

IOWA AFL-CIO NEWS



Volume 18, Issue 3

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October 2018

The President's View . . .

This Election Is All About Issues



IFL President Ken Sagar

The election is just days away. I almost look forward to big pharma pushing their drugs on TV instead of their politicians.

This election is, and should be, all about issues. Issues that impact working families. Families who work hard and play by the rules. Families who work hard to provide for themselves. Families who deserve respect for that work ethic and drive.

By any measure, working families have been left in the dust as the economy has lurched along. The wealthiest have taken the majority of what our productivity has created. This is not a recent occurrence. This has been going on since the late 1970's. We have been fooled into supporting folks who don't

work to change the system to take care of working families.

That's got to change.

Your union, as part of the Iowa Federation, is working to make sure that we elect our friends, neighbors and fellow union members to local positions to prepare them for future elected opportunities, like state house or state senate. We need to make sure our elected officials are as concerned with our security as our local unions are.

We need to elect citizens, regardless of party, who are interested in making sure our efforts to bargain to raise wages, protect benefits and insure retirement with dignity are protected. We need to oppose those who attack our unions and our rights.

We, all of us, have a decision to make. You need to decide to vote. You need a plan to vote. We need you to help us educate others on the issues, explain who supports our issues and get them to the polls. We need door knockers, phone bankers



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and folks to leaflet their plants and work sites.

We don't get what we want, we get what we work for. Join us to do

the work to get what working families want and need; a chance at the American Dream for ourselves and our families.

2018 Iowa Federation Of Labor Hall Of Fame Induction



Iowa Federation of Labor Hall of Fame members at the 2018 induction. Mac Donald Smith; Mark Fallis; Dick Dearden; Tom Courtney; Jerry Kearns; Gerada McCoy (wife of Jack McCoy); Robert Connett and Lance Coles. Courtney and Coles were two of the 2018 inductees. Jack McCoy was posthumously inducted.



IFL 2018 ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

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Save Our Labor Center!

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Iowa AFL-CIO News
Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
2000 Walker St., Suite A
Des Moines, Iowa 50317

You Are Our Greatest Weapon

Working people are on the rise, brothers and sisters. And if you want proof of our momentum, look at what happened in Missouri. Earlier this month, voters there went to the polls to decide the future of right to work. And with more than 67 percent of the vote, the Show Me State sent that horrible law into the ash heap of history.

We knocked more than 800,000 doors. We made more than 1 million phone calls. We spoke to members at over 1,000 different worksites... talking about good union jobs and the power of collective action.

Democrats voted no. Half of Republicans voted no. Two out of every three Missourians who cast a ballot voted no. The Chamber of Commerce said that, for every

punch they threw, working people threw ten more. Even the Wall Street Journal editorial board is now warning CEOs that unions are on the attack.

262,000 new members joined unions in 2017...and here's the best part...three quarters of them were under the age of 35. We're rallying the next generation to our cause, and our popularity is reaching new heights across the country. New research from MIT shows half of non-union workers would vote for a union today if given the chance. They want to join us. They want a voice on the job.

Is it any wonder why? We transform lives, brothers and sisters! Economists at Princeton just confirmed what we've known all along...unions raise wages up to 20 percent...decade after decade. And that's not all. We negotiate top-notch benefits. We make work safe, retirement secure and build the economic future that our kids and grandkids deserve! Unions have always been at the core of this country's fundamental promise, and I'll be damned if we're going to stop now!

Brothers and sisters, 2018 is the year of the worker. We are rising together as one to build a nation that honors our labor. We will not accept an economy that only works for a handful of elites. We will not back down or settle for less.

Immigrant workers are putting aspiration above fear. Black lives matter. #MeToo. Young people are demanding safe schools. The fight for LGBTQ equality...you just hosted the Pride at Work convention here last week.

Each of these movements is a powerful rallying cry for change, driven by collective action. And as a labor

movement, it is our job to ignite the flames of justice, not contain them.

Working people watched on TV and saw a sea of red marching through the streets of Phoenix...70,000 of our brothers and sisters demanding better than the crumbs that fall off the end of the table. And the AFL-CIO was right by their side...as affiliate unions set up a solidarity row to hand out water, distribute swag and provide support.

When working people saw those teachers march...unafraid...they thought...I deserve better too. I need to speak out! I need to organize! Arizona teachers helped inspire a wave of collective action that is sweeping this country.

Working people from coast to coast are recognizing that the best way to achieve our dreams is by standing with the person next to us...finding strength in each other...fighting together.

After the Supreme Court ruled against us in Janus, many pundits wondered if it would be the death of the labor movement. Well, brothers and sisters, they got their answer!

Our enemies want a fight? I say, bring it on! We're the true American patriots. We're fearless. We're strong. We're powerful. We're united. We're rising in solidarity...real solidarity...where your picket line is my picket line, and my picket line is your picket line.

This is our country...and it's time...high time...we took it back!

But, the labor movement's fight isn't just about the halls of Congress. We're pushing just as hard at the state and local level.

This is our time. We are mobilizing the biggest member-to-member political program in our history.

We're tearing down a system that listens to the whispers of CEOs and ignores the voices of working people. We're filling the halls of power with union members and our allies. We can reclaim our country...from our city halls and our state houses to the U.S. House and Senate. We can do it because each of you are ready to stake a claim in building a better future.

You are our greatest weapon. We need your passion. When you talk to your coworkers...when you talk to your friends and family...when you make the decision to fully participate in your union...that's how progress is won!

The march to Election Day starts now. And my message is simple: vote union.

For higher wages and quality, affordable health care...vote union!

To protect Medicare, Medicaid and Social Security...vote union!

For the freedom to organize and bargain collectively...vote union!

For trade that actually lifts workers up...vote union!

For better roads, better schools and better jobs...vote union!

For an immigration system that respects our border agents, keeps families together and welcomes those seeking a better life...vote union!

Brothers and sisters, when I think about the attacks against us...from corporations...from the Supreme Court...from right-wing legislators...I get angry. And sometimes, I even get discouraged.

But on the darkest of days, I remember something my grandmother used to tell me. Stana tupe benne. In Italian, it means: from everything comes some good.

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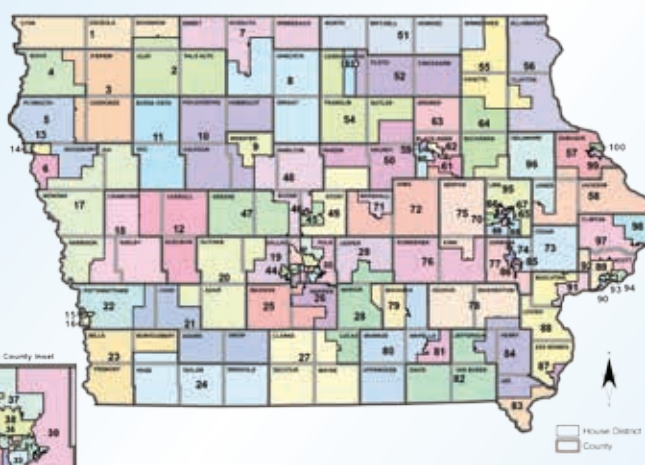
Voter Information

For early voting information, contact your County Auditor's office. For more voter information, contact the Iowa Secretary of State's office:

sos.iowa.gov
Secretary of State
First Floor, Lucas Building
321 E. 12th St.
Des Moines, IA 50319
515- 281-5204

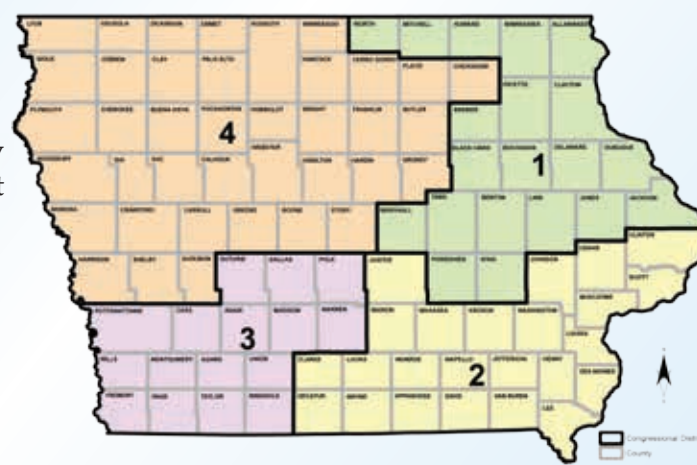
IOWA HOUSE DISTRICTS

Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2012 for the 85th General Assembly



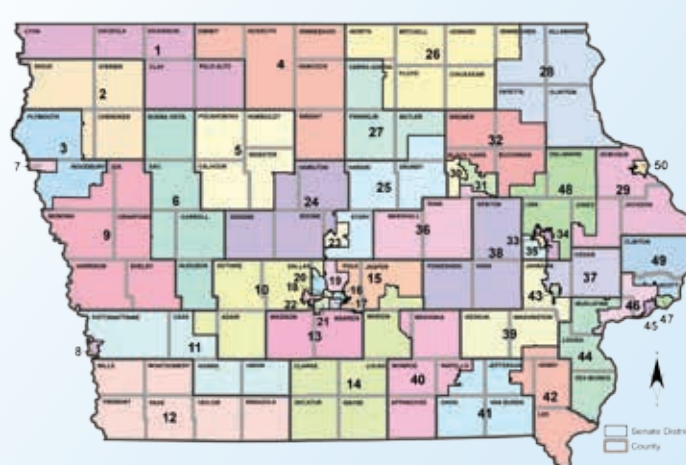
IOWA CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICTS

Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2012 for the 113th U.S. Congress



IOWA SENATE DISTRICTS

Effective Beginning with the Elections in 2012 for the 85th General Assembly



The Secretary-Treasurer's Notes . . .

Iowa Stands At A Crossroads



**IFL Secretary-Treasurer
Charlie Wishman**

Iowa stands at a crossroads in its history. It is not the first time this state has done so, and this state has more or less through the years taken the road of progress. Over the last two years, our state government has embarked on an experiment of far-right corporate rule. The Governor, as well as the lead-

ers of the Iowa House and Senate have re-written Iowa's labor laws to favor corporate interests, not workers. We can choose to take the low road, or the high road.

On the low road, we can see on the horizon bad things for workers. That includes corporate interests further taking an ax to the workers' compensation system and tilting the advantage further towards the company. The changes they have made already to the workers' compensation system haven't benefitted any workers, and in fact have significantly reduced the benefits to workers who were legitimately injured at work through no fault of their own. We can see changes to unemployment, including big changes in temporary layoff situations and more. The building trades could have less access to public projects on our universities.

During this year's legislative session, it became quite clear that many in the majority party and the Governor wanted to make serious changes to IPERS. They knew that such a move would be risky in



this political environment. If you would ask them if they planned to make changes to pension systems in Iowa, they would all uniformly answer, "we have no plans to make any changes this year." The most important words in that sentence are "this year." You can bet your

bottom dollar that pensions, as well as other forms of retirement security will be at risk if the status quo majority remains in place.

The other path, the high road, is one that restores collective bargaining for public employees. This other path fixes the extreme changes to worker's compensation that were made. It allows building trades unions able to use project labor agreements on public projects again. It leads to an Iowa where we pay our lowest wage workers more and allow local jurisdictions to decide if they want to enact pro-worker legislation. Simply put, if we want Iowa to be the best place for workers to live – we must fight for it at the ballot box.

Let's not get lost deeper into these woods and not find our way out. Right now, we have the choice to change course and take a different road. Let's take that opportunity.

You Are Our Greatest Weapon

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Now you might be wondering.... what good can come from right to work and Janus and the proposals to gut our financial, health care and retirement security? What good can come from a Supreme Court that rules with corporations 90 percent of the time and a nominee in Brett Kavanaugh who would push that number even higher?

What good can come from a president who has used his office to actively hurt working people... appointing the deciding vote in Janus and cheering that awful decision on Twitter?

The answer is this. The vicious attacks on our unions have brought us closer together.

Our bond is stronger. Our memory is longer.

Remember, throughout the entire history of our movement, we've never had anything handed to us.

Frederick Douglass once said, "Power concedes nothing without a demand. It never did and it never will."

That's the story of our movement.

Brothers and sisters, we have fought for every victory. We bled to secure our right to stand together and bargain collectively. We marched and sacrificed to end child labor. We faced down the powers of Washington and Wall Street to win a minimum wage.

Every speck of progress was clawed from the hands of those who said we were asking too much... who tried to destroy us with one hand and dismissed us as radicals with the other. They considered us a conspiracy in restraint of trade. They said dignity...fairness...a safe job...were too much to ask.

In the face of seemingly insur-

mountable opposition, we steadily built a fairer economy and a more just society...because we had one advantage on our side: Solidarity.

American greatness...American decency...the American Dream itself was built through solidarity...as workers joined arms and marched forward as one in common cause.

Each time they fired us...or shot at us...or told us sit down and shut up...we grew stronger.

Bonded by a common struggle, working people kept fighting and discovered a fundamental truth that carries us to this day: You can't stop ALL of us.

We are an unassailable force

when—and only when—we stand together.

We don't duck and run. We don't run and hide. We're the American labor movement, and we will not... we will not...be denied!

— *AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, part of his Labor Day address in Arizona, 2018.*

Iowa Federation Of Labor Executive Board

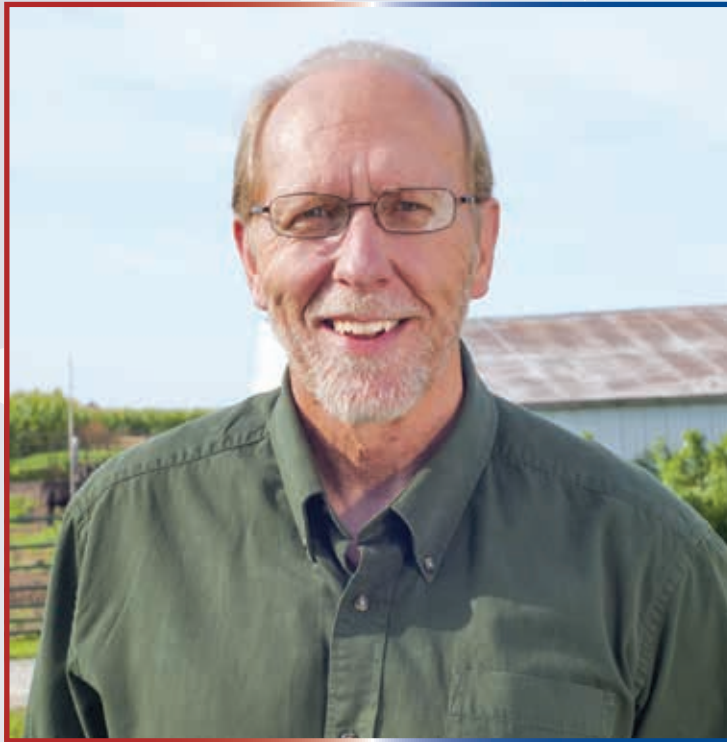


Front Row: Jeff Shudak; Doug Neys; Kelli Harrison; Mark Cooper; Stacey Andersen; Brad Greve. Back Row: Jeremy Maske; Mark Fallis; Dan Prymek; Charlie Wishman; Kelly Steinke; Drake Custer; Bill Hanes; Richard Frauenholz; Jesse Case; Kim Karol; Jerry Nowadzky; John Herrig and Ken Sagar. Not pictured: Danny Homan; Midge Slater; Bill Gerhard; Robert Gilmore; Bonnie Winther and Roger Grobstich.

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
Deidre DeJear



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 46 Lisa Heddens
 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

2018 Election Endorsements



Governor
Reynolds



US Congress – CD 3
Cindy Axne



US Congress – CD 4
JD Scholten



Auditor
Pate



Iowa Secretary of Agriculture
Tim Gannon



Iowa Treasurer
Mike Fitzgerald

REPRESENTATIVES

- HD 72 Mindy Benson
- 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 Dan Nieland
- 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 Patti Robinson

PATCH Foundation Backpacks Distributed

James and Wilson Elementary schools, in Ottumwa, received donated school supplies from International Union of Painters and Allied Trades (IUPAT) PATCH and the packs were packed and distributed by the IUPAT District Council 81, Public, Professional and Maintenance Employees Local Union (PPME) Local 2003 members, and volunteers in the community.

Over 500 backpacks were given to students. "This is going on in districts all across the country," said Randy Schultz, business representative for PPME. "Education's kind

of taken a hit in the state. There's a need for things like this."

PATCH- The Painters and Allied Trades for Children's Hope Foundation founded in 2001, the members of the International Union of Painters and Allied Trades created the PATCH Foundation to support organizations that provide educational and medical services to our youth, as well as support local sports programs. In addition to our work on the national level, local IUPAT members collect donations for the Foundation and use those gifts to aid a hometown charity or organization.



United Way Labor Liaison Padget Stepping Down

After 16 years as a United Way Labor Liaison, John Padget is stepping down.

Padget started 20 years ago as an IBEW volunteer to the board of directors for the Cedar Valley United Way. Four years later he replaced Don Frost, as the Labor Liaison. Padget said that as a member of a Labor Union he knew what people working together can accomplish when they work together. Over the years he had helped with some of the projects that union members work on in the Waterloo area like the Letter Carriers Food Drive and Labor Bowl when we raise funds for the MDA here in Iowa.

"The Labor Liaison position is a great way to have a positive impact in the community over the years I had the opportunity to work with some great organizations and individuals ranging from helping young people experience what it is like to visit a University and to get

help improving their skills marching and playing drums to getting more books into homes where there were no books that were age appropriate to help children become better readers." Said Padget.



John Padget

"Over the many years working with Union members from all types or unions and jobs to accomplish all kinds of good works that help make the community a better place. I truly believe every union member that gets what it is to be a union member also understands that it is up to us all to share our time and talents and treasure to do our part to make our work place and our community a better place to live and work." Padget went on. "The history of what Labor has done is impressive here in Waterloo the first living blood bank was started by the UAW and the Packing House workers and so they made a list of union members and their blood type so when someone needed a transfusion (the only way to get blood at the time) the hospital would call the union with a request for type o for example and the person would get a call to go to the hospital the companies agreed to pay the person 4 hours to

help out. there are many such examples and every city that has labor unions has different stories of how labor has made a difference."

"John did a very good job," said Cal Eckhard past president of the Blackhawk CLC. "He will be missed. We took him for granted."

"After over 16 years I felt like I wanted to return to my first calling doing electrical work after starting my apprenticeship 40 years ago I wanted to return to building things." Said Padget. "There is something to be said for flipping a switch and have lights come on or a motor to turn."

Padget is a member of IBEW Local 288.

United Way Labor Liaisons are a part of the AFL-CIO Community Services Program helping build relationships with workers, unions and the community.

Iowa has six Labor Liaison positions, but two are currently vacant.

Labor 2018 Needs Your Help

There are a lot of elections going on in Iowa that are crucial for the labor movement.

Labor 2018 need lots of volunteers, to help with getting the labor vote out. There is a big need for people to door knock, drop literature and make phone calls. This need is all around Iowa.

Most walks are around two hours and are at labor friendly doors (union members or union households).

The cities where there are Labor 2018 offices are:



LABOR 2018 CAMPAIGN OFFICES

Cedar Rapids
IBEW Local 405
(Back lot conference room)
1211 Wiley Blvd SW
Cedar Rapids, IA 53404
Jeffrey Cooling
319-540-9221
Monday - Friday: 10 AM - 5 PM

Waterloo
Labor Temple
1695 Burton Ave
Waterloo, IA
Jerry Hageman
319-230-3757
Mon-Fri: 8 AM - 4:30 PM

Des Moines
2000 Walker St, Suite A
Des Moines, IA 50317
Mark Fallis, Neil Robertson or
Betty Brim-Hunter
515-262-9571
Tuesday - Wednesday -

Thursday: 2 PM to 7 PM
Saturday: 9 AM to 2 PM

Ottumwa
609 Church St
Ottumwa, IA 52501
Sandy Opstvedt
515-262-9571
Monday and Wednesdays:
2 PM to 4 PM

Quad Cities
UFCW Local 431
2411 W. Central Park
Davenport, IA 52804
Sheri Carnahan
563-210-7685
Monday - Friday: 11 AM - 7 PM
Saturday: 10 AM

Dubuque
Labor Temple
1610 Garfield
Dubuque, IA 52001

Julia McMeekan
309-738-1446

Sioux City
1325 Lewis Blvd
Sioux City, IA
Scott Puntaney
402-657-1007
Tuesdays: 4:30 PM

Council Bluffs
127 South Main St
Council Bluffs, IA 51501
Scott Puntaney
402-657-1007
Wednesdays: 4:30 PM

Go to the Iowa Federation of Labor Web page or Blog page for listings of when and where labor walks will be. These walks will be update on a regular basis.

See pages 4-5 for all the Labor endorsed candidates.

Labor's History, Labor's Future . . .

The Power Of Collective Action

By John McKerley,
University of Iowa Labor Center

As we face critical upcoming state and federal elections and the possibility of an even more conservative US Supreme Court majority, it is important to remember the ways in which the labor movement has confronted similar obstacles using its first and most important weapon: collective action.

Living in the era of state sanctioned collective bargaining, it's easy to forget that unions existed before federal or state governments stepped in to provide a legal process for negotiations. But exist they did, using various forms of collective action to press their demands on employers and government, including a hostile US Supreme Court.

Perhaps the most famous example of this process took place during the Great Depression of the 1930s. When the depression began, the US Supreme Court was dominated by a group of conservative justices who supported the rights of business owners over those of workers. For them, the court's job was to protect property and the "freedom of contract," which, in practice, meant striking down state laws preventing overwork and setting minimum wages.

In the face of the depression, popular support grew for pushing beyond these limitations imposed by the courts. Likewise, Democratic president Franklin Roosevelt, elected in 1932 on a wave of opposition to Republican economic and constitutional conservatism, sought to expand the role of government to increase workers' wages and bargaining power in the name of economic growth.

The first major depression-era federal legislation to address

workers' power was the National Industrial Recovery Act (NIRA). Passed and signed into law in 1933, the NIRA sought to harmonize business competition and industrial production. For workers, it provided, most importantly, Section 7(a), the right of workers "to bargain collectively through representatives of their own choosing . . . free from the interference, restraint, and coercion of employers."

Despite the crisis of the depression and the business-friendly NIRA, many business owners still had a hard time accepting any challenge to their authority. Such challenges came, however, as workers seized the opportunity to organize under the new law.

"When Roosevelt was elected and the NIRA was promulgated, with its famous Section 7(a) . . . we jumped at it," recalled Don Harris, then a hosiery worker in Des Moines. "So did other workers around other plants. . . . That's all we needed, this little spark, you know, that says there's hope. If you join up, there's hope."

In 1934, over one million US workers took part in almost two thousands strikes in an effort to make good on the promise of the law. Such strikes only further re-

vealed business resistance to workers' rights and the NIRA's lack of enforcement. In 1935, the conserva-

sponded with a new law, the National Labor Relations (or Wagner) Act, which provided even stronger supports for collective bargaining. Again, employers resisted the law, and again, workers sought to enforce it through collective action. "In 1937, strikes rose to a peak even higher than that of 1934," write historians Foster Dulles and Melvyn Dubofsky. "They totaled 4,720 and engaged almost two million workers." Even the US Supreme Court took notice. In 1937, the same court that had struck down the NIRA upheld the constitutionality of the Wagner Act.

Today, as we see the gutting of Iowa's collective bargaining law for public employees, attacks on labor education, and signals from Supreme Court conservatives that they

might be willing to overturn even the Wagner Act, it's more important than ever to remember the power of collective action of all kinds. As the strikes of 1937, the West Virginia school workers' uprising, and Iowa public-sector workers' rallies in defense of their contracts remind us, by joining together, we can overcome great odds and bend the arc of history toward justice.

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Iowa Alliance For Retired Americans Elections Held

The Alliance for Retired Americans, (ARA) recently held their elections. The results are as follows:

President; Midge Slater, Vice



President; Mike McCarthy, Secretary; Jan Corderman, Treasurer; Bob Connett, Regional Board Member Representative; Don Brown.

The elected Vice Presidents at Large are; Andrea Rivera, Bill Biede, Barbara Cunningham, Dale Struecker, Dolores Betts, Francis

Guiunta, John Hamm, John Herrig, Kay Pence, Ken Sagar, Lon Kammerer, Mary Campos, Mike Harkin, Steve Siegel and Tom Reisdorf.

The ARA is a statewide network of organizations for educating and informing the membership, the public, and elected officials about issues that effect the well-being of retirees and senior citizens, so that they may all work towards advancing and achieving just and equitable living conditions for retirees and senior citizens within the state and the nation.

To become a member the Iowa ARA, contact Midge Slater at unionmaid42@gmail.com or call 515-250-4873.

Save The U.S. Postal Service

Many on Wall Street and in Congress are eager to dismantle the Postal Service so they can turn over the profitable pieces to their cronies in private industry. And they are willing to undermine universal service to the American people to make it happen.

But the USPS, which doesn't use a dime of taxpayer money, is profitable. In fiscal years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016; the USPS earned profits from its operations. The red ink stems from Congress, which requires the Postal Service to pre-fund future retiree health benefits – something no other public agency or private firm is required to do. That costs the Postal Service \$5.6 billion a year – and that's the red ink.

On July 16, a leading group of Congressional representatives took action to help combat a proposal

to privatize the Postal Service. The proposal, put forward by the White House's Office of Management and Budget in their report *Delivering*



Government Solutions in the 21st Century, would "restructure the U.S. Postal Service" and "prepare it for future conversion from a government agency into a privately-held corporation."

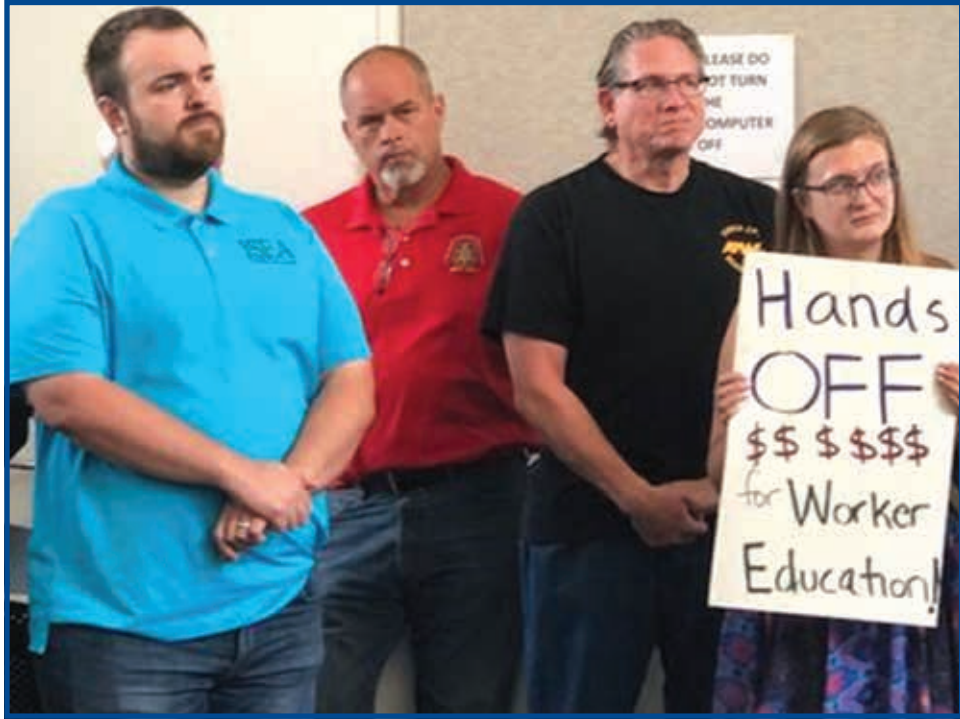
CALL 1-844-402-1001 and urge your member of Congress to sign on!

Save Our Labor Center!

This summer, Iowans were shocked when University of Iowa administrators—without consulting anyone connected to the Labor Center—announced they had

plans to cut all the Labor Center's university funding.

Read up below to get informed, visit saveourlaborcenter.com to take action and sign up for



“already made a decision” to cut off the Center's university funding and close it in one year.

Three months later, thousands of Iowans continue to respond with clear messages to the UI: you can't make a decision about Iowa's only Labor Center without involving labor, and you can't close down an important 67-year-old public institution without involving the public!

Within days of UI's announcement, the Iowa Federation of Labor and a statewide coalition of labor, campus, faith, and community groups came together to form Save Our Labor Center. Since July, the statewide movement to Save Our Labor Center has made a huge impact. Coalition members:

- Made hundreds of calls, sent hundreds of emails and letters, and attended meetings with UI administrators
- Collected thousands of petition signatures
- Held Public Hearings in seven locations across the state to collect input on the Labor Center's impact on Iowa workplaces and communities
- Gave powerful testimony and delivered petitions and input directly to the Iowa Board of Regents, which governs Iowa's public university system
- Held press conferences featuring the voices of workers, students, faculty, state legislators, and local elected officials
- Published dozens of powerful editorials and letters to the editor in Iowa newspapers

All these actions are making a difference—but it's not over yet!

Because they continue to hear voices of workers, students, parents, elected officials, and alumni who care about the Labor Center's future, UI administrators are meeting with the Labor Center to discuss a path forward. But they have still announced NO change in

updates, and join the fight to Save Our Labor Center!

Ten Things to Know about the Fight to Save Our Labor Center

1) The University of Iowa is trying to close the UI Labor Center.

In July, University of Iowa ad-

“We need to restore the funding for that Labor Center. All we have to do is properly manage the [state] budget.”

— Fred Hubbell, Candidate for Iowa Governor

ministrators announced their intent to close the Labor Center—the only unit in the entire state university system that specializes in research and education for and about Iowa workers.

2) The decision was made without proper input.

The decision to close the Center was made with NO prior discussion with the Labor Center, UI faculty, workers, students, labor leaders, or community partners who rely on the Center's education and research.

3) The Labor Center belongs to Iowans!

The Center was established in 1951 and has been built by the contributions and support of generations of Iowa workers, unions, and state and university leaders for nearly 70 years.

4) The Center educates thousands of Iowa workers each year.

The Center provides direct education for more than 2,500 Iowa workers annually across the state. It impacts many thousands more as these continuing education students bring knowledge of collective bargaining, health and safety laws, antidiscrimination rights, and leadership skills back to their workplaces and communities to grow Iowa's economy.

5) The Center is critical to student success, faculty research, and teaching.

UI faculty and students who study labor and workplace issues rely on the Center as a resource and hub for coordinating interdisciplinary research. Center staff teach undergraduate classes, mentor students, supervise experiential student learning, research projects, and internships, and support student job placement in labor and employment-related fields. These functions are not duplicated anywhere else in the Regents system.

6) The Center is a model public-private partnership.

The work of the Center is sustained by funds from program fees, competitive grants, and a small but essential University funding commitment.

7) Closing the Center is a money grab.

Now the University is trying to hijack the only university funds across the state that are committed to serving Iowa's workers, and transfer the funding into the budget of the UI Law School.

8) This is not about budget cuts—it's about misplaced priorities and bad decision-making.

There are many ways to find savings in a \$4 billion university budget. So why did UI choose the Labor Center, a unit with a tiny

budget but a large state impact, to target for cuts? The Labor Center's annual General Education Fund (GEF) allocation from the UI has already been cut multiple times and is now less than one-hundredth of one percent (0.00075) of the UI's total GEF budget. In fact, the Center's entire current GEF allocation is less than the UI President's annual salary.

9) The costs of destroying the

Labor Center are immeasurable.

Iowans are at risk of cutting workers off from critical education about their rights, and ending access to leadership development programs for future generations. Because worker education has a proven track record of decreasing workplace fatalities and accidents, preventing problems like harassment, discrimination, and wage theft, Iowans can expect these serious problems and the costs that go with them, to increase. The UI is also at risk of losing public trust, losing out on federal grant funding in areas of Labor Center expertise, and jeopardizing crown jewels of the University, such as the Iowa Labor History Oral Project and in-demand resources created by initiatives such as the Iowa Worker Rights Project and the Child Labor Public Education Project.

10) YOU can help Save Our Labor Center

You can join the fight:

- Contact UI administrators to insist they restore the Labor Center's university funding:

- ♦ UI President Bruce Harreld: 319-335-3549, bruce-harreld@uiowa.edu

- ♦ UI Law School Dean Kevin Washburn: 319-384-4658, kevin-washburn@uiowa.edu

- Tell your story in a letter to the editor of your local paper

- Share links and posts, print petitions to take to your local meetings, and ask others to take action: visit saveourlaborcenter.com and Save Our Labor Center on facebook

- Talk to your local legislators and candidates . . . and of course VOTE on November 6th.

Meanwhile . . . the Labor Center is Still Educating Workers!

While the fight to save it continues, the Labor Center is open and fully operating. Call to register for upcoming programs or schedule education for your local or labor chapter at 319-335-4144.

IMPORTANT ELECTION DATES, 2018



Voter Registration Deadline: **Oct. 27**

Request for Absentee Ballot: **Oct. 27** 5 P.M.

Absentee Ballot Deadline: **Nov. 6**

ELECTION DAY: NOV. 6

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2018

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