Sen. Harkin plans Burlington and Keokuk stops today

Event is today at Memorial Auditorium in Burlington.

By WILLIAM SMITH
wsmith@thehawkeye.com

Sen. Tom Harkin will speak at the annual picnic for former workers of the Iowa Army Ammunition plant at 11:30 a.m. today at Memorial Auditorium.

The picnic, from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., also will feature Laurence Fuortes, the head of Iowa’s Former Worker Medical Screening Program and a professor of occupational and environmental health at University of Iowa. The event will recognize and commemorate AEC Line 1 former workers, and spouses and family members are welcome.

It’s not the only stop Harkin has planned today. From 8 to 9 a.m., he will be at the Heritage Center in Keokuk, where doughnuts and coffee will be served. He then will tour Lock and Dam 19.

Harkin is not seeking re-election, and his “legacy” tour started in May, with stops at sites related to work he’s done in Congress. Harkin co-sponsored legislation providing compensation for workers at the IAAP who were exposed to radiation and later were diagnosed with cancer.

Harkin served 10 years in the U.S. House of Representatives before spending the last 30 years as a U.S. senator.