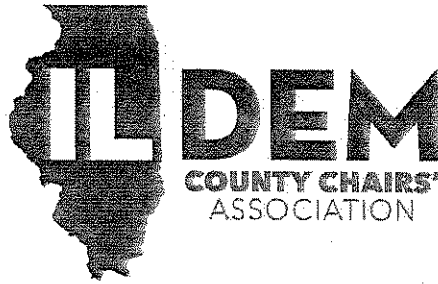


**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION  
GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING  
SATURDAY AUGUST 3, 2019  
Illinois Association of Realtors, 522 S. 5<sup>th</sup> St., Springfield**

**AGENDA**

1. Call to Order
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. Guest Speakers
  - a. Steve Booth – Precinct Program Development
  - b. Nate Harris – Petition Overview
4. President's Report
5. Secretary's Report
  - a. Approval of Minutes from May 18, 2019 Meeting
6. Treasurer's Report
  - a. Approval of Treasurer's Report
7. Executive Director's Report
8. Endorsements for consideration
9. Open Discussion
10. Announcements
11. Adjourn



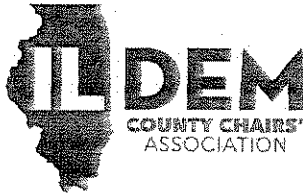
## **Code of Conduct**

The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association is committed to providing an environment free from discrimination and harassment. We ask all meeting participants to embrace our values of equity and equality and conduct themselves in this meeting consistent with those values. President House has assigned two designees as the first point of contact for anyone who thinks they have experienced discriminatory, harassing or otherwise unacceptable behavior. We urge you to contact a designee if you have any concerns.

## **Designees**

Dan Kovats, [dan@ildcca.org](mailto:dan@ildcca.org), 217-753-3380 or 773-351-7818

Jillian Hawkins, [jillian@ildcca.org](mailto:jillian@ildcca.org), 217-753-3380



**ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION**  
**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
**SATURDAY MAY 18, 2019**  
**CROWNE PLAZA – SPRINGFIELD, 3000 S DIRKSEN PKWY**

**MINUTES**

**Attendance – Executive Board**

Vice President Billy Halstead, Peoria	Vice President Terry Redman, DeWitt	Vice President Jay Briney, Mason
Vice President Doris Turner, Sangamon	Vice President Pam Davidson, Knox	Secretary Mark Von Nida, Madison
At Large Member Erik Rank, McLean		

**Attendance – General Membership**

Dan Sidwell, Bond	John Gedney, Boone	Joyce Brannan, Cass
John Spencer, Clay	Matt Cain, Clinton	Jim Luebke, DeKalb
Cynthia Borbas, DuPage	Jackie Knackmus, Edwards	Daryle Coleman, Fulton
Kory Chapman, Greene	Richard Joyce, Grundy	Kim Weaver, Hancock
Dennis Austin, Hardin	Julie Gondar, Kendall	Joe Weger, Lawrence
John Reis Jr, Livingston	Danny Stover, Marion	Polly Radosh, McDonough
Jan Occhi, Mercer	Scot Luchtefeld, Monroe	Dana Ryan, Morgan
Christine Ballard, Ogle	Sheila Maloney, Piatt	Kevin Duesterhaus, Pike
Roger Kerley, Pulaski	Charles Clayton, Schuyler	Ed Hoover, Scott

Brittany Miller, Tazewell	Germaine Light, Vermilion	Tim Scates, White
Fidencio Hooper-Campos, Whiteside	Bill Thoman, Will	Junius Rodriguez, Woodford

#### Attendance – Alternates

David Seiler, Effingham	Bob Sheridan, Lee	Susan Hepp, Perry
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#### Attendance – Guests

Theresa Sheridan	Jack Sinnott	Glenn Truesdell
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- 1) Meeting was called to order by Vice President Billy Halstead at 12:16pm.
- 2) Vice President Halstead announced that President Zahorik is unable to attend the meeting due to a family commitment.
- 3) Vice President Halstead called for a brief recess at 12:17pm.
- 4) Vice President Halstead called the meeting back to order at 12:33pm.
- 5) Vice President Halstead introduced the guest speakers.
  - a) US Senator Dick Durbin
    - i) Thanked everyone who helped usher in the Blue Wave in 2018 to help elect our statewide ticket.
    - ii) Spoke about new individuals who got involved because of groups like Indivisible.
    - iii) Spoke about our number #1 job in 2020 is to elect a new President. Spoke about the number of outstanding Democratic candidates for President.
    - iv) Called on all attendees to ask their Presidential candidate of choice if they will stand with the Democratic nominee in 2020.
    - v) Spoke about the challenges of being a downstate Democrat and the challenges we face in those counties.
    - vi) Called on the need to have a Precinct Committeeperson in every precinct in every county. Called on the need to have a Democratic candidate running for every office.
    - vii) Spoke about the needs and concerns that voters truly care about. Spoke about the need to focus less on Trump's twitter rants.
  - b) State Treasurer Mike Frerichs
    - i) Spoke about his experience running for office in a Republican district and running in a Republican county.
    - ii) Spoke about this experience running for State Treasurer and being short on votes on Election Night.

- iii) Spoke about the need for us to deliver a Democratic message to voters and we should not be afraid to share our stories. Spoke about the need to give voters something to vote for.
- c) Mark Rusell, Act Blue
  - i) Introduced Act Blue to the County Chairs' and advantages of using Act Blue for online fundraising.
- d) RJ Jacobs, Liberty Bell Communications
  - i) Introduced Liberty Bell Communications to the County Chairs' and advantages of using Liberty Bell to assist with campaign operations.
- e) Collyn Warner, National Democratic Training Committee
  - i) Introduced the NDTC to the County Chairs' and the advantages of accessing the free online training that they provide to every Democratic candidate.
- 6) Vice President Halstead called for a brief recess at 1:08pm.
- 7) Vice President Halstead called the meeting back to order at 1:19pm.
- 8) Vice President Halstead recognized all the newly elected / appointed County Chairs'.
- 9) Vice President Halstead introduced the guest speakers.
  - a) Nikki Budzinski, Office of Governor JB Pritzker
    - i) Thanked all the Chairs for everything they did to help elect JB Pritzker.
    - ii) Provided a brief update on what has been accomplished and what still needs to be done during the legislative session.
      - (1) Underscored the financial difficulty that Governor Pritzker faced when he took office. Spoke about the difficulty faced by the State Agencies because of Bruce Rauner.
      - (2) Governor Pritzker signed several Executive Orders upon taking office.
      - (3) Governor Pritzker pushed and got passed a raise in the minimum wage to \$15 an hour.
      - (4) Governor Pritzker is trying to pass a Capital Bill, legalization of marijuana, and legalization of sports betting.
      - (5) Governor Pritzker is pushing for adding a Fair Tax constitutional amendment to the 2020 ballot. The Fair Tax would be like Iowa, Wisconsin, and Minnesota.
  - b) Mary Morrissey, Democratic Party of Illinois
    - i) Spoke about the priorities of Chairman Madigan and the Democratic Party of Illinois.
    - ii) Reassured that the Democratic Party of Illinois is looking at all parts of the state. Committed to helping with messaging and resources to help counties.
    - iii) Spoke about the need to help recruit candidates to run for Delegate to the Democratic National Convention for every Presidential candidates. Spoke about the Democratic Party of Illinois hosting Delegate Selection Meetings to inform Democrats on the process to run for and be elected Delegate.
    - iv) Spoke about the need for assistance identifying lower represented parts of every community as part of the 2020 Census.

- v) Informed the Chairs that the Democratic Party of Illinois will be conducting a survey with the County Chairs on Votebuilder and would appreciate our participation.

10) Secretary's Report

- a) Minutes were sent via email to all County Chairs' for review.
- b) Motion was made by Vice President Terry Redman to approve the minutes of the November 10, 2018 General Membership Meeting. Motion was seconded by Vice President Jay Briney. Motion passed unanimously.
- c) Motion was made by Vice President Redman to approve the minutes of the February 16, 2019 General Membership Meeting. Motion was seconded by Vice President Briney. Motion passed unanimously.

11) Treasurer's Report

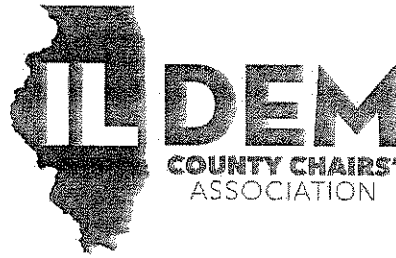
- a) Due to a family emergency, Treasurer Dennis Fisher was unable to attend the meeting. Vice President Halstead presented the Treasurer's Report.
  - i) State PAC - \$70,016.54
  - ii) Federal PAC - \$10,804.08
  - iii) Total Cash on Hand - \$80,820.62
- b) Motion was made by Vice President Redman to approve the Treasurer's Report. Motion was seconded by Vice President Briney. Motion passed unanimously.

12) Executive Director's Report

- a) Thanked the IDCCA staff; Assistant Executive Director Jillian Hawkins and Communications Director Toby Trimmer.
- b) The County Chairs' Brunch is scheduled for Wednesday August 14, 2019 at the Crowne Plaza – Springfield. The guest speaker has not been determined. Mentioned that, if we get a national figure as the guest speaker, we will be sitting in theater style seating like the 2018 County Chairs' Brunch.
- c) Provided an update on the Candidate Boot Camp. 193 candidates were accepted into the Boot Camp and 167 attended. Spoke about the addition of a staff training track to the Candidate Boot Camp. Spoke about switching to a one-day training in the future.
- d) Encouraged the County Chairs' to share the Candidate Quick Guide that was provided in the Chairs' Packet.
- e) Announced that close to 7,200 people participated in the online Presidential Poll in late April. Stated that the IDCCA was truly looking for a snapshot of where the Democratic Party is right now with the Presidential campaign. Announced that US Senator Bernie Sanders (VT) won the poll at 27%. Mayor Pete Buttigieg (IN) was second at 23%. The other reason for the poll was a new way for outreach and fundraising.
- f) Announced that he will be taking 2 – 3 weeks off in early October for the birth of his second child. In his absence, Assistant Executive Director Hawkins will be running the day to day operations.

13) Introduction of General Membership Resolution 2019 – 001 (attached)

- a) Motion was made by Boone County Chair John Gedney to approve General Membership Resolution 2019 – 001. Motion was seconded by Vice President Pam Davidson. Motion passed unanimously.
  - b) Vice President Halstead took questions from the floor.
  - c) Vice President Halstead encouraged all County Parties to pass similar resolutions to encourage County Parties and candidates to promote American-made union products.
- 14) Meeting was adjourned at 2:05pm.



**GENERAL MEMBERSHIP RESOLUTION 2019 – 001**

WHEREAS, the members of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association (IDCCA) are proud to stand with American workers and fight for working people throughout Illinois; and

WHEREAS, American-made, union products are made with pride, integrity, and quality materials; and

WHEREAS, Union-made products are sold on a competitive market; and

WHEREAS, American workers are under attack by a global system that devalues labor and undermines the ability of workers to earn a fair wage; therefore, be it

RESOLVED, BY THE MEMBERS OF THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION, that the IDCCA will adopt policies to buy union-made in the United States products whenever such products are available; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IDCCA will promote buy American-made union products to all County Democratic Parties and Democratic candidates for office; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the IDCCA strongly encourages County Democratic Parties and Democratic candidates for office to publicly state their support for such policies.

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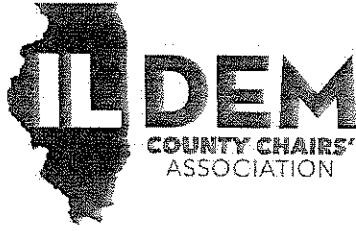
Kristina Zahorik  
President

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Mark Von Nida  
Secretary

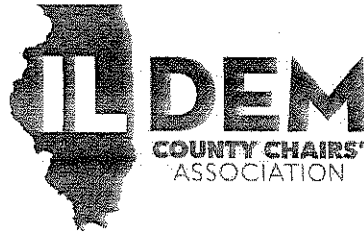
May 18, 2019





## TREASURER'S REPORT

<b>Account Balance (as of 8/2/19)</b>	
<i>State PAC</i>	\$231,928.91
<i>Federal PAC</i>	\$22,164.08
<i>Total Cash on Hand</i>	\$254,092.99



**PRE – GOVERNOR’S DAY EVENTS  
TUESDAY AUGUST 13<sup>TH</sup> – SPRINGFIELD**

**4:00pm – 6:00pm – Illinois AFL – CIO Labor Appreciation Reception, 534 S 2<sup>nd</sup> St (County Chair & plus one invited)**

**4:30pm – 6:00pm – Reception in support of Susana Mendoza, Floyd’s Thirst Parlor, 210 S 5<sup>th</sup> St.**

**4:30pm – 6:30pm – State Fair Reception Honoring Senator Andy Manar, Stonegate Farm, 4419 Old Chatham Rd**

**5:30pm – 7:00pm – Celebration at the Illinois State Fair with Robin Kelly, Floyd’s Thirst Parlor, 210 S 5<sup>th</sup> St.**

**5:30pm – 7:00pm – Pre-Governor’s Day Reception for Kwame Raoul, Arlington’s, 210 Broadway**

**5:30pm – 7:30pm – Governor’s Day Eve Reception with Sen. Melinda Bush, Sen. Christina Castro, Sen. Toi Hutchinson, Rep Mary Edly-Allen, & Rep. Joyce Mason, Illinois Association of Realtors, 522 S 5<sup>th</sup> St.**

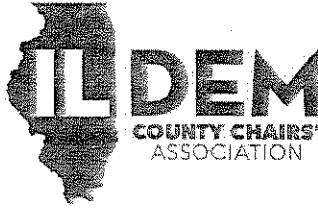
**6:00pm – 8:00pm – Bash Before the Brunch with the Illinois Democratic Women, Café Moxo, 411 E Adams**

**6:30pm – 8:00pm – Reception in support of Rep Jay Hoffman, Saputo’s Restaurant, 801 E Monroe**

**7:30pm – 9:00pm – Governor’s Day Eve Celebration with Treasurer Mike Frerichs, DH Browns, 231 E Monroe**

**8:00pm – 10:00pm – Pre Dem Day-Beers with the Young Democrats of Illinois, Anvil & Forge Brewing, 619 E Washington**

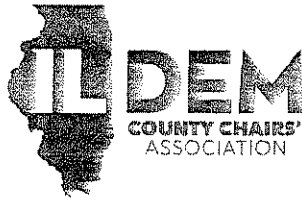
**9:00pm – 12:00am – Last Bash Before the Brunch with Collar County Chairs, Crowne Plaza (14<sup>th</sup> Floor), 3000 S Dirksen Pkway**



## Illinois Democratic Leadership Key Staff Contacts

Democratic Party of Illinois	Mary Morrissey	Mary@ildems.com
Illinois Senate Democratic Victory Fund	Nate Harris	nate@ilsenatedems.org
Illinois Democratic Women	Kim Savage	kimsavage@gmail.com
Illinois Democratic Women	Jennifer Camille Lee	jennifercamillelee@gmail.com
Young Democrats of Illinois	Arielle Maffei	amaffei@gmail.com
College Democrats of Illinois	Hadiya Afzal	hafza741@gmail.com

Governor JB Pritzker	Quentin Fulks	quentin@jbpritzkercampaign.com
Attorney General Kwame Raoul	Hanah Jubeh	hanah@kwameraoul.com
Secretary of State Jesse White	Rocco Claps	rocco@jessewhite2018.com
Comptroller Susana Mendoza	David Szostak	david.szostak@susanamendoza.com
Treasurer Mike Frerichs	Samantha Szpunar	sam@friendsoffrerichs.com
US Senator Dick Durbin	Bill Houlihan	billhou54@aol.com
US Senator Dick Durbin	Greg Bales	gmbales@gmail.com
US Senator Tammy Duckworth	Cameron Joost	cameron@tammyduckworth.com
Congressman Bobby Rush		
Congresswoman Robin Kelly	Tony Presta	tonyniu@yahoo.com
Congresswoman Robin Kelly	John Moore	johnvmoore@gmail.com
Congressman Dan Lipinski		
Congressman Chuy Garcia		
Congressman Mike Quigley	Tom Bowen	tom@newchicagollc.com
Congressman Sean Casten	Chloe Hunt	chloe.tweed.hunt@gmail.com
Congressman Danny Davis		
Congressman Raja Krishnamoorthi	Hannah Amundsen	hannah@rajaforcongress.com
Congresswoman Jan Schakowsky	Ben Head	benhead@janschakowsky.org
Congressman Brad Schneider	Jake Kaplan	jake@schneiderforcongress.com
Congressman Bill Foster	Robert Bourret	Robert@billfoster.com
Congresswoman Lauren Underwood	Ronnie Cho	ronnie@underwoodforcongress.com
Congresswoman Cheri Bustos	Haleigh Hoff	haleigh@cheribustos.com



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, May 20, 2019

**Contact:** Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | toby@ildcca.org

## **UNION-FRIENDLY GOODS & SERVICES PLEDGE APPROVED BY ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION** *Pro-labor patronage means support for working and middle-class American families*

**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – UNION YES! is more than a slogan for the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association. During a Saturday, May 18<sup>th</sup> general membership meeting, the coalition representing all 102 county Democratic Party leaders approved an association-wide resolution to put priority spending on products, services and business enterprises that are pro-labor.

"In products and services, American union quality is second to none," said **Kristina Zahorik**, president of the IDCCA and Chair of the McHenry County Democratic Party. "We're determined to ensure that every time our counties need a product or service, we are looking for the reliable assurance that comes with the union label."

Under the Resolution, the IDCCA will not only make American-made, union-friendly purchases, but the group will promote pro-union commerce among their statewide network of thousands of Illinois Democrats.

"As the IDCCA engages county parties, Democratic incumbents and candidates, coalition partners and others, we will be directing them to put organized labor first," said **Dan Kovats**, Executive Director of the IDCCA. "Every year, millions of dollars are spent by Illinois progressives, and our Chairs know the IDCCA has an obligation to support unions in every way possible."

Zahorik wants the unanimous approval of the resolution to help remind Democrats that the partnership between the party and organized labor is critically important and must not be weakened.

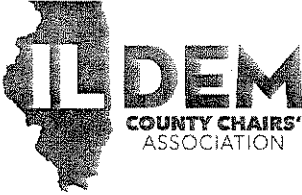
"The IDCCA and Illinois labor share a core set of priorities, including the determination that ordinary workers receive fair and equal wages, good benefits, and a stable, dignified retirement," **Zahorik** said. "Together, labor members and grassroots Democrats are fighting for what truly matters to American families; affordable and accessible health care, excellent schools for every child, and a government that invests in opportunity for all people, instead of just the millionaires and billionaires."

**Attached:** IDCCA General Membership Resolution 2019-001

###

### **ABOUT THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION:**

The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association is a statewide, grassroots Democratic political organization. It is comprised of the elected Democratic County Chairs in all 102 counties in Illinois. The mission of the IDCCA is to help elect Democrats in every county while continuing to grow the Democratic Party in the State of Illinois. McHenry County Democratic Party Chair Kristina Zahorik serves as the association's President. Learn more at [www.ildcca.org](http://www.ildcca.org), [www.facebook.com/ILDCCA](https://www.facebook.com/ILDCCA) and [www.twitter.com/ILDCCA](https://www.twitter.com/ILDCCA)



# NEWS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release:**  
Monday, May 20, 2019

**Contact:**  
Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | [toby@ildcca.org](mailto:toby@ildcca.org) | @ILDCCA

## **IDCCA STATEMENT ON THE INAUGURATION OF CHICAGO MAYOR LORI LIGHTFOOT**

**The following statement is attributed to Kristina Zahorik, President of the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association...**

“On behalf of our 102 Democratic County Chairs, scores of precinct committeepersons throughout Illinois, and the volunteers and activists who fight tirelessly for meaningful progress, I’m honored to congratulate Chicago’s newest mayor, Lori Lightfoot.

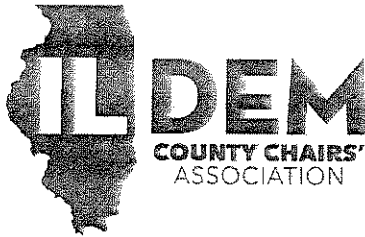
“All Illinois Democrats can be proud of Mayor Lightfoot’s historic inauguration. I am confident Mayor Lightfoot’s imprint will be far more than a profile of diversity in gender and race. Mayor Lightfoot has the opportunity to bring prosperity to millions of Illinois families, inside and outside, the borders of the city of Chicago.

In these efforts, the IDCCA will continue our commitment to fortifying the bridges of political partnership existing between the city of Chicago and every other community in Illinois.”

###

### **ABOUT THE ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION:**

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# NEWS RELEASE

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**  
Wednesday, July 3, 2019

**FOR MORE INFORMATION:**  
Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | [Toby@ILDCCA.org](mailto:Toby@ILDCCA.org)

## **IDCCA ANNOUNCES SPECIAL GUEST U.S. HOUSE SPEAKER NANCY PELOSI FOR 2019 CHAIRS' BRUNCH**

*Thousands expected to attend annual State Fair event to celebrate "Big Things" successes and welcome national top Democrat*

**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – Throughout the years, the annual IDCCA County Chairs' Brunch has grown from a small gathering into a premiere midwestern event to rally thousands of grassroots Democrats into activism. Association President Kristina Zahorik today announced that Democrats are ready to show this year's special guest, U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, the party is leading on "big things" for Illinois and they're ready to bring the same enthusiasm to the 2020 election cycle.

"Until Democrats took the helm of our state in January, Illinois was repeatedly failed by Republicans who had nothing more to offer than constant conflict, crisis and division. Democrats swept the state in 2018 and we're delivering on the big things we promised. Leaders like Speaker Nancy Pelosi have helped to inspire our tough battles. It's an enormous privilege to welcome her to our 2019 Chairs' Brunch where she'll experience just how determined Democrats are to defeat the directionless Republican Party." - **Kristina Zahorik**, IDCCA President

Pelosi has served as a member of the California congressional delegation since 1987. She became the first female to be elected House Speaker in 2007 and served until Republicans took control in 2011. Under Pelosi's leadership, Democrats added 43 seats to Congress in the 2018 election, including two pickups in Illinois. Pelosi regained the Speaker's gavel, leading an agenda to restore middle-class opportunity and progress and ending Republican Donald Trump's priorities that cater only to the world's richest insiders.

Illinois' senior U.S. Senator, Dick Durbin has been a hands-on partner in growing the number of Democrats in the state's congressional delegation. In his pitch to Pelosi, he wants to show her that not only do more potential Democratic Party pickups remain in Illinois, there are thousands of the Party's faithful who support her leadership to build a pro-working and middle-class agenda.

"I have seen Speaker Nancy Pelosi's leadership first hand. More than any member of the House, it was Speaker Pelosi's determined leadership that saved the Affordable Care Act, protecting the health care of 20 million Americans—including one million Illinoisans. Her energy, commitment, and effectiveness as Speaker of the House is unmatched. I'm pleased to welcome her as the speaker at this year's Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Brunch." - **Dick Durbin**, United States Senator

Since entering office in January, Illinois Governor JB Pritzker has shepherded a movement to stabilize state government and move quickly on opportunities for progress. Coming off one of the most productive legislative sessions in contemporary history, Pritzker is fulfilling the promise of his "Think Big" agenda to weave Democratic values with achievable goals for every Illinois community.

“Nancy Pelosi has been an exceptional leader in Congress fighting against Donald Trump and standing up for our country’s values. She led the way in passing the Affordable Care Act for Barack Obama and expanding healthcare to over a million Illinoisans, saving our economy from the Great Recession, and protecting our nation’s immigrants. Thanks to her guidance and vision, Democrats took back the House of Representatives and we will continue to expand our majority by re-electing Sean Casten and Lauren Underwood and sending Betsy Dirksen Londrigan to Congress. I’m proud to welcome her to our state for the Illinois Democratic County Chairs’ Brunch.” – **JB Pritzker**, Governor of the State of Illinois

U.S. Senator Tammy Duckworth, who served with Pelosi as a member of Illinois’ congressional delegation, says Pelosi is a consensus builder with a strong record of support for America’s middle-class. It’s a message she believes Illinois Democrats are excited to hear.

"Speaker Nancy Pelosi is an impressive leader who has spent her entire career fighting for working and middle class families, and I'm delighted that she will headline the annual Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association Brunch this year. I'm excited to hear from her about how we can work to bring our party together, support Illinois's working families and move forward as a nation." – **Tammy Duckworth**, United States Senator

Throughout Pelosi’s tenure as Speaker and leader of the House Democratic Caucus, women have accepted important roles in strengthening the national Democratic Party. Illinois Congresswoman Cheri Bustos chairs the Democratic Congressional Campaign Committee where she is focusing on bringing more Democrats to Washington.

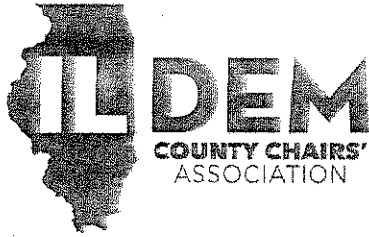
"Under Speaker Pelosi's leadership, our new House Democratic majority has worked tirelessly to bring down the cost of health care, invest in our infrastructure and clean up corruption in Washington. As the Chairwoman of the House Democrats' campaign arm, it's my job to grow and defend our majority -- and Illinois is so important to that goal. We need to work together to send Sean Casten and Lauren Underwood back to Congress -- and elect candidates like Betsy Dirksen Londrigan who'll fight every day to protect folks with pre-existing conditions and bring down the cost of prescription drugs. I look forward to working with Speaker Pelosi and the Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association to grow our Democratic majority and succeed in Illinois next November."- **Cheri Bustos**, Congresswoman (IL-17)

In 2018, a crowd of more than 3000 attended the IDCCA’s Chairs’ Brunch. This summer’s event is expected to meet or exceed last year’s numbers, drawing visitors from throughout Illinois as well as neighboring states.

*The IDCCA County Chairs’ Brunch will be held at the Crowne Plaza Hotel in Springfield on Wednesday, August 14, 2019. General Admission tickets go on sale on Monday, July 15, 2019. Event details and methods of purchasing tickets can be found at [www.ILDCCA.org/chairs-brunch](http://www.ILDCCA.org/chairs-brunch) and via social media at [www.facebook.com/ILDCCA](http://www.facebook.com/ILDCCA) and [www.twitter.com/ILDCCA](http://www.twitter.com/ILDCCA)*

###

The Illinois Democratic County Chairs’ Association (IDCCA) is a statewide, grassroots Democratic Party organization comprised of the elected Democratic County Chairs in all 102 counties in Illinois. The mission of the IDCCA is to help elect Democrats in every county and region of Illinois while continuing to grow the Democratic Party throughout the state. McHenry County Chair Kristina Zahorik is the elected President of the IDCCA.



# NEWS RELEASE

ILLINOIS DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS' ASSOCIATION

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Tuesday, July 23, 2019

FOR MORE INFORMATION:

Toby Trimmer, Communications Director  
(217) 622-7547 | [Toby@ILDCCA.org](mailto:Toby@ILDCCA.org)

## DEMOCRATIC COUNTY CHAIRS TO HONOR PELOSI, POSHARD, GORDON-BOOTH WITH 2019 PARTY BUILDER AWARDS

**SPRINGFIELD, Illinois** – The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association today announced the organization's final three 2019 Party Builder Award honorees: U.S. House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, former Illinois Congressman Glenn Poshard, and Illinois House Deputy Leader Jehan Gordon-Booth.

"The IDCCA Party Builder Award is reserved for those who've influenced and activated grassroots Democrats in meaningful ways," said IDCCA President Kristina Zahorik. "These honorees are reflective of the important work that is being done on the ground in every corner of our state."

**Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA)**, who will be the special guest at the 2019 IDCCA Chairs' Brunch on August 14<sup>th</sup>, will be the highest-serving elected official to ever receive the award. Pelosi has served in congress since 1987 and has served in the House Democratic leadership since 2003. She is the first woman to be elected as Speaker of the United States House of Representatives and has advanced historic middle-class priorities including the Affordable Care Act. Last week, Pelosi and House Democrats passed a plan to incrementally increase the federal minimum wage to \$15 per hour.

While he's known all over Illinois as a fierce fighter for organized labor and worker fairness, former **Congressman Glenn Poshard** is a legend throughout Southern Illinois. A lifelong Illinoisan, Poshard began his public service career immediately out of college – first as a teacher, then as an Illinois State Senator (1984-1988). In 1989, Poshard was elected to represent a wide swath of Southern Illinois in congress. Congressman Poshard built a record of boosting rural health care access and advanced initiatives addressing abuse, neglect and abandonment of children. The Poshard Foundation for Abused Children, led by Congressman Poshard and his wife Jo, have been recognized throughout the state for their efforts to improve the lives of abused and neglected children.

In 2006, Poshard took on the role as President of the Southern Illinois University system. Upon his 2014 retirement he returned to the campaign trail, traversing the state advocating for the importance of electing Democrats. In 2016 & 2018, Poshard was an instrumental part of the IDCCA Get Out The Vote efforts traveling to over 60 counties to rally Democrats.

**Representative Jehan Gordon-Booth (D-Peoria)** has a knack for making history. When she won her first election to the statehouse in 2008, Gordon-Booth was the first African American woman elected from central Illinois. In January, Gordon-Booth was appointed to leadership, becoming the youngest woman to become Deputy Majority Leader in Illinois state history.



Leader Gordon-Booth is known for tackling big issues in Springfield. She has made economic and social justice the cornerstone of her service. In 2018, she led the passage of the Neighborhood Safety Act, the most comprehensive criminal justice reform package in state history. In 2019, she was instrumental in passing several pieces of progressive legislation including the legalization of marijuana.

In total, there are six 2019 Party Builder honorees. In February, the IDCCA presented awards to **Lucy Moog**, Democratic Committeeperson for Chicago's 43<sup>rd</sup> Ward; **Ron Powell**, longtime labor activist and former Local 881 UFCW President, and; posthumously honored, Public Relations trailblazer **Desiree Tate**, who was a longtime community organizer and public relations advisor for scores of elected Democrats, including Chicago mayors and President Barack Obama. Tate passed away unexpectedly in May 2018.

Pelosi, Poshard and Gordon-Booth will be honored at the 2019 IDCCA Chairs' Brunch, held at the Crowne Plaza in Springfield. The brunch is expected to have the largest attendance in IDCCA history, surpassing the more than 3,000 who attended in 2018.

For information or tickets to the IDCCA's Chairs' Brunch, go to [www.ILDCCA.org/chairs-brunch](http://www.ILDCCA.org/chairs-brunch). *Social media - [www.facebook.com/ILDCCA](https://www.facebook.com/ILDCCA) and [www.twitter.com/ILDCCA](https://www.twitter.com/ILDCCA) are using the hashtag #ILDemDay.*

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The Illinois Democratic County Chairs' Association (IDCCA) is a statewide, grassroots Democratic Party organization comprised of the elected Democratic County Chairs in all 102 counties in Illinois. The mission of the IDCCA is to help elect Democrats in every county and region of Illinois while continuing to grow the Democratic Party throughout the state. McHenry County Chair Kristina Zahorik is the elected President of the IDCCA.



# RECEPTION AT THE GOVERNOR'S MANSION

HOSTED BY  
**GOVERNOR JB PRITZKER &  
FIRST LADY MK PRITZKER**

**TUESDAY, AUGUST 13TH  
7:30PM – 9:30PM**

**ILLINOIS GOVERNOR'S MANSION  
410 E. JACKSON | SPRINGFIELD, IL 62701**

*Please enter at the north gate on Jackson Street. This entrance is ADA accessible.*

**THIS EVENT IS BY INVITATION ONLY.**

*Invited guests will be allowed to bring one guest.  
Please provide the name of your guest at the time of registration.*

**R.S.V.P. REQUIRED BY AUGUST 11TH**

<https://www.eventbrite.com/e/reception-at-the-governors-mansion-tickets-67614850839>

## **QUESTIONS?**

For more information or questions about this event, contact  
[gov.events@illinois.gov](mailto:gov.events@illinois.gov)

*Visitors to the Governor's Mansion may not bring large bags onto the grounds. Small bags are allowed but subject to search. Backpacks are not permitted. The Mansion does not contain storage facilities. Visitors with an unauthorized bag will be advised to store it offsite.*