



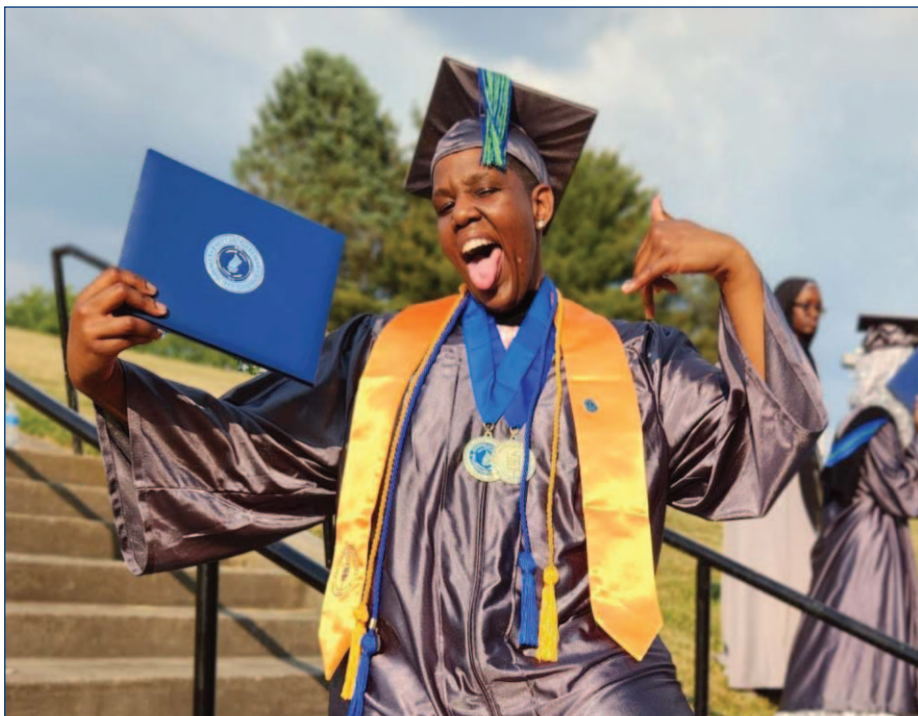
Members at The Botanist ratify Local 152's first Cannabis Division contract

Local 152 members at The Botanist dispensaries in Egg Harbor and Atlantic City, N.J. voted overwhelmingly on June 21 to ratify a bargaining agreement with their employer, making it the first of its kind for cannabis workers at the local union.

The three-year agreement calls for raises as well as ratification bonuses and improved health benefits. The base salary for new hires is increased and all members at both Botanist locations have access to the grievance process through their union.

"This strong first contract is the culmination of months of hard bargaining on behalf of our members," Local 152 President Brian String said.

Please see page 3



Making the grade

Davonya Thomas' hard work pays off

There are a lot of perks to being a union member, from health and pension benefits to wage increases to higher safety standards and more.

Local 152 member Davonya Thomas, a Lead Worker at Maryland Plastics, appreciates all of those perks and was able to take advantage of yet another: a free college degree.

Late last year, Thomas graduated Summa Cum Laude from Eastern Gateway Community College through the UFCW's Free College program (see updated information about the

UFCW college program below). She majored in Business Management/Human Resources and is excited to put her new degree to work.

"It was stressful, but I put my all into it," she said. "I wanted better for myself and I had to keep going."

Thomas started as an operator at the manufacturing plant 19 years ago.

"The type of work we do here is hard work," she said. "In the summer-time, when it's 90 degrees outside, it can be 100 degrees in here. It's very demanding."

Please see page 3

STAY CONNECTED!



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

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BCI 100% Union

UFCW Local 152's leadership team reelected for three-year term

An announcement from
President Brian String thanking members
for their support and solidarity

Dear Sisters and Brothers:

I am honored to report that UFCW Local 152's entire leadership slate has been reelected by acclamation.

As your president, I will continue to devote my full effort toward improving the lives of our membership.

On behalf of our entire leadership team, thank you for your support and solidarity. Let's meet the challenges of the future together and start building toward even greater accomplishments.

In Solidarity,

IT PAYS TO BE UNION!

Grievances filed or resolved
2023 total: **122**

**Back pay and benefits
restored to members**
2023 total:
\$158,449.82



Making the grade

Continued from front page

In addition to the physical demands of the job, she also helps her fellow union members as a shop steward, answering questions about the union contract and serving on the negotiating committee for new contracts. On top of that, she has a part-time job at a winery.

Incredibly, alongside all of her other responsibilities, Thomas added the pursuit of a college degree after her union representative sent her information about the program.

She started her studies in May 2019, taking two courses at a time and building up credits.

"If it wasn't for the union, I don't think I ever would have went to college," she said. "I owe it all to the union. The experience really helped me and my family and helped put into focus what I want to do with my life."

With her new degree, Thomas hopes to transition to Human Resources at Maryland Plastics when a position becomes available. She advises other UFCW members to take advantage of the program to expand their possibilities.

"It felt awesome to graduate, to actually accomplish something," she said. "Follow your dreams, follow your path and no matter how hard it gets, don't give up."

**'If it wasn't
for the union,
I don't think
I ever would
have went to
college.'**

The new UFCW Discount College Program

UFCW has partnered with EBS Union College Benefit and EDVANCE to offer UFCW members and their families heavily discounted tuition rates at a number of colleges. Degree programs will now include associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees.

For details, visit

ufcw.org/ufcw-discount-college-program/

EARN YOUR DEGREE FOR LESS.

Looking for affordable education options?
The UFCW Discount College Program will give you access to exclusive discounted tuition rates from 30-50% at participating colleges.



From left: The Botanist Negotiating Committee members Antonio Melendez-Mott, Union Representative Peter White, Rainier Vizcarrondo and Timothy Daly.

The Botanist contract

Continued from front page

"The unity displayed by these workers was crucial to our success and sets a strong foundation for continued achievements."

UFCW Local 152 represents more than 60 workers at The Botanist across the two locations. Members grow, harvest and process cannabis and sell it in several forms at their retail spaces. Customers can seek assistance from the experts at either location to find the products that meet their medical needs.

For more than a decade, Local 152 has been at the forefront of organizing the cannabis industry in New Jersey. Earlier this year, workers at another cannabis cultivation site owned by MPX NJ group voted to join the union and are in negotiations to determine their first contract.

"Our expertise in bargaining across many diverse, challenging industries makes Local 152 a powerful ally for cannabis workers," String said.

"No one has to go it alone. With a union, we're all in this together."

FTC bolsters consumer power

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

The National Grocers Association (NGA), a trade association whose primary members include independent grocers, has pressed the Federal Trade Commission (FTC) for more than a year about the advantages that some large food retailers have over rivals with their ability to squeeze grocery suppliers for more favorable terms, including through price, promotions, payment terms and product availability.

That pressure seems to have paid off since the FTC and the Department of Justice recently released a proposed update to merger enforcement guidelines. The proposed draft significantly rewrites enforcement standards to include new considerations for mergers that enhance buyer power.

Specifically, one of the 13 proposed guidelines directly addresses buyer power where a merger of competing buyers lessens competition for other sellers. The proposed changes mark a significant shift in merger enforcement to incorporate the concerns that the NGA brought to federal enforcers.

The NGA noted that, in a significant shift, the proposed guidelines strongly consider how buyer power affects competition among rival firms, which is a strong contrast to the current guidelines that largely ignore how buyer power abuses affect competition.

The Washington, D.C.-based trade association said the top four national grocery retailers account for 69 percent of all U.S. grocery sales. Two of these top four retailers, Kroger and Albertsons, have submitted plans to federal enforcers to merge by early 2024.

While the organization has not publicly condemned the proposed Kroger-Albertsons deal, NGA's president and CEO Greg Ferrara expressed his association's concerns shortly after the deal was announced in October 2022.

"A merger of the nation's top two grocery chains should raise serious questions about a single supermarket giant gaining unprecedented dominance over the nation's food supply chain," Ferrara said.

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



Happy retirement!

Karen Wear (37 years) and
Gary Simpkins (45 years), Acme Markets



Standing Strong: We are pleased to announce that Local 152 won a union election on Aug. 24, 2023, at ECM Transport/Werner Enterprises in Hamilton, N.J. A unit of 26 drivers voted 17 yes/8 no in favor of being represented by UFCW Local 152.

Keep your union up to date!



To continue to receive important news and updates from Local 152, visit ufcwlocal152.org and complete the "Change of Address" form if you move.

From the Local 152 website, you can also update your address with the Health and Welfare Office and renew your voter registration.

Scan this QR code with your smartphone to update your information right now:



The importance of your Weingarten Rights

Now more than ever, it's important that all members are aware of one of the fundamental privileges of being in a labor union: access to your Weingarten Rights.

What are Weingarten Rights?

Your Weingarten Rights state that an employee may make a clear request for union representation before or during an interview and will not be punished for such a request.

As a union member, you are legally entitled to use your Weingarten Rights if your employer begins to discuss a matter that could result in disciplinary action. You are also entitled to refuse to answer questions in that situation until your union representative arrives.

As our union continues to grow and we welcome members from new industries such as the cannabis industry and elsewhere, many new members may not be aware of the rights they have.

Standard interactions with management may appear conversational at first, but if you start to feel you are being subjected to an investigation, you are entitled to invoke your Weingarten Rights.

These interviews could relate to any number of issues, such as absenteeism, accidents, noncompliance with work rules, insubordination or poor attitude, among others.

Not every discussion with an employer is considered investigatory. If your boss wants to specify certain job requirements or announce a warning or discipline, this is not considered investigatory.

How do my Weingarten Rights protect me?

A discussion can become investigatory when your employer begins to question you about a matter for which discipline

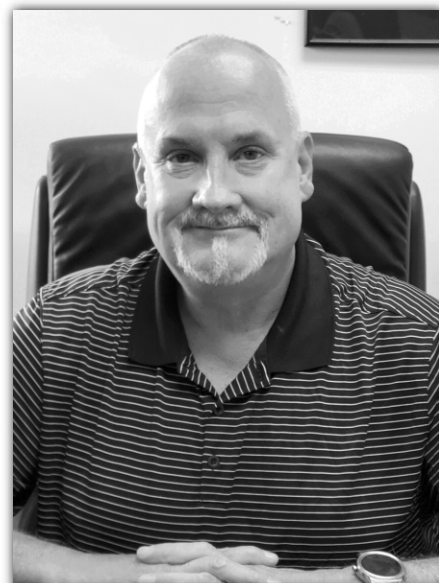
Weingarten Rights are a fundamental privilege of being in a labor union.

is administered. At that point you may exercise your Weingarten Rights and request that a union representative be present.

If your employer denies this request, the employer has violated your rights and you do not have to say a word.

If you do not invoke your rights or if you decide to waive your Weingarten Rights during an investigatory interview, you give up your legal protections.

If your manager or a loss prevention representative begins to ask you questions that feel like an investigation, don't hesitate to exercise your Weingarten Rights. Local 152 will assist you in resolving the issue.



Secretary-Treasurer's Report

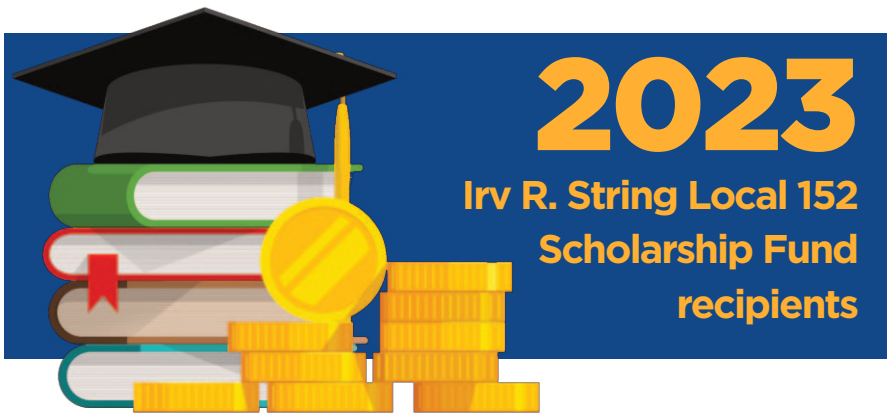
By Dan Konczyk



Would you like to earn some extra cash? Provide an organizing lead to Local 152 that results in a union election. Some involvement will be required. By getting involved, you are helping to make your union stronger and you have an opportunity to earn \$1,000!

For additional information, contact Local 152 Director of Organizing Mike Thompson at (888) 564-6152 or via email at organizing@ufcwlocal152.org.





Local 152 President Brian String celebrates with this year's winners at the Scholarship Dinner in May.



Abidul Bhuiyan will attend Rutgers University in New Brunswick, where he will major in exercise science. He also plans to attend graduate school to earn his doctorate degree in physical therapy on the path to becoming a physical therapist. Abidul volunteers for

organizations such as Atlantic City Marathon, Hope for the Holidays and Salvation Army Toy Drive. Abidul and his mother, Hasina Monnee, are both Local 152 members working at Ventnor Acme.



Mayra Matos-Diaz attends Montclair State University, where she plans to earn a bachelor's degree in biology on the path to becoming a veterinarian. Mayra volunteers at local soup kitchens, animal shelters and educational programs. Mayra's father, Angel Matos Stokes, is a Local 152 member at Johanna Foods in Flemington, N.J.

ber at Johanna Foods in Flemington, N.J.



Aidan Ruth plans to attend Duquesne University, where he will major in physical therapy. Aidan volunteers for the Conrad Weiser Youth Soccer programs and youth travel soccer, and he is also a mentor for younger Reading Page players. He assists in pool and roadside cleanups to keep his community clean.

Aidan's father, Chad Ruth, is a Local 152 member and shop steward at Berk's Packing in Reading, Penn.



Julianne Chan attends Rutgers University, where she studies environmental engineering with a concentration in water resources and remediation. Julianne plans to obtain a career with the Environmental Protection Agency and get her master's degree in environmental engineering before pursuing a Ph.D. in water resource engineering. Julianne volunteers for organizations such as Honors College Serves, Engineers Without Borders and Stafford EMS. Julianne's mother, Wing Tang, is a Local 152 member at Saker ShopRite in Manahawkin, N.J.

environmental engineering before pursuing a Ph.D. in water resource engineering. Julianne volunteers for organizations such as Honors College Serves, Engineers Without Borders and Stafford EMS. Julianne's mother, Wing Tang, is a Local 152 member at Saker ShopRite in Manahawkin, N.J.



Sophia Fagan attends Rutgers University in New Brunswick, where she majors in linguistics with a minor in developmental psychology. She plans to obtain her bachelor's degree in speech pathology and communication disorders. Sophia volunteers at local nursing homes and farms and is

also on staff at the Rutgers day care facility. Her mother, Roxanne Fagan, is a Local 152 member at Cape Regional Medical Center in Cape May Court House, N.J.



David Theuma attends Rowan University, where he majors in chemical engineering with a minor in chemistry. He plans to obtain a job as an engineer at a reputable Fortune 500 company. David has volunteered with the Kiwanis Club, as a peer mediator and with Honors BLAST. David is a Local 152

member at Village ShopRite in Hammonton, N.J.

HEALTH CARE INDUSTRY UPDATE



Contract ratifications at United Methodist Communities Bristol Glen and Pitman Manor



MANUFACTURING INDUSTRY UPDATE



Johanna Foods workers stand united in the midst of contract negotiations with their employer. Local 152 is working hard to secure improvements for these members.



A member votes on a new contract agreement at Lassonde Pappas.

Happy retirement!

Joseph Alter	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Joseph Aschenbrand	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Teresa S. Asman	03/01/23	Thriftway-Penn Mart
Joan E. Bader	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Timothy J. Bahr	04/01/23	Acme Markets
Anthony Barbetto	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Sandra A. Beckley	05/01/23	Super Fresh
Ronald W. Bennett	02/01/23	Supermarkets of Delaware
Sandra E. Bennett	07/01/23	Super Fresh
Susan G. Bevacqua	03/01/23	Super Fresh
Richard D. Biglin	04/01/23	Incollingo's Iga
Mamie L. Brown	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Nancy J. Bundy	05/01/23	Starr Foods LLC
Michael A. Caserta	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Ernie Castaldo	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Lisa V. Chandler	06/01/23	Super Fresh
Virginia L. Chapman	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Leslie H. Churchman	03/01/23	Big V Supermarkets
Margaret A. Clarke	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Thomas A. Congleton	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Anna M. Cook	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Maureen Crawford Young	07/01/23	Murphy's At The Lakes
Diane Crocker	03/01/23	Acme Markets
Michelle Curlott	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Donna M. Damiano	05/01/23	Saker ShopRite-Hamilton
Joyce M. Davidson	04/01/23	Murphy's At The Lakes
Neftali De Paz	04/01/23	Old Fashioned Kitchen, Inc.
Kevin V. Dennison	04/01/23	Kunzler Packing Co.
Joseph H. Dodds	07/01/23	Medford Inc.
William P. Downs	03/01/23	Brown's Superstores
Ronald J. Duffy	07/01/23	Lawrence Shop n Bag
Gary R. Dvorak	04/01/23	Acme Markets
Bonnie J. Facemyer	04/01/23	Acme Markets
Wayne G. Fahmie	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Patricia M. Fambro	06/01/23	Super Fresh
Robert F. Floyd, Jr.	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Carolyn T. Forvour	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Salvatore J. Fragomele	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Richard T. Fritzscha	06/01/23	Somerset Stores, LLC
Suzanne T. Gambogi	04/01/23	Zallie's Supermarkets
Grace Gerome	05/01/23	Supermarkets Cherry Hill
Rene H. Gilmore	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Janet M. Gjertsen	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Sharon B. Grinnan	03/01/23	Acme Markets
Joseph M. Grzyminski	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Charles E. Haig	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Donna Kay Hammersmith	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Michael A. Hanusey	04/01/23	Pickwell-SHS Enterprises
Robin A. Harris	06/01/23	Brown's Superstores
Harry P. Hibner, Jr.	07/01/23	Shop n Save

RETIRE WITH DIGNITY

Local 152 members have peace of mind in retirement with health benefits and a pension that provides guaranteed monthly income for life.

Denise L. Hutchinson	05/01/23	Super Fresh
Gregory J. Iaquina	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Angela M. Jackson	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Jacquelyn L. Johnson	08/01/23	Acme Markets
Timothy J. Jones	05/01/23	Incollingo's Iga
Vanessa D. Jones	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Mary F. Kane	06/01/23	Acme Markets
David J. Karoly	05/01/23	Laneco Inc. Food Lane Stores
Jerome F. Kennedy	06/01/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
Lori E. Klock	06/01/23	Village ShopRite
Karen I. Krasovetz	06/01/23	Zallie's Supermarkets
Terri E. Lasalvia	06/01/23	Supermarkets Cherry Hill
Lenore A. Lee	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Deborah L. Lieggi	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Diane Lowe	04/03/23	Cape Regional Medical Center
Veneracion Lowrie	07/02/23	Cape Regional Medical Center
Maureen A. Madelaine	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Norton R. Major	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Kenneth M. Marr	03/01/23	Super Fresh
James T. Martin, III	07/01/23	Delaware Supermarkets
Vicky McCoach	05/01/23	Whitemarsh Shop n Bag
Mary M. McCracken	04/01/23	Super Fresh
Catherine McDowell	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Michael T. Messarge	04/01/23	Edwards Super Food Stores
Dennis S. Mierzewski	05/01/23	Trevose Shop n Bag
Barbara A. Millili	02/01/23	Bottino's Supermarkets
Carol Moore	05/01/13	General Supermarkets
Gary J. Morton	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Gary J. Morton	05/01/23	Beatrice Grocery Prod.
William J. Mullen	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Mary Lou Nestore	03/01/23	Feoli's Supermarkets
Neddy Noguera	03/01/23	Old Fashioned Kitchen, Inc.
Kelly A. Oldfield	04/01/23	Holiday Markets
Edward J. O'Neill	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Editha Paggo	05/31/23	Cape Regional Medical Center
Bradley L. Parr	06/01/23	Supermarkets General
Leonard M. Pell	05/01/23	Dave's Meat Market
Gregory B. Pilla	02/01/23	Vineland Shop n Bag
Helen E. Pooler	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Donna M. Prus	05/01/23	Zallie's Supermarkets
Malcolm G. Ransone	06/01/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152

Please see page 10

Happy retirement!

Continued from page 9

Dorothy M. Recchilongo	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Helen A. Ruger	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Clayton Russell	07/01/23	General Supermarkets
James S. Sell	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Mark A. Shannon	04/01/23	Berks Packing Co.
Michael J. Sheridan	07/01/23	Village ShopRite
Arthur Silverman	05/01/23	R&R ShopRite
Gary Simpkins	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Salvatrice Simpson	03/01/23	ShopRite Of Bethlehem
Patricia A. Slavin	05/01/23	Acme Markets
Donald Smith	02/01/23	Acme Markets
Adele M. Spurio	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Barbara A. Sutura	04/01/23	Ball Park Brands
Jannina D. Townes	05/01/23	Colonial Beef Co.
Joan C. Trexler	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Frank Vitiello	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Michelle A. Wagner	06/01/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
Karen Wear	06/01/23	Acme Markets
Tadeusz Wlazi	02/01/23	Brown's Superstores
Dale E. Womack	04/01/23	Ball Park Brands

In memoriam

Hamid Abdussabur	03/08/23	Quaker City Meats
Denise J. Aldorasi-Dietrich	05/04/23	Acme Markets
Anne G. Allen	07/04/23	Pickwell-SHS Enterprises
Robert J. Altomare	03/21/23	Zallie's Supermarkets
Frank Anderson	04/19/23	Samuel Sandler
Anthony N. Areias	06/25/23	Mt. Airy Shop n Bag
Cleatus M. Ashcroft	04/15/23	Acme Markets
Glenn M. Ashman	02/25/23	Murphy's Marketplace
Michael J. Babiarz	03/19/23	Acme Markets
Paul W. Bachurski	07/03/23	Acme Markets
J. Lynn Bailey	04/18/23	Acme Markets
Keith D. Barrick	02/11/23	Acme Markets
Grover D. Beck	02/04/23	A&P Tea Company
James G. Bellon	07/29/23	Colligas Family Market
Anna E. Boogher	06/14/23	Safeway Stores
Richard E. Boyle	02/11/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 198
Alexander Brown	04/29/23	Penn Beef Company
Lenore A. Burgoon	03/21/23	Acme Markets
Vivian Burr	05/25/23	A&P Tea Company
John M. Chalkan	03/12/23	Acme Markets
Peter Colalillo	07/14/23	Cross Bros. Meat Packers
Gerard M. Conroy	03/11/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 198
Anton Cotoara	02/12/23	Lipoff's Wholesale Meats
William S. Cuthbertson	02/14/23	Acme Markets

Sonia Debiase	04/06/23	Acme Markets
Mary A. Devincensis	04/01/23	Supermarket Cheltenham
John Disanti	06/14/23	Village ShopRite
William Duncan	05/21/23	Acme Markets
Marcia M. Duncan	05/22/23	Penn Pines Thriftway
Harold Ebel	05/21/23	Acme Markets
George E. Fetrow	05/05/23	Medford Inc.
Carolann Feuchtwanger	06/15/23	Acme Markets
Duane A. Galey	05/20/23	Acme Markets
Robert R. Garland	07/17/23	Acme Markets
Mary Giorno	06/02/23	Pickwell-SHS Enterprises
Thomas Gitto	07/09/23	Eickhoff Supermarkets
Ronald A. Godwin	06/03/23	Acme Markets
Shirley M. Gordon	03/06/23	Food Check Shop n Bag
Mildred Hawkins	04/28/23	Colonial Beef Co.
Geneva Hazelwood	05/10/23	Super Fresh
Frederick A. Heine	04/15/23	Acme Markets
Eugene Hummel	06/27/23	Kanes Supermarket
Karoly Ihasz	03/05/23	ShopRite Supermarkets
Lois B. Johnson	07/01/23	Acme Markets
Evelyn Juliano	02/04/23	Pitman Shop n Bag
Paul R. Kleschick, Jr.	02/10/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
Florence Kozlowski	04/28/23	Aston Thriftway
Barbara Krakowski	02/23/23	Acme Markets
Daniel E. Kulp	07/18/23	Medford Inc.
Mary E. Langan	06/06/23	Acme Markets
Victoria Lesesane	05/02/23	AMD Thriftway Market
Linda M. Lewis	03/15/23	ShopRite of Manahawkin
June M. Lipp	04/15/23	Acme Markets
Albert Loreti	04/12/23	Plaza Thriftway
Margaret Ludlow	04/06/23	Holiday Markets
William Ludwigsen	06/30/23	Millville Shop n Bag
Thomas E. Maguire	05/06/23	Pickwell-SHS Enterprises
Janet Lynn Mayers	02/22/23	ShopRite Supermarkets
John G. McCarthy	05/03/23	A&P Tea Company
John McCarthy	05/24/23	Pabers Shop n Bag
Suzann G. McDyer	02/01/23	Acme Markets
John B. McElhenny	06/09/23	Super Fresh
Charles Melaragni	06/11/23	Grover Shop n Bag
Klaus Menke	05/18/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
Theresa Moran	06/18/23	Acme Markets
Rose M. Morgan	04/20/23	Food Fair/Pantry Pride
James A. Morris	06/05/23	Medford Inc.
John E. Moss	06/17/23	M&E #2384
Marilyn Myers	06/25/23	Super Fresh
Josephine E. Piotrowski	03/11/23	Super Fresh
Joseph F. Powderly	04/07/23	Acme Markets

Please see page 11



Nursing home workers deserve minimum staffing standards!

The Biden administration needs to hear from our members who work or have worked in the nursing home industry on why they must establish minimum staffing standards!

Visit <https://stories.ufcw.org/question/StaffingStandardsforEssentialWorkers>

Exclusive discounts for Local 152 members!

UFCW Lifemart

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- Child care
- Electronics

TicketsAtWork

- Hotels
- Movies
- Theme Parks

Union Plus

- Personal loans
- Supplemental Insurance
- Theme Parks

Jersey Shore

- Morey's Piers
- Casino Pier
- Fantasy Island

Entertainment

- Adventure Aquarium
- Big Kahuna's
- Clementon Park & Splash World
- Philadelphia Zoo
- ...and more!

Visit ufcwlocal152.org for details

In memoriam

Continued from page 10

Michele Prusinowski	05/02/23	Pickwell-SHS Enterprises
Enrico Pulice	06/07/23	ShopRite of Manahawkin
Edward Quinn	02/04/23	Holiday Markets
David T. Roberts	04/27/23	Super Fresh
Shirley C. Roberts	05/08/23	Acme Markets
Richard Robinson	5/5/23	Millville Supermarket, Inc.
John P. Roth	3/14/23	Acme Markets
Marie Rouse	06/21/23	Super Fresh
Walter M. Ruta	05/06/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 198
Hans Scherer	07/08/23	Acme Markets
Virginia M. Schwarzmenn	03/30/23	Acme Markets
Leela C. Shah	05/06/23	Davidson Supermarket
Joan Sklencar	04/16/23	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
Donald L. Smith	02/02/23	Acme Markets
Elizabeth M. Smith	02/18/23	Acme Markets
Lillie M. Smith	06/06/23	C&R Family Foods, Inc.
Sally Smith	07/03/23	Feoli's Supermarkets
Mary Ann R. Spence	06/29/23	Crispin Square Snd
Augustus Sutura	03/05/23	Ball Park Brands
Margaret J. Taylor	06/29/23	Acme Markets
Anthony A. Trioli	02/23/23	Bensalem ShopRite
Leon Trowell	02/17/23	Colonial Beef Co.
Joseph Veroline	05/18/23	Super Fresh
Frank Versace	02/24/23	S Lotman & Son Inc.
James A. Wall	03/17/23	Acme Markets
Joan Whaley	07/05/23	Delaware Supermarkets
Josh Wilson	02/27/23	Supermarkets Savings



Mental health resources for Local 152 members

If you are experiencing mental health issues, know that you are not alone. Help is available. Contact the Local 152 Benefit Funds at (800) 555-4959 to find out what services are available.

9-8-8 Lifeline

9-8-8 has been designated as a new three-digit dialing code that will route callers nationwide to the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline, now known as the 9-8-8 Suicide & Crisis Lifeline.

When people call, text or chat 9-8-8, they will be connected to counselors trained to listen to people's problems, provide immediate support and connect them to resources.

FOLLOW LOCAL 152 ONLINE

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Labor's summer of worker power

The summer of 2023 is being called “Strike Summer” for good reason.

As I write this, thousands of workers in the retail and hospitality industries and tens of thousands of writers and actors in television and movies are walking picket lines demanding fairness and respect on the job. They were close to being joined by thousands more workers at UPS until they settled a historic new contract at the 11th hour.

So far, America's unions are on track to surpass last year's total of nearly 320 labor actions, which was one of the highest numbers in decades.

At Hollywood studios, hotel laundry rooms, government offices, fast-food restaurants and countless other workplaces, working people are recognizing that their collective power is their best option for improving their jobs and economic welfare. Unions provide the means of organizing and bringing focus to that power.

Legislative actions like raising the minimum wage and setting basic safety standards are helpful, but they are not enough. For real progress to be made, workers at every job site need unions to negotiate enforceable contracts that include livable wages, health and retirement

benefits, and protections against arbitrary and discriminatory treatment.

Strong unions are also necessary for giving a voice to working people concerning the future of work in America. For example, one of the key issues motivating the striking writers and actors is the role of artificial intelligence in future film and television productions.

Empowerment and activism

Our union's members in the retail food and drug industries are concerned about the ongoing consolidation of corporate power in a small handful of entities. This is why the UFCW has taken a strong stance against the proposed merger of America's two largest supermarket employers: Kroger and Albertsons.

If it's allowed to proceed, this deal would reduce competition, raise costs for consumers and erode union bargaining power. It's a good deal for executives who will qualify for enormous payouts, but it won't help workers or the public at all. We urge federal regulators to stop the merger in its current form and help restore healthy competition to the marketplace.

Today's reenergized spirit of activism show us that the nation's mood is shifting toward empowering people to fight for a



President's Report

By Brian String

fair balance between corporate profits and workers' welfare.

As we approach Labor Day and this Summer of Strikes draws to a close, let's commit ourselves to a reenergized Labor Movement that carries the momentum forward for many seasons to come, for everyone's sake.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brian String".