

BRICKLAYERS & ALLIED CRAFTWORKERS LOCAL 1 MINNESOTA/NORTH DAKOTA

# QUARTERLY UPDATE

**JUNE 2015**

**VOLUME 23, NUMBER 2**

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### BAC LOCAL 1 TELEPHONE

612-379-2966

### BAC INTERNATIONAL UNION

1-888-880-8222

### FAX

612-379-8754

### INTERNET RESOURCES

General Information:

BAC1MN-ND.org

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Larry McGough (right) receives a 75-year member recognition plaque on behalf of his brother Leo presented to him by President Mike Cook.

Larry. "The younger boys were digging through a trunk one day and discovered some items and Leo quickly burned it all. He would just as soon forget anything about the war." What McGough refused to address, his accolades spoke volumes to. During his 50 missions, he received an Air Medal and 27 subsequent oak leaf clusters for his navigational expertise.

## Congrats, Leo McGough!

**75-Year BAC Local 1 Member**

By Patricia Johnson

"It's on a rare occasion that we present a 75-year membership plaque," says President Mike Cook. Leo McGough, 94, was one of only two members to reach this milestone in 2014. In April, Larry, Leo's brother, accepted the recognition plaque on Leo's behalf.

Leo was born on Feb. 9, 1921, in Benson, Minn., about 130 miles west of the Twin Cities. He was one of nine children born to Peter and Rosalie.

McGough served in the U.S. Air Force as a B-17 navigator. He was stationed in England and served five years. "We didn't know much about his service because he refused to talk about it," says

*Continued on Page 2*

## Labor Health & Benefit Fair Continues to Impact People's Lives in Many Ways

By Patricia Johnson



BAC retiree Willie Prawdzik attended the fair with his wife Margarete. "Well organized" were his words.

More than 3,500 people attended the 9th annual Labor Health & Benefit Fair on March 28 at the Minneapolis Convention Center. Doug Rubbelke, executive director for the National Labor Alliance of Health Care Coalitions, says the number of attendee surveys received was 17 percent above average compared to the nonprofit industry average. "Overall the response was exceedingly positive. It is safe to say that our fair attendees were very excited about the event and invested in its future."

BAC Local 1 members also shared their satisfaction with the fair. "It was well organized how they had all the trades set up," says Willie Prawdzik, BAC Local 1 retiree, who attended with his wife, Margarete. Another retiree, John Talarico attended with his sons, Joshua, a member of the laborers

union, and Benjamin. Talarico didn't win anything but he was pleased with his swag bag full of free goodies. He also says the organ and blood donation booths were a great idea. He'll attend next year's fair and recommends others do the same.

*Continued on Page 2*



Pictured from the left: Peter (Father), Charlie, Leo, Larry, Greg, Tom and Pete McGough. Taken in 1959.  
Credit: McGough Construction

## Leo McGough *Continued from Page 1*

Following his discharge, McGough and his beautiful bride, Mary Kay, were married on his birthday in 1946.

Peter, Leo and Larry's dad, learned to lay brick at an early age in Brooklyn, NY. "Back when there were no child labor laws," recalls Larry. The family eventually moved to Benson. By the time Peter had just finished sixth grade his father died and he soon went to work to support his family.

In 1929, McGough Brothers was founded and 26 years later it dissolved. In 1956 McGough Construction was incorporated by Peter, Leo, Larry and their brother, Charlie; third and fourth generation McGoughs. Research dates back to two prior generations of bricklayers on both paternal and maternal sides of the family; Irish and Canadian descent, respectively. In the early years, Charlie supervised estimating; Leo, field operations, and Larry, accounting. The remaining brothers Greg, Tom and Pete, Jr., would follow into the business as they grew a bit older.

During its nearly 60 years, McGough has completed projects for Twin Cities' schools such as Cretin and Hill-Murray, as well as many corporate and medical institutions. One project of great pride because of its structural uniqueness is St. John's Abbey church built around 1960.

Larry describes the decades of industry changes as unbelievable. "The products have changed dramatically. The forming systems for concrete, the windows, and glass and roofing," he says. "They are certainly less expensive but it remains to be seen if the product changes are beneficial across the board."

The best advice he gives to BAC members is if you make a mistake, own up to it. You have to be honest with people and you can't fight. He can attest to this fact having built a business with his dad and five brothers and he thinks Leo would agree. "There are going to be problems and you have to help each other. When there is, get it resolved. It's never as big as you thought it was."

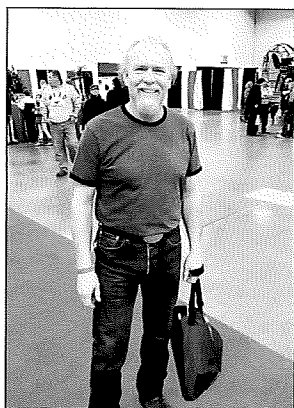
Today Leo McGough and his wife live a quiet life in the Twin Cities. They have six daughters, six grandchildren and four great-grandchildren with two more on the way.

Some fifth and sixth generation family members continue to work for the company, says Andrea, Larry's granddaughter, she being one of them.

This year BAC Local 1 will have only one person who will celebrate 78 years as a member, says Cook. Surely, McGough is in an elite group of individuals who has experienced the evolution of the trades and the union in the U.S. Without these unique individuals there wouldn't be these rare occasions.

Congratulations, Leo. Thank you for your dedication throughout the years. For being part of our history.

*The company remains headquartered in Minnesota with offices in Iowa, North Dakota and Arizona.*



BAC member Michael Churilla gained much-needed information on Alzheimer's at this year's fair.

## Labor Health & Benefit Fair *Continued from Page 1*

The Memorial Blood Centers met 115 percent of their goal for the event, with 38 units collected that have the potential to save 110 lives. There were 19 first-time donors and one person even gave enough time to do a double red cell donation. The food group collected 812 pounds of food, enough to provide 1,180 meals. Novo Nordisk provided diabetes educators and special diabetes cooking demonstrations during the day. The Kidz Zone was full of activity all day from

face painting to coloring to Lego building. Dakota County Family and Minnesota Gastroenterology were also present to support childhood health education.

Tile layer and 27-year BAC member Michael Churilla is very pleased with the valuable information he received on Alzheimer's which will better assist him with a family

member. His two kids, ages 7 and 12, are excited to attend with him next year after hearing of the fun activities at the Kids Zone.

Rubbelke extends a huge thank you to the more than 85 sponsors who helped make this year's event a success; evidenced by the survey results. More than 80 percent say they found information to help them lead a healthier lifestyle in the future, and 76.98 percent are planning changes to their lifestyle. "This is a testament to the lives impacted by this event every year," he says.

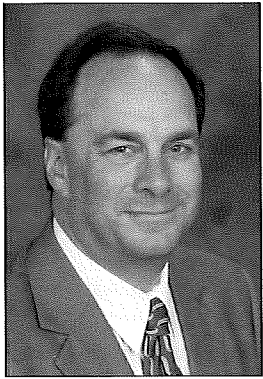
The 10th annual Labor Health & Benefit Fair is scheduled for April 2, 2016. Until then invest in your future. Make living a healthy lifestyle your priority in 2015.



BAC retiree John Talarico attended with his sons Joshua and Benjamin. He walked away with a swag bag full of free goodies.



## I Thought Healthcare Reform was Supposed to Help!



Mike Cook, President/  
Secretary-Treasurer

The Affordable Care Act (ACA) was loudly cheered as a much needed transformation of healthcare in our country. Legislators, striving to get more of the uninsured covered and drive down total costs of healthcare, launched unprecedented regulatory change. Their hope was to ultimately reduce healthcare costs for everyone. This is a long term view that comes with considerable short term expense. As such, the ACA, paradoxically, makes health insurance less affordable for all of us in the short term.

The tricky part of the equation is to “ultimately reduce costs for everyone.” That doesn’t mean immediately. The progress toward ultimately reducing costs for everyone will be measured by the actuaries and economists. However, it is apparent to all that the cost of health care is directly linked to the health care status of the underlying group. More disease in the group equals greater cost. Keeping “money on the check” means staying healthier, longer.

Nobody is immune to the changes; our entire society is struggling with how to address these issues, and at the same time tackles the other complex reasons for cost escalation in healthcare. We will continue to see healthcare inflation, according to experts, that will challenge our ability to pay. The cost of “specialty medications”, which are new biological, injectable drugs, is expanding at a breathtaking rate. All forms of new medical technology come with a heavy price tag. All of these will need to be accommodated by our health plan designs.

Some of our union brothers and sisters are seeking validation of the use of our self-insured trust, over the use of the healthcare exchange or private insured markets for providing benefits. We do know that the use of our own self-insured trust means that there are no stockholders who get paid dividends. There is no multimillion dollar CEO. We are still able to recapture money from other

*Continued on Page 4*

A short list of new requirements that are costly:

1. No lifetime maximums; plan responsible for costs without a cap
2. New set of required “essential benefits”
3. Insurance coverage for dependents to age 26 required
4. Preventative benefits required without any copays
5. Mandatory ACA fees
6. Mental health/chemical dependence “parity”
7. Rapidly escalating compliance costs

	Individual (A)	Private Employer (B)	Bricklayers Health Fund
Plan \$200/300	Not Available	\$400/600 deductible Out of Pocket Max \$4,000/6,000  \$ 485.26 single \$1,118.28 single/children Not available \$1,782.36 Family	Plan \$200/300 Out of Pocket Max \$3,200/7,300  \$ 507 member \$1,013 member + children \$1,038 member + spouse \$1,368 Family
Plan \$1,000/1,500	\$1,000/\$3,000 deductible Out of Pocket Max \$4,000/6,000  \$ 550.79 \$1,007.20 \$1,208.84 \$1,699.21	\$1,200/1,800 deductible Out of Pocket Max \$5,200/7,700  \$ 449.18 \$1,003.21 single/children Not available \$1,572.63 Family	Plan \$1,000/1,500 Out of Pocket Max \$4,000/8,500  \$ 470 member \$ 940 member + children \$ 963 member + spouse \$1,269 Family
Plan \$4,350/6525	\$4,000 deductible Out of Pocket Max \$4,000/6,000  \$ 437.44 \$ 911.20 \$1,061.92 \$1,473.68	\$4,500/7,000 deductible Out of Pocket Max \$6,500/12,000  \$ 353.00 \$ 878.45 Not available \$1,322.48	Plan \$4,350/6525 Out of Pocket Max \$6,600/13,200  \$ 289 member \$ 771 member + children \$ 791 member + spouse \$1,042 Family

**A** Individual rates are age and community rated, rate examples are 40-year old, metro area average rates for Blue Cross individual plan options. Actual rate quotes for individuals can only be done by Blue Cross MN with specific information.

**B** Private employer rates were taken from a private employer generous enough to share their pooled group rating data. The group is a large group that would be rated similarly to the multi-employer trust fund.

# 2015 Apprenticeship Contest a Success!

On April 25, 21 apprentices competed in the categories of PCC, bricklayer and tile layer in the 2015 Apprenticeship Contest held at the BAC Local 1 MN/ND Journeyman and Apprentice Training Trust Fund Training Center in New Hope, MN.

The results of the 2015 Contest are listed below. The bricklayers and tile layers will participate in the BAC/IMI

North Central Regional Apprentice Contest on May 30 in Addison, IL. The PCC apprentices will participate in the BAC/IMI North Central Regional Apprentice Contest on June 6 in Batavia, OH.

All participants in the regional contests will compete for the chance to participate in the International Apprentice Contest in Washington, D.C., on September 11 and 12.



## All Contest Contestants

**Front row, left to right:** Aaron Maynard, Julie Braschayko, Christopher Larson, Matthew Tusing, David Thell, Joshua Lisson, Paul Sober, Frank Tregoning. **Back row, left to right:** Ben Reno, Joe Mauer, Christopher Wilson, Daryl Johnson, Safet Ramulic, Jeremy Joa, Brandon Peterson, Justin Hammer, Michael Barthel, Gustavo Vega Alvarado, Joe Fiebiger III, Gabe Herron



## Bricklayer Apprentices

Left to right: 4th Place-David Thell, 3rd Place-Joshua Lisson, 1st Place-Frank Tregoning, 2nd Place-Christopher Larson



## Tile Layer Apprentices

Left to right: 1st Place-Jeremy Joa. 3rd Place-Brandon Peterson, 2nd Place-Justin Hammer



## PCC Apprentices

Left to right: 2nd Place-Gustavo Vega Alvarado and 1st Place-Michael Barthel

Special recognition goes to Masonry Coordinator Joe Vanek and Tile/Terrazzo Coordinator Sam Greenwood, who worked tirelessly to obtain sponsorships and prepare the work stations for each contest participant. A special thanks goes to BAC Local 1 business representatives Mike Ganz, Rod Schmidt, Doug Schroeder, and Stan Paczynski, who helped with contest preparation. To the judges who worked diligently to measure and evaluate each contestant's work, and to the laborers who worked hard throughout the contest to assist all contestants.







## St. Cloud, MN: Gold Card Members

Gold Card Dinner at the St. Cloud Eagles Club on March 21, 2015

Left to right: Executive Vice President Mike Ganz, 50-year members James Allen, Ralph Sauer, 40-year member James Benusa, 25-year members Michael Popp and Scott Bartylla and Chairman of Chapter 4 Shawn Barclay



## Minot, ND: 25-Year Gold Card Member

Gold Card Dinner at the Knights of Columbus on March 20, 2015

Left to right: Business Representative Randy Carlson and 25-year member Matthew Gefroh



## Bismarck, ND: 50-Year Gold Card Member

Gold Card Dinner at AmVets on March 19, 2015

Left to right: Business Representative Randy Carlson and 50-year member Larry Geiger



## Nevis, MN: 25-Year Gold Card Member

Gold Card Dinner at Bullwinkles on April 25, 2015

Left to right: 25-year member Casey Nelson and Executive Vice President Mike Ganz



## Save the Date!

### July 11, 2015

3rd Annual ATV Member Ride

Stompin' Grounds Lodge & Camping, Akeley, MN

For more information, call Mike Ganz at 612-865-0343

## Direct Deposit of Health Reimbursement Arrangement (HRA) Benefit Payments

More and more employees choose direct deposit to receive their funds because of its reliability and quick turnaround. With direct deposit, you can receive your funds electronically directly into your accounts with peace of mind and without the hassle of paper.

Direct deposit is a safer way to transfer your claim reimbursements electronically into your bank account. By using a secure site and transferring the money electronically, the check is passed through fewer hands than with a paper copy. Keep your money safe without running the risk of losing your check – and save a trip to the bank.

Direct deposit is a great way to help the environment and to go green. Be sure to add your email address to your profile to receive deposit notifications, statements, and other important information via email.

We are very happy to announce that direct deposit will soon be available for your HRA benefit payments. Watch your mail for an announcement and step-by-step instructions on how to select direct deposit and enter your banking information. You simply need to access your HRA account through the consumer portal on the Evolution1 website. If you would like assistance, simply fill out and return the Direct Deposit Authorization Form, and the Fund Office will be happy to set you up with direct deposit.

This new direct deposit enhancement will be available to all members with an HRA account including active and retired members that receive monthly contributions to the HRA.

Again, watch your mail for the official announcement, and feel free to call the fund office if you have questions or need assistance.

## Local 1 Holds Double-Breasting Contractor Accountable

Local 1 has stood up to the challenge of holding cheating contractors accountable. For example, the Union successfully pursued double-breasting claims against Mortenson Masonry, Inc., and Mortenson Masonry, LLC—a supposedly non-union business—through the National Labor Relations Board (“NLRB”) and by arbitration under our union contracts. “Double-breasting” occurs when one of our signatory contractors operates a non-union business in our industry to try to avoid our collective bargaining agreements.

On the eve of trial before the NLRB in 2014, Mortenson Masonry Inc., and LLC agreed to resolve the Union’s unfair labor practice charge. Mortenson Masonry Inc., and LLC agreed to pay nearly \$100,000 in back wages, back fringe benefits, and back dues regarding three Minnesota projects. In addition, Mortenson Masonry Inc. and LLC agreed to comply with the Union’s Northwest Minnesota Agreement going forward.

The Union then arbitrated two grievances filed under the Eastern North Dakota Agreement and the Northwest Minnesota Agreement. In February 2015, the arbitrator sustained both grievances and ordered Mortenson Masonry Inc., and LLC to pay back wages, back fringe benefits, and back dues for the entire duration of the 3-year Eastern North Dakota Agreement. The arbitrator also compelled Mortenson Masonry Inc. and LLC to pay back wages, back fringe benefits, and back dues for work performed under the Northwest Minnesota Agreement.

This case shows that Local 1 can and will successfully enforce its contracts to prevent cheating and to preserve a level playing field for fair contractors that play by the rules.

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Matthew Weinman is your personal Wells Fargo Home Mortgage Consultant. Contact him at 612-316-3040 or at [matthew.weinman@wellsfargo.com](mailto:matthew.weinman@wellsfargo.com).

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## 2015 CHECK YOUR CALENDAR FOR IMPORTANT DATES

Please clip the calendar and post it in a convenient spot so it's handy when you want to check meetings and events.

### Chapter 1-Minneapolis-St. Paul

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis:  
4:30 p.m. June 8, Aug. 10, Sept. 14,  
Nov. 9  
Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,  
Oakdale: All Metro members  
7 p.m. Dec. 14

### Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range

Duluth, Duluth Labor Center:  
5 p.m. June 10, Sept. 9, Dec. 9  
Hibbing, Electricians Hall: 7 p.m.  
Aug. 12, Nov. 11

### Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd

St. Cloud Labor Home,  
1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. Aug. 5, Nov. 4  
Brainerd American Legion: 7 p.m.  
June 3, Sept. 2, Dec. 2

### Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

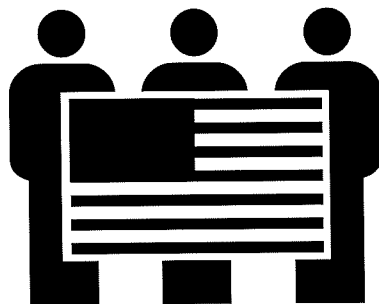
Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall:  
7 p.m. Sept. 14, Dec. 7  
Faribault, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Aug. 3,  
Nov. 2

### Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm

Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club:  
7 p.m. June 4, Sept. 3, Dec. 3

### Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Bemidji, Elks Club: 7 p.m. June 11,  
Aug. 13, Sept. 10, Nov. 12, Dec. 9  
Bismarck, AMVETS: 7 p.m. Dec. 17  
Fargo, West Fargo VFW: 5:30 p.m.  
June 23, Sept. 22, Nov. 18  
Grand Forks, E. Grand Forks  
American Legion: 7 p.m., June 24,  
Sept. 23, Nov. 19



Minot, Udder Place: 6 p.m. Aug. 27,  
Sept. 17, Dec. 16

### GOLD CARD DINNERS

Letters will be mailed.

### Metro Area Gold Card Luncheon

Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,  
Oakdale: 11 a.m. July 16

### Chapter 3-Duluth-Hibbing-Iron Range

Duluth area: Holiday Inn, 6 p.m. Oct. 9  
Iron Range: Valentini's, 6 p.m. Oct. 10

### Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester's Eagle Club:  
6 p.m. June 5

### Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Fargo, West Fargo VFW:  
6 p.m. Nov 18  
Grand Forks, Speedway:  
6 p.m. Nov. 19

### OTHER EVENTS

### Retirees Club Breakfast meetings

Jax Cafe, Minneapolis  
9 a.m., Sept. 24, Dec. 3

### Duluth area Retirees meetings

Miller Hill Mall Perkins, Duluth  
9:30 a.m., First Wednesday of  
each month

### Iron Range Retirees Breakfast meetings

Iron Kettle, 9 a.m., Chisholm  
Third Monday of each month

### St. Cloud Retirees Breakfast meetings

Brigittes Café, 9:30 a.m.,  
Third Thursday of each month

### Executive Committee meeting

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Oct. 2

### Semiannual Meeting-All of MN and ND

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis  
9 a.m. Oct. 3

### Chapter 1 Apprenticeship Banquet:

6 p.m. Mancini's Char House, June 4

### BAC Golf Tournament

Pheasant Acres: 7 a.m. July 25

### Chapter 3 Golf Tournament

Grandview Golf Links, Duluth  
8 a.m. Aug. 22

### ATV Member Ride

Akeley, MN July 11



## Asproth Wins at Fishing Event

On February 21 the second annual fishing event was held at Nichols Lake near Cotton, MN. Sixteen people attended including a sled dog team. Fish were caught, lunch was enjoyed and all who participated received a small gift. John Asproth received a nice new fishing pole for catching the largest fish, a 1.5 pound Northern. Overall it was a nice day and fun was had by all, says Stan Paczynski, business rep, NE Minnesota. Save the date for next year's event, February 20.

From the left, BAC Local 1 fishermen Bob Marchand, Mike Ganz, Nick Radtke, Stan Paczynski, Brett Finifrock, Jeff Mundell, and Mike Stassen.



# QUARTERLY UPDATE

Quarterly Update is published four times a year by Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota to communicate with its members.

Postmaster: Send address corrections to Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota, 312 Central Avenue, Suite 328, Minneapolis, MN. 55414.

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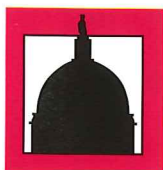
## QUARTERLY UPDATE

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers  
Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota  
312 Central Avenue, Suite 328  
Minneapolis, MN 55414



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## GOVERNMENT



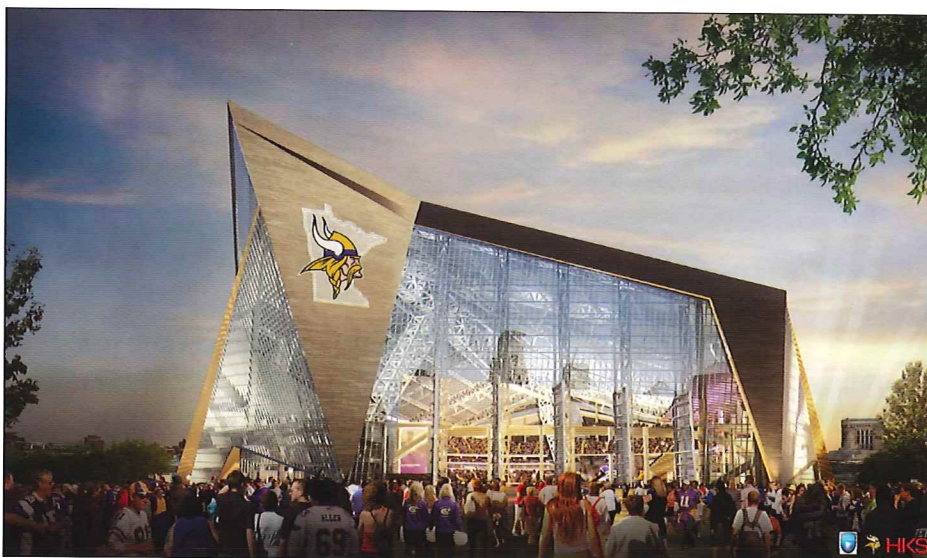
### POLITICS – Our Issues

By Shar Knutson,  
President of the  
Minnesota AFL-CIO

### When it Comes to Construction Jobs, State Government Matters

One doesn't need to be in the building and construction trades to know that Minnesota is building once again. The cranes dotting the skylines of Minneapolis and St. Paul show that the construction industry is back in a big way. What people may not know, is that decisions made at the State Capitol helped ignite the latest building boom.

Since Governor Mark Dayton took office in 2011, the state has invested more than \$4 billion in building new infrastructure and upgrading existing state infrastructure. In addition, the Legislature also authorized construction projects like the new Vikings stadium and the Mall of America expansion.



The result of this investment has been a 16.2 percent increase in construction jobs in the last four years; more than double Minnesota's overall job growth rate. Those investments put money into workers' pockets and helped the economy and the industry further expand.

While the industry's rebound has been remarkable, it's important that we remember how things were just four years ago. Our economy was still in recession and the state was not investing in infrastructure. Too many workers found themselves on the bench with no paycheck.

That's why it's important that working people continue to keep an eye on state government. The decisions made in St. Paul have an impact on all industries, especially construction. You can follow issues important to working Minnesotans by visiting [www.mnafcio.org/capitol](http://www.mnafcio.org/capitol).

*The Minnesota AFL-CIO is a labor federation made up of more than 1,000 affiliate unions, representing more than 300,000 working people throughout the state.*

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