a VOICE for working America



UFCW Retail Conference See page 2



Albano wraps up careers in politics and groceries

See page 7



Members ratify strong new contracts

FCW Local 152 negotiated new collective bargaining agreements covering hundreds of members in recent months. The agreements were ratified by overwhelming majorities of the voting union members in each bargaining unit.

"In all of these contracts, our union's negotiating teams were able to protect and expand our members' rights to good wages and health benefits," UFCW Local 152 President Brian String said.

Here are highlights from some of the new agreements:

Bacharach

Members at the Bacharach Institute for Rehabilitation Hospital ratified a two-year agreement covering 60 members. The contract guarantees a 3.5 percent wage increase. About 2 percent of the increase is retroactive to eight months ago. A cash bonus of \$250 for full-time and \$125 to parttime workers also applied. Paid timeoff emergency pay is now applicable up to 80 hours, but members must have 60 hours in their hour banks before qualifying for payment.

(Please see page 6)

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President String leads workshop at UFCW Retail Conference

ocal 152 President Brian String joined UFCW Local 99 President
Jim McLaughlin, UFCW Local 21 President Todd Crosby and Scott
Graser of the UFCW International Union in leading a workshop during
the UFCW Retail Food Conference in Las Vegas, May 30-June 1.

The workshop dealt with all aspects of negotiations with Albertsons and its subsidiary companies, including Acme, Jewel-Osco and Shaw's, among others across the country.

Participants from all local unions in the UFCW evaluated strategies for bargaining and organizing at "double-breasted" companies where some of the workers are union and some are not. They also discussed wage scales, progressions, protecting benefits, scheduling issues and eliminating two-tier wage and health standards.



SAVE THE DATE!

UFCW Local 152's 11th Annual Charity Golf Tournament Benefiting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society of America, Bryan D. Ross Foundation and other charities.

Tuesday, Sept. 6, 2016, at the Avalon Golf Club

1510 Route 9, North Swainton, N.J. • www.avalongolfclub.net Registration at 7:30 a.m. • Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

To obtain a participation form, visit www.ufcwlocal152.org, see your shop steward or contact Crystal Yankasky at (888) 564-6152, ext. 3909. All forms must be submitted with payment no later than July 29.

We are limiting the number of foursomes (for faster play) and suggest you forward your registration immediately. Registration will be handled on a first-come, first-served basis.

Local 152 union activism!

Rally for Atlantic City workers











Raising funds for a good cause

Local 152 Shop Stewards from the Perlmart ShopRites had a fundraiser for the Bryan D. Ross Foundation. Great job by all involved!





Supporting grocery workers in New England







rocery industry news

By Jeff Metzger

News from around the trade

 \Box In this column, analyst Jeff Metzger looks at developments in the supermarket industry around the country.

wo different and unusual stores opened earlier this year. Safeway cut the ribbon on a replacement store in Hyattsville, Md., and the company deserves high praise for its store design and merchandising skills. The folks at Safeway, both pre- and post-Albertsons, have proven they can build an urban store on par with anybody in the industry.

Also, MOM's Organic Market opened its 15th store, a 17,000 square foot organic store in Baltimore City. The store is beautifully designed and is part of a larger mixed-use project being developed in the former blue-collar Hampden section of Baltimore.

CEO Scott Nash, who founded the company in Rockville, Md., when he was 22, told me that MOM's recently signed a lease and will open its first store in Center City Philadelphia (on 11th Street) later this year.

ShopRite reports growth throughout N.J.

In Wakefern news, Village Super Market, the co-op's second largest member (behind Saker ShopRites) reported increased overall and same-store sales of 2.2 percent on total revenue of \$420.2 million early this year. The Springfield, N.J., high-volume 29-store ShopRite operator posted quarterly net income of \$6.3 million, a decrease of 4.5 percent from \$6.6 million in the same period last year, although when adjusted for a higher tax rate and penalties due to a tax dispute in the prior period, income actually declined by 11 percent.

The company said that additional volume at its newly expanded store in Stirling, N.J., as well as other upgraded locations in Morristown and Union, N.J., contributed to the sales growth. Sales were offset by six competitor openings in the period, including several former A&P units, and by deflation in meat, seafood and dairy.

□ Jeff Metzger's "Taking Stock" column appears in *Food World* and *Food Trade News*.

Local 152 Retirees' Club 2016 meetings

Oct. 3 • Dec. 5 (Luncheon)

Meetings are at the United Methodist Church, 3541 Pennsylvania Ave., Pennsauken, N.J. Luncheons are at the Coastline Restaurant, 1240 Brace Road, Cherry Hill, N.J. For more information, contact Chairman W.F. Kreidler, Jr. ("Sonny") at (856) 983-4502.







ShopRite

John Stely G.M./Progresso

Happy retirement!

William C. Abrams Marian E. Allen **Charles B. Alley Justina Aponte** Ruth A. Bartlomiejusz **Patricia Battle** Marcia C. Bender John J. Bissett Andrew Blando Marv E. Blvthe John W. Bockman Barbara A. Borgesi Joseph Bove, Sr. Joann M. Boyer William M. Bradley Linda S. Cox **Catherine L. Cromer Ronald B. Darrisaw** Diane B. Deegan Terri Lynn Deily Marlene Demarco-Werline **Eileen N. Derby** Elsie M. Dishaw **Robert L. Engle** Nancy B. Essex Alter R. Evans, Jr. **Charlotte G. Frederick** Patricia Frei Nicholas A. Fugolino Linda M. Garofalo Donna M. Gaug Dale R. Henderson Sr. John E. Jagielski Cathy J. Kauffman **Deborah King** Harry J. Klemowitz Edward D. Koenig Joann R. Kurtz Joan D. Langford Walter J. Lasota, Jr. Linda M. Lewis Maria A. Lopez Patricia Luszcz Brian J. Lynn Norman P. Magowan **Robert L. Malizia** William T. Marquis James M. Marshall Bernard McAndrew, Jr. William M. McCaffrey Joann McNamee Alfred Ronal Miaczynski

Pathmark Stores 03/01/2016 Super Fresh 05/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 02/01/2016 General Mills/Progresso 03/2016 R&R ShopRite 01/01/2016 02/01/2016 Acme Markets Acme Markets 05/01/2016 Whitemarsh Shop n Bag 05/01/2016 05/01/2016 George L Wells Meat Company Acme Markets 01/01/2016 Zallie Supermarkets 04/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 02/01/2016 Super Fresh 01/01/2016 Acme Markets 02/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 06/01/2016 02/01/2016 Super Fresh Super Fresh 05/01/2016 01/01/2016 Quaker City Meats Acme Markets 06/01/2016 Laneco, Inc. 01/01/2016 Village ShopRite 02/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 03/01/2016 Super Fresh 05/01/2016 Berks Packing Company 03/01/2016 04/01/2016 Delaware Supermarkets B.S. Pincus Co. (Yankee Maid) 05/01/2016 Zallie Supermarkets 02/01/2016 01/01/2016 Acme Markets Delaware Supermarkets 02/01/2016 Acme Markets 01/01/2016 Acme Markets 04/01/2016 West Deptford Shop n Bag 01/01/2016 02/01/2016 Glenside Thriftway Kunzler Packing Company 02/01/2016 **General Supermarkets** 04/01/2016 UFCW Local 152 Staff 06/01/2016 Ball Park Brands 06/01/2016 Acme Markets 02/01/2016 Acme Markets 05/01/2016 Sav-Way Supermarket 03/01/2016 ShopRite of Manahawkin 05/01/2016 Envirochem 03/01/2016 **Collins Family Markets** 02/01/2016 Acme Markets 03/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 03/01/2016 Pickwell (SHS Enterprises) 02/01/2016 01/01/2016 Pathmark Stores Acme Markets 06/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 05/01/2016 Super Fresh 03/01/2016 **Eickhoff Supermarkets** 01/01/2016 Pathmark Stores 01/01/2016

(Please see page 11)

Job safety: It's up to all of us

n May 30, Americans observed Memorial Day, commemorating the sacrifices of those men and women who died in military service to our country.

A little more than a month earlier, union members observed a different sort of Memorial Day – Workers' Memorial Day.

Every year on April 28, people in the Labor Movement gather at locations across the nation to remember our sisters and brothers who lost their lives or suffered serious injuries in workplace accidents. We also commit ourselves to fighting for safer and more healthful workplaces for all workers.

April 28 was selected for this annual event to commemorate passage of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 and the establishment of the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA) on April 28, 1971.

In its 46 years, OSHA is credited

We can reduce workplace accidents and increase our likelihood of coming home from work healthy and in one piece. with reducing the occurrence of injury, illness and death caused by unsafe practices at the workplace.

But we must not rest until every job site is a safe and healthy place to earn a living. It is up to all of us — including management as well as employees — to do what we can to make this happen.

Stop slips, trips and falls

In retail stores, health facilities, offices, plants and other locations served by Local 152, one of the most serious safety issues is "slips, trips and falls." These account for approximately 15 percent of all accidental deaths in the United States.

OSHA recommends the following protective measures:

• Keep floors clean and dry. Ensure spills are reported and cleaned up immediately.

• Provide warning signs for wet floor areas.

• Maintain drainage and provide false floors, platforms, mats or other dry standing places where practical.

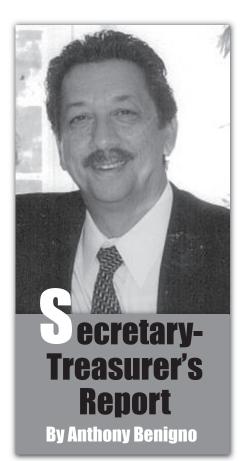
• Keep all workplaces clean and orderly.

• Keep aisles and passageways clear of trip hazards, including power cords.

• Keep exits free from obstruction.

• Use only properly maintained ladders to reach items. Do not use stools, chairs, or boxes as substitutes.

Safety should be everyone's con-



cern. Report all safety hazards to management as soon as you see them. If hazards not addressed, notify your union representative.

If you feel you may suffer retaliation for reporting to management, report this to your union representative, too.

In extreme conditions, you may have the right to refuse to perform work in unsafe conditions.

Together, we can reduce workplace accidents and increase our likelihood of coming home from work healthy and in one piece.



Earn money and keep your union strong!

Would you like to earn some extra cash? **Provide an organizing lead to UFCW Local 152 that results in a union election.** Member participation will be required. By getting involved, you are helping to make your union stronger and you have an opportunity to earn \$500! For additional information, please contact Chad Brooks, Director of Organizing, at **(888) 564-6152**.



Hundreds of Local 152 members ratify strong new contracts across diverse industries

(Continued from front page)

Local 152 Director of Collective Bargaining Mike McWilliams said the negotiating committee went "above and beyond" and he gives a special thanks to Joann Adcock, Janie Ross and Doris Price for their help in ratifying the agreement.

David Mitchell

Members at David Mitchell, a protein blend manufacturer, ratified a three-year agreement covering 12 members. The contract guarantees a 90-cent per hour wage increase over the term of the contract, with 50 cents per hour being applied in the first year. Newly hired employees will not pay contributions to their health care benefits, but if they wish to add dependents, they will have to pay the difference.

Union Representative Larry Lucente said this contract was the easiest one he's worked on in his career. "It was completed in two hours," he said.

General Mills/Progresso

Members at the General Mills/ Progresso plant ratified a four-year agreement covering 281 members. The contract guarantees that health and welfare benefits will remain the same and members will have no co-insurance to pay. Members received a 4.5 percent wage increase and an increase in employer contributions to their pension fund.

Reed and Perrine

Members at Reed and Perrine Landscape Supplies ratified a three-year agreement covering nine members. The new agreement increases employer contributions to the health and welfare fund by 16 percent. Health and welfare benefits were maintained. Employer contributions to the pension fund also increase over the term of the contract.

'This was the career for me'

Nelson Albano retires after 40 years in labor and politics

elson Albano's nearly 40-year career in the grocery industry ended in March, but he's still around taking calls from members and helping when he can.

"It was tough to leave the Executive Board, my job and the members," Albano said.

Albano's career began in 1976 when he joined ShopRite as a cart pusher and bagger.

"I was in high school and needed some money to pay for my car and insurance," Albano recalled.

After graduating from high school, he completed courses at a technical school to become a journeyman electrician.

"For 18 years, I worked as an electrician by day and at ShopRite by night," he said.

About nine years into working at the supermarket, management offered him a full-time position with health and pension benefits.

"The offer was so inviting I couldn't turn it down," Albano said.

He rose through the ranks to work in the produce department at ShopRite. Around the same time, Albano ramped up his activities for the union and became a shop steward in the late 1980s.

"Becoming a steward is what made me realize this was the career for me," he said. "Being in a union reminds you that you have a constant voice at work."

From tragedy to legislature

Five days before Christmas in 2001, Albano received the horrible news that his 19-year-old son was killed in a car accident.

"Michael was running an errand for



'With some help, we were able to pass a bill in 2009 that guaranteed six weeks of paid family leave'

his job and a drunk driver ran a red light and struck his car," Albano said.

Michael died at the scene.

At the time, New Jersey did not impose jail time on repeat DUI offenders. The driver who killed Michael had four DUIs on his record. "When I put my son in the ground, I told him his death would not be in vain," Albano said.

He teamed up with an assemblyman to challenge an incumbent assemblyman in his district.

"I was going up against a guy who was elected to seven terms," Albano said. "It was a huge task, but we won and made history by having two Democratic assemblymen in our district."

In his first term, he fulfilled the promise he made to Michael by passing a bill that required offenders with three DUIs to serve jail time.

During his second term, Albano was approached by two Local 152 members who had wives with cancer.

"They each asked me for advice on taking leaves from their jobs," he said. "I didn't know what to say to them."

Albano saw how heavily the decision of taking an unpaid leave weighed on them. He wondered how many other New Jersey workers had to choose between spending quality time with a sick family member or risk losing their jobs.

"With some help, we were able to pass a bill in 2009 that guaranteed six weeks of paid family leave," Albano said. "Now, workers have one thing less to worry about when they have a loved one who is sick or just gave birth."

Albano's oldest son, Ryan, turned 36 this year and lives in Delaware with his wife and their new baby daughter.

"Michael would have been 34 this year," Albano said. "I thought of that and the fact that I'm 62, and just I figured it was time to retire and spend time with my new granddaughter."

He added: "But I'm still active in the union, and that will never change."

Report condemns conditions in poultry plants, notes union workers are better off

An Oxfam report condemning working conditions in the poultry industry singles out unionized plants as exceptions where workers' rights are respected.

"Unions... offer important protections, inform workers of their rights, and ensure they have a voice on the job," the report's authors wrote.

"Unionized workers report that they feel comfortable leaving or stopping the line when their requests are denied for too long," they added.

The authors also noted: "Roughly a third of the poultry workforce is unionized, leaving most workers without these crucial protections."

The Oxfam report, titled *No Relief: Denial of Bathroom Breaks in the Poultry Industry*, was cited in a *Washington Post* Wonk Blog post titled, "'I had to wear Pampers': The cruel reality the people who bring you cheap chicken allegedly endure."

The United Food and Commercial Workers International Union released the following statement in response to the story and its subsequent news coverage:

"The indignity with which poultry workers are being treated in America has to stop. Workers need to know they have a right to organize and that organized workers have more opportunities to protect themselves from this type of abuse.

"The headline is salacious, but the heart of the matter is unionized workers can speak freely about dangerous working conditions without fear of retaliation. This leads to a healthier and more productive work environment and a safer product for consumers."

FDA issues new guidelines on salt for food industry

Hoping to raise awareness about heart disease, the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) issued new voluntary guidelines for salt in food.

Health officials from the FDA and Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) cited research linking high blood pressure, a cause of heart disease and stroke, to high intakes of sodium.

The guidelines aim to inform consumers about the hidden sodium content in many processed foods like cereals, pizzas, soups and sandwiches.

Food manufacturers responded negatively to the guidelines, citing a 2013 Institute of Medicine report stating a lack of sufficient evidence shows a diet low in sodium has health benefits.

Health care industry update

Medical mistakes account for 9 percent of U.S. deaths

A study in the *Journal of Patient Safety* asserts as many as 250,000 U.S. deaths a year are caused by medical errors.

The findings show medical errors are the third-leading cause of death behind heart disease and cancer.

Some of the medical errors cited in the study include faulty laboratory results, medication stop orders and discrepancies among physicians and nurses during shift changes.

Critics of the study say the latest findings and CDC statistics offer an imbalanced look at medical errors because they are not distinguished on a death certificate. They also say the findings are in large part collected through medical coding systems, which are intended as a billing system for physicians.

Strengthening the behavioral health work force in the health care industry

A report from the American Hospital Association indicates the health care industry is making strides to improve patient access to behavioral health care.

The report recommends solutions to help a patient who may have mental health issues seek the care of a therapist, in addition to being treated by a physician.

Solutions mentioned in the report

include, among others:

- Educating physicians about different cultures to ensure appropriate care.
- Creating partnerships with higher -learning institutions to employ and retain physicians and nurses with mental health treatment backgrounds.

Mental health is not the only aspect in the health care industry's behavioral health push. Substance abuse prevention is also a priority.

Toms River, a New Jersey-based health institution, employs recovering drug addicts to serve as "recovery specialists" who encourage overdose victims to seek treatment at rehabilitation centers.



Hanging up his meat cleaver

After a 43-year career, Andre Rapattoni is ready for new adventures

ndre Rapattoni decided college wasn't for him when he graduated from high school in 1973. He wanted to become a meat cutter.

But first he had to tell his mom.

"At first she wasn't too happy about it," Rapattoni recalled. "But I went for it — and here I am, 43 years later, able to retire with a pension because of that decision."

Rapattoni credits his union for making it possible.

"I've been able to get married, raise a family and now retire because of the union," he said.

Humble beginnings

Rapattoni began his career at the High Grade Ballpark Hot Dogs plant in 1973. That was where he joined his first union, Amalgamated Meat Cutters and Butchers Workmen Local 195.

In the late 1970s, Rapattoni applied for an opening at A&P Supermarkets and was hired as a meat cutter. He worked there until 1992, when he became a meat cutter at Village ShopRite.

'I was on many negotiating committees where we fought hard to keep our benefits from being slashed or thrown away altogether. I learned a lot about those benefits and I really appreciate that we have them.'

He was a steward for UFCW Local 56, and when the local merged with Local 1358 to form Local 152, he became increasingly active in the new union.

In 2009, a member of Local 152's Executive Board retired and Rapattoni was eager to fill his seat.

"I asked President Brian String if I could be considered for the job," Rapattoni remembered. "He thought I was capable and so he recommended me to the position."

Rapattoni said his experiences on the Executive Board taught him about the union's health benefits.

"I was on many negotiating committees where we fought hard to keep our benefits from being slashed or thrown away altogether," Rapattoni said. "I learned a lot about those benefits and I really appreciate that we have them."

His experiences inspired him to teach younger members about their benefits and the importance of union solidarity in protecting them.

"Some of the younger members don't come to meetings and don't voice their opinions," Rapattoni said. "They are the future of this union and they should pay more attention."

Start of something new

After 43 years in the grocery industry, Rapattoni officially called it a career on April 30, 2016.

"I'm going to miss a lot of things," he said. "I'm especially going to miss my customers and coworkers. In our town, we all practically know each other and I think of everyone as family."

But one thing he won't miss is working on holidays.

"My wife, Linda, reminded me that this Memorial Day was the first holiday I got to spend with the family," Rapattoni said. "It took some getting used to that I didn't have to work that weekend."

Rapattoni and his wife look forward to becoming snowbirds who live in Florida or California for the winter. He's saving up to buy an RV so he can drive Route 66 next fall.

"Before I can get to all of those adventures, I have to get to my 'honey do' list," Rapattoni said with a laugh. "And then I can think about fishing and going on trips."



ANA GRACE FANGAYEN Stepfather: Ronnie Mangaoang, member at Acme Markets



MICHAEL FINNIS Mother: Patricia Finnis, member at Perlmart ShopRite

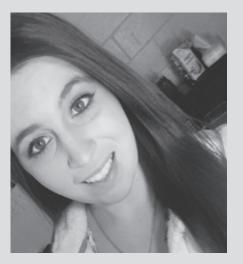


ALEXIS TORRES Father: Angel Torres, member at Village ShopRite



KADEYA BERRY Mother: Diane Green, member at Acme Markets

Congratulations to the 2016 Irv R. String Scholarship winners



DANIELLE CARDONA Mother: Maryann Cardona, member at Acme Markets



Members of the Local 152 Scholarship Committee (from left): Carmine DelVicario, Danette Montes-Palmore, Thomas Hartle, Denise DeMaio, Michael Thompson, John Puesi, Frank Vaccaro, Nelson Albano.

In memoriam

Ronald Able Mascio Alvera Frances V. Barber Dorothy J. Bath **Ronald B. Bazzano** Leonore Bell William J. Berry Kathleen Bilardo Florence H. Bonanni John J. Bonner **Alexander Borgia** Virginia Brent Mary Ellen Catalano William A. Chila **Eleanore Cooper Josephine Curcio** Bette E. Davis Anthony G. Diegidio **Rose Dinicolantonio Marguerite Duffy Margaret Durant** Harvey M. Egan Gregory A. Faith Elaine R. Farra John P. Frison David F. Fullam Loretta Gallagher Rebecca A. Girt Allen Gottsagen James Gray **Robert H. Haines James Hills** Lucia Homel Merle C. Hoover Merle C. Hoover Frank Hutchinson **James Jackson** Robert L. Johns, Jr. Karl Kalkhrenner Jonathan W. Kerns Wilbert King **Francis Koback Bela Kovacs** Ronald B. Kurtz Arthur J. Langan Morris J. Laslo Helen R. Little Mary C. Lutz Sherlock Mann Nikolaos Manolas Walter E. Maslowski **Mary Jane Mattern Frances Mcfarland Eleanor Mckee** John Mckeone Laura Jean Mckissic Eileen M. Mcveigh Francis J. Meehan Charles R. Menkins, Sr. **Doris Miller** Marie A. Montana Harry D. Moore Miriam J. Moyer Leroy Myles **Robert G. Nagele** Irvin E. Ney Sr., Martin C. Nowicki Joan J. Paciello James E. Pagano

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Acme Markets Acme Markets Pathmark Stores Donzie's (IGA) Holiday Markets Acme Markets Holidav Markets Super Fresh Acme Markets A&P Tea Company Stop and Shop Supermarket Famous Meats Co. Acme Markets Food Fair/Pantry Pride Pathmark Stores B.S. Pincus Company Frank's Shop n bag Acme Markets Acme Markets Super Fresh Ballpark Brands Pathmark Stores Freda Corp. Acme Markets Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Murphy's Markets Super Fresh Pickwell (SHS Enterprises) Butler Foods/Penn. Packing West Deptford Shop n Bag Dietz & Watson Dietz & Watson Food Fair Stein Henry Company Ball Park Brands Butler Foods/Penn. Packing Acme Markets Dietz & Watson Berks Packing Co. Medford, Inc. Holiday Markets Acme Markets Acme Markets Food Fair/Pantry Pride Laneco, Inc. Food Lane Stores Super Fresh Davidson's Foodtown Butler Foods/Penn. Packing Easton ShopRite Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Super Fresh Acme Markets Acme Markets Suburbia Village Acme Markets Pathmark Stores **Roberts Packing Company** Super Fresh Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Super Fresh George Wollman Wholesale Larchmont (IGA) Food Fair/Pantry Pride Crystal Lake Shop n Bag Acme Markets Super Fresh

Mary A. Palladino **Anthony Palma Robert Palner Anthony Peretti** Anthony Peretti **Gail Perrine Geraldine Philip** Maize Postell Thomas E. Reilley John Robinson Virginia W. Rogers Rocco R. Rossi **Commelina Russo** John N. Sanders **Irving Schaffer** John L. Schoennagel **Richard G. Seiders** Carolyn J. Shaw Barbara M. Shiley Coleman Stith, Jr. Jean R. Swierk **Dolores A. Terracciano** Jacob J. Tokar William E. Trauger Nicholas C. Tuscai Edward J. Urbanski **Patricia Vliet Altermease Williams** Linda Wojciechowski Donna L. Wolanski Donna L. Wolanski Ruth Zdepski

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Food Fair/Pantry Pride AMD Thriftway Pathmark Stores Thriftway Vineland Shop n Bag Lawrence Shop n Bag Acme Markets George Wollman Wholesale Holiday Markets A&P Tea Company A&P Tea Company Village ShopRite Acme Markets Colonial Beef Co. Shorday's Acme Markets Food Fair/Pantry Pride Acme Markets Local 152 Ball Park Brands Philadelphia Market Liberty Thriftway Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Roberts Packing Co. Food Fair/Pantry Pride Supermarkets Cherry Hill Colonial Beef Company Davidson's Foodtown Super Fresh Super Fresh Acme Markets

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Happy retirement!

(Continued from page 4)

Larry Migliaccio Linda S. Miller **Carol Moore** Sherry L. Moore Willie A. Nixon **Robert J. Oneill** Raymond Pasternack. Jr. Ralph L. Pearce, Jr. **Francis Peretti** Frank E. Pompetti Patricia A. Porter Sharon A. Proietto Andre Rapattoni **Douglas H. Read** Mayretta L. Schneider Jayne M. Schrantz Elizabeth J. Schultz **Freddy Segers** Kathleen D. Staub John Stely Margaret J. Teschko **Charlene Thurlow Bette Tokar** Lois A. Trauger Judith A. Vedutis Rosann M. Ward **Bruce D. Whetstone** Wilbert Whitaker Diana L. Wierzbicki **Dolores A. Williams Bruce Winokur** Linda C. Zacniewski Alfred J. Zimmerman

Supermarkets of Cherry Hill Super Fresh General Supermarkets Acme Markets Pathmark Stores Holiday Markets Acme Markets ShopRite Supermarket Plaza Thriftway Pathmark Stores Pathmark Stores Holiday Markets Village ShopRite Zallies Supermarkets Somerset Stores Super Fresh Super Fresh General Mills/Progresso Acme Markets General Mills/Progresso Acme Markets Village ShopRite Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Acme Markets Pathmark Stores Laneco, Inc. Pathmark Stores **Delaware Supermarkets** Pathmark Stores Pathmark Stores Acme Markets Acme Markets

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The gathering storm... Lidl

The Germans are coming.

Actually, they've been here since 1976. That's when the Aldi discount supermarket chain established itself in the United States. Today, the nonunion company operates 1,400 Aldi stores in the U.S., plus an additional 418 Trader Joe's outlets.

Now we can expect additional German interlopers steaming over the Atlantic to our shores.

The latest news comes from Lidl, Aldi's chief competitor in Europe, which plans to open 100 stores in the U.S. by 2018.

Like Aldi, Lidl employs a no-frills format that sells private-label foods at super-discounted prices. Shoppers pick their items directly from shipping cartons stacked on the shelves and then bag their own groceries. Lidl also sells name-brand merchandise at discounted prices.

Also like Aldi, Lidl is a non-union company — and this is where we have a big problem.

Lidl poses more than a threat to union market share, which is crucial for negotiating strong contracts with our members' union employers. It also poses a danger to the basic liberties of everyone in the industry.

Unions and independent media have, over the years, documented Lidl's many violations of laws protecting grocery workers.

Lidl has used cameras to spy on its workers, maintained dossiers on their intimate affairs, tried to fire female employees who might become pregnant and forced workers at distribution sites to work on a "piece rate" basis.

Lidl's managers have been forced to work excessive hours, without overtime pay, to stock shelves and perform maintenance duties that should go to regular employees.

In 2003, an Italian court sentenced Lidl for anti-union policies. Lidl has been criticized in the United Kingdom and Ireland for not allowing workers to join unions.

UFCW Local 152 and our International Union don't intend to let Lidl get away with this behavior in the communities we serve. In the coming months we'll be unveiling a comprehensive strategy to confront this threat.



Our success will rely on the participation of members like you. Please do your part when we call on you.

Thank you for standing strong for better wages, better benefits and a better way of life.

Brian String