

February Newsletter

AFSCME LOCAL 448

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February 2022

President: Alice Sutherland
Vice President: Diane Ritter-263-6673
Secretary: Taquisha Santos-Teague
 973-2857
Treasurer: Laurie Scudder-987-7509

Chapter Chairs

Tanya Burns: DCFS-987-7542
 Marie Reck: Revenue-209-5405
 Jennifer Lavoisier: Lottery 773-330-0566

Members at Large

Aaron Sockwell: DHS-670-5283
 Robin Aebly: DCFS-908-9664
 Tom Soresie: DCFS-973-2857

Trustees

Tina Wren: DCFS-590-9350
 Jeff Bergstrom: DHS-901-2969
 Greg Duffy: DCFS-994-0502

People Chair

Laurie Scudder: Revenue-987-7509

Chris Hooser: Staff Representative-815-968-0447

Meeting Dates

Membership Meeting	Thursday 3-3-22
Executive Board Meeting	February 3, 2022
All Membership meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.	

REMOTE WORK PILOTS

Most agencies have been working on remote work pilots. These pilots are being negotiated with the Union, in most cases by the members of that agencies Standing Committee. We understand that Covid is still a huge factor out there. We would love nothing better than to have everyone continue working from home if they are able. Unfortunately, that may not be the case. We all have to remember that when we took these jobs, the location was an office building somewhere. None of our jobs were posted as work from home. As someone who sits on my agencies Standing Committee, I can tell you the negotiation process is not an easy one. We have fight for everything we get.

MEMBER APPRECIATION EXTRAVAGANZA

The date is set!!! April 223, 2022, we will be hosting our Member Appreciation Party at the Hoffman House in Rockford!!! There will be great food, and of course beverages, music and much more.

Rockford too far to travel you say. We have a block of rooms set aside at the Holiday Inn which is connected to the banquet facility. Room rates are \$100.00 Per night plus tax. You can book your room now by calling the hotel directly at 815.398.2200. You will need to mention that you are a part of the AFSCME Local 448 block and provide the group code: AFS.

WANT TO RECEIVE TEXT AND EMAIL UPDATES?

In an effort to keep everyone up to date on what is going on, we are trying to gather personal email addresses and cell phone numbers so that this can be used as a method of contact when important things come up and we need to get the word out fast. If you would like to receive email and text updates, please send you PERSONAL email address and cell phone information to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. You can also do this by going to www.afscme31.org and entering your email address in the "Sign UP for Email" space then completing the information asked for.

MOURNING A HERO: AFSCME STATEMENT ON DCFS EMPLOYEE

DEIDRE SILAS

As most of you have heard by now DCFS investigator Deidre Silas, a member of AFSCME Local 805, was murdered while responding to a report of children in danger in the town of Thayer, outside Springfield on January 4, 2022. Below is a statement on this tragic loss from AFSCME Council 31 Executive Director Roberta Lynch:

"We are heartbroken at the loss of Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) investigator and AFSCME member Deidre Silas of Springfield, murdered Tuesday while responding to a report of children in danger.

"The perpetrator of this unspeakable crime must be prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law.

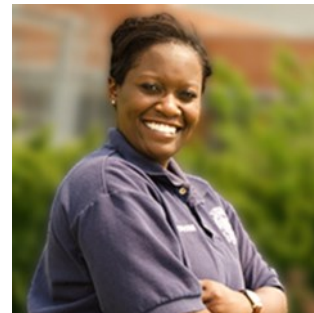
"Deidre dedicated her career to helping young people. Prior to joining DCFS in August 2021 she worked in behavioral health and for more than seven years with the Department of Juvenile Justice where she was a union steward.

"This tragedy is a stark reminder that frontline DCFS employees like Deidre do demanding, dangerous and essential jobs every day, often despite inadequate resources and tremendous stress.

"AFSCME will carefully study the facts of this incident as they emerge and press for any necessary changes to DCFS operations. One death in the line of service is too many.

"Our union is providing support to Deidre's coworkers to help them process this trauma and aid their grieving. The hearts and thoughts of every AFSCME member are with Deidre's loved ones, especially her children, in the wake of their profound and senseless loss. In her name we rededicate ourselves to our vigilant advocacy to improve workplace safety for all."

State Representative Dave Vella reached out to our local and asked to meet with us to discuss worker safety. I would like to thank, Laurie Scudder, Tanya Burns, Jennifer Hawley, and Carissa Whaley, for taking time out of their much-needed day off on January 17th to meet with myself, AFSCME Council 31 Legislative Liaison Jeanne Cameron and Dave Vella. We had a great talk with a lot of outstanding ideas being presented.



MARCH MEMBERSHIP MEETING

The March membership meeting will be held via Zoom. The meeting link is listed below.
Topic: AFSCME Local 448 Membership Meeting

Time: Mar 3, 2022, 06:30 PM Central Time (US and Canada)

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87123052052?pwd=UThrVINRWFcwT1BaUGFIY25vUU5oZz09>

Meeting ID: 871 2305 2052

Passcode: 547906

Call in number: 1-312-626-6799 87123052052# 547906# US (Chicago)

Those members participating will be put into a drawing for a free room for our party in April!

BAD ADDRESSES

If you move don't forget to let your steward know your new address or send an email to Alice Sutherland at presidentafscmelocal448@gmail.com. Each month we get several newsletters back because members have moved, and we don't have an updated address. Member's if you know of someone who has moved, make sure to reach out to them and let them know they need to update their address with us. We want everyone to stay informed.



APPLE STREUSEL CRUMBLE

Ingredients

- 3 large apples-Cortland or McIntosh
- 1/2 cup of sugar
- 1 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/4 teaspoon pure vanilla extract

Topping

- 1/4 cup cold butter (4 tablespoons)
- 1/2 cup of flour
- 1/3 cup of sugar
- 1/2 teaspoon cinnamon
- 1/8 teaspoon of nutmeg (optional)

Directions

Preheat to 350 degrees

RECIPE CONTINUED

Directions continued

Grease the bottom only of a small casserole dish. Peel and core the apples, slice and place in a bowl. Top with sugar, cinnamon and vanilla, toss to coat. Set aside while preparing topping.

Make the streusel by cutting the cold butter into a bowl, adding flour, sugar, cinnamon and nutmeg (if you so choose to use). Rub through your fingers until the streusel is coarse, sandy/pebbly texture.

Put the seasoned apples into the pan, top generously with the streusel, and bake at 350 degrees about 30 minutes, or until the streusel is golden brown and the apple is starting to bubble up through the topping.

Enjoy!!!

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