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MINNESOTA DFL

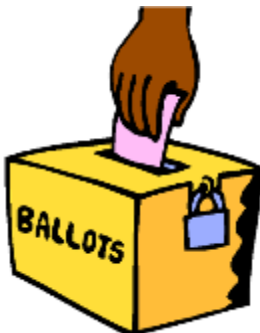
# SENIOR CAUCUS

MAKING A BETTER WORLD FOR OUR CHILDREN,  
OUR GRANDCHILDREN, AND OURSELVES

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## ***DFL SENIOR CAUCUS MONTHLY MESSAGE***

*If you would like to participate in, or for more information about, any of these Senior Caucus activities, send an email to [dflseniors@gmail.com](mailto:dflseniors@gmail.com). We welcome your input!*



### ***Senior Caucus Political Affairs Committee***

The DFL Senior Caucus Political Affairs Committee (PAC) identifies, researches, and develops priorities for legislative action benefiting seniors throughout the state based on input from members, interviews with legislators and coordination with other entities working towards shared goals for improved services for seniors. In addition to

past priorities, the PAC has three new legislative priorities for the 2023 session:

- Addressing Minnesota's severe workforce shortage through increased wages for in-home care and nursing home staff. The lack of caregivers threatens seniors' ability to stay in their own homes and is negatively impacting quality of care for nursing home and assisted living residents.
- *Hoffman, Abeler, Kupec, Hauschild, Farnsworth*) SF780 (*Edelson with 14 others*) SF0733 (**Nursing Facility Payment Rates***Hoffman, Abeler, Fateh, Dzeidzic, Miller*) SF7 (*Noor with 11 others*) HF32 (**Caregiver Stabilization Act**)
- Establishing a **Legislative Task Force on Aging** to review the needs of Minnesota's seniors. It is hoped that this legislation could lead to a Department on Aging to advocate for and coordinate senior services across agencies. HF0979 (*Kleven, Noor and 20 others*)SF1022 (*Morrison, Wiklund, Hoffman, Abeler, Marty*)
- **Increasing funds for the senior nutrition program.** State funds for programs like home delivered meals and food bank assistance have not been significantly increased for over two decades\ despite increased food costs and need for food support. HF2523

*(Fischer, Noor, Frederick, Schomacker, Kiel)SF2244 (Maye Quade, Hoffman, Abeler, Fateh, Morrison)*

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## **CHAPTER NOTABLES**



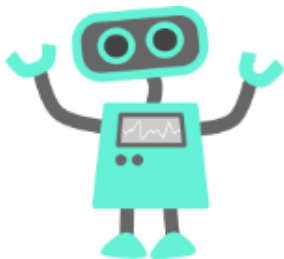
- **North Metro Chapter**, - Speaker: Joe Crowe, ISAI AH's 2023 legislative agenda.
  - **Minneapolis Area** – nominating and endorsing candidate for city council.
  - **South Metro** - Mary Fasbender, Mayor of Hastings, described efforts in the river city to expand the types and affordability of housing
  - **Anoka County** – DFL Senior Caucus Chair, Kay Hendrikson speaking on the Senior Caucus strategic goals; April Meeting will be Professor Kate Schaefer University of Minnesota Director of Lifelong Learning.
  - **East Metro** - - **Lucia Wroblewski**, a member of the Afton City Council and former police officer, will talk about senior safety issues. April: Eileen Weber, discusses Health Care issues that we all care about.
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## ***SENIOR CAUCUS MEMBER OF THE MONTH***

Bonnie Stanton became a member of the Senior Caucus in 2022. She is a Licensed Social Worker for Nexus-Kindred Family Healing, a foster care and adoption agency. She has attended the Mankato Area Chapter meetings even though she is still working full time. She jumped right into the Senior Caucus postcard writing campaign to get seniors out to vote for Southwest MN DFL candidates in 2022 and completed more postcards than all other Mankato Area Chapter members. She is also active with other local DFL organizing units and is now serving on a SD18 Committee for the 24th Annual Burton Dinner Fundraiser. This year the theme is 'Saving Democracy'.

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## ***TECHNICAL TIP OF THE MONTH***

There's one simple thing you can do that significantly reduces your risk of getting hacked on the Internet: use a unique password per account. The reason is simple. A single website that gets hacked can expose your password at that one site, but not at any other sites. However, a password that is used at multiple sites can expose you to a lot more cases of hacked accounts. Also, beware of the "secret"

information that some sites collect to help you reset your password. It can also be used to hack your accounts if it's the same at multiple sites. Make your passwords out of silly phrases—the more they are the easier it is to use them. Here's an example: WoodyfuzzSoap3

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### **SENIOR CAUCUS BOOK CLUB**

**On April 17** at 10:50 a.m. We will discuss ***Diesel Heart* by Melvin Whitfield Carter Jr**, and he will join us. Thanks to Janet Dieterich for setting that up. Come with your comments and questions! Request the link from [dfiseniors@gmail.com](mailto:dfiseniors@gmail.com)



### **DIVERSITY, EQUITY & INCLUSION EVENTS**

04/02 is Palm Sunday

04/05 first night of Passover and first Seder (prescribed by a central book called the Haggadah)

04/5 to 04/12 is the whole holiday

4/5 – 4/12 (Only the first two days and last two are holidays)

04/09 is Easter

*Let us know if some cultural event is happening in your community.*

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# Membership!

## **MEMBERSHIP RECRUITMENT**

This month the East Metro Chapter will be piloting our recruitment efforts. We will be using the DFL VAN database to find people over the age of 60, who are strong democrats, who have voted in the 2022, 2020, and 2018 elections. We are also piloting a “welcome wagon” approach to people who respond to the recruitment emails by adding welcoming behavior from the Chapter and from the statewide Senior Caucus. Let’s see how this goes!!

Join us and become an active member of our DFL Senior Caucus to help us address the needs of seniors. [Join/Renew here](#)

**No dues are required!** Because no dues are required, we would love it if you donate! [Donate Here](#)

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## **SAVE THE DATE - NEXT EVENTS FOR STATEWIDE SENIOR CAUCUS**

- Annual Membership Meeting: June 28 virtual only
  - National Speaker: TBD
  - State Fair August 24 – Sept 4, 2023
  - Annual Gala: October 2023
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## **LOCAL CHAPTERS SCHEDULED MEETINGS**

- **Anoka County Chapter**  
Second Wednesday of every month at 1:00 p.m.  
Perkins Restaurant in Blaine
- **East Metro Chapter**  
Second Thursday August through November at 11:00 a.m.  
Jerry's Foods Woodbury
- **Mankato Area Chapter**  
First Monday of every month at 11:30 a.m.  
Happy Chef, 2100 Hwy 169, North Mankato
- **Minneapolis Area Chapter**  
Second Saturday of every month  
Zoom
- **North East MN Chapter**  
Third Tuesday of every month at 4:30 p.m.  
Sara's Table Chester Creek Cafe (1902 E Eighth St. Duluth, MN)
- **North Metro Chapter**  
First Wednesday of every month at 11:30 a.m.  
Little Venetian Inn, 2900 Rice St # 240, Little Canada
- **Saint Paul Area Chapter**  
zoom
- **Southeast MN Chapter**  
Second Tuesday of every month at 1:30 p.m.  
Hybrid in-person/online from DFL Office:  
1500 1st Street NE, Rochester
- **South Metro Chapter**  
Second Wednesday of every month at 12 noon  
Pizza Ranch in Lakeville (16995 Kenyon Avenue, 952-898-3333)
- **East Central MN Chapter**  
Second Thursday of odd-numbered months at 1:00 p.m.  
Kev's Depot, 118 Railroad Ave NE, Mora; Currently on hiatus

### **STATE-WIDE SENIOR CAUCUS CONTACT INFORMATION**

Contact the Senior Caucus at [dfseniors@gmail.com](mailto:dfseniors@gmail.com)

**Board Officers:** Chair and SEC Liaison, Kay Hendrikson, Vice Chair, Don Slaten, Treasurer, Nancy Stroessner, Secretary, Janet Conn and Membership Director, Mary Bliesmer

Technology Chair: Bill Middlecamp, Governance Chair: Mel Aanerud, Chapter Chair

Coordinator, Mel Aanerud, Book Club Moderator and webmaster: Cindy Spellman;  
Facebook Admin Linda Hopkins

**At Large Directors:** Janet Conn, John Corcoran, Roger Gerhke, Linda Hopkins, Pat Kelly, Dwayne King, Linda Larson, Bill Middlecamp, Sue Moravec, Joe Mullery, Jim Reed, Sandy Sandoval, Tony Scallon, Ann Siefert, Cindy Spellman; **Past Chair:** Don Bye

[Donations are always welcome click here](#)

If you prefer make your check to DFL Senior Caucus and mail to Senior Caucus  
Treasurer - 1453 Hayes Road, Apple Valley, MN 55124

**Contact** the Senior Caucus at [dflseniors@gmail.com](mailto:dflseniors@gmail.com)

Join the Senior Caucus

[Website](#)

[Facebook Page](#)

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## *EXPERIENCE MATTERS*

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### **Our mailing address is:**

14253 Hayes Apple Valley MN 55124

Find the MN DFL Senior Caucus website [here](#)

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