



# UNITY

SUMMER 2024



## Acme Markets Meat members ratify new contract

In May, nearly 2,000 Local 152 members working in meat, seafood, deli and some bakery departments at Acme Markets in southern New Jersey, eastern Pennsylvania and Delaware came together to ratify a new union contract.

The top priority of the negotiating committee was to preserve best-in-class health benefits for Acme members with absolutely no out-of-pocket cost-sharing.

Please see page 8



## Workers at Genesis HealthCare choose Local 152 for union representation

Workers at Genesis HealthCare, an assisted living facility in Millville, have voted to select United Food and Commercial Workers Local 152 as their voice on the job.

The vote to designate Local 152 as their representative in contract negotiations with their employer took place on May 23. The 88 new members of the union work as Certified Nursing Assistants (CNA) and Licensed Practical Nurses (LPN) at Genesis HealthCare.

“These workers fought an uphill

**“These essential workers at Genesis HealthCare no longer have to settle for workplace grievances that go unheard.”**

— President Daniel Ross, Jr.

battle to unionize and we’re proud to welcome them into our local,” President Daniel Ross, Jr., said. “We look forward to helping them accomplish their goals and secure a first contract with their employer.”

Workers at the facility reached out

Please see page 9

## STAY CONNECTED!



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

**EDITOR**  
Daniel Ross, Jr.

**UNION HEADQUARTERS**  
3120 Fire Rd., Suite 201  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234  
**(888) JOIN-152**

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**BCI 100% Union**

# Contract success!



### Toms River Fire Commissioners District #1 clerical workers

From left, member Monica Bisceglie and  
Union Representative Mike Thompson.



### Chartwells School Dining Services

From left, Union Representative Chad Brooks  
and Shop Stewards Abigail Lopez and  
Sandra Lamphere.

## IT PAYS TO BE UNION!

**Grievances resolved**  
2024 total: **60**

**Back pay and benefits  
restored to members**  
2024 total:  
**\$243,003.22**



# CRPA members ratify historic first union contract

**O**n May 6, members at Cape Regional Physicians Associates (CRPA) workers took a stand and ratified their first union contract.

Local 152 represents more than 80 CRPA workers who work as nurses, medical assistants, receptionists and clerical workers across 13 offices in Cape May County, N.J.

This historic moment was realized after more than 18 months of hard bargaining. CRPA workers voted for representation by Local 152 in September 2022.

With the implementation of the new two-year contract, CRPA workers now have basic protections established, including:

- a four-step grievance process in which workers can raise concerns or complaints about their employer or working conditions;
- members are no longer “at-will” employees, meaning the employer must have a legitimate reason to terminate;
- clear and fair job posting and transfer procedures;
- seniority provisions, recognizing senior members with more time, experience and dedication to the company;
- successorship language in the event of a sale or merger, to protect the workers;
- union orientation language so all new employees are permitted to learn about their union membership and the benefits of being a union member.

CRPA members now have their wages and affordable health benefit rates secured in the contract. Additionally, the \$3/hour “pull pay” rate (their premium pay when they are temporarily moved to another location) is now guaranteed in the contract.

All members will receive an across-the-board wage increase and a one-time \$250 ratification bonus. The negotiating committee also was able to raise the life insurance rate and increase paid time off for senior employees.

The negotiating committee included President Daniel Ross, Jr., Director of Field Services Peggy Kelly, Director of Organizing Mike Thompson, Legal Counsel Tom Karpousis and Mark Belland of O’Brien, Belland & Bushinsky, LLC, and members Kerry Owens, Teresa Parker, Zina Thompson and Danielle Burcaw.

CRPA is a multi-specialty health care group that includes some of the finest physicians in the area. CRPA is affiliated with Cooper University Hospital Cape Regional, which has been a union facility for more than 40 years.



## General Membership Meetings 2024

**Nov. 21**  
**10 a.m. and 7 p.m.**

### Southern New Jersey

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

### Pennsylvania Area

Radisson Hotel Philadelphia NE  
2400 Old Lincoln Highway  
Trevose, PA 19053

### Shore Area

VFW #2189  
500 Bethel Rd.  
Somers Point, N.J. 08244

### Delaware Area

GF Hotels & Resorts formerly Embassy Suites  
640 S. College Ave.  
Newark, DE 19713

## News from around the trade

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

**A**fter talking to more than half a dozen union executives over the past year, it's clear that most of organized labor has little faith in Albertsons and Kroger holding to their pledge not to displace front-line workers on a long-term basis. And much of that lack of trust stems from the Albertsons deal with bankrupt Haggen in 2016 that ended with some overlapping stores being closed.

"While the labor retention deal sounds good on paper, we've been burned in the past with similar promises," one UFCW executive explained. "The majority of both companies' stores are organized, and based on the trust factor, or lack of it, we're not willing to potentially weaken our membership down the road."

On a broader basis, one might also question the viability of Albertsons in a few years if the merger attempt is ultimately rejected.

Based on how the Boise, Idaho chain is currently being run, do you think it could survive three to five more years as a vanilla traditional supermarket chain given the current operating and economic environment?

### Amazon grocery attempt disappoints

In New Jersey, Amazon Fresh opened its first new Mid-Atlantic store in more than two years in Eatontown (Monmouth County). While there has been modest improvement over the original model, it's now clear to me that the brain trust in Seattle remains fairly clueless about operating physical food stores.

While the SKU count has been expanded and the product assortment is better, the store is still not a comfortable place to shop. Pricing, merchandising, store operations and customer service at the 35,000-sq. ft. unit all remain mediocre at best and generally subpar as a shopping experience. If that's the best they've got, why bother? We'll reportedly see more of this new version coming to locations across Maryland as well.

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

## REGIONAL DIRECTOR SPOTLIGHT

By **Fallon Ager**  
UFCW Region 1 Director,  
International Vice President



### Help protect the rights of workers this Election Year

**A** lot is at stake for members of Local 152 and our union this election year. Should Republicans take control of the White House in 2025, the Heritage Foundation's "Project 2025," which is a "180 day playbook" for Donald Trump and his allies, will be a threat to UFCW members and our democracy.

Project 2025 includes the following proposals:

- Make it easier for employers to get rid of workers' unions in the middle of their contracts.
- Ban all public employee unions.
- Allow states to ban labor unions, eliminate overtime protections, and choose not to follow the national minimum wage.
- Eliminate the child labor rules that protect children from working in mines, meatpacking plants, and other dangerous workplaces.

Project 2025 would make it harder for our union to organize and negotiate the best and strongest contracts possible that our members have earned and deserve. This agenda will drive up costs, put people out of work, and endanger America's workers. You can learn more about how Project 2025 would affect workers' rights, health and safety, retirement security, civil rights, consumer rights and more at <https://betterinaunion.org/project-2025>.

I encourage members of Local 152 to spread the word about Project 2025 and how this agenda would be disastrous for working people. I also encourage you to help our union get out the vote and elect Kamala Harris and Tim Walz for President and Vice President as well as other worker-friendly candidates in your states.

Thank you for all that you do to make our union better and stronger.

### Keep your union up to date!



To continue to receive important news and updates from Local 152, visit [ufcwlocal152.org](http://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:



# Why your union is involved in politics

**L**egislative attacks on workers take on many forms, but the goals are always the same: stifle union voices and bring down wages and benefits to fit the needs of corporate managers and shareholders.

These attacks on workers' rights persist no matter who is in the White House. While the Labor Movement has benefited from the most pro-union president in history during the past four years, new laws aiming to weaken unions are still being drafted by anti-union interests that are just waiting for a more favorable climate to push them through the system.

Given these circumstances, Local 152 can't afford to stand on the political sidelines. Our job is to do the best we can on behalf of our members to make their working lives safer, steadier and more profitable.

To do this, we need to support political candidates on the local, state and federal levels who respect workers' right to organize. It's not about Democrats or Republicans or anything that isn't directly related to your job and your rights as a union member.

## Acting in your best interests

Sometimes we have politicians who stand beside us as we work toward goals such as fair contracts and safe workplaces. Our political connections were invaluable when we fought for protective equipment and "essential worker" designations during the COVID-19 pandemic.

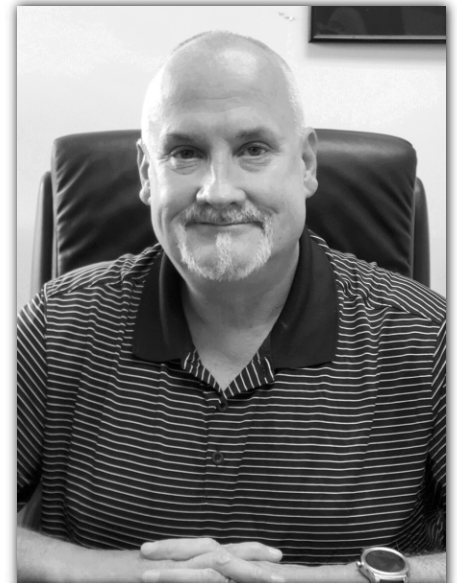
Sometimes, however, we get people in office whose values don't align with those of the working class. Typically,

these politicians won't even bother returning our phone calls.

We support the politicians who support us and listen to us. If they can't give us the time of day, then we will work for our friends who will.

Some union members have become so angry and cynical about the political process that they don't bother to vote or even register. That attitude makes no sense at all, because it's in your interest to vote and to choose candidates who will work for you and not against you.

Over the years, unions have won major legislative battles that have improved the lives of working Americans, including you and your family. We'll always act in the best interests of our members and advocate for them in any way we can.



## Secretary-Treasurer's Report

By Dan Konczyk

A black and white silhouette illustration of a crowd of people. Many have their hands raised in the air, and some are holding flags on poles. The scene suggests a protest, rally, or a moment of collective action.

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](mailto:organizing@ufcwlocal152.org).**



**LOCAL 152**  
**MEMBERS**  
**AT**  
**WORK**

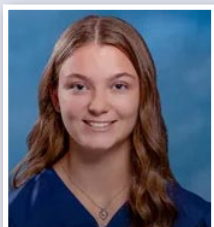




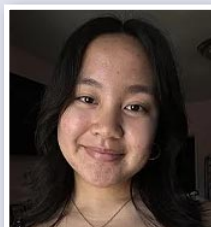
**2024**  
Irv R. String Local 152  
Scholarship Fund  
recipients



**Avetik Avetisyan** will be attending Atlantic Cape Community College. He plans to become an electronic systems technician and start his own construction company. Avetik's mother, Hovannes Avetisyan, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Village ShopRite in Rio Grande, New Jersey.



**Kristen Barsocchi** plans to study graphic design and digital media to have a career in marketing. Kristen volunteers with the Medford Youth Athletic Association. Kristen's mother, Helen Barshocchi, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Bevco in Edgewater Park, New Jersey.



**Jazmyn Maranan** plans on attending Arcadia University to major in Education and become a teacher. Jazmyn volunteers with field clean-ups, the nursery ministry in her church and more. Jazmyn's mother, Maria Manalac, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Puratos in Cherry Hill, New Jersey.



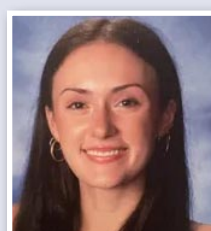
**Nina Cardamone** will attend Rutgers, New Brunswick where she plans to study Kinesiology and Exercise Science to pursue a career as a Physician Assistant. Nina volunteers with the Washington Township Community Program, and the Cathedral Kitchen and St. Vincent DePaul food pantry to help feed those less fortunate. Nina's father, Samuel Cardamone, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Acme Markets in Sewell, New Jersey.



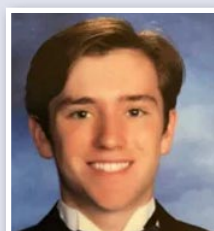
**Delaney Reed** plans on attending Rowan University to pursue a career in Elementary Education and become a teacher. Delaney volunteers at dance studios to assist in teaching dance and gymnastics, beach clean-ups, and the Funny Farm. She is part of football and basketball cheer, the dance team, the peer leader program, and the National Honors Society. Delaney's father, Jasper Reed, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Acme Markets in North Cape May, New Jersey.



**Angela John** is currently attending Penn State University and is majoring in Bio-Behavioral Health to pursue a career as a neurosurgeon. Angela is a front desk welcome specialist at Penn State in Abington and a UFCW Local 152 member at Acme Markets in Richboro, Pennsylvania.



**Lily Robert** plans on attending Atlantic Cape Community College where she will major in Art History and minor in Fine Arts and Business Management. Lily volunteers in various fundraisers and bake sales. Lily's mother, Katherine Robert, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Acme Markets.



**Lucas Knappenberger** plans on attending Carnegie Mellon University to study Biomedical and Mechanical Engineering to pursue a career as a Biomedical Engineer. Lucas volunteers with the Youth Orchestra of Bucks County. Lucas's mother, Victoria Knappenberger, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Acme Markets in Horsham, Pennsylvania.



**Lisa Thomas** is currently attending Penn State University where she studies Psychology with a minor in Criminal Justice. She plans to work in a correctional facility or with the FBI as a forensic psychologist. Lisa's mother, Hong Hua, is a UFCW Local 152 member at Dietz & Watson in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.



# Meat members at Acme prevail

Continued from front page

Through determined bargaining and backed by member solidarity, this goal was achieved, and these members continue to pay nothing out-of-pocket for their health benefits.

In addition, all year-round members — including top-of-scale workers — receive an immediate across-the-board wage increase, annual raises for the life of the four-year agreement and a “lump sum” bonus. Department heads will receive additional increases, night shift workers will receive a boosted \$3 per hour differential, and the progression scale has been updated to reflect more competitive wages.

Other improvements in the new agreement include:

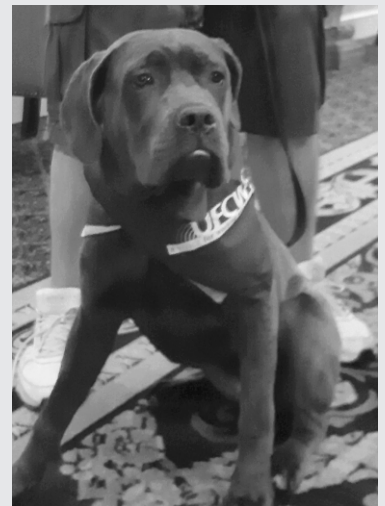
- Members can request all time off in single-day increments, allowing for greater convenience in vacation scheduling. Members also can carry over one week of vacation to the following year.
- Part-time members are able to hold the title of Shop Steward, and paid training and education time for all stewards are increased.

## Determined bargaining and member solidarity

- Members have the opportunity to participate in the voluntary supplemental benefits offered by the local union’s preferred benefits provider, including life insurance, disability insurance, accident insurance and more.
- Contract language was added to facilitate discussions between the union and Acme Markets in the event of a pandemic or other emergencies in relation to safety issues, hazard pay and more.

The negotiating committee included President Daniel Ross, Jr.; Secretary-Treasurer Dan Konczyk; Recorder/Executive Vice President Lisa Sanders; Executive Assistant to the President Danette Montes-Palmore; Union Representatives Cary Lawson, Tom Hartle and Ed Fuller; and Local 152 members

Marian Brennan, Stacey Cottrell, Lois Crudele, Ryan Dilts, Donald Dixon, Elyse Haas, David Harper, Annamarie Henigan, Nicole Henry, Raymond Kenney, William Kreidler, Shannon McCormick, Joseph McNulty, Donna Oakes, Paul Rennie, Stephen Rinaldi, Jason Staples and Robert West.



“Bootsy” the dog displays UFCW pride at the ratification meeting.





**MEMBERS AT WORK** • ShopRite

## Genesis HealthCare workers join Local 152

Continued from front page

to Local 152 more than a year ago after hearing positive feedback about the union from others in the health care industry. However, an aggressive campaign by the company — which resulted in multiples charges filed against Genesis — delayed the vote to unionize as the company’s actions were reviewed by the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB).

After the NLRB determined that Genesis had engaged in unfair labor practices, the company was ordered by the board to communicate clearly to those workers they have the right to organize their workplace without fear or intimidation. The election was then able to move forward, resulting in the workers’ victory on May 23.

Local 152 will meet with the Genesis workers in coming weeks to draft contract proposals and schedule bargaining dates with the company.

“These essential workers at Genesis HealthCare no longer have to settle for workplace grievances that go unheard,” President Ross said. “As members of Local 152 they will be treated with respect for the work they perform and empowered to seek the improvements they deserve.”

The negotiating committee included Director of Organizing Mike Thompson and organizers William Pitts, Ernest Dunmore, Carilisse Lopez and Alley Snow.



## 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.



**UFCW Discount College Program**  
Affordable college options for UFCW Local 152 members and family!




**FOLLOW LOCAL 152 ONLINE**

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[twitter.com/ufcwlocal152](https://twitter.com/ufcwlocal152)  
[instagram.com/ufcwlocal152/](https://instagram.com/ufcwlocal152/)

# Happy retirement!

<b>Henrietta Ames</b>	05/28/24	SJ Extended Care
<b>Howard S. Bartholomew</b>	05/01/24	Laneco Inc.
<b>Scott H. Beaton</b>	07/01/24	Medford Inc.
<b>Ronald P. Benjamin</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Bruce L. Bowles</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Helen M. Brown</b>	06/01/24	Colligas Family Market
<b>John J. Cacciola, Jr.</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Linda A. Carbone</b>	05/01/24	Bottino's Supermarkets
<b>Jack M. Cheeseman</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Kenneth Colts</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Frederick Conley</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Helen M. Cunningham</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Thomas J. Dececco</b>	06/01/24	Super Fresh
<b>Michael Digilio</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>June Erman</b>	05/01/24	General Supermarkets
<b>Wesley H. Evans</b>	06/01/24	Collins Family Markets
<b>Beatrice L. Fisher</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Denise A. Gannon</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Donato G. Giancola</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Beverly C. Gilmore</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Julie A. Hammock</b>	07/01/24	Pathmark Stores
<b>Efthimia Hatzidais</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Dorothy Hewitt</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Richard J. Hower</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Helen E. Hutson</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Estella L. Johnston</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Jacqueline M. Jones</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Kathy Jeanne King</b>	03/13/24	Cape Regional Medical Center
<b>Jeanne M. Kirkpatrick</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Gina Kremer</b>	05/04/24	Cape Regional Medical Center
<b>Charles J. Kupcha</b>	06/01/24	Millville Supermarket, Inc.
<b>Paul M. Lapera</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Sharon L. Lightcap</b>	05/01/24	Zallie's Supermarkets
<b>Maryann Lindley</b>	06/01/24	Pathmark Stores-Local 198
<b>Daniel A. Lomas</b>	06/01/24	Drexeline Supermarket
<b>Curtis Mack</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Maryann Mason</b>	05/01/24	Holiday Markets
<b>Teri L. Mauro</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Thomas J. McCrosson</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Kathryn L. Morano</b>	06/01/24	Super Fresh
<b>Donna Murphy</b>	05/01/24	Acme Markets



<b>Philip Nicosia</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>George J. Papp</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Tammy Parker</b>	02/29/24	Cape Regional Medical Center
<b>Alice A. Quinn</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Josephine A. Rooney</b>	06/01/24	Super Fresh
<b>John A. Sadowski</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Lorraine Schultheis</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>David Shipman</b>	07/01/24	Village ShopRite
<b>Richard Skorupski</b>	05/17/24	Berks Packing Co.
<b>Veronica A. Smith</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Sharron L. Smith</b>	07/01/24	Medford Shop 'n' Bag
<b>Heather Steelman</b>	05/01/24	ShopRite West Deptford
<b>Donna Stewart</b>	07/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Nancy F. Strickhouser</b>	05/01/24	Brown's Superstore
<b>Claire Wamsher</b>	07/01/24	Food Fair Inc.
<b>Charles S. Willis, Jr.</b>	05/01/24	Berks Packing Co.

## In memoriam

<b>Margaret Amenhauser</b>	06/29/24	Super Fresh
<b>Zelick Ashin</b>	06/02/24	Millville Thriftway
<b>Frances M. Barral</b>	06/13/24	Acme Markets
<b>Eugene Carota</b>	05/15/24	Pickwell SHS Enterprises, Inc.
<b>Jack Cervetto</b>	04/28/24	Acme Markets
<b>Dale Conley</b>	05/05/24	Acme Markets
<b>Marie Gurry</b>	05/15/24	Egg Harbor Thriftway
<b>Alvin Dare</b>	06/29/24	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
<b>Sandra J. Denny</b>	07/14/24	Super Fresh
<b>Frank Devico</b>	05/30/24	Acme Markets

Continued on next page

# In memoriam

Continued from previous page

<b>Nancy B. Essex</b>	06/01/24	Delaware Supermarkets
<b>Deane M. Facemyer</b>	06/01/24	Acme Markets
<b>Selma Fine</b>	07/08/24	Super Fresh
<b>Gertrude D. Giusti</b>	05/06/24	Davidson's Foodtown
<b>Sara Jane Hartenstine</b>	05/19/24	Super Fresh
<b>Walter E. Heiser, III</b>	05/05/24	Acme Markets
<b>Joyce A. Heiser</b>	05/10/24	Brown's Superstores
<b>Robert J. Jacobs</b>	07/13/24	Acme Markets
<b>Andrew H. Johnson</b>	06/28/24	Famous Meats Co.
<b>Alfred J. Klug</b>	06/11/24	Acme Markets
<b>Michael J. Kretzinger</b>	06/30/24	Acme Markets
<b>Olivia Laudenslager</b>	05/21/24	Acme Markets
<b>Maryann Layton</b>	05/18/24	Acme Markets
<b>Gary Lewis</b>	05/06/24	Shorday's
<b>Donna L. Lewis</b>	05/09/24	Zallie's Supermarkets
<b>Carol M. Lyons</b>	05/03/24	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
<b>John C. Matthews</b>	07/02/24	Stop & Shop
<b>Julietta McCoy</b>	06/24/24	Incollingo's Iga
<b>Oscar McKnight</b>	07/05/24	Lipoff's Wholesale Meats
<b>Nello A. Mercoli</b>	05/01/24	Supermarkets Of C.H.
<b>Anthony Mistretta</b>	07/17/24	Middletown Supermarket
<b>Rose Montecalvo</b>	07/03/24	Super Fresh
<b>James Montufar</b>	05/08/24	A&P Tea Company
<b>Juliet F. O'hara</b>	05/25/24	Brown's Superstores
<b>Ruth V. Perfetti</b>	06/06/24	Acme Markets
<b>Elsie Raabe</b>	05/12/24	Hinelines Meat Plant, Inc.
<b>Naomi L. Rudden</b>	05/29/24	Super Fresh
<b>Angelo Sannasardo</b>	06/05/24	Acme Markets
<b>Frank P. Sheldon</b>	05/14/24	Bear Thriftway
<b>William J. Smith</b>	06/01/24	Holiday Markets
<b>Mary P. Smith</b>	06/12/24	Great Scot - Spruce
<b>Darlene M. Stuber</b>	06/05/24	Super Fresh
<b>Jannina D. Townes</b>	05/13/24	Colonial Beef Co.
<b>William G. Wall</b>	05/30/24	Pathmark Stores-Local 152
<b>James Warren, Sr.</b>	05/14/24	Medford Inc.
<b>Eleanor V. Wertz</b>	05/08/24	Acme Markets
<b>William Worrell</b>	06/15/24	Supervalu Country Markets
<b>Leo J. Yingling, Jr.</b>	06/25/24	Shorday's



**Happy retirement!**  
**George Hubert** retired from Johanna Foods after 15 years.

## 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.

## Exclusive discounts for Local 152 members!

### UFCW Lifemart

- Auto
- 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](http://ufcwlocal152.org) for details

UFCW Local 152  
3120 Fire Rd., Suite 201  
Egg Harbor Township, NJ 08234

Periodical  
Postage Paid  
at Trenton, NJ

## Membership meetings are important!

**T**he next time you're at work, look to your left and look to your right. You'll see your coworkers who woke up, got dressed, and showed up to earn an honest day's living, just like you.

When you see them, you see Local 152. Thousands of others like them make up our union, and together we can continue to achieve great outcomes for working families.

Your union leadership is always interested in hearing about the concerns and aspirations of our membership. This is one reason why we start to prepare for negotiations by surveying members about improvements they'd like to see in their next contracts. Our union representatives routinely visit your workplaces and shop stewards are regularly reporting issues that arise on the job.

Just as important as these daily business functions are your union's quarterly membership meetings, where the entire membership is invited to attend.

New members, veteran members, retirees, supermarket workers, manufacturing workers, health care workers, cannabis workers — all are welcome to join these meetings to hear updates about your local union.

There may be question about the status of contract negotiations answered. You'll receive updates on the finances, health/welfare, and pension funds. We generally have representatives from the benefits funds and legal service provider to answer any questions you may have. We may discuss new groups your union is helping to organize. Many members simply want to chat with union leadership in a relaxed atmosphere both before and after these meetings to share perspectives on the industries we represent. I personally appreciate these opportunities to bond and fellowship with our members.

I can't guarantee there won't be disagreements at union membership meetings, but I can promise that everyone who attends will be able to speak about union issues that matter to them.

I recognize that it's not always easy to make time to attend a meeting, especially after a long day of work, but it's certainly well worth the effort to participate. We try our best to make it as convenient as possible by holding meetings at four locations across our jurisdiction and at two different times, in the morning and evening (see page 3 of this issue of *Unity* for details).



You are part of Local 152, and we want to hear from you. We hope to see you at our final general membership meeting of 2024 on Nov. 21.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Daniel Ross, Jr.".