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ILLINOIS SUPREME COURT JUSTICE ANNE BURKE WITH SPECIAL OLYMPIANS WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE FIRST GAMES IN 1968. (PHOTO COURTESY OF SPECIAL OLYMPICS ILLINOIS)



**A world of welcome**

## Special Olympics Ete

When the Special Olympics returns to Chicago in July 2018, they will dedicate the newly built Eternal Flame of Hope monument, symbolizing a world of welcome and inclusion. The monument will stand outside Solider Field, along McFetridge Drive. Shown above is the groundbreaking on March 2, 2018. Turn to page 6 for more details on the 50th celebration.

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### President's Report



The labor movement can learn a great deal from the teachers in West Virginia. In February, thousands of teachers across the state walked out of the classrooms and onto the picket line to fight for better wages and benefits. Pay for teachers in West Virginia ranked 48th, with an average teacher earning \$45,622 a year, well below the national average of \$58,353. They banded together in solidarity and waited for the state to respond. They were offered a four percent raise, but together the teachers said it isn't enough, and they stood their ground. Finally, after a historic nine days on strike, the state agreed to the five percent raise the teachers demanded.

What we learn from this fight is the power we have when we stick together. There is strength in numbers, and we can never let anyone take that away from us.





PHOTO CREDIT: CFL

In 2017, members of Automobile Mechanics Local 701, led by CFL Finance Committee member Sam Cicinelli, walked off the job for nearly seven weeks to win a fair contract. They accepted the fourth offer from the dealers' association that finally addressed several key issues brought forth by Local 701. During the strike, more than 70 individual dealerships broke from the dealers' association and settled their own interim agreements directly with the union. Throughout the strike, the members of Local 701 received a tremendous outpouring of support from area residents and union members near and far. Many supporters donated to the union's health care fund, provided food and water, and even offered words of encouragement to the strikers.

What we learned from this strike is that when labor sticks together, labor wins.

When the members of Local 701 needed the support of the movement, the movement was there for them.

In March, we voted in the primary election to nominate candidates for the November ballot. *(Read more on page 10.)* During the primary, organized labor sought to replace two Cook County Commissioners who turned their backs on us when they voted to repeal the Cook County soda tax: Commissioner Richard Boykin (1st District) and Commissioner John Fritchey (12th District). Brandon Johnson, an organizer with Chicago Teachers Union, ran against Boykin, and Bridget Degnen ran against Fritchey. Both Johnson and Degnen had little name recognition going into these races, but that wasn't going to stop us from getting them across the goal line. Through a coordinated effort with Working America and a coalition

of our affiliated unions, we boosted Johnson and Degnen to wins in their respective races. Johnson beat out Boykin by less than 400 votes; Degnen defeated Fritchey by a comfortable 10-point margin.

What we learned from this primary is that when we stick together, we win.

I understand that it is not always feasible to think the labor movement will come together around every issue. However, as we've seen time and time again, when things are at their worst, that's when labor is at its best. When we stay together, we win. It's that simple.



**JORGE RAMIREZ**  
PRESIDENT

## Important Wins in Grievances and Organizing for Chicago Teachers Union

CTU-ACTS, the newly established CTU division for charter schools, is growing. Organizing campaigns at ChiArts – the Chicago High School for the Arts – and Namaste, a McKinley Park elementary school, have been victorious, with educators at both schools taking a stand for their rights on the job and joining CTU’s ranks. This comes on the heels of CTU’s members’ vote earlier this year to merge the CTU with ChiACTS, which represents union rank and file educators in charter schools – part of the CTU’s long-term strategy to undercut privatization expansion by unionizing workers at all charter operators in the city.

On the grievance front, CTU won a powerful victory – and thousands of dollars – for hundreds of clinicians and counselors related to the use of personal days. CTU also recently won an important grievance related to teacher ratings that they successfully opposed in arbitration. The case won back the job of a veteran tenured teacher with full back pay and benefits, and set the stage for future grievances where procedural violations hurt members. Finally, CTU recently won a concession that limits the number of grades teachers have to file each week – helping stave off excessive paperwork that burdens CTU members.

## UNITE HERE Local 1 Met With National Labor Leaders to Talk About the Success of “Hands Off Pants On” Campaign

The day before the national AFL-CIO was scheduled to hold the Midwest District Meeting in March, its leadership, President Richard Trumka, Secretary-Treasurer Liz Shuler and Executive Vice President Tefere Gebre, met with members of UNITE HERE Local 1 as well as CFL President Jorge Ramirez and Secretary-Treasurer Bob Reiter to discuss the success of the “Hands Off Pants On” campaign. Illinois AFL-CIO President Michael Carrigan and Secretary-Treasurer Tim Drea were also on hand for the meeting.

In Oct. 2017, Chicago City Council passed the “Hands Off Pants On” ordinance, a citywide ordinance to help protect hotel workers from unwanted sexual advances.

During the hour-long meeting in March, the women of UNITE HERE Local 1 talked about the change in culture around their workplaces. One member told the group she felt that women have a voice now. While they are proud of the work they have accomplished to date, they all acknowledge there is more to be done.

The Chicago Sun-Times wrote a story about the meeting. In the story, Trumka is quoted as saying, “It’s our belief that sexual harassment is a workplace safety issue. We, as a labor movement, are dead serious about changing the culture of the workplace.”

## CLUW Honors Outstanding Women During Women’s History Month

The Chicago Chapter of the Coalition of Labor Union Women held its annual awards dinner to recognize women across the movement who are making a difference. This year, the Florence Criley Award was presented to Helen Warren (AFSCME Council 31), Sadea Norfleet (UAW Local 551) and Leandres White (Illinois Federation of Teachers). The Olga Madar Award was presented to 10th Ward Alderwoman Susan Sadlowski Garza and Dr. Stephanie Seawell Fortado, a faculty member with the University of Illinois Labor Education Program.

Katie Jordan, President of the CLUW Chicago Chapter, presided over the ceremony and gave remarks throughout the event. Marilyn Massey (AFSCME Council 31) provided the invocation, and CFL Secretary-Treasurer Bob Reiter welcomed everyone to the event.

## Teaching Collective Bargaining to the Younger Generation

The DePaul University Labor Education Center’s Regina V. Polk High School Collective Bargaining Role Play program was featured in the April 2, 2018, issue of *The Nation*. The article, titled “Teaching Class Solidarity: A growing movement is finding creative ways to educate teens about economic justice,” by Caroline Preston, describes the collective-bargaining simulation

the Labor Education Center ran at 10 high schools.

The article describes how the Center is part of efforts to educate high school students about unions and collective bargaining. In this program, Center staff, union staff and members, worker center staff and members, and teachers coach high schoolers on either management or union teams as they negotiate with each other for a contract at a fictional hospital. Federal Mediation and Conciliation Service staff also attend and help teams through mediation as needed, adding to the realistic collective bargaining experience.

Anyone interested in setting up a session in their area or coaching with the program should contact Dr. Jessica Cook, Director of the Labor Education Center, at [jcook18@depaul.edu](mailto:jcook18@depaul.edu).

To read the article in *The Nation*, visit <https://www.thenation.com/article/teaching-class-solidarity/>.

## Illinois Supreme Court Rejects Rauner Appeal on Steps

On March 21, 2018, AFSCME Council 31 members received good news from the Illinois Supreme Court after the court rejected Rauner’s petition for leave to appeal.

In 2015, Rauner violated Illinois law that required current conditions of employment to continue while bargaining for a new contract, which included the state’s pay plan schedule. Instead, the governor imposed a freeze on the pay increases for state workers.



AFSCME Council 31 challenged this action in the 5th District Appellate Court, and the court ruled in favor of AFSCME. The court deemed that the employees were owed their increases, and it was handed back to the Illinois Labor Relations Board to determine a solution.

That ruling was held off when the Rauner Administration filed petition for leave to appeal, leaving workers again without their due increases.

Thanks to the swift action of the Illinois Supreme Court, Rauner's petition was denied. It is now up to the Illinois Labor Relations Board to rectify the lost wages of the union members. AFSCME will urge the Board to act swiftly to ensure all state employees receive their increases.

## Submit your Stories

Email your stories (200 words or less) and high-resolution photos (300 dpi or greater) to [info@chicagolabor.org](mailto:info@chicagolabor.org). The CFL reserves the right to edit stories for content and space allowance.



PHOTO: CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION

TOP RIGHT: SOME CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION CLINICIANS WITH THEIR BACK PAY CHECKS. CLINICIANS WON MORE THAN \$50,000 FROM CHICAGO PUBLIC SCHOOLS FOR BACK PAY IN CTU'S SUCCESSFUL GRIEVANCE AGAINST THE SCHOOL DISTRICT'S MISUSE OF THE PERSONAL DAY POLICY; RIGHT: THE WOMEN WHO WORKED ON UNITE HERE LOCAL 1'S "HANDS OFF PANTS ON" CAMPAIGN SPOKE WITH LOCAL AND NATIONAL LABOR LEADERS, INCLUDING CFL PRESIDENT JORGE RAMIREZ (THIRD FROM RIGHT), AFL-CIO SECRETARY TREASURER LIZ SHULER (SECOND FROM RIGHT) AND AFL-CIO PRESIDENT RICHARD TRUMKA, ABOUT THEIR EXPERIENCES; BELOW: THE CFL'S ANNUAL WOMAN OF THE YEAR CELEBRATION IS A REUNION OF SORTS FOR PAST WINNERS. THIS YEAR, EIGHT PAST WINNERS WERE ON HAND TO CONGRATULATE 2018 WINNER MAMIE PRATT. PICTURED FROM L TO R: FORMER CFL FIRST VICE PRESIDENT JERRE MCPARTLIN (HOTEL AND RESTAURANT EMPLOYEES, LOCAL 1), KATIE JORDAN (CLUW), BEA LUMPKIN (CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION), PATRICIA OUSLEY (AFSCME LOCAL 1006), CFL SECRETARY-TREASURER BOB REITER, FIRST VICE PRESIDENT ROSETTA DAYLIE (AFSCME COUNCIL 31), 2018 CFL WOMAN OF THE YEAR MAMIE PRATT (UFCW LOCAL 881), CFL PRESIDENT JORGE RAMIREZ, ESTHER LOPEZ (UFCW), MARY CRAYTON (AFL-CIO), TERRY JARES (CHICAGO FEDERATION OF MUSICIANS, LOCAL 10-208) AND HELEN RAMIREZ (CHICAGO TEACHERS UNION).



PHOTO: CFL



PHOTO: CFL

# Special Olympics 50th Anniversary: Through Sports, a Movement for Inclusion was Started

By Chris Winston, Special Olympics Illinois

Fifty years ago, the world began to change for millions of people with intellectual disabilities – and the millions more who love them. And it all started in Chicago.

In the 1960s, children and adults with intellectual disabilities lived in the shadows of society. They were hidden away in homes or institutions, and they didn't have the chance to go to school or work. They were not encouraged to be part of the community.

Intellectual disabilities (ID) were badly misunderstood. Many people with ID were trapped by stigma; their families burdened by shame. No one thought people with ID could learn skills – or that they could benefit from exercise. No one realized that sports could actually help in mental, adaptive and social development.

## The First Games

In July 1968, the first Special Olympics International Summer Games changed attitudes about people with ID. The Games put a new, bright – and very public – spotlight on ability, not disability. The 1968 Games in Chicago have been called “daybreak” for people with ID. For the first time, people with ID were on center stage – not in the shadows.

At Chicago's Soldier Field, centuries of prejudice and misunderstanding about people with ID began coming to a close. A series of fortunate events helped make this historic breakthrough possible. A number of innovators and pioneers were also an essential part of this history, including Anne McGlone Burke, William McPetridge, Dr. William Freeberg, Dr. Frank Hayden, and Eunice Kennedy Shriver.

## Choose to Include

With the first games in 1968, which began the foundation of what Special Olympics is today, it started a rebellious stand against the injustices faced by people with intellectual disabilities. No longer would the world turn its back on the most vulnerable among us. The solution was simple: give people with intellectual disabilities a chance to demonstrate their abilities, determination and value through sport. The pioneers in the beginning of the Special Olympics movement faced seemingly insurmountable obstacles and yet never wavered in their steadfast belief that every person deserves to be treated with respect and have an opportunity to be included. Fifty years later, Special Olympics has grown from summer camps and the first games in 1968 with 1,000 athletes from 26 states and Canada to a global movement reaching more than 5.5 million individuals with intellectual disabilities in 172 countries.

Despite this amazing feat, there are two hundred million people with intellectual disabilities who continue to face an uphill battle for inclusion. The fight against complacency, ignorance and stigma that was initiated 50 years ago is still just as critical today. For some, it is a lack of access to healthcare, for others education, and still others the threat of ongoing discrimination, ridicule, derision, and even neglect and abuse.

Today the fight for inclusion is more relevant than ever. People of all ages, races, genders, cultures, backgrounds and abilities continue to face discrimination, ignorance and disparagement. Just as Justice Burke, Dr. Freeberg, Dr. Hayden and Eunice Kennedy Shriver did in 1968, Special Olympics is setting a stake in the ground and is once again prepared to alter the course of history – this time, with people with intellectual disabilities leading the way.

No longer is it enough to provide a place for people with intellectual disabilities to come together through sport. It is time to demand uncompromising inclusion – in school, employment, healthcare, social activities and yes, sports, too. From the youngest to the oldest.

## July 2018

Five decades after its humble beginnings, the Special Olympics are returning to Chicago to launch the year-long global Special Olympics 50th Anniversary celebrations this July. Special Olympics International, Special Olympics Illinois and Special Children's Charities in Chicago are uniting to host nearly a week of exciting events to celebrate the first 50 years of Special Olympics and to launch the movement into the future.

There are numerous events as well as hundreds of volunteers opportunities planned for July 17-21, 2018, in Chicago. The week will kick off with the first-ever Special Olympics Unified Cup. The 4-day competition will take place July 17-20 at Toyota Park in Chicago. Unified teams – including players with and without intellectual disabilities – will compete alongside their local football/soccer club sponsors. There will also be a Law Enforcement Torch Run Commemorative Run and the ceremonial lighting of the Special Olympics Eternal Flame of Hope, which will symbolize Special Olympics' and Chicago's burning passion for inclusion and justice for people with intellectual disabilities. The celebration will conclude on July 21 with a star-studded Global Day of Inclusion. The public can “Play Unified” and join in fun athletic competition with Special Olympics athletes, followed by a concert at Northerly Island.

Join the 50-year celebration of Special Olympics sport, inclusion and opportunity when the world comes to Chicago July 17-21 for what will be an awesome and memorable celebration.

*Visit [specialolympics50.org](http://specialolympics50.org) to find out more.*



# 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION ACTIVITIES

## UNIFIED FOOTBALL CUP

Preliminary matches, July 17-19  
CIBC Fire Pitch (Addison & Western in Chicago)  
Start Time: All day  
Cost: Free

Final matches, July 20  
Toyota Park (Bridgeview, IL)  
Start Time: 5 p.m. (Broadcast live on ESPN2)  
Cost: Free

## SPECIAL OLYMPICS



1968 - 2018

## LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN, July 20

39th Street, along the Chicago Lakefront Trail, to Soldier Field (Eternal Flame)  
Start Time: Approximately 11 a.m.  
Cost: Free

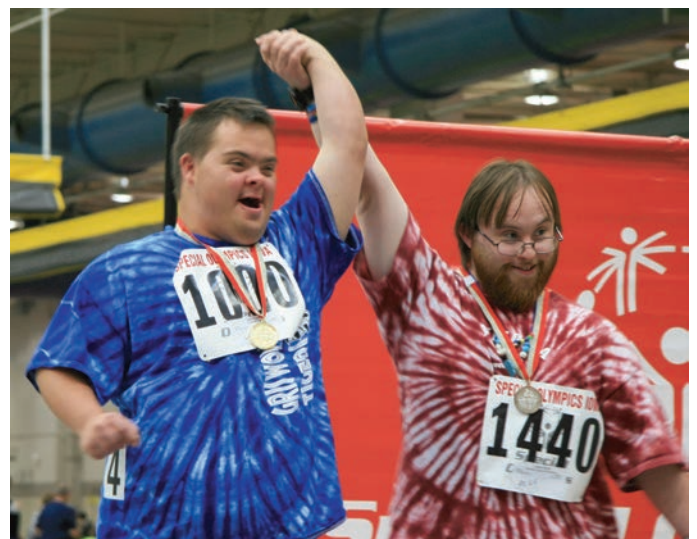
## ETERNAL FLAME LIGHTING, July 20

McFetridge Park, outside the north end of Soldier Field  
Start Time: Noon  
Cost: Free

## GLOBAL DAY OF INCLUSION, July 21

Festival  
Soldier Field  
Time: 1-7 p.m.  
Cost: Free

Concert  
Huntington Pavilion at Northerly Island  
Start Time: 7 p.m.  
Cost: Various pricing levels



**To register for tickets or to volunteer, visit  
[SpecialOlympics50.org](http://SpecialOlympics50.org)**

# Feature Stories

## AFL-CIO Midwest District Meeting Held in Chicago

On March 13, Chicago played host to union leaders from state federations, central labor councils and affiliated unions from nine states at the AFL-CIO Midwest District Meeting. Led by the theme of Join, Fight, Win Together, union leaders from across the Midwest collaborated around ways the AFL-CIO and America's unions are lifting up working people across the country.

CFL President Jorge Ramirez spoke at the conference, welcoming the organizers, leaders and community liaisons who had gathered from across the region.

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka addressed the crowd, talking about defining victory for working people. He discussed the goals for the labor movement, including beating anti-worker legislation through member engagement and better organizing union members to become part of the

political process. President Trumka also praised the efforts of the CFL and UNITE HERE Local 1 to help protect the safety of hospitality workers by lobbying Chicago's City Council to pass the "Hands Off, Pants On" ordinance. He said, "It was a vivid reminder that we are a movement of heroes," when speaking about meeting with Local 1 members who led the charge.

Much of the conference was centered around discussions on how to build a stronger labor movement, including workshops on member engagement, ways union members can lead in local elections, and tools unions and organizers can use to engage their members. The meeting was an excellent opportunity to reinvigorate the labor movement.

The CFL was proud to see Chicago's labor movement prominently on display.



TRACY JOHNSON (PAINTERS DISTRICT COUNCIL 14), PRESIDENT OF CHICAGO YOUNG WORKERS, INTRODUCED AFL-CIO SECRETARY-TREASURER LIZ SHULER AT THE MIDWEST CONFERENCE.

## Head of Fire Fighters Local 2 Joins the CFL Executive Board

On Monday, March 5, 2018, the Chicago Federation of Labor welcomed James T. Tracy III, President of the Chicago Firefighters Local 2, to the Executive Board.

Tracy began battling fires in 1996, at the age of 33, after serving in the United States Air Force. During his career as a fire fighter, Tracy was a union steward for the next 10

years, then served as a business agent for another six. He was elected President of Local 2 on May 1, 2017, and also serves on the grievance committee, political action committee and the legislative committee for Local 2.

Tracy comes from a long line of union members. Both his father and grandfather

were members of Sheet Metal Workers' Local 73.

"We are proud to welcome Jim to the Executive Board," said CFL President Jorge Ramirez. "Being in the union is part of who he is, and I know that he will be a great addition."

## CFL SNAPSHOTS



THE IBEW LOCAL 134 DELEGATES TO THE CHICAGO FEDERATION OF LABOR SHOW PRIDE FOR THEIR UNION AND THEIR SUPPORT FOR DEMOCRATIC GUBERNATORIAL CANDIDATE JB PRITZKER AT THE DELEGATES MEETING IN MARCH.



## City of Chicago Introduces Historic Plan to Transform O'Hare International Airport and Create Billions in Economic Development

In March, Chicago's City Council approved an \$8.5 billion agreement to transform O'Hare International Airport with the biggest terminal expansion ever, adding 25 percent more gate capacity, modernizing existing terminals and improving passengers' experiences. The plan was first unveiled at the end of February, and work is expected to begin next year.

The project will create 60,000 construction jobs through 2026 and ensures one of the city's economic engines is positioned to drive significant growth for the region in the years and decades to come.

"O'Hare's massive expansion will create thousands of good jobs for workers for many years," said CFL President Jorge Ramirez. "Projects of this type are particularly meaningful because of the robust multiplier they create within the economy. This significant investment in O'Hare will open up opportunities for construction workers across all trades, disciplines and experience levels as well as thousands of other permanent airport-related jobs."

"This agreement is a win for O'Hare and our customers, thanks to the investments the city and our airline partners are making to ensure our top connected airport is positioned to grow for the future," said Chicago Department of Aviation Commissioner Ginger S. Evans in a written statement. "Our plans will put O'Hare at the forefront of the industry, providing the absolute best value when it comes to customer service, efficiency and innovation. At the same time, we are committed to ensuring O'Hare's economic power also strengthens our community, and will ensure that our investments bring more opportunities for all Chicagoans."



CFL PRESIDENT JORGE RAMIREZ (SECOND FROM RIGHT) AND SEVERAL UNITED AIRLINES FLIGHT ATTENDANTS WERE ON HAND WHILE EXECUTIVES FROM THE FOUR MAJOR CARRIERS AT O'HARE SIGNED THE EXPANSION AGREEMENT.

The CFL worked with Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel and Commissioner Evans to help pass this project and secure work for all of its affiliated unions. This was a collaborative effort and one for which the CFL will always be proud. This announcement marked the first major capital improvement to O'Hare's terminals in more than 25 years.

## Letter Carriers' Food Drive Saturday May 12

The National Association of Letter Carriers will hold their annual Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive on Saturday, May 12. This year marks the 26th annual drive, which began in Chicago and continues to succeed thanks to the vision and leadership of NALC Branch 11.

Each year, NALC holds the food drive in May, just months before schools let out for the summer. During the summer time, low-income students that depend on meals provided by their schools rely on food pantries and other services for nutrition. The Stamp Out Hunger Food Drive is aimed to help restock food pantries across the country ahead of the summer months.

On May 12, residents across the Chicagoland area are asked to leave a bag of non-perishable food donations on their doorstep. These donations will be collected by the letter carriers when they make their regular mail deliveries and will be distributed to local food pantries. Last year over 20 unions, labor organizations and labor allies committed to collect food donations at their local halls, supporting the efforts of the drive across the region.

This year, once again, unions are asked to volunteer to support the drive, collect food and promote the drive to their membership. For more information, contact Michael Hartge, Community Engagement Liaison, at [Michael.Hartge@uw-mc.org](mailto:Michael.Hartge@uw-mc.org).



## The Voices of Working People Ring Out on Primary Night

The Chicago Federation of Labor and working men and women across Cook County prevailed during Illinois' 2018 Primary election. "We elected candidates who represent our collective values," said CFL President Jorge Ramirez.

Through an extensive, multi-layered program, the CFL endorsed candidates and put together an election strategy that extended from the top of the ticket down to the local county and judicial races, because all levels of government have significant impact on working class families.

"The CFL focused its resources on a strong ground game that included phone banking union members over the last four weeks, with the goal of driving turnout among union members and their families," Ramirez said. "We endorsed strong candidates who have a proven record of standing with workers to increase economic upward mobility for all. Working men and women need to elect candidates who understand the issues that are important to us and will continue to fight for us in the halls of government. We feel good about our candidates as we look toward the November election."

Significant wins include:

**JB Pritzker and Juliana Stratton** overwhelmingly won support from across Cook County because Pritzker has shown he is the candidate to take on Bruce Rauner in November and get Illinois moving in a direction that supports working families.

Pritzker is committed to working hand-in-hand with labor to raise the minimum wage, fight worker misclassification and wage theft, support equal pay for men and women, strengthen project labor agreements, and fight back anything or anyone that tries to lower workers' wages.

**Kwame Raoul** was successful in his bid for Attorney General because he supports moving the state to a progressive income tax structure and going after businesses who break prevailing wage, minimum wage and other wage theft laws.

Voters in House District 5 said "no" to Ken Dunkin two years ago when they elected Juliana Stratton to fill that seat, and they said "no" to Dunkin once again by electing **Lamont Robinson** in the Democratic primary on March 20. Robinson is committed to workforce development to help the men and women of his district thrive economically.

**Brandon Johnson**, an organizer with Chicago Teachers Union, was triumphant over incumbent Richard Boykin in the race for Cook County Commissioner of the 1st District because Johnson is entrenched in the labor movement. A strong labor coalition,



BRANDON JOHNSON (STANDING) TALKS TO COMMUNITY RESIDENTS IN THE RUN-UP TO THE MARCH 20 PRIMARY.

made up of public sector unions and building trades, joined forces on the ground through door knocking/canvassing, phone banking and mail. Johnson will be a strong voice for the families in his district.

**Bridget Degnen** handily defeated incumbent Cook County Commissioner John Fritchey (12th District). It was labor's early support that educated the community on the importance of having a commissioner like Degnen who represents the interests of working families. Degnen is committed to keeping our neighborhoods safe and supporting a compassionate approach to Illinois' health care system.

## Chicago's Labor Movement, CFL President Jorge Ramirez, IBEW Local 134 to be Honored by United Way

United Way of Metro Chicago recently announced Chicago's labor movement and the specific efforts of IBEW Local 134 will be recognized at their annual Celebration Luncheon. CFL President Jorge Ramirez will accept the Community Leadership Award, and IBEW Local 134 Business Manager Donald Finn will accept the Leo Perlis Labor Partnership award.

The Community Leadership Award recognizes "perseverance in strengthening all aspects of communities across the region."

While President Ramirez will be accepting the award, it is the hard work and support of the Chicago labor movement as a whole that has led United Way to highlight the impact that labor unions have on our communities here in Greater Chicago.

The Leo Perlis Award recognizes the efforts of a specific labor union to support Chicago communities. IBEW Local 134 and its membership are being honored for their work with Access United, as well as their commitment to the Bronzeville Community,

including the recent opening of the Terrence P. Allen Community Center on IBEW Local 134's new campus.

The CFL enjoys its long-standing partnership with United Way and has supported their efforts for over 75 years. The CFL invites you to join in this celebration of the hard work of Chicago's unions and their membership.

*Information about the event, including tickets and table sponsorships is available at [LIVEUNITEDchicago.org/celebration](http://LIVEUNITEDchicago.org/celebration).*



## Access United Program Expands, Supporting New Partners, Dozens of Job-Seekers

Access United was launched in April 2017 by United Way of Metro Chicago and the CFL to support low-income and minority candidates seeking to join union apprenticeships. In partnership with the Chicago & Cook County Building & Construction Trades Council, and CISCO, the Construction Industry Services Corporation, Access United has supported dozens of apprentice applicants across the region and provided information about construction trades jobs to community residents.

In 2018, Access United expanded to include 10 community partners, located throughout the city. These community partners are taught how to talk to job seekers about apprenticeships and receive ongoing support and updates on apprenticeship opportunities. Since this expansion, new partners have been active in seeking to connect their candidates to these great opportunities. Access United has already supported the applications of over 45 candidates for opportunities with trade apprenticeships and helped five candidates gain opportunities with the Chicago Regional Council of Carpenters and Plumbers Local 130.

Access United was also granted funding to create a Barrier Reduction Fund, provided by the Obama Family Foundation and the

Chicago Community Trust last year. The fund is designed to help underwrite the costs of joining an apprenticeship program for low-income applicants, from paying application fees to buying needed work gear and tools.

“Access United shows what we can do when the labor movement and community organizations work together to find opportunities,” said CFL Secretary-Treasurer Bob Reiter. “These apprenticeship programs offer an opportunity to work hard, learn a trade, and earn a fair wage. Access United is making sure that communities across the region have access to good jobs.”

Access United partners include seven community organizations from across the city and three of United Way’s Neighborhood Network groups. Together these organizations seek to create a collective impact on low-income neighborhoods throughout the city and suburbs. When speaking about Access United resources and their potential impact



TWO APPRENTICES WITH PIPEFITTERS LOCAL 597 LEARN THE TRADE.

on their clients, staff from Jane Addams Resource Corporation, an agency that helps candidates gain many skills used in the construction trades, said “this is all we’ve ever wanted.”

The Access United program is providing the resources that low-income and minority candidates need to compete for high-wage union construction jobs and gain access to career opportunities with Chicago’s trade unions.

## CFL Celebrates the 2018 Woman of the Year

During the month of March, women young and old, present and past, are celebrated as part of Women’s History Month. It is only fitting that the Chicago Federation of Labor honor their Woman of the Year at this same time. During the March delegates meeting, the CFL was proud to honor Mamie Pratt (UFCW Local 881) for her hard work and dedication to the many causes of the labor movement.

Pratt is actively involved across the labor movement, both locally and internationally. She joined the staff of Local 881 in 1996 and has held many other positions since then, including Union Representative since 2001. Outside her union, she serves as Executive Vice President of



PICTURED FROM LEFT TO RIGHT: CFL SECRETARY-TREASURER BOB REITER, CFL 1ST VICE PRESIDENT ROSE DAYLIE, CFL WOMAN OF THE YEAR MAMIE PRATT, CFL PRESIDENT JORGE RAMIREZ

the Chicago Chapter of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists and as a Recording Secretary of the UFCW Minority Coalition.

She is also a member of the CBTU International Executive Council and Vice-Chairperson for National CBTU Women’s Committee.

In addition to her work within the labor movement, Pratt is active throughout her community. She volunteers for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society and various political campaigns, and participates with her church.

Over her career, she has been recognized with the following awards: Addie Wyatt Award (CBTU International), Living Legends/Passing of the Torch (Black United Fund of Illinois), and Women of Excellence (Chicago Defender).



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# CFL Delegates' Meetings

**Tuesday, May 1, 2018**

**Tuesday, June 5, 2018**


**There will not be a Delegates' Meeting in July, August or September.**

**START TIME: 6 p.m.**

**WHERE: Chicago Plumbers Local 130 Hall  
1340 W. Washington Blvd, Chicago**



Delegates must present their current Chicago Federation of Labor membership card or this notice for admission. We look forward to full representation from your local union to assist the Federation in the development of its policies



**ROBERT G. REITER, JR.**  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

# Notice:

Notice of Nomination and Election of Officers and Executive Board Members of the Chicago Federation of Labor & Industrial Union Council.

Nominations for President, Secretary-Treasurer, 1st Vice President, 2nd Vice President, Sergeant-at-Arms, 20 members of the Executive Board and three members of the Finance Committee of the Chicago Federation of Labor will be held at the Delegates' Meeting on Tuesday, May 1, 2018, 6 p.m., at Plumbers' Hall, 1340 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill. The term of office of all Officers and Executive Board members shall be four years, beginning July 1, 2018, and lasting through June 30, 2022.

To be eligible for nomination, and to nominate and second, the organization he/she represents must be in good standing with the CFL. Candidates shall be required to file written acceptance of nomination with the Secretary-Treasurer at least 10 days before the date of the election. Where there is only one candidate for an office, there shall be no necessity for the election of such candidate, and he/she shall be declared duly elected.

If required, election for Officers, Executive Board and Finance Committee members will be held on Tuesday, June 5, 2018, from noon to 7:30 p.m., at Plumbers' Hall, 1340 W. Washington Blvd., Chicago, Ill. The election will be conducted as provided in Article VI of the CFL Constitution. A copy of the Constitution is available at the CFL office.