

West Suburban Teachers Union, Local 571, IFT, AFT, AFL-CIO

# Union Messenger

## "A Union of Professionals"

### November Calendar

11/5-6 —IFT ULI (*Westmont*)11/7 —Ex.Bd Mtg. (5:30 p.m.—*Westmont*)

11/15—Deadline for filing IRS forms for Councils that closed their books in June

### Union Messenger

Kyle Stern, President

Dr. Jaqueline Payne, Vice-President

Sandra Erickson, Treasurer

Cathleen Pope, Secretary

Eugene Poull, Financial Secretary

Brett Blair, Legal Defense Secretary

Shavonne Henry, COPE/PAC

Chairperson

Tom Smith, IFT Field Service Director

Rachel Esposito, IFT Field Service

Director

Renee Wagner, IFT Field Service

Director

Carolyn Wilson, Membership Support

Staff

Patty Clancy, Office Support Staff

Andrew Bendelow,

571 Web Administrator

Robin Hancock,

571 *Union Messenger* Editor

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### Vote Yes for Workers

Dear Union Siblings,

Do you benefit from Workers' Rights, Collective Bargaining, Sick Leave, Equal Pay, Workplace Safety, Health Care, and Retirement Benefits? I believe the answer to all of these is yes. This is why it is of utmost importance that the Workers' Rights Amendment (WRA) passes in November. So, what will the WRA do for us if passed? First off, it will guarantee Union workers have the right to negotiate with their employer over wages, benefits, and working conditions. In some states, like Texas and Wisconsin, educators do not have this right. While we currently have this right, without this amendment, it is not guaranteed if the political winds start to shift. We want to codify these rights. Unions currently help more than 800,000 members in Illinois secure economic gains and other improvements for those that they serve. We want to keep it that way.



Collective Bargaining is essential to keeping our rights. One of the beautiful things about Unions is the democracy contained in them. Union members democratically vote to approve CBAs, elect officers, and approve resolutions. Every member has an equal voice. Additionally, Unions provide support to help protect members against discrimination, questionable employer behavior, and unfair labor practices. Unions fight for policies that impact student learning such as smaller classes sizes, classroom resources, and equitable practices. Unions provide professional development to enhance members' workplace and leadership skills. If you would like to join Local 571's professional development team, send me an email at [ksstern571@ift-aft.org](mailto:ksstern571@ift-aft.org). We are looking to increase our PD providers and training will be provided.

Unions also empower members to make their voices heard on issues that impact education and communities. If you would like to get involved and have politicians hear you out, please attend one of our COPE-PAC events. You can view the upcoming events and sign up by visiting <https://bit.ly/3GLdn0W> and then email [ksstern571@ift-aft.org](mailto:ksstern571@ift-aft.org) and [shavonnehenry0166@gmail.com](mailto:shavonnehenry0166@gmail.com).

Finally, as in our Local 571 constitution, Unions fight to end systemic racism and to ensure fair and equitable treatment for people of color and other marginalized persons. If this is a topic you are interested in, please join our Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Committee by emailing or reaching out to me.

Do yourself and all of us a favor and vote yes for the WRA and tell all your friends and family to vote yes as well. Together, we win.

In Unity

Kyle Stern

P.S. For more information about the WRA, please visit <https://www.ift-aft.org/wra>. This site is where I found a lot of my information for this article.



## Legislative Report

Jon Monique Manuel  
571 Legislative Director

An important amendment will appear on the November 8 ballot. It is the Workers' Rights Amendment.

By voting YES for this amendment, the Illinois Constitution will be amended creating a state constitutional right for employees granting them the right to organize and bargain collectively with the representation of their choosing. It will afford the representative to negotiate "wages, hours and working conditions and protect their economic welfare and safety at work." It would also prohibit laws that interfere with, negate, or diminish collective bargaining agreements, including agreements that require union membership as a condition of employment.

State Rep. [Ram Villivalam](#), State Rep. [Marcus Evans](#), and State Rep. [Lance Yednock](#) are just a few legislators supporting the amendment. Along with the IFT, the Illinois AFL-CIO are also rallying up support to get the amendment passed. [Illinois Amendment 1, Right to Collective Bargaining Measure \(2022\) - Ballotpedia](#)

Again, [here](#) is a list of IFT-endorsed candidates. Voting by mail is still an option. If you choose to vote by mail, please remember that your ballot must be postmarked by Election Day and received within 14 days after the election. If you deliver it in-person, it must be dropped off no later than Election Day.



### Important Notice Local 571 Executive Board Trustees Needed

Nominations are now being accepted for **two** vacancies for Local 571 Executive Board Area Trustees. One area trustee will chair the Education Committee, the other will Chair the Nominations and Elections Committee. All Local 571 members are eligible to be nominated as Local 571 Area Trustees. Those selected will finish the term of office that lasts two (2) years which started on July 1, 2022.

Nominations must be printed or typed (name and council) and received in the Local 571 office on or before October 31, 2022. Nominees will receive a written or electronic acknowledgement of receipt. The annual stipend is \$930.24, with the first year being prorated.

Interested individuals may request further information about the duties of the office by contacting Local 571 President Kyle Stern, [kstern571@ift-aft.org](mailto:kstern571@ift-aft.org) or call and leave a message at (630) 468-4098.

### Vote to Elect Justice Mary Kay O'Brien to the Illinois Supreme Court

Mary Kay O'Brien is an experienced and highly qualified judge with deep roots in the community and a long history of public service.

Justice O'Brien has served on the 3rd District Appellate Court for over 19 years. She has heard more than 4,500 cases and served on numerous committees. Defeating an incumbent, O'Brien secured the Democratic majority in the House of Representatives.



O'Brien was raised on the family farm in Reddick, Illinois where she learned the importance of hard work, integrity, and public service from her parents. Justice O'Brien earned her law degree, worked for former Attorney Generals Neil Hartigan and Roland Burris, worked in the Grundy County State's Attorney's Office, and private practice covering family law, criminal law, real estate, banking, and municipal law.

<https://obrienforsupremecourt.com>

# IFT-ENDORSED CANDIDATES

## U.S. SENATE

TAMMY DUCKWORTH (D)

## U.S. HOUSE

1ST — JONATHAN JACKSON (D)  
2ND — ROBIN KELLY (D)  
3RD — DELIA RAMIREZ (D)  
4TH — CHUY GARCIA (D)

5TH — MIKE QUIGLEY (D)  
6TH — SEAN CASTEN (D)  
7TH — DANNY DAVIS (D)  
8TH — RAJA KRISHNAMOORTHY (D)

9TH — JAN SCHAKOWSKY (D)\*  
10TH — BRAD SCHNEIDER (D)  
11TH — BILL FOSTER (D)  
12TH — CHIP MARKEL (D)

13TH — NIKKI BUDZINSKI (D)  
14TH — LAUREN UNDERWOOD (D)  
17TH — ERIN SORESENSEN (D)

## STATEWIDE

JB PRITZKER, GOVERNOR  
JULIANNA STRATTON, LT. GOVERNOR

KWAME RAUL, ATTORNEY GENERAL  
ALEXI GIANNOLIAS, SECRETARY OF STATE

SUSANA MENDOZA, COMPTROLLER  
MICHAEL FRERICHS, TREASURER

## ILLINOIS SENATE

1ST — JAVIER CERVANTES (D)  
2ND — OMAR AQUINO (D)  
3RD — MATTIE HUNTER (D)  
4TH — KIMBERLY LIGHTFORD (D)  
5TH — PATRICIA VAN PELT (D)  
6TH — SARA FEIGENHOLTZ (D)  
7TH — MIKE SIMMONS (D)  
8TH — RAM VILLIVALAM (D)  
9TH — LAURA FINE (D)  
10TH — ROBERT MARTWICK (D)  
11TH — MIKE PORFIRIO (D)  
12TH — CELINA VILLANUEVA (D)

13TH — ROBERT PETERS (D)  
14TH — EMIL JONES, III (D)  
17TH — ELGIE SIMS (D)  
18TH — BILL CUNNINGHAM (D)  
19TH — MICHAEL HASTINGS (D)  
20TH — CRISTINA PACIONE-ZAYAS (D)  
21ST — LAURA ELLMAN (D)  
22ND — CRISTINA CASTRO (D)  
23RD — SUZANNE GLOWIAK HILTON (D)  
24TH — LAUREN "LAURIE" NOWAK (D)  
25TH — KARINA VILLA (D)  
26TH — MARIA PETERSON (D)

27TH — ANN GILLESPIE (D)  
28TH — LAURA MURPHY (D)  
29TH — JULIE MORRISON (D)  
30TH — ADRIANE JOHNSON (D)  
31ST — MARY EDLY-ALLEN (D)\*  
34TH — STEVE STADELMAN (D)  
36TH — MICHAEL HALPIN (D)  
38TH — SUE REZIN (R)  
39TH — DON HARMON (D)  
40TH — PATRICK JOYCE (D)  
41ST — JOHN CURRAN (R)  
42ND — LINDA HOLMES (D)

43RD — RACHEL VENTURA (D)  
46TH — DAVE KOEHLER (D)  
47TH — NEIL ANDERSON (R)  
48TH — DORIS TURNER (D)  
49TH — MEG LOUGHRAN CAPPEL (D)\*  
52ND — SCOTT BENNETT (D)  
56TH — KRIS THARP (D)  
57TH — CHRISTOPHER BELT (D)  
58TH — TERRI BRYANT (R)  
59TH — DALE FLOWER (R)

## ILLINOIS HOUSE

1ST — AARON ORTIZ (D)\*  
2ND — LISA HERNANDEZ (D)  
3RD — EVA DINA DELGADO (D)  
4TH — LILIAN JIMENEZ (D)  
5TH — LAMONT ROBINSON (D)  
6TH — SONYA HARPER (D)  
7TH — CHRIS WELCH (D)  
8TH — LA SHAWN FORD (D)  
9TH — LAKESIA COLLINS (D)\*  
10TH — OMAR WILLIAMS (D)\*  
11TH — ANN WILLIAMS (D)  
12TH — MARGARET CROKE (D)  
13TH — HOAN HUYNH  
14TH — KELLY CASSIDY (D)  
15TH — MICHAEL KELLY (D)  
16TH — KEVIN OLICKAL (D)  
17TH — JENNIFER GONG-GERSHOWITZ (D)  
18TH — ROBYN GABEL (D)  
19TH — LINDSEY LAPOINTE (D)  
21ST — ABDELNASSER RASHID (D)  
22ND — ANGIE GUERRERO-CUELLAR (D)  
23RD — EDGAR GONZALEZ, JR. (D)

24TH — THERESA MAH (D)  
26TH — KAM BUCKNER (D)  
27TH — JUSTIN SLAUGHTER (D)  
28TH — BOB RITA (D)  
30TH — WILL DAVIS (D)  
31ST — MARY FLOWERS (D)  
32ND — CYRIL NICHOLS (D)  
33RD — MARCUS EVANS (D)  
34TH — NICK SMITH (D)  
35TH — FRANCES HURLEY (D)  
36TH — KELLY BURKE (D)  
38TH — DEBBIE MEYERS-MARTIN (D)  
39TH — WILL GUZZARDI (D)  
40TH — JAIME ANDRADE (D)  
41ST — JANET YANG ROHR (D)  
42ND — TERRA COSTA HOWARD (D)  
43RD — ANNA MOELLER (D)  
44TH — FRED CRESPO (D)  
45TH — JENN LADISCH DOUGLASS (D)  
46TH — DIANE BLAIRE-SHERLOCK (D)  
49TH — MAURA HIRSCHAUER (D)  
50TH — BARBARA HERNANDEZ (D)

51ST — NABEELA SYED (D)  
52ND — MARY MORGAN (D)  
53RD — MARK WALKER (D)  
54TH — MARY BETH CANTY (D)  
55TH — MARTY MOYLAN (D)\*  
56TH — MICHELLE MUSSMAN (D)  
57TH — JONATHAN CARROLL (D)  
58TH — BOB MORGAN (D)  
59TH — DANIEL DIDECH (D)  
60TH — RITA MAYFIELD (D)  
61ST — JOYCE MASON (D)  
62ND — LAURA FAVER DIAS (D)  
63RD — BRIAN MEYERS (D)  
66TH — SUZANNE NESS (D)  
67TH — MAURICE WEST II (D)  
68TH — DAVE VELLA (D)  
70TH — JEFF KEICHER (R)  
72ND — GREGG JOHNSON (D)  
76TH — LANCE YEDNOCK (D)\*  
77TH — NORMA HERNANDEZ (D)\*  
78TH — CAMILLE LILLY (D)

79TH — ERIN SLOANE (D)  
80TH — ANTHONY DELUCA (D)  
81ST — ANNE STAVA-MURRAY (D)  
83RD — MATT HANSON (D)  
84TH — STEPHANIE KIFOWIT (D)  
85TH — DAGMARA "DEE" AVELAR (D)\*  
86TH — LARRY WALSH, JR. (D)\*  
89TH — TONY MCCOMBIE (R)  
91ST — SHARON CHUNG (D)  
92ND — JEHAN GORDON-BOOTH (D)  
94TH — NORINE HAMMOND (R)  
96TH — SUE SCHERER (D)  
97TH — HARRY BENTON (D)  
98TH — NATALIE MANLEY (D)  
103RD — CAROL AMMONS (D)  
104TH — MIKE MARRON (R)  
111TH — JOE SILKWOOD (D)  
112TH — KATIE STUART (D)  
113TH — JAY HOFFMAN (D)\*  
114TH — LATOYA GREENWOOD (D)  
116TH — DAVE SEVERIN (R)  
117TH — PATRICK WINDHORST (R)

## ILLINOIS JUDICIAL

2ND SUPREME — ELIZABETH ROCHFORD (D)  
3RD SUPREME — MARY K O'BRIEN (D)

1ST APPELLATE — DEBRA WALKER (D)  
1ST APPELLATE — RAYMOND MITCHELL (D)

2ND APPELLATE — CHRIS KENNEDY (D)  
3RD APPELLATE — SONNI CHOI WILLIAMS (D)



Illinois Federation of Teachers  
A Union of Professionals

ift-aft.org facebook.com/iftaft @iftaft

\*UNION MEMBER

VISIT [IFT-AFT-ORG/VOTE](https://ift-aft.org/vote) FOR MORE INFORMATION.



# Members Engaged



Senator Cunningham and Kyle Stern at a White Sox game



Jane Russell and Kyle Stern with State Senator Meg Loughran Cappel



Rep. Terra Costa Howard, Rep. Janet Yang Rohr, Kyle Stern, and Senator Laura Ellman



Kyle Stern with Justice Mary Kay O'Brien and Rep. Deb Conroy

Dear Union Siblings,

Is your council or anyone in your council doing something you would like to share? Did someone in your council create a new class? Did you settle a contract? Did you canvass or phone bank? Did your council have a celebratory meeting? Did your council do something for Homecoming? Is your council doing anything for Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion? Did your Local 571 committee meet and make an accomplishment?

Well it's that time again to write articles and brag about all these and any events, accomplishments, etc. for the Union Messenger. Please submit all articles and pictures to me [kstern571@ift-aft.org](mailto:kstern571@ift-aft.org) and Robin Hancock ([571editor@gmail.com](mailto:571editor@gmail.com)).

Thank you!

In Unity

Kyle Stern

## Take Us Out to the Ball Game!!!

On Wednesday, September 7th, a group of educators from the Franklin Park Council of Teachers and their families went to the Friendly Confines for a midweek ballgame celebrating Teacher Appreciation Night! The weather was perfect and the smiles were plentiful. It was refreshing to get out during the work week to spend time having fun with colleagues and loved ones. Wrigley even provided each ticket holder a choice of a Cubs mug or a Cubs lunch container. The bleachers proved to be the perfect spot for everyone to socialize during the game. One lucky teacher's son even caught three fly balls! It was an evening that will be in our memories for a long time.

April Giannosa (Franklin Park Council)



Franklin Park Council Members at Wrigley Field



## Union Leadership Institute (ULI)

NOVEMBER 5-6, 2022 • FEBRUARY 4-5, 2023 • APRIL 22-23, 2023

IFT's ULI program has been designed to meet the needs of both new and experienced local leaders and activists in all IFT constituency groups. ULI provides participants with hands-on learning of union skills, professional development opportunities, and a chance to network with other IFT members from throughout the state. Participants can select and complete one of the ULI core courses over three weekend-long sessions. The core courses are: **Boot Camp for Union Leaders, Building and Sustaining Union Power** (must enroll in teams of 2 or more), **Effective Grievance Administration** and **Introduction to Collective Bargaining**.

**\*Registration must be submitted by October 19, 2022 for the November session\***

For registration and course details visit: [Illinois Federation of Teachers | Professional Development \(ift-aft.org\)](https://www.ift-aft.org)

**Please contact your council president if you have additional questions.**



### Adler Planetarium

Admission is free every Wednesday evening from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Admission is always free for Illinois teachers (pre-K through 12)

### Field Museum

Oct. 4, 5, 11, 12, 18, 19, 25, 26

Nov. 1, 2, 8, 9

Illinois teachers (pre-K through 12) and active military personnel receive free admission year-round.

### Art Institute of Chicago

Admission is always free for Chicago teens under 18, all children under 14, Illinois teachers, active military personnel and Link and WIC cardholders.

### Museum of Science and Industry

Admission is free for Illinois residents on the following dates this fall:

Oct. 4-5

Nov. 1, 8

Admission is always free for active-duty military personnel, veterans, Illinois POWs, Chicago firefighters and police officers as well as Illinois teachers.

### Chicago History Museum

Admission is free on October 10 and is always free for Illinois teachers, active-duty military and veterans, active Chicago police officers and firefighters, Illinois residents under 18 and all children under 12.

### DuSable Black History Museum and Education Center

Admission is free every Wednesday

### Museum of Contemporary Art

Admission is free for Illinois residents every Tuesday and is always free for those under 18, military personnel and veterans, first responders and Illinois educators.

### Peggy Notebaert Nature Museum

Free admission is always offered to active-duty service members, Illinois educators and children under three.

### Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center

Admission is free on the final Friday of every month in 2022.

### National Museum of Mexican Art

Free admission is offered year-round to everybody.

### Chicago Cultural Center

Admission is free year-round for everybody.

### Museum of Contemporary Photography

Admission is free year-round for everybody, but tickets must be reserved in advance.

### Chicago Botanic Garden

Free admission for Illinois residents on the following dates:

Oct. 10, 11, 13

Nov. 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13

Proof of residence required.



## **Member Benefit Reminder Reduced Admission Movie Tickets**

For Union Members only.

Available for

**AMC and Marcus Theaters**

Theater location and movie ticket order forms available at [www.wstu571.org](http://www.wstu571.org)



## **INDIGENOUS PEOPLES' DAY**

### **MONDAY OCTOBER 11**

Did you know the name "Illinois" is an Algonquian Indian word? It comes from the Miami-Illinois tribal name *Illiniwek*, which means "the people." Today, there are near-

ly 5 million American Indians and Alaska Natives in the United States, or 1.6 percent of the total population, and this is expected to jump to 8.6 million, or 2 percent of the population, by 2050.





# Don't be fooled by misinformation this election season



Dear IFT member,

It happens every election season, and this one is no different. All around our state, voters report having received [political messages](#) in print, online, and on social media that range from questionable to outright lies. Though many of us probably consider these deceptive practices immoral, sadly, they aren't illegal. That's why it is so important to be aware of them.

Sometimes fake news – especially during an election year – is produced and delivered in a way that looks credible. It can be difficult to separate fact from fiction!

To help, the IFT has compiled a list of [fake news outlets](#) in Illinois. The organizations and affiliates on this [list](#) are not legitimate news sources but extremist groups funded by ultra-wealthy donors (like Bruce Rauner) and corporations with distinct political agendas. Groups like the [Illinois Policy Institute](#), who seek to destroy unions and eliminate our rights, are behind this spreading of misinformation. They try to tap into your biggest fears and cast doubt on the work we do as public servants. If an article, post, or tweet is associated with one of [these sources](#), you can be sure it is fake news.

IFT members and their families can also sign up for [NewsGuard](#), a media literacy tool offered free through a partnership with the American Federation of Teachers (AFT). [NewsGuard](#) provides a media literacy browser

extension and a mobile app that supplies trust ratings for more than 7,500 news and information sites. The ratings are determined by trained journalists based on nine apolitical journalistic criteria; they tell you what standards each site uses in creating its content, who's behind the site, how it's funded, and whether you can trust it. Learn more and [register here](#).

Finally, please share this [social media graphic](#), which provides good tips to help you recognize fake news. Teachers and parents, this could be useful for your students and children too!



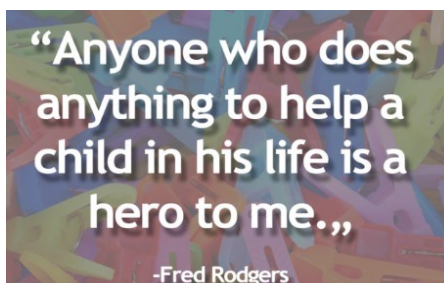
As November 8 approaches, you'll undoubtedly be flooded with more political messages. I hope the resources above – combined with your good judgement – will help you separate the lies from the truth.

As always, thanks for all you do.

In unity,

*Dan*

Dan Montgomery, IFT President



## What's Missing from the Messenger?

Is there something innovative or exciting happening at your school? If so, we want to hear from you!

Email your news to Robin Hancock at: [571editor@gmail.com](mailto:571editor@gmail.com)

We Want To Hear From You



We're on the Web!!!  
[www.wstu571.org](http://www.wstu571.org)

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