



Getting the word out for workers

Union activists educate shoppers at Bottom Dollar

In May, activists from Local 152 and Local 1360 made a show of support for workers at Bottom Dollar Food, a grocery chain with locations in New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

Workers at the chain do not have union representation but have expressed interest in joining the UFCW.

During the day of action, union activists handed out
(Please see page 8)



The negotiating committee for the recent agreement with Bradley Beach, consisting of Local 152 members and staff, bargained for a strong new contract that includes weekend premium time pay.

Strong union contracts

Agreements with employers across all industries provide framework for the future

Members of UFCW Local 152 recently ratified contracts with Acme and many other employers, preserving union members' access to affordable health care and providing wage increases, in several cases.

"Our members are happy with their new contracts," UFCW Local 152 President Brian String said. "We are all grateful for the hard work of our

bargaining teams and our members, who stood strong through these negotiations."

Resisting the trend

Local 152 Director of Collective Bargaining Mike McWilliams, who negotiated on behalf of members working at Acme, said the biggest challenge was preserving health care benefits.

"Our members won't make contributions to their health care, and given all that's happening with the Affordable Care Act, that was our biggest victory," McWilliams said.

(Please see page 6)

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UFCW Local 152 Unity
Official Publication of
United Food and Commercial
Workers Local 152

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Vol. 10, Issue 2
UFCW Local 152 Unity
(ISSN: 1542-720X) is published
quarterly by UFCW Local 152,
701 Route 50
Mays Landing, NJ 08330
Periodicals postage paid at
Trenton, NJ

POSTMASTER: Send address
changes to *UFCW Local 152 Unity*
701 Route 50
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Published by:



United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 152
Notice of Nomination and Election of Officers

Pursuant to Article XII of the Bylaws of United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 152 and Article 35 of the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union Constitution, there shall be an election of officers of UFCW Local 152 which shall be held on August 7, 2014. The election shall be held for the offices of President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recorder and twenty (20) Vice Presidents. The terms of office shall be for three years beginning January 1, 2015.

Pursuant to Article XII Section E of the UFCW Local 152 Bylaws, nominations for the above offices are to be conducted by petition which require signatures of two percent of the average monthly active membership of Local 152. The number of active member signatures required on each petition for nomination is 279.

Each nomination petition shall indicate the member who is being nominated and the specific office for which he or she is being nominated. If a member is being nominated for a Vice President position, the petition shall specify the numerically designated Vice President position for which he or she is being nominated. Any petition may nominate more than one member for office, provided that each member is being nominated for a different office and that the office for which each member is being nominated is specifically indicated. Each petition shall also contain the signature, printed name and home address of each member signing the petition.

Nomination Petitions shall be filed at the offices of UFCW Local 152, 701 Route 50, Mays Landing, NJ 08330 by mail or in person. The original signatures are required to be filed and transmission by facsimile, computer or other form of electronic transmission shall not be valid. To be valid all nomination petitions with required active member signatures must be received not later than July 15, 2014 at 4:30 p.m. Petitions received after that date and time shall not be valid.

James Mulholland has been selected to serve as General Election Chairperson to supervise the conduct of the election including the nomination process. Petition forms may be obtained directly from the General Election Chairperson. If you have any questions regarding election procedures or rules, please contact James Mulholland, General Election Chairperson, UFCW Local 152, 701 Route 50, Mays Landing, New Jersey 08330 telephone number (888) 564-6152.

The election of officers shall be conducted on August 7, 2014. No less than 15 days prior to the election date each member will receive additional information concerning the election including times, locations and procedures for voting.

No person shall be eligible for nomination or election to any office unless such person is:

- 1) An active member in the Local Union, who has been an active member in the Local Union, or who had been a member of another organization merged with the Local Union, for a continuous aggregate of at least 12 months immediately preceding the month in which the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions occurs, or;
- 2) An active member in the Local Union who has been an active member in the International Union continuously for at least 24 months immediately preceding the month in which the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions occurs.

Any member satisfying the eligibility requirements above must maintain continuous active membership in the Local Union to remain eligible to run for or hold elective office.

Correct address and phone number a must: People move frequently, but it only takes a phone call, a minute with a Union Representative or a call to the Union Office to correct your address and telephone number.



Members at Work The Fresh Grocer

Incollingo's grand opening in Smithville, N.J.



UFCW Local 152 Retirees' Club 2014 meetings

All retirees from Local 152, as well as former members of Local 1358 and Local 56, are cordially invited to join the Retirees' Club.

The club meets on Monday for social get-togethers throughout the year to greet former co-workers, enjoy coffee and donuts and make plans for the future.

The remaining meeting dates for 2014 are:

July 7 (Luncheon)

Oct. 6 (Yellow Room)

Dec. 1 (Luncheon)

Yellow Room 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.

Members of the Retirees' Club are welcome to bring their spouses and friends.

For more information, contact Chairman George Kerth at (856) 429-0237.

IT PAYS TO BE UNION!

Grievances filed or resolved:

2nd Quarter 2014

93

2014 to date

191

Back pay and benefits restored to members:

2nd Quarter 2014

\$31,295.94

2014 to date

\$61,655.81

Acme making strides

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

Last year, the new leadership team at Acme Markets — President Jim Perkins, Vice President of Merchandising and Marketing Dennis Clark and Vice President of Operations Dan Croce — humbly promised the chain's vendors that better days were ahead and that new owner Albertsons/Cerberus would allow the former Delaware Valley market leader greater flexibility and an improved "go to market" game plan.

After six years of rudderless and sometimes inept leadership by former owner Supervalu, skepticism outweighed optimism by a considerable margin. But you couldn't blame Acme's direct reps, brokers and distributors for being a bit cynical about the retailer's future after being assured of many positive changes from 2006 until 2012, only to see promise after promise unfulfilled.

Turning it around

The Acme leadership team and Acme team members have accomplished many of their initial objectives through simple hard work, honesty and humility.

The stores have become cleaner and easier to shop, morale has improved exponentially thanks to team-building with the associates, prices have been lowered to realistic levels and Acme has regained some of its traction as a "local" and more nimble player — a trait that is particularly admired by vendors who for years had to trudge to Eden Prairie, Minn., to make their case, only to be stymied or misled.

Acme still has a long way to go until it can be comparable to what it was during its halcyon days. But what's happened over the past 12 months is encouraging. The chemistry among Perkins, Clark and Croce is impressive and vendors appreciate those gains and the overall improved dialogue between themselves and the company.

Or as one of Acme's suppliers stated during the question and answer period: "Thanks for giving us our Acme back."

What a difference a year makes.

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



Members at Work

Johanna Foods

General membership meetings for all Local 152 members Tuesday, July 22, 2014

Southern New Jersey (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

VFW Post 2445, 914 E. Main St.
Maple Shade, NJ 08052

Shore area (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

VFW Post 2189, 500 Bethel Road
Somers Point, NJ 08244

Pennsylvania area (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

Ramada - Philadelphia/Northeast, 11580 Roosevelt Blvd.
Philadelphia, PA 19116

Delaware area (10 a.m. and 7 p.m.)

Embassy Suites Newark-Wilmington/South,
654 S. College Ave.
Newark, DE 19713

Delaware County - Pennsylvania (7 p.m. only)

Springfield Country Club, 400 West Sproul Road
Springfield, PA 19064

Engaging young workers: The future depends on you

The United Food and Commercial Workers, which is the largest private-sector labor union in North America, also has the youngest membership.

Forty percent of us are under 30 — that's about 450,000 people who work in supermarkets, drug stores, food processing plants, medical facilities, offices and other work sites in the United States and Canada.

This is an important responsibility and also a great opportunity to participate in building a better future for working people.

People who were born in the last two decades of the 20th century, commonly known as Millennials, have had a tough go in this age of industrial decline and growing disparity between a tiny wealthy elite and everyone else.

America's recovery from the economic shocks of the previous decade remains painfully slow and the jobs being created tend to be in the retail, food-service and health care sectors, where wages have been historically low.

The UFCW, therefore, stands as a great hope for millions of young people who are struggling to get a grip on the middle class and the American dream.

Our union's members, young and

old, consistently earn better wages and benefits than their non-union counterparts. What's more, we represent industries with jobs that cannot be sent overseas.

Young people commonly take jobs at our stores with the intention of moving on after a short while. But in time many of them learn to appreciate their prospects for a satisfying career in the retail food industry. They can thank our union for negotiating the compensation packages and work rules that make this a viable option.

Get the message out

It's crucial for all of us to get this message out to young workers in the general population, not only to improve their lot, but also to strengthen our union's ability to negotiate strong contracts.

At the same time, it is equally important to engage the young people who already belong to the UFCW, including UFCW Local 152.

They are the future of our organization. The more they understand and appreciate the benefits of union solidarity, the greater our ability to confront and overcome the challenges that await us.

Please do your part. Regardless of your own age, take the time to get to



Secretary-Treasurer's Report

By Anthony Benigno

know the young people in your workplace. Share with them the values you have learned about union solidarity and its role in securing our rights, our wages and our benefits.

Let them know how much your membership in UFCW Local 152 means to you. Take them with you to union meetings, rallies and picketing events. Explain to them how your contract works and why it is so important.

Become a role model for union activism.

The future doesn't just depend on our youngest members. It depends on you.



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 \$275! For additional information, please contact Chad Brooks, Director of Organizing, at **(888) 564-6152**.

Local 152 members ratify several strong

Acme Markets



‘We are all grateful for the hard work of our bargaining teams and our members.’

—President Brian String

(Continued from front page)

“Employers across the country have been successful in forcing their members out of multiemployer plans and onto state health exchanges,” President String observed. “We are resisting this trend.”

Pension benefits for full- and part-time workers were also preserved. Employers agreed to monthly contribution increases for workers.

In some cases, workers also won wage increases of 30 to 35 percent, plus lump-sum bonuses.

Understanding the issues

Union Representative Larry Lucente, who represents public workers at the Borough of Bradley Beach, helped secure freezes on employee contributions to health care.

According to a New Jersey mandate, employees must contribute to their health care costs according to their salary. Once the mandate expires in 2015, the contribution rate will lower and freeze at that amount, Lucente said.

“Our union also provided weekend premium time pay for workers in the borough even if they don’t work more than 40 hours per week,” Lucente said. “Mayor Gary Engelstad was great to work with and he understood the issues facing these workers well.”

new contracts

Bradley Beach



Contract successes!

Local 152 members have ratified many other new contracts in recent months, including:

Dreshertown Shop-N-Bag (Bedros, Inc.)

Murphy's Markets (Meat)

Rich Products Corporation

Coastal Pools & Spas, Inc.

Simmons Foods, Inc. (pictured below)



TMM, Cherry Hill Mall

Foote & Jenks Corporation

B&B Poultry (pictured below)



The Shores at Wesley Manor



Local 152 President Brian String stands with this year's winners, from left: Kelsie Magee, Shannon Driscoll, Nancy Thatch, Cynthia Aldridge and Thomas Martin.

2014 scholarship winners

On May 15, Local 152 staff, members, friends and family gathered at the Second Annual Irv R. String Scholarship Fund Banquet and Awards Night to honor the group of 2014 recipients.

The five honorees each received a \$1,000 cash grant to continue their education. This year's recipients were:

Cynthia Aldridge, who attends the Richard Stockton College of New Jersey, where she majors in public health with a concentration in community health education;

Shannon Driscoll, who attends the Community College of Philadelphia, where she studies the culture of science in technology;

Kelsie Magee, who attends Cumberland County College, where she studies graphic design;

Thomas Martin, who attends St. Joseph's University, where he plans to obtain a Bachelor of Science in legal studies;

Nancy Thatch, who attends St. Joseph's University, where she majors in psychology and minors in linguistics.



Dan Rush, center, Director of the UFCW Cannabis Workers Rising campaign, with Local 152 Director of Organizing Chad Brooks, left, and Union Representative Hugh Giordano.

New horizons, new opportunities

The UFCW International Union has been at the forefront of organizing workers in the medical cannabis and hemp industry during the past several years and making sure they are treated with the dignity they deserve.

Local 152 has supported those efforts and, in April, union representatives participated in the inaugural East Coast Medical Cannabis and Hemp Show in Piscataway, N.J.

Union representatives talked with show attendees who visited the local's booth about the expanding industry on the East Coast and the importance of fair treatment of its workers.

Bottom Dollar

(Continued from front page)

hundreds of reusable UFCW grocery bags to customers at 13 Bottom Dollar locations.

Upon hearing how a union contract could improve the stores and the lives of workers at the chain, many customers expressed their support for the Bottom Dollar workers seeking representation.

If you have an organizing lead, you could help your union stay strong. Call (888) JOIN-152 for more information.



Local 152 Union Representative Hugh Giordano talks with Bottom Dollar shoppers.



**Members
at Work**
**ShopRite
& Acme**



With shoplifters, your safety comes first

□ In this column, union representatives share their thoughts on contract issues, safety and what's going on at the workplace.

In years long past, UFCW members routinely apprehended shoplifters. Back then, many believed that confronting, chasing, apprehending and even handcuffing suspected thieves was “part of the job” for store managers, night-crew workers and others.



By Thomas Hartle

Over time, however, companies have rightly concluded that it's not worthwhile to put the safety of employees and customers at risk just to save a few dollars. Such situations also pose potential liability for injuries or even death caused by confrontations between untrained personnel and shoplifters.

While our union wholeheartedly agrees with the newer, more enlightened company policies against confronting shoplifters, some people have not gotten the message.

Union members have been threatened, beaten and stabbed in recent years while trying to prevent thefts. In one incident, a member was injured while simply trying to record a fleeing suspect's license plate number.

Act according to the rules

Our union urges you to PUT YOUR SAFETY FIRST. You are not a police officer or a security guard. You are not paid to fight crime.

Further, your good intentions to protect company assets will not be rewarded. In fact, it is likely you will lose your job for violating company policies.

One member was fired when the company claimed he wrongly accused someone of stealing. Another was fired for pursuing a shoplifter's vehicle and yet another was terminated for grabbing an item out of a shopping cart that was headed out the door.

Please review your employer's policies on what you should do when you observe a theft or any other kind of illegal behavior in the store. Be sure to understand those policies thoroughly. If you have questions, ask your steward or union representative. Then act strictly according to the rules.

Your good union job and your safety are too important to put in danger. Protect yourself by leaving the crime fighting to the professionals!

9th Annual Local 152 Charity Golf Tournament

Tuesday, Sept. 2, 2014

Avalon Golf Club
1510 Route 9 North
Swainton, New Jersey 08210
www.avalongolfclub.net

Registration at 7:30 a.m.
Shotgun start at 8:30 a.m.

Proceeds from this event will benefit the Leukemia Society of America, the Bryan D. Ross Foundation and other charities.

Golfer's Fees are \$100 per golfer or a foursome discounted rate of \$385 which includes green fees, cart rental, luncheon buffet, gifts and prizes.

If you are interested in golfing, please visit www.ufclocal152.org, see your Shop Steward or contact Crystal Yankasky at (888) 564-6152, ext. 3909, to obtain a participation form. All participation forms must be submitted with payment no later than July 25, 2014.

Note: 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.



News, photos, updates and more!
www.facebook.com/ufclocal152

Retirements

Mary C. Abbonizio	Acme Markets	04/01/2014	Helen B. Miller	Bottino's Supermarkets	02/01/2014
Kathleen M. Adams	Acme Markets	02/01/2014	Patrick J. Minyon, Jr.	Woodcrest Talk of the Town	02/01/2014
Cleatus Ashcroft	Acme Markets	04/01/2014	Rickey Lee Mowrer	Kunzler Packing Company	03/01/2014
Jeffrey Batterman	Grover Shop-N-Bag	02/01/2014	Augustine Olivieri	Acme Markets	04/01/2014
Edith V. Boggs	Super Fresh	01/01/2014	Irma G. Pelzer	Famous Meats Company	01/01/2014
Norma F. Braun	Acme Markets	04/01/2014	Kenneth K. Pfeiffer	Acme Markets	03/01/2014
Jerry L. Brooks	Kunzler Packing Company	03/01/2014	Barbara L. Saylor	Acme Markets	02/01/2014
Claire Cerrone	Acme Markets	04/01/2014	John Schweibinz	Ball Park Brands	02/01/2014
Luz M. Cintron	Heritage Meats	03/01/2014	Patricia A. Seargeant	Acme Markets	01/01/2014
Gale Eldredge	Pathmark Stores	02/01/2014	Elaine M. Stephenson	Acme Markets	01/01/2014
Lorraine T. Greenwood	Super Fresh	04/01/2014	Elizabeth Stieh	Super Fresh	02/01/2014
Marilee Gunning	Pathmark Stores	02/01/2014	Teofila Villasenor	Old Fashioned Kitchen	03/01/2014
Mae K. Heisey	Kunzler Packing Company	01/01/2014	Petra Walderrama	Dietz & Watson	04/01/2014
Ruth Howard	Butler Foods/Penn Packing	03/01/2014	Richard E. Wilkes, Sr.	Incollingo's IGA	02/01/2014
William P. Liggett	Twin Brothers Meats, Inc.	02/01/2014	Dominick Zirilli	Delaware Supermarkets	02/01/2014
Deborah A. Melita	Pathmark Stores	04/01/2014			

Obituaries

Patsy H. Adams	03/30/2014	Pearl Kirilin	04/11/2014
Conrad W. Austin, Jr.	01/19/2014	Duglore M. Kolba	03/06/2014
Theodore Barrett	03/02/2014	Theresa Lambert	01/25/2014
Robert G. Bodine	03/19/2014	William Leonardo	01/31/2014
Rita Bowie	04/01/2014	James Lomax	01/29/2014
James Brady	01/31/2014	Ruth H. Lucidonio	04/07/2014
Diane Branscomb	03/21/2014	Pauline E. Martin	03/14/2014
Thomas F. Bresnahan	04/14/2014	Bertha C. McDevitt	01/13/2014
Lydia Chase	01/11/2014	Jennie Mentzer	03/31/2014
Celeste Ciafrei	03/24/2014	Henry Nowak	04/13/2014
James W. Clay	01/29/2014	Anthony J. Paolini	03/14/2014
Robert T. Cooney, Sr.	04/11/2014	Frank S. Parr	03/24/2014
Elizabeth David	04/10/2014	Fred Parson	01/20/2014
Howard Evans	03/11/2014	Joseph A. Perini	01/30/2014
Wallace Fearn	01/26/2014	Victoria Phelps	03/29/2014
Ethel S. Gagnon	01/10/2014	Rose Povse	01/17/2014
Frank George, Jr.	03/25/2014	John C. Powers	01/29/2014
Fred M. Gerheiser	03/18/2014	Violet M. Reisig	01/19/2014
Rosemarie Girnius	03/24/2014	Alfred Rossell	01/30/2014
Ruth F. Grealey	03/30/2014	Robert R. Salkowitz	03/27/2014
Winston Green	03/10/2014	Gary C. Sealer	01/04/2014
Ruth Harner	03/18/2014	Wayman A. Seals, Jr.	03/17/2014
Anne M. Hayes	03/05/2014	Ernest Steigerwalt	04/14/2014
Horst H. Hildebrand	03/28/2014	James J. Stewart	01/25/2014
Helen Horvath	01/11/2014	Janet Sweeney	01/01/2014
Esther L. Howard	04/01/2014	Maria Szapowalo	03/17/2014
James F. Ingram	03/14/2014	Russell Tompson	04/05/2014
Eleonora Jajko	01/23/2014	Ale Walderrama-Tole	03/18/2014
Stanley E. Janderchick	01/21/2014	Charles R. Walsh	03/29/2014
Louise Jenigen	01/01/2014	Hildegard M. Wesoly	03/11/2014

UFCW Local 152
701 Route 50
Mays Landing, NJ 08330

Periodical
Postage Paid
at Trenton, NJ

Organize, organize, organize!

Almost a century ago, just before he was executed by a Utah firing squad, the songwriter and union activist Joe Hill wrote to a friend: “Don’t waste any time in mourning. Organize.”

For Joe Hill, there was no higher priority than bringing more workers into the Labor Movement. Organizing is the foundation of the trade unionism, empowering us to negotiate better contracts and improve the lives of more working people.

It’s a simple equation: The greater the number of organized workers, the louder the voice demanding respect, good wages and affordable benefits.

These days, a labor organizer is unlikely to be executed on trumped-up murder charges as Joe Hill was. But activists confront their own formidable challenges as employers routinely violate the rights of workers who want to join a union.

Modern organizers understand these challenges, but they nevertheless score impressive victories through perseverance, skill and hard work.

Our union needs activists who will join this noble cause.

Today, we face unprecedented



An organizing poster from Joe Hill’s time.

numbers of non-union competition in both retail and wholesale. Thousands of workers, doing the same work as our members, are being exploited by unscrupulous corporations that are stealing market share from union employers.

These non-union predators have a negative impact on every single collective bargaining agreement we negotiate.

It is up to each of us to step up and educate workers at non-union companies about the value of union representation. They need us and we need them.



President's Report

By Brian String

Please call Chad Brooks at (888) 564-6152 and ask how you can help grow and strengthen our union.

In our day, as it was in Joe Hill’s day, the call goes out to “organize, organize, organize”!

Handwritten signature of Brian String.