat Mahoney pjmahoneys@gmail.com.

**Lucas: September 2 – Saturday – John L. Lewis Labor Festival For More Information:** Call 641-766-6421 or 641-766-6544 More Info .

**Mason City: September 1: Saturday (not on Labor Day) 11 Am – 3 PM.** Georgia Hanford Park, 2300 block of South Pennsylvania Ave. All are welcome. Food, Beverage and desert provided. Randy Solsaa.

**Quad Cities: September 3 – Parade 11am.** Line up at 9 am at John Deere Harvester Works, lot at 1100 13th Ave in East Moline – proceeds along 15th Ave. East Moline. Tyler Power 319-654-5894. tpower@unitedwayqc.org.

**Sioux City – September 3 – 11 AM.** Riverside Park, 1301 Riverside Blvd. Scott Puntney. 402-657-1007 spuntney@wilfaficio.org.

# Area Labor Federation And Chapter Meeting Schedules

## GRALF – Great River Area Labor Federation

ALF Meeting – First Wednesday of the month 5 PM. Normally at USW Local 105 Hall, 880 Devils Glen Road, Bettendorf. The GRALF holds ALF meetings once a year in chapter offices.

Check with Julia McMeekan for those meetings not in Bettendorf. juliamcmeekan@yahoo.com or 309-738-1446.

### Regular chapter meetings:

Quad City Federation of Labor: Third Monday, 6 PM. UA 25 Hall, 4600 46th Ave, Rock Island, IL.

Clinton Labor Congress: First Monday, 6 PM. Clinton Labor Congress, 226 22nd Place, Clinton.

Des Moines Henry County Labor Alliance: Second Monday, 6 PM. Machinist 1010 Hall, 16452 US 34, West Burlington.

Lee County: First Thursday, 6 PM. Lee County Labor Temple, 301 Blondeau St. Keokuk.

Dubuque Federation of Labor: Fourth Wednesday, 6 PM. Dubuque Labor Temple, 1610 Garfield Ave. Dubuque.

## HALC – Hawkeye Area Labor Council

ALF Meeting – HALC E Board Second Tuesday at 5:30 PM, and HALC delegate meeting is Fourth Tuesday at 5:30 PM. IBEW 405 Hall. 1211 Wiley Blvd SW, Cedar Rapids.

### Regular Chapter Meetings:

Black Hawk Assembly: First Wednesday at 6 PM. Labor Temple, 1695 Burton in Waerloo.

Iowa River Labor Coalition: Fourth Wednesday at 5:30 PM. UAW 893 Hall, Marshalltown.

North Iowa Nine Assembly: Fourth Thursday at 5:30 PM. Mason City Labor Temple, 510 S. Pennsylvania, Mason City.

Iowa City Fed Assembly: Third Thursday at 6 PM. 940 South Gilbert Court, Iowa City.

Contact Jerry Hageman: slinky1.jh@gmail.com or 319-230-3757.

## SCIAFL – South Central Iowa Area Federation of Labor

ALF Meeting – Second 2nd Wednesday – E board 5:30 PM, Delegate meeting 6 PM. 2000 Walker, Des Moines.

Ottumwa Chapter: No current set meeting times and locations.

Contact Sandy Opstvedt at sandy.scifl@gmail.com or 515-291-0093.

## WILF – Western Iowa Labor Federation

ALF Meeting –

### Chapter Meetings:

Northwest: Third Monday, 6 PM. UFCW #222 Hall, 3038 Lakeport, Sioux City.

Southwest: Third Monday, 6 PM. IAFF #15 Hall, 1827, South 8th St. Council Bluffs

North Central: First Tuesday, 6 PM. UFCW #6 Hall, 1200 3rd Ave NW, Fort Dodge.

Contact Scott Puntenev, spuntenev@wilfaflcio.org. 402-657-1007.

# Labor Allies Gather To Support Continuation Of University Of Iowa Labor Center

*Continued from page 6*

dent, spoke about how Labor Center staff contributed significantly to her education, research, and success as a student focusing on labor issues and labor history. “The Labor Center and its continued funding is essential for graduate students in supporting their training, making their research possible and providing them with research opportunities,” she said.

Lisa Heinemann, UI Faculty in History, spoke about the interdisciplinary contributions of the Labor Center to research, education, and

student success for undergraduate students on campus. She said the fact that the Labor Center won a \$200,000 grant, just this spring, from the National Endowment for the Humanities. “This means that the Labor Center is on-the-map in the research world.” She added that those that have made the decision to close the Labor Center “need a process of gathering input; consultation with all the parties involved; with people who are ‘on the ground’ doing the work. I’d like to see such a process. If this moves forward, we are losing a really invaluable resource to the university and to the people of the state of Iowa.”

Kurt Friese, Johnson County Supervisor, spoke in support of keeping the Labor Center open and read a proclamation signed by all county board members in support of the Labor Center’s continuation.

Finally, Father Rudy Juarez, Pastor of St. Patrick’s Catholic Church in Iowa City, spoke about his experience with the Labor Center — as a trusted source for credible information about the issues his parishioners regularly face in their jobs; as a bridge-builder between university students and faculty, worker organizations, faith-based and other community organizations; and as a uni-

versity entity that is unique in its level of educational engagement with Iowa workers across race, ethnicity and language. “If it walks like a duck; quacks like a duck ... then it is a duck. In my mind, the Labor Center is a ‘duck’ fulfilling it’s mission as a highly qualified academic organization which functions as a bridge between the regents universities and Iowa’s labor community — working people.”

Case added, “without the Labor Center, there will be more worker deaths. Without the Labor Center there will be discrimination on the job. Without the Labor Center, Iowa’s most vulnerable workers will be left without a voice. And at a time in America when we are talking about building walls, it’s interesting how the state of Iowa is tearing down bridges.”

Case had a final message to Law School Dean Kevin Washburn and University President, Bruce Harreld: “We hope they are allies of the Labor Center, in the end, but whether you are a new university president from New England or a new dean from New Mexico, there’s one thing you have to remember. There are hundreds of thousands of union members in the state of Iowa, along with their family and friends and allies and if you want to pick a fight, you came to the right place. We are not going to let this happen without a fight and we are going to be in this fight to the end and if you think you’re stealing our money, you got another thing coming!”

Attendees and all interested parties are highly encouraged to call Dean Kevin Washburn at 319-384-4658 (office)/505-206-9834 (cell) and University President Bruce Harreld at 319-335-3549 and tell them to keep their hands off Labor Center funding!

— DMI News & Views

**TRUMPTAX FAILING IOWA**

Nearly 1 in 4 Iowans will see a tax increase thanks to the TrumpTax when this law is fully phased in.

Source: Institute on Taxation & Economic Policy