**SEPT. 2014** VOLUME 22, NUMBER 3

# ARTERLY PDATE

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#### LOCAL TELEPHONE

612-379-2966

**BAC INTERNATIONAL** UNION

1-888-880-8222

FAX

612-379-8754

#### INTERNET RESOURCES

General Information:

BAC1MN-ND.org

Apprenticeship and Training:

**BACtraining.org** or phone

651-487-5500

#### BENEFITS

Sheck the Zenith American Solutions Web site. zenith-american.com

Call 651-256-1801 or 1-800-879-4412

### Senator Franken Talks Challenges, **Accomplishments and Goals**

By Patricia Johnson



U.S. Senator Al Franken

### Remember to Vote

General Election is on November 4. See page 3 for complete details.

United States Senator Al Franken (D - MN) was elected into his first term of office in 2008. On November 4 he will once again be on the ballot in an effort to win his second term of office. During a recent brief interview he responded to issues that affect BAC Local 1 MN/ND members.

What is the latest on the Health Care Fairness and Stability Act of 2014? Both businesses and unions are on the line for this "belly button tax" which is \$63 per person per year. I know how important this is to labor and businesses so I was able to get Mark Kirk (R-IL) to co-sponsor with me. It's about delaying this tax for three years so that we may not ever need to really pay it or pay maybe less. I think this is unfair to basically the unions, multi-employer unions and businesses that have their own health plans. I think it's a good piece of legislation and we tried to attach it to a couple of pieces of legislation that were moving in the Senate. Neither was successful, but we are going to keep working on it because our bill would provide relief to many labor unions and the businesses that provide health insurance and administer it themselves. In Minnesota I have everyone from Excel Energy to the Minnesota AFL-CIO working to get it passed. I want to get it passed as soon as possible to support those business and labor unions that provide health coverage for so many thousands of Minnesotans who would be facing this fee.

(According to wsj.com, the reinsurance fee also known as the "belly button tax" is a \$63 levy on each person - policy holders,

Continued on Page 2

### Remember 1934 — **When Minneapolis Became a Union Town**

By Patricia Johnson

The 80th anniversary of the Minneapolis Teamsters' strike of 1934 was celebrated with four days of events beginning July 17 and ending with a family picnic gathering on July 20 at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis. More than 350 were in attendance to share in the festivities ranging from grilled hot dogs served with side items to a variety of speakers intermingled with period piece music.

Continued on Page 10



Granddaughters of Henry Ness sing "Solidarity Forever." Henry Ness was one of two striking Teamsters shot and killed by Minneapolis police July 20, 1934, during the great Minneapolis Teamsters' Strike. On its 80th anniversary descendants of the 1934 strikers were honored at a picnic at Minnehaha Park in Minneapolis.

Credit: Steve

### U.S. Secretary Perez Recognizes Education/ Employment Center Partnership

Martagon Participates in Panel Discussion

United States Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez visited the Burnsville, MN, WorkForce Center and South of the River Education Center on May 16. As part of his visit, Perez met with the Dakota-Scott Workforce Investment Board, toured the facility and spent an hour with an employer panel focusing on the areas of technology and manufacturing, construction and healthcare.

The Burnsville site opened in June 2013 and quickly gained national attention as a collaborative that includes the WorkForce Center and a two-year college and a four-year university, Inver Hills Community College and Metro State University, respectively, at a single location. Both are located in the Twin Cities metro area. The colleges began offering classes at the site in fall 2013.

"It was fantastic to see Secretary Perez's enthusiasm and understanding about the career opportunities in the construction trades and how apprenticeships play an important role in workforce development," said Rick Martagon, Dakota-Scott Workforce Investment Board member and apprenticeship coordinator for BAC Local 1 MN/ND. He also stressed the importance of industry-driven collaborations to bring people into the workforce.

Also providing their support in attendance were Burnsville Mayor Elizabeth Kautz and Anne S. Johnson, M.B.A., interim associate vice president of strategic initiatives at Dakota County Technical College and Inver Hills Community College.



United States Secretary of Labor Thomas Perez visited the Burnsville, MN, WorkForce Center and South of the River Education Center on May 16.

### Senator Franken Continued from Page 1

spouses, and dependents - paid by every company that provides insurance, such as big businesses, organized labor, and insurance carriers. It will be used to compensate insurance carriers for new customers who buy on the government exchanges. Large employers and unions have fought hard to get an exemption, saying the levy is unfair because they don't directly benefit from the fund.)

The Bank on Students Emergency Refinancing Act was recently blocked by the Senate. What is your strategy to revisit this bill and get it through? This is so central to college affordability, keeping a middle class strong, building a middle class, strengthening a middle class. We have a situation now where student debt represents more debt in this country by \$1.2 trillion, more debt than credit card debt. I've done a lot of college affordability round tables and this is a barrier to students to getting a college education in four years. They have to delay getting married, starting a family, getting a car, buying a house, starting a business and that is affecting our economy. It's affecting people's individual choices in life. Minnesota ranks number four in debt that we graduate with. You can refinance a home loan, car loan, business loan, credit card loans, but you can't refinance student loans and that is wrong. That's why U.S. Senator Elizabeth Warren (D – MA) and I introduced this bill. It disappointingly didn't pass but we got three Republican votes, and all we really need are five, so we are pressing this narrative. We think that people understand that if people are paying 10 percent interest on their debt, they should be able to refinance when interest rates are so low. I think we are going to prevail on this one. We are going to keep pushing it.

The Community College to Career Fund Act focuses on manufacturing, medical, IT and the energy sectors. Do you see any future parallel legislation that would support the trades and skilled labor sector in light of Governor Dayton's recently signed \$1.1 billion construction legislation? In the bill I do bring up those industries - manufacturing, health care, IT - because those are the industries I hear about most often when discussing the skills gap. But my bill isn't limited to that at all. It's open to any industry that has a need for skills training and that would certainly be beneficial for the trades. In fact the bill would give priority to applications that include a partnership with a labor organization. I've been to a lot of different union training facilities and they would be definitely eligible. The president just signed into law the first real update to the federal workforce training policy since 1998. I worked on that in the Health, Education, Labor and Pension Committee. It is an example of very, very good bipartisan effort. I worked to make sure it would support the role of community colleges and workforce training, but also it would be a real win for skilled training in the trades. The bill has big emphasis on training for jobs that exist now in light of the bonding bill the size of the state of Minnesota.

What unions are you a member of? Tell me about a time when a conversation with a union member hit

Continued on Page 8

### **Chapter Nominations**

There will be Special Order of Business meetings for nominations of all chapter officers during the month of September for all chapters. These positions include chairman, recording secretary, sergeant-at-arms and the negotiating committee. Two members for each craft can be elected to the negotiating committee in each area where there are negotiations. Here is your chance to get involved and be part of the negotiating team. The chapter meetings are scheduled as follows:

Chapter #4 – Central MN – Wednesday, Sept. 3, 2014, St. Cloud Labor home, 1903 4th Street, St. Cloud, Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Chapter #11 – Southwest MN – Thursday, Sept. 4, 2014, Eagle's Club #269, 708 North Riverfront Drive, Mankato, Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Chapter #1 – Metro Area – Monday, Sept. 8, 2014, United Labor Center, 312 Central Avenue, 2nd floor, Minneapolis, Minnesota, 4:30 p.m. Chapter #8 – Southeast MN – Monday, Sept. 8, 2014, Rochester Labor Temple Building, 11 4th Street SE, Rochester, Minnesota, 7 p.m.

Chapter #3 – Northeast MN – Wednesday, Sept. 10, 2014, Duluth Labor Center, 2002 London Road, Basement Hall, Duluth, Minnesota, 5 p.m.

Chapter #15 – Northwest MN and ND – Thursday, Sept. 11, 2014, Bemidji Elks Club, 116 4th Street NW, Bemidji, Minnesota, 7 p.m.

### **Local Union Nominations**

There will be a Special Order of Business meeting for nominations of all local union officers in conjunction with the semiannual meeting on Oct. 4, 2014, United Labor Center, 312 Central Avenue, 2nd floor, Minneapolis, MN, 9 a.m. The positions include: president / secretary-treasurer, executive vice president and three vice presidents.

### Officer Qualifications — ARTICLE VIII

- 1. The elected officers of this Local Union shall consist of a President/Secretary Treasurer, an Executive Vice President, and three (3) Vice Presidents. In addition, the members of each chapter shall elect the following chapter officers: chair, recording secretary, and sergeant-at-arms.
- 2. The elected officers shall be elected for a term of three (3) years commencing on the first (1st) day of the calendar month following the month in which the election is held.
- 3. No member shall be a candidate for or hold more than one (1) elected office at the same time.

#### 4. Qualifications for Office

- A. In order to qualify as a candidate for any elected office in this Local Union a member shall be required:
  - (1) to have been a journeyperson member continuously in this Local Union and in the International Union for a period of two (2) years immediately prior to nominations; and

- (2) to be current in the payment of his/her dues; provided that the President/Secretary Treasurer shall accept payment of any dues in arrears at the nomination meeting prior to the opening of nominations.
- B. No person who has been debarred by the International Union or any Local Union after trial from holding office shall be qualified as a candidate or hold office during the period of his/her debarment.
- C. A contractor member, or a supervisory member who works in a supervisory position on a continuous and ongoing rather than project by project basis, with the effective authority to hire, fire or impose substantial discipline, may not be a candidate for or hold office.
- D. Retired and disabled members who are collecting Local Union pension or IU pension benefits may not be a candidate for or hold union office unless they cease being a retired or disabled member for a period of twelve (12) months prior to the date of nominations.

# General Election Nov. 4 Remember to Vote!

Unsure of where to vote or need other election information?

Minnesota residents log on to http://pollfinder.sos.state.mn.us.

North Dakota residents log on to https://vip.sos.nd.gov/PortalList.aspx.

# **Early Voting and No-Excuse Absentee Voting**

Early voting and absentee voting is now available in both Minnesota and North Dakota. Each state has its own voter requirements for these voting options. Log on to http://www.ncsl.org and search "absentee and early voting" for more information on your state.

# **2014 Journeymen Upgrade Schedules**

All journeymen are welcome to attend any upgrade with RSVP Call 651-487-5500 or visit us online at www.bactraining.org

Date	Time	<b>Branch Of Trade</b>	Class
9/23/14	4 - 9 p.m.	All Trades/Metro	1st Aid/CPR/AED
Safety Certifications	through Minnesota Safety Co	ouncil that includes 1st Aid, CPR, ar	nd AED (use of automated external defibrillator).
10/1/14	4 - 8 p.m.	Tile/Metro	Tile Upgrade
Topics To Be Detern	nined.		•
10/2 - 11/20/14	Thursdays 4 - 8 p.m.	All Trades/Metro	OSHA 30
principles. Topics in	nte sector personnel covers C clude scope and application o ous, using OSHA standards a	of the OSHA construction standards	dards, as well as construction safety and health . Special emphasis is placed on those areas that
11/5/14	4 - 8 p.m.	Tile/Metro	Tile Upgrade
Topics To Be Detern	nined.		
12/3/14	4 - 8 p.m.	Tile/Metro	Tile Upgrade
Topics To Be Detern	nined.		



### **New Training Center Opens in September**

Open House on October 27 from 12-8 p.m.

We are happy to announce that we will be moving into our new training center in early September. The committee is excited to show off our new place located at 5420 International Parkway, New Hope, MN, 55428. Instructors and students will now have access to more than twice as much space plus many more amenities.

We will be having an **Open House** on Monday, Oct. 27, 2014, from noon to 8 p.m. All members, signatory contractors, suppliers and affiliates are welcome to join us for a tour and a light lunch. We hope to see you there! The training center phone number will remain the same.

Old Training Center	New Training Center	
10,000 square feet	21,500 square feet	
1 classroom	3 classrooms	
Limited dust control	Dust control systems installed	
No usable truck dock	Truck dock and ramp	
No break room or lunchroom	Nice break room, lunchroom and kitchen	
Two small bathrooms	Multiple larger bathrooms	

## **Better Way to Quit Tobacco**

Begin to quit today by logging on www.betterwaytoquit.org. You're three clicks and one phone call away from a healthier new you.

There's a better way to quit
tobacco. This is the message of this
year's quit smoking media campaign
for the Minnesota labor community.
The campaign is being promoted by
WorkSHIFTS in collaboration with
Minnesota labor unions to increase
awareness among workers, labor
leaders, and management about issues
of tobacco and health and address policy needs.

This past spring, the campaign launched a new website and video. The website, www.betterwaytoquit.org, provides tobacco cessation benefits information to union workers served by 10 unions within the Minnesota labor community, including BAC Local 1 MN/ND. A video featuring testimonial from fellow building trades fund members who have quit smoking successfully can also be viewed from the "Watch Our Video" link on the website, or from the Better Way to Quit Tobacco Facebook page at www.facebook.com/betterwaytoquit.

The campaign says that smokers who use evidence-based



tobacco quit treatment options, such as those offered through their Funds' health plans, will have a better chance of quitting for good. According to the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the most effective way to quit smoking is to speak with a tobacco quit coach at least four times while also using a combination of nicotine replacement products. Quit coach sessions can be over the phone or in-person. Nicotine replacement products reduce the physical side effects of quitting and minimize nicotine cravings. Examples of proven nicotine replacement products include nicotine gum, lozenges, or

inhalers, which can be used in combination with nicotine patches or medications such as Zyban, Wellbutrin, or Chantix.

The media campaign will last through the end of the year and includes quarterly postcards mailed to Fund members' homes, posters for union halls and apprenticeship training centers, a webpage, online advertisements, mailing inserts, health fair booths, and newspaper and newsletter advertisements.

There's a better way to quit tobacco. And today's the day to begin.

#### \*\*\*\*\*

### **Masonry Instructor Wanted**

The Joint Apprenticeship and Training Committee is looking for a new full time masonry instructor to assist with the training duties at the new training center in New Hope, MN. Members who are interested in applying should send a resume to the fund chairman, Mr. Tim Miller at the address below:

Advanced Masonry Restoration Mr. Tim Miller – Resume for instructor position 2956 Yorkton Blvd. St. Paul, Minnesota 55117

All resumes must be postmarked before Oct. 3, 2014. Only mailed resumes will be considered. The committee will review all applications. Some applicants will be called to interview with a subcommittee before a final hiring decision is made.



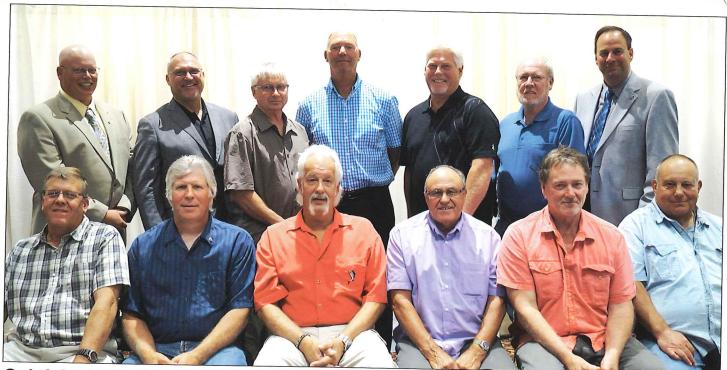
More than 200 high school students attended the Construct Tomorrow event held on July 29 at the Hubert H. Humphrey Job Corps Center in St. Paul. Contractors and journeymen were on hand to instruct the eager youths in a variety of trades and skills. Rob Luukkonen, BAC Local 1 journeyman tile layer, assisted two students as they participated in the hands-on training. Construct Tomorrow will hold its next event at the Rochester, MN., Civic Center on September 25. For additional information in this event and others call the training center at 651-487-5500.

### MEMBER RECOGNITION



### Oakdale, MN: 50-Year Gold Card Members Gold Card Luncheon at the Prom Center on July 10, 2014

Front left to right: 50-year members Robert Lattery, Jr., Gary Schwarze, Sheldon Burns, Lawrence Brown, Jr., Charles Hodgson, Jr. and James Sipprell. Back left to right: Vice President Mike Ganz, Secretary-Treasurer-Int'l Union of BAC Henry Kramer, 50-year members David Pearson, Duane Youngquist, Jr., Kenneth Hauschild, Robert Holmstrom, Jr. and President Michael Cook.



# Oakdale, MN: 40-Year Gold Card Members Gold Card Luncheon at the Prom Center on July 10, 2014

Front left to right: 40-year members Paul Rockman, Ron Jost, Harold Hatch, John McCarthy, Stephen Hoffman and Steven Langness. Back left to right: Vice President Mike Ganz, Secretary-Treasurer-Int'l Union of BAC Henry Kramer, 40-year members Wayne Paskey, Robert Stone, James Lundquist, David Hochstedler and President Michael Cook.

### MEMBER RECOGNITION



Oakdale, MN: 25-Year Gold Card Members Gold Card Luncheon at the Prom Center on July 10, 2014

Left to right: Vice President Mike Ganz, 25-year member Joel Vanek, Secretary-Treasurer-Int'l Union of BAC Henry Kramer, 25-year members Ray Goulet, David Lee, Doug Schroeder and Stanley Cowan, Jr. and President Michael Cook.



Rochester, MN Gold Card Dinner at the Eagle's Club on June 6, 2014

Front left to right: 40-year members Steve Bottelson and James Dean, and 25-year member Larry Johnson. Back left to right: Business Representative Mark Caron, 25-year member Greg Amundson and President Michael Cook.

### **BAC Golf Tournament Winners**



Winners of the 2014 BAC Golf Tournament at Pheasant Acres. Team #2 from the law firm of Sieben, Grose, Von Holtum and Carey, the next generation. Left to right: Jerry Olson (grandson of Dave Roe), Ian Carey and Nick Carey (sons of managing partner Jim Carey) and Sam Olive (son of attorney Mark Olive). The 114 golfers enjoyed a warm sunny morning on the course. Through donations at different events, the golf committee was able to raise enough money, plus a donation from the Union, that enabled BAC to donate \$1,000 to the Injured Apprentice Fund. The committee would like to thank everyone that varticipated and contributed to this event. The Injured Apprentice Fund is managed by the Apprenticeship Coordinators Association. The coordinators include all of the Local area Building Trades and is currently headed by BAC Training Coordinator Rick Martagon.



### 2014 ATV Ride

The third annual BAC ATV ride was held on July 12 with 12 machines along for the ride which covered 30 well maintained trails throughout the Paul Bunyan State Forest. We had optimum weather conditions, as the last two years, with an inch of rain the two nights before to settle the dust.

Again this year we had a trail lunch and enjoyed the sights, sounds and smells of the north woods. We started and returned to base camp which was the Stomping Grounds Campgrounds Bar & Grill. The owners Steve & Connie provided great accommodations and wonderful hospitality.

Watch for the dates for the fourth annual BAC ATV ride for 2015.

# Hearing Discount Program Now Available to BAC Members

We are happy to announce the addition of a hearing discount program through HearPO, the largest provider of hearing healthcare benefits in the United States. As a member of BAC Local 1 MN/ND you and your entire family, including those who are not covered under the Health Plan, have access to this valuable hearing discount program. HearPO provides custom hearing solutions from leading manufacturers, expert care to make sure your expectations are met, and low prices negotiated on your behalf. Your benefits include:

- Hearing aid low price guarantee plus 40 percent off of hearing health care services – HearPO will beat local quotes by 5 percent
- 3-year warranty: one of the longest in the industry
- Risk-free 60-day trial: 100 percent money-back guarantee if you're not satisfied with the hearing aids
- Free batteries delivered to your home: two-year supply (max 160 cells per hearing aid, an approximate \$150 value)
- One year free follow-up care

Call 1-888-402-1394 and a patient care advocate will explain the HearPO

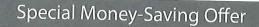
process and assist in making the appointment with a hearing care professional. Information can also be accessed online at www.hearpo.com/bricklayers.



As a reminder, for active and early retirees who are covered under the Health Plan, hearing exams and hearing aids are covered at 100 percent up to a maximum benefit of \$750 every five calendar years.

Medicare eligible members who have coverage elsewhere are also encouraged to use this valuable program.

If you or one of your family members is living with hearing loss, please take advantage of our new comprehensive, affordable hearing care program through this money saving offer below.



Hear PO company

 $$50 \frac{00}{0}$  OFF One hearing aid



Call now! 1.888.402.1394

Bring this coupon to a HearPO provider to take advantage of this offer.

Offer expires: 12/31/14

## Senator Franken Continued from Page 2

close to home. I was a member of four - SAG (Screen Actors Guild) and AFTRA (American Federation of Television and Radio Artists) combined - film or tape. When I was on Saturday Night Live (SNL) it was SAG, Trading Places, AFTRA. My primary union is the Writers Guild - East and I'm a member of the Directors Guild. I've walked picket lines. The thing that really hit me the hardest was a guy in the trades, I think he was a carpenter, in 2010, said if it hadn't been for the extended unemployment benefits, he wouldn't have been able to stay in his home. That hit me the hardest in terms of how important unemployment benefits are especially during that incredibly difficult period. I remember going into labor halls at that time, especially in the building trades and really feeling like people were hurting, really hurting and that affected me a lot.

Speaking of SNL, do you miss it and show business? People ask me if being in the Senate is as much fun as being on SNL. Well it isn't but it's the best job I've ever had because I get to make a difference in people's lives. That's when someone tells you, "Hey, I'm in my house because you people extended unemployment benefits at the

right time." That's pretty important. And when you pass things like the mental health in schools piece that I know is going to get more help to kids in being diagnosed and treated earlier. That makes a difference to the kids and how much it makes a difference to their families. There's no substitute for that. A lot of what we do is constituent service. If I can make sure that someone's home isn't foreclosed on through my staff that's very, very important. That's a very big deal.

If you win re-election this fall, what will be your first order of business? I want to get people working so that's why I worked on the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA). I want to keep on college affordability and I also want to continue fighting to get more infrastructure done. Infrastructure is one of the three components of building prosperity in this country. The three are education, infrastructure and research and development. We need to invest in those things and invest smartly and pay for those things. We can pay for them by reforming the tax code. We also need a stronger middle class that has money to spend. That's what drives our economy.

Remember to vote November 4,



### 2014 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. Sept. 8, Nov. 10 Prom Center, 484 Inwood Ave.,

Oakdale: All Metro members 7 p.m. Dec. 8

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

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

Chapter 4-St. Cloud-Brainerd St. Cloud Labor Home, 1903 4th St. N.: 7 p.m. Sept. 3, Nov. 5, Dec. 3

Chapter 8-Rochester-Faribault

Rochester, Rochester Labor Hall: 7 p.m. Sept. 8, Dec. 1 Faribault, Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Nov. 3

Chapter 11-Mankato-New Ulm Mankato, Mankato Eagles Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 4, Dec. 4

Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND Bemidji, Elks Club: 7 p.m. Sept. 11, Nov. 13, Dec. 11 Bismarck, AmVets: 7 p.m. Dec. 18 Fargo, West Fargo VFW: 7 p.m. Sept. 23, Nov. 19 Grand Forks, E. Grand Forks American Legion: 7 p.m., Sept. 24,

Minot, VFW: 6. p.m. Sept. 18, Dec. 17

### **GOLD CARD DINNERS**

Letters will be mailed.

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

Duluth area: Radisson Hotel, 6 p.m. Oct. 10 Iron Range: Valentini's, 6 p.m. Oct. 11

### Chapter 15-Bemidji and ND

Fargo, F.M. Labor Home: 6 p.m. Nov 19 Grand Forks, Speedway: 6 p.m. Nov. 20

### OTHER EVENTS

\*\*New Training Center Open House 5420 International Parkway, New Hope, MN 55428 Mon., Oct. 27, 2014, 12-8 p.m.

Retirees Club Breakfast meetings Jax Cafe, Minneapolis 9 a.m., Sept. 25, Dec. 4

**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. 3

### Semiannual Meeting-All of MN and ND

312 Central Ave., Minneapolis 9 a.m. Oct. 4

Chapter 3 Golf Tournament Grandview Golf Links, Duluth 8 a.m. Sept. 6

**General Election** Nov. 4



Thomas Ottman Financial Advisor

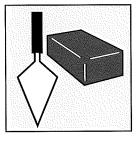
Cell: 612-867-0534 thomaso@efsadvisors.com



Nov. 20

If you would like a no obligation consultation, please contact Thomas Ottman at 612-867-0534 or via email at thomaso@efsadvisors.com

Securities & Investment Advisory Services offered through Advanced Advisor Group LLC Member FINRA & SIPC. 440 Emerson St N, Ste 4, Cambridge, MN 55008 877-403-2374



# Got Tools?

Donate your old or used tools to BAC and help an apprentice out.

Call the BAC office at 612-379-2966 to learn how.

All donations are appreciated.

# 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.

President ...... Mike Cook
Editor ..... Patricia Johnson
Design & Production ..... Peggy Zetah

Minneapolis, MN 55414

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#### GOVERNMENT

**QUARTERLY UPDATE** 

Bricklayers & Allied Craftworkers

Local 1 Minnesota/North Dakota

312 Central Avenue, Suite 328

# **POLITICS – Our Issues**

By Shar Knutson, President of the Minnesota AFL-CIO

### Lots at Stake for Working People in November

As summer turns to fall, it's time to begin thinking about the November elections. While there is no Presidential election this year, there is a lot at stake for working people on November 4.

Governor Dayton, Senator Franken, members of Congress, state constitutional offices, and the entire Minnesota House of Representatives are all up for election.

Over the last two years, Gov. Dayton and a Legislature controlled by a Labor-endorsed majority have helped steer Minnesota's economy in a direction that puts working people first. The economy has improved and 150,000 more Minnesotans are working. More specific to union workers, they made a \$2 billion investment in state construction and infrastructure repair projects, putting thousands of construction trades

workers back on the job.

They're also thinking about our future workforce by making education a top priority. They paid back every dollar the Republicans had borrowed from schools and invested new money to strengthen K-12 education and offer all-day kindergarten to every Minnesota child. They restored fairness to our tax system by cutting property taxes for middle class families and seniors and asked the richest 2 percent to pay their fair share.

Gov. Dayton and our Labor-endorsed legislators have stood rock-solid in opposition to Right to Work (all GOP Gubernatorial candidates support) and strong support for strengthening collective bargaining (all GOP Gubernatorial candidates seek to limit) show Gov. Dayton and Labor-endorsed legislators are champions for better workplaces. Reelecting them will ensure that our rights are protected.

The alternative would be disastrous for working people. Jeff Johnson, the Republican candidate, said he wants to "Go all Scott Walker on Minnesota," referring to the anti-union policies of Wisconsin's Governor. If "going all Scott Walker" means an extreme agenda that weakens collective bargaining rights and puts us dead last in regional job growth, working



Minnesotans will want nothing to do with Jeff Johnson.

Minnesota's future will be decided this November. If we want to continue building a better Minnesota and country, it will be vital for union members to get out and vote for our Labor-endorsed candidates. We can't do that without your help. We need volunteers to make phone calls to fellow union members, talk about the election at the worksite, and to knock on doors. To get involved and to learn more about Labor-endorsed candidates, visit middleclassmn.org.

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.

