

The Iowa CSD

# WORKER

LABORERS LOCAL UNION #566 MEMBER NEWSLETTER

**Special Edition**



## Laborers' Local Union #566 Making a Difference in Our Communities



**At Laborers Local Union #566 we are not only about organizing new members, or guaranteeing that the support staff at Iowa's community school districts get the legal job protections that they deserve. We are also about making a difference in the lives of our members and improving the communities where we work and live.**

**Together, we can make a real difference that we can all be proud of.**

**Recently, the support staffers at West Central Valley CSD and Moravia CSD joined those at Eddyville-Blakesburg CSD and Fremont CSD in enjoying the benefits that being members of the Laborers' International Union of North America brings, and together they are finally getting the respect that they deserve from management and their community.**

**And that is only the beginning. Through Local #566, the thousands of support staffers in Iowa who have long been ignored by boards and legislators will finally have a voice. And now, making a difference is only a phone call away.**

**What follows is the text of a letter we received from one of our members recently:**

*Dear Union Representatives,*

*I just wanted to thank everyone involved with helping me convince the Eddyville-Blakesburg School District to allow me to use my accumulated sick leave days in order to care for my 92-year-old father-in-law. I know this would not have been possible without your help. When I was first approached about joining the union I knew it would be a great benefit to the employees of our district, I just never thought that I would be the one who would need your help. My family and I are very grateful to Jon, Buzz, and everyone else who helped out with this matter.*

*Sincerely,*

*Sandy Johnson*

**Being a member made a real difference for Sandy. As a member of an active organization Sandy was able to reach out to LiUNA Local #566, who went to work, putting pressure on the board and the district superintendent to allow this woman to be there when her family needed her most.**

# Making A Difference...

Recently, the Southern Iowa Labor Council donated \$1,000 to the community group KidsFirst to go toward building a much needed playground. Not to be outdone, LiUNA local #566 also donated \$1,000 toward the project.

“We like politicians,” stated Buzz Malone, “but we love children. So we didn’t think the politicians would mind if we took \$1,000 out of our PAC fund and put it to better use just this once.”

In every community where we represent folks, Laborers’ Local Union #566 works to make a real difference.



## **...One Community at a Time**

**When the John L. Lewis Labor & Mining Museum in Lucas had a dream of creating an educational center with new media equipment, Laborers' Local #566 reached out to Laborers' Unions throughout the mid-west and raised the \$7,800 the museum needed for the project.**

## **Insert Your Story Here!**

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**There are too many stories about the good things that we have accomplished to fit in this newsletter, but what is most important is what we can do in your community, together.**

**Where other unions stop, Laborers' Local Union #566 and the Laborers' International Union of North America (LiUNA) keep on going, reaching out to every member of your community. What can we do in your community? In your District?**

**We begin by getting a real, legally binding union contract with your employer so no one can take away what you've already got, and then we work to make gains. And from the moment you show up for your first union organizing meeting, you have the protection of Iowa law, and the LiUNA representational and legal team to guarantee that those rights are upheld. And after that, what can we do? That is up to you! Take the first step, come to a meeting and learn the LiUNA difference!**

# LiUNA Local #566



# Makes a Difference

*When a group of Eddyville-Blakesburg Community School District sent a letter to the members of LiUNA Local Union #566 requesting help in funding an educational trip to Washington D.C. our members responded. As a result, we are proud to have been able to present these young folks with this oversized check for \$949.00, the amount of the cost to sponsor one student.*

*Local #566 President Jon Holsten stated, "If it is now possible for one young person to experience the awe and history of our nation's capital, then for that one young man or woman, LiUNA will have made a difference that will last them a lifetime."*

*As part of the same presentation, Jon Holsten presents a much smaller check to the parent organizing committee. Among the committee was not only LiUNA members, but also a UFCW representative. Which just goes to show that wherever folks are trying to make a difference, there are almost always union members among them.*

*On another note - Jon Holsten was later caught trying to buy fishing bait with another oversized check. If you happen to see Jon carrying a two foot by three foot blank check, please call the local union immediately!*

# **LiUNA!**

*Feel the Power*

**Last year LiUNA Local Union #566 gave state and local politicians and local charities thousands of dollars from our political action committee.**

**The PAC fund is funded by voluntary contributions made by Local Union staff. This year we are poised to have even more funds available.**

**These funds give a voice to our members with politicians at every level. When our members need help, these donations help guarantee that politicians *WILL* listen to our concerns. Also, we may utilize these funds to run local candidates, say, for the school board in your district. What can we accomplish with a friendly board? **Everything.****



**Is something upsetting  
you at work?**

**Make a Difference  
for yourself and call the  
Union Today!!!**

**Not everyone can remember the name of their second grade school teacher, but everyone can tell you who their bus driver was. And we always remember the janitor and the lunch ladies. That's because all of the people in a school district are important in the lives of our school children. The teachers unions have built strength and power so that legislators and the public listen to them when they have a grievance or concern. Isn't about time that you got the same respect? Isn't it about time that someone was there to fight for you when you needed help? Now there is. Now is the time. LiUNA Local #566 is working with school districts to improve the lives of the long ignored support staff and give a voice to workers just like you. So make a difference for your own self, and your own community. Call the Union today!!!**

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**Office Hours: 8:00am-4:30pm**

**Monday thru Friday**

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*For our 24 hour hotline number....okay, we don't really have one of those, so just call Darlene if it's really late or really early in the morning!*



**LABORERS**

*If the workers took a notion they could  
stop all speeding trains;  
Every ship upon the ocean they can tie  
with mighty chains.  
Every wheel in the creation, every mine  
and every mill;  
Fleets and armies of the nation, will at  
their command stand still.*

*-Joe Hill-*

