

America is Best When Labor is Strong

Written by Jeff Smith, State Senator District 31

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<http://newiproggressive.com/images/stories/S5/electrical-workers-s450.jpg>



With Labor Day just around the corner Jeff Smith writes about the importance of organized labor and unions for our communities.

BRUNSWICK, WI - As Labor Day weekend approaches, summer is beginning to wind down. We're taking our last chance to fish or camp for the season. Children are reflecting on their summer and eagerly anticipating the new school year.

This time of year is always an opportunity to reflect back on my upbringing in Eau Claire and remember the hardworking families in my community. I think about the great strides made in the 20th century because of organized labor. Unions knew the core of their mission is that nobody should live only to work. Every American's job should provide them with the stability to live a comfortable life.

Growing up on the north side of Eau Claire, I had a pretty ordinary childhood. My mother worked hard to raise seven children and my father opened his window cleaning business, which he ran for decades. It was common for families to have one parent working outside the home and one in the home.

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