

Minneapolis Labor Review

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Londel French

**Minneapolis Park Board
At Large**

MRLF puts new focus on 2017
Minneapolis Park Board races
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NO TO RACISM Union leaders condemn march of hate, violence in Charlottesville

WASHINGTON — Union leaders nationwide are condemning the white-supremacist and neo-Nazi groups who marched August 11-12 in Charlottesville, VA.

Following the deaths of a young woman and two state troopers during demonstrations by the white supremacists, AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka issued the following statement on behalf of the nation's labor unions:

"Saturday in Charlottesville, VA the nation and the world witnessed the hateful views and violent actions of white supremacists and neo-Nazis. This racism and bigotry is the worst kind of evil in our world and does not represent the true values of America."

"The true values of our country, values like equality and solidarity, are what have always overcome the most abominable prejudices. Any response must begin with our leaders, starting with President Trump, acknowledging this for what it is: domestic terrorism rooted in bigotry."

"My heart goes out to the victims especially the family of those who lost their lives including a young woman named Heather Heyer and state Troopers Lieutenant H. Jay Cullen and Trooper-Pilot Berke M.M. Bates. I pray for everyone's safety."

"The labor movement condemns this domestic terrorism and remains committed to eradicating the despicable causes of hatred and intolerance."

Minnesota AFL-CIO President Bill McCarthy issued the following statement:

"Minnesota's working people echo AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka's condemnation of Saturday's act of domes-

'White supremacists like Nazis, the KKK, and other so-called 'alt-right' groups have long used bigotry, violence, and fear to divide working people.'

— Bill McCarthy, president,
Minnesota AFL-CIO

tic terrorism in Charlottesville..."

"White supremacists like Nazis, the KKK, and other so-called "alt-right" groups have long used bigotry, violence, and fear to divide working people."

"Minnesota's labor movement resolutely rejects these poisonous ideologies that have no place in our country. We call on President Trump to apologize for the comments he made on Tuesday and strongly reject the white supremacists who support him. Working people in Minnesota and across the country renew our commitment to justice..."

National Nurses United executive director RoseAnn DeMoro commented:

"As a society, it is incumbent upon all of us to forcefully repudiate all expressions of white supremacy, racial hatred, and bigotry," she said. "Anyone familiar with the history of how white supremacy stained our nation and our democracy cannot be surprised that continued expressions of that virulent philosophy would lead to violence today."

"All of our nation's elected leaders, starting in the White House, have a responsibility to condemn racial hatred and the violence it encourages, and disassociate from those promoting it," DeMoro declared.



The newly-restored State Capitol rotunda: more stunning than ever.

State Capitol shines anew Festivities celebrate renovation, acknowledge workers past, present

ST. PAUL — With three days of festivities August 11-13, Minnesota celebrated the grand re-opening of the newly-restored State Capitol building.

Workers who participated in the recent renovation work — as well as the workers who originally built the State Capitol — were honored at a special event August 13.

Governor Mark Dayton not-

ed that the \$310 million renovation involved 1.4 million hours of construction work.

"What you did is just phenomenal," Dayton said to construction workers. "For all of Minnesota, thank you from the bottom of our hearts."

"This is a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity for those of us who work in the trades," said Harry **STATE CAPITOL page 16**



The Capitol now includes a plaque honoring workers who restored it and built it, including six who died during the original construction. Co-sponsor of the memorial plaque bill, State Representative John Petersburg, R-Waseca (left), talked with one of the plaque's designers, middle school student Kalina Boubin, Owatonna (right).