

The Register December 2016 The Register



THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

Tony Speelman - President @aspeel1500



UNIONS MAKE AMERICA GREAT!

After months of division, hate and separatism, America has finally elected a new president. I wish to congratulate Mr. Trump and look forward to seeing how his vision for America reflects on us, the American workers. I'm not concerned with whom you voted for, or if you agree or disagree with whom our Union endorsed, I only care about one thing; making our union jobs stronger and better than ever before. If Donald Trump's campaign introduces policies which strengthen our jobs and our industry, raises our wages and increases our union's strength, then this is a great victory. Unfortunately, some early indications say otherwise. Trump's Vice Presidential selection, Mike Pence, has repeatedly voted against any increase in the minimum wage for workers, and both he and President-Elect Trump have supported legislation that defunds Unions.

Throughout this election season we have heard how much hard-working families and the middle class are tired of divisive political rhetoric. People everywhere want to feel like Washington, DC actually works for them and is capable of providing them with economic opportunity. What we can learn from the Trump movement is that when people unite, anything is possible. What's possible for us if we do the same is limitless. One of the greatest benefits of having a union contract is the knowledge that you and your co-workers have the power to shape your own future.

When I took office in May we began to slowly transform our Union. We've done many things differently than they were done before. Our latest contract campaigns have resulted in major gains for the hardworking men and women we represent. We won pension benefits for the first time for the Fairway truck drivers. We secured benefits, negotiated raises and increased guaranteed hours for our members at Wild by Nature in their new five-year contract and we have not settled with companies who want to take our member's retirement securities and benefits away. We have fought back when

pushed and we will continue to fight when greedy employers refuse to recognize how much your hard work makes their companies successful. We are not in a rush to settle a bad contract. What my team is instituting here is a precedent for our union, you deserve better and we will not stand by while you get walked over.

for over 20 years. Without Frank we wouldn't have our own Union building or the great contracts and benefits we have today. Frank was a pioneer and he believed in not only helping our members, but our communities. It was with that in mind that he began raising funds for St. Mary's Hospital for Kids and the Leukemia

Our Union is changing. We won our first Organizing victory in decades (see page 4), bringing fairness and a voice to the men and women working at Hale & Hearty's commissary in Brooklyn. This was a tremendous victory, and I congratulate Aly Waddy and the Organizing Department for all of their hard work and their dedication to this group of workers.



"I care about one thing: to make our union jobs stronger and better."

Since taking office we have gone through the expenses that our Union takes on and found dozens of ways to reduce/eliminate many that are unnecessary. This task will result in serious savings and ensure that your money is spent more wisely. We are still hiring more staff and plan to use them to help us all achieve stronger contracts, more job security and to better service our members. Together we decided to dedicate our building after our mentor, our late former President, Frank Meehan. If you didn't know Frank you can visit our website ufcw1500.org/Meehan to learn more about him. Frank was a wonderful man and a dynamic labor leader who ran our Union

have our own Union building or the great contracts and benefits we have today. Frank was a pioneer and he believed in not only helping our members, but our communities. It was with that in mind that he began raising funds for St. Mary's Hospital for Kids and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society (LLS) to help families affected by blood cancer. Because of his work the UFCW has raised nearly \$800 million for the LLS. As fate would have it Frank passed last year after losing a tough battle to a rare form of leukemia. In October, we proudly dedicated our Union Hall with our members, Frank's family and some friends. The building located at 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury will forever be known as "Frank Meehan Hall."

I guess my point is that we're evolving. We've successfully introduced better language in our contracts to help all workers. We have secured anti-discrimination language in all our recent contracts and have succeeded in adding more guaranteed part-time hours wherever we can. When I took office a few months back I asked you all to take a survey about your Union, for the record I read every single response, and most have thankfully been positive. However, there is much work to do. We will be focusing on helping part-timers more (especially with scheduling), holding politicians accountable to their campaign promises and of course fighting like hell to raise your wages. I am eager to still hear more voices. You can still take the survey at ufcw1500.org/survey16 and can do so anonymously.

Thank you for your support and your hard work this year. 2016 was a year of ups and downs for our Union, but I know that we are now heading in the right direction. Thank you for your hard work every day in the stores, for helping thousands of New Yorkers celebrate the holiday season and for being a part of their communities.



Happy
Holidays
from the staff
of Local 1500



JUST FOR THE RECORD

Rob Newell - Secretary-Treasurer @ufcw1500

a VOICE for working America

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

It's hard to believe how much has changed over the last seven months. This year has been one of the most active for our Union and it's one that we should all be proud of. President Speelman has dedicated his first year as President to rebuilding our Union, refocusing our efforts in the stores, and most importantly listening to the membership's opinions about everything that we do. I'm sure that many of you have seen Tony during one of his more recent store visits and don't worry if you haven't, I'm sure you will soon.

A few months ago, we reinstituted the membership survey, which can be taken anonymously if preferred. We are trying to maximize the amount of feedback we get from all of you and we are trying to get a full picture of how it feels to be a member of Local 1500. So far we have received hundreds of surveys and they have yielded some great ideas, some membership concerns and some very constructive criticism. You should also know that our Executive staff reviews every response received and we encourage you to keep them coming. If you haven't taken the survey yet, want to take it again or want to forward the link to other members please visit ufcw1500.org/survey16. This survey effort will not be a one and done process either. Joe Fedele will be crafting additional surveys in the coming months so that we can target Company specific issues in addition to the issues that affect us all globally.

I'm hoping by now that many of you have seen our "New Member Email" and the "Welcome to Local 1500" video. If not please go to ufcw1500.org/welcome and take a quick look. This video is big news for us and has led to an average gain of over 150 new email contacts per week since we launched this project in mid-October. Sending this email and video gives us access to the newest members of our Union at the earliest stages of their employment. If we want to continue building and growing our Union we cannot do it successfully without the help, support and opinions of ALL our members, not just our most senior or most active ones.



The current campaign to organize Best Market has recently become a much more public battle. A coalition of community groups, labor unions, religious leaders and concerned citizens have begun to take this company to task on a regular basis. The coalition's

main goal is to help Best Market workers gain dignity and respect on the job. Now more than ever the workers at Best Market are seeing that the promises made by the company are hollow and that they are NOT the company that they pretend to be in the media. In September the coalition made, released and ran a commercial on Long Island cable stations that featured many of your hardworking Local 1500 brothers and sisters (visit ufcw1500.org/BY). On September 8th they held an awareness rally in front of the Best Market store in Huntington, NY and have hand billed their customers, at all Best Market locations many, many times. None of this would be possible without the hard work and support of our proud members, especially those of you on Long Island. We need to remind everyone we can to shop Union for all their grocery needs every day.

Recently a few other strong, significant, non-union grocers in our area have started to experience a good amount of public stress and business difficulty. Hopefully many of you have seen the articles identifying the struggles Mrs. Green's Natural markets has faced recently. They have closed four stores and just announced the closures of five more. The shelves in their remaining stores are so bare that people are starting to wonder if they can survive at all. You probably remember our very public

battle with Mrs. Green's after they fired a group of workers from their Mount Kisco store in 2014. Do you think they will blame the Union for all their problems again as opposed to admitting that mismanagement and poor decision making are really responsible for their current struggles?

Whole Foods cannot seem to buy themselves any good publicity lately. After many years of being seen as the gem of the natural foods industry they are starting to experience some financial trouble. The reality of what Whole Foods charges for their products and how they treat their employees has come back to bite them in the backside. Same store ID sales are down, the stock price is under a ton of stress and consumer support seems to have shifted to other players in this space. Another operator in this space that has always seemed to shine brightly is Trader Joes. As much as they would love to distance themselves from bad publicity they can't seem to either. They are finally being outed by their own employees as the difficult employer we have always known them to be. There is a lot more going on behind their customer service counters than they would like the public to know. Some current and former employees have begun working with representatives from the RWDSU/UFCW to help them gain a voice in their workplace and achieve better working conditions. Good luck and fight hard!!

I would be remiss if I didn't publicly congratulate and thank our Organizing department for all their hard work and dedication recently. Over the past 6 months they have worked tirelessly on multiple organizing campaigns including one very important one that yielded an election victory at the Hale & Hearty soup commissary located in Bushwick, Brooklyn. This is the first NLRB election victory for our Union in a very long time and we look forward to negotiating their first contract. Our Organizers currently have a few other active campaigns bubbling just below the surface as well so stay tuned for more good news on this front. We expect and anticipate that the victory at Hale & Hearty will be the first of many for Director of Organizing Aly Waddy and our Organizing team of Brendan Sexton, Rafael Hernandez, Nick Allen & Bruce Farrands. Keep up the hard work guys, the workers need you!

The months of late 2016 – early 2017 are loaded with retirements down at Frank Meehan Hall. In October, we saw the retirement of our most senior office staff member Sheila Hobson-Jones. Sheila worked in our medical department for over 40 years. In January, 2017, both Leonora Ciofallo from the Pension department and Norberta Volmar from Legal Services are also moving on to spend more time with their families. In March of 2017, Local 1500 will sadly see the departure of our Executive Secretary Jennifer Viran. Jenny, you caught us all by surprise that afternoon but we wish you all the best and want you to know that you will be dearly missed. These four retirements led to us to have to interview and hire new office staff for virtually every department of our Union lately. I am proud to report that thanks to some extra effort by our Recorder Rhonda

Nelson, Assistant to the President Joe Waddy and our Floor Supervisor Jennie Young we managed to do just that! All our new staffers will be attending the December General Membership Meeting and will formally introduce themselves to the membership that night. Welcome to the team ladies!

I would like to take a final moment to thank all of you again for your support and wish all of you and your families a very healthy and happy holiday season. I hope to see you in the stores soon, stay safe and stay labor strong!!



Jen Viran, the Executive Secretary for Local 1500 for the last 26 years, will be retiring in March.

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UNION MADE SOUP

Hale & Hearty Soup Workers Vote for UFCW Local 1500



Hale & Hearty is a New York-based counter-serve chain that is well known for its soups. The company opened its first location 20 years ago in New York City and has rapidly expanded across New York. The company prides itself on being New York made, proudly boasting its soups are made with fresh ingredients in its Brooklyn commissary.

The commissary employs nearly 100 men and women who make the delicious soups sold throughout its 33 locations. Workers made contact with UFCW Local 1500 Organizers in early August 2016. Donald Torres, who has worked at the Hale & Hearty facility for two years said, "We all just felt that we deserved better. We want to have a voice and to build a better life working here." Workers wanted their company to invest in them, so they could help build a better company...they wanted a union.

On Oct. 20, 2016 the workers at the Hale & Hearty overwhelmingly voted for a better life by joining UFCW Local 1500. The vote was 40-11. The news shook the New York City and national labor movement. President of the 1.3 million member New York City Central Labor Council, Vinny Alvarez, released a statement congratulating the workers, "Congratulations to workers at Hale and Hearty, who voted to join UFCW 1500. In voting to join the union, they have also gained the support of 1.3 million working men and women in the New York City labor movement. New York City is indeed a union town, and we welcome these new Local 1500 members to the nation's largest and strongest labor movement."

Even the President of the 12.5 million member AFL-CIO, Richard Trumka, tweeted a congratulatory note to the workers. "We all feel so



proud to help these men and women and are looking forward to working with the company to make Hale & Hearty even better," said Director of Organizing Aly Waddy. Tony Speelman, President of UFCW Local 1500, said "I want to congratulate the hard-working men and women at Hale & Hearty for joining us at Local 1500. Our entire union is proud of them and admires their courage. We look forward to building a relationship with Hale & Hearty, and working together to find ways to benefit workers and the company together."



What's even better? Hale & Hearty signed on to be the exclusive hot soup provider for all Fairway Market stores earlier this year. You can try one of their delicious union-made soups at many of our union shops including Wild by Nature and others!

"The feeling of togetherness was apparent, we're all in this together and I think the company management recognizes that," said Waddy, "Going into contract negotiations we will look to improve the lives for these hardworking men and women," Waddy concluded.



We're thankful for the hard work you put in every single day. Because of that work, thousands of New York families can enjoy their holiday season... Thank you.

UNION HALL DEDICATED IN HONOR OF FORMER PRESIDENT FRANK MEEHAN



Earlier this year President Tony Speelman announced he would be dedicating our Union Hall in honor of former President Frank Meehan. "Our new Union leadership and Executive Board, was proud to give this honor to the Meehan family," Speelman explained, "What Frank did for the tens of thousands of hardworking men and women of this Union was insurmountable. It's because of his leadership that we have this beautiful building to call home. His leadership set the groundwork for some of the best retail food contracts in the country." Speelman said.

On October 5th the Meehan family joined Local 1500 members, community partners and politicians for the official building dedication ceremony. Local 1500's Union Hall was renamed 'Frank Meehan Hall', cementing Meehan's legacy into our Union's history.

Frank served as President of UFCW Local 1500 from 1984-2005 and was instrumental in building Local 1500 into one of the largest UFCW Local Unions in the United States. Frank also was the pioneer of the partnership between the UFCW and the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Through the partnership the UFCW has helped raise over \$80 million dollars to battle cancer. In the spring of 2015, he ended up losing his life to one of the most aggressive forms of leukemia he'd been working so hard to see cured. The devoted husband, father, and grandfather was 75 years-old.

"This was a special day in our Union's history and I'm proud to share it with the Meehan and Local 1500 families. Frank was a mentor to me and each day we are actively working to make our Union bigger, stronger and better, together." Speelman said.







building dedication ceremony

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UNION SETS FUNDRAISING RECORDS

OVER \$150,000 RAISED DURING 2016

\$90,121
LEUKEMIA &
LYMPHOMA
SOCIETY

Thanks to your hard work, our Union set fundraising records this year. Below are some photos from our two walks in October, the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society's Light the Night Walk & the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk.

\$62,099
BREAST CANCER



Thank you to all who have participated in fundraisers, raised money and spread the word to make a difference in our communities. Together our union is making an enormous impact!

To get involved in next years fundraising visit ufcw1500.org/charity

Local 1500 at the NYC Labor Day Parade



NEW LOCAL 1500 MEMBER VIDEO:



Are you a new Local 1500 member? We created a new welcome video to make sure all our amazing members know what your Union does every day and a few of the things your Union can do for you.

Check it out at: <u>ufcw1500.org/welcome</u>

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact your Union Representative and visit our website ufcw1500.org where you can explore some benefits and find out what your Union is fighting for to better the lives of our members.

Find us on Facebook.com/ufcw1500

Twitter@ufcw1500 and instagram.com/ufcw1500

Let us know what you think about the video, and most of all, thank you!



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Regional Director's column By Tom Clarke

Moving Beyond the Election

Whether you are happy or sad about the results of this election, please understand that no president or person has total control over your life. Whether you agree or disagree with our new president-elect, you should feel more compelled than ever to stand up for your values and the things you believe in.

Being a part of a union family means you have more power than most to shape your life and make it better. Your union contract guarantees that your rights at work and your hard-earned wages and benefits will continue to be protected. It also means that your concerns will never fail to be heard.

Incredible value can be created when we stand together to negotiate the better wages, benefits and life that we've all earned and deserve. Now, more than ever, we must commit ourselves to that strength.

As we prepare for our government to transition and President-elect Trump to take office, rest assured that our union family will continue to be a strong advocate for hard-working men, women and their families in Region 1 and across the country.

We will continue to embrace the values that we stood for in this election, including fairness, dignity and respect in the workplace. We will continue to talk about issues that must be addressed on a national level, such as social and economic inequality, the need to protect Social Security and Medicare, and the need for paid sick leave, predictable scheduling, and good, quality jobs that can support a family. We will continue to negotiate the better wages and benefits that our members have earned and deserve. And we will continue to reach out to workers who don't have a union contract, and grow our union family.

In my last article, I asked all members of Local 1500 to show the country and the world that we are not influenced by extreme views and dangerous rhetoric that is designed to drive us apart.

It is our sincere hope that President-elect Trump will change course and leave his divisive campaign tactics behind, and focus instead on implementing policies and pieces of legislation that will make life better for UFCW members and hard-working families everywhere. Local 1500 and our entire union family will hold him accountable if he fails to do so.

AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka on 2016 Presidential Election Results

More than anything, this election is an indictment of politics as usual.

For too long, the political elites have embraced economic policies that hold down wages, increase inequality, diminish opportunity and ship American jobs overseas. Voters in both the primary and general election have delivered a clear message: enough.

The President-elect made promises in this campaign—on trade, on restoring manufacturing, on reviving our communities. We will work to make many of those promises a reality. If he is willing to work with us, consistent with our values, we are ready to work with him.

But make no mistake, we can never back down from our values. The presence of racism, misogyny, and anti-immigrant appeals caused damage in this campaign and we must all try to repair it with inclusion, decency and honesty.



Richard L. Tumka is the President of the 12.5 million member AFL-CIO

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS: 2017 ALL MEETINGS START @ 7PM @ UFCW LOCAL 1500

FRANK MEEHAN HALL, 425 MERRICK AVE., WESTBURY, NY









REFRESHMENTS WILL BE SERVED











rking America

UFCW1500.ORG INFO@UFCW1500.ORG



MRS. GREEN'S ANNOUNCES MORE STORE CLOSINGS, CEO STEPS DOWN

In late November Mrs. Green's Natural Market announced it would be closing five additional stores and its CEO would be stepping down. One of the stores slated to close is the companies first New York City location in the West Village. The store barely managed to remain open for a year after opening its doors in the fall of 2015. News stories of empty shelves circulated throughout communities before the company announced more store closings. The alarming news broke weeks before holiday season leaving hundreds of men and women working throughout the stores with anxieties and questions with nowhere to turn.

As they did when the company unlawfully fired workers in 2014 in its Mount Kisco store, or when the company abruptly closed its Hartsdale store in 2015, many workers have reached out to our Union for support and guidance as their future is unclear. Our message to the workers has never faltered; we are there for you. When



Empty shelves were seen throughout Mrs. Green's stores before the announcement of store closures

irresponsible companies suddenly close the doors and leave town they not only leave communities without a place to purchase groceries, but they abandon the families of hardworking men and women who have helped executives profit and succeed.

Informational flyer from 2014 Union Organizing campaign in Mount Kisco, NY

FOR WANTING A UNION.

Our Union stands for supporting responsible employers that invest in workers and the o

ble employers that invest in workers and the communities they inhabit. We are vehemently opposed to companies seeking to profit at the expense of workers and our communities. Throughout its tenure in the West Village of New York City, Mrs. Green's failed to listen to outspoken community members on measures to improve the store for its residents. The company failed to maintain fair wages and benefits for its workers. The company failed to be a partner in our community. Our communities need responsible employers that respect workers. We need businesses that wish to partner with workers so together we can build stronger and better communities.

DO BETTER BEST YET

Last year we reported that Best Yet Markets purchased 10 stores through the A&P bankruptcy and was continuing to expand. Many former union workers are now currently working at Best Yet, and have been reaching out to the UFCW for assistance, guidance and help. In response, the UFCW joined a coalition consisting of a number of community, labor and faith organizations to support the men and women working at Best Yet

"Many former union A&P employees are still working throughout the stores and have joined our campaign to tell Best Yet to do better." said Director of Organizing Aly Waddy, "We receive calls on a daily basis from Best Yet workers asking for help."

Throughout the last few months employees, alongside the coalition, have taken a number of actions to demand better treatment and working conditions. In late September a rally and press conference was held at Best Yet in Huntington Long Island to unveil a new TV ad campaign targeting Best Yet. The commercial highlights how Best Yet replaced good union jobs with jobs with lower benefits and pay. The coalition then began informational leafletting and gaining community support in October. In November supporters gathered in Melville, Long Island at a Best Market sponsored event called "Building a Great Company." "We gave Best Market some pointers: treat workers with respect, stop cutting hours, provide family sustaining wages and benefits, help our communities grow!" said Waddy. At the rally the coalition revealed an advertising truck which accused the company of cutting hours and cutting pay for hardworking families. The truck will be driving throughout Long Island Best Yet locations to inform the public of the campaign. If you know anyone working at Best Yet Markets or would like to help on the campaign please contact our Organizing Director, Aly Waddy: 516-214-1322 awaddy@ufcw1500.org and visit ufcw1500.org/bestyet







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OFFICIAL NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE - SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT - 2015 - UFCW LOCAL 1500 PENSION PLAN - 425 MERRICK AVENUE - WESTBURY, NY 11590

This is the summary annual report for the UFCW Local 1500 Pension Plan, EIN 23-7176372 for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

Benefits under the plan are provided through insurance and/or annuity contracts or directly from the plan. Plan expenses were \$65,739,527. These expenses included \$4,415,353 in administrative expenses and \$61,324,174 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries. A total of 36,314 persons are participants in or beneficiaries of the plan at the end of the plan year, although not all of these persons have yet earned the right to receive benefits.

The plan has a contract with the Prudential Insurance Company that allocates funds toward group annuities. The value of the plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$366,225,186 as of December 31, 2015 compared to \$384,610,942 as of January 1, 2015. During the plan year, the plan experienced a decrease in its net assets of \$18,385,756. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of the plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or cost of assets acquired during the year. The plan had total income of \$47,306,468 consisting of employer contributions of \$30,124,694, no employee contributions, investment income

of \$6,346,658, gains from sales of assets of \$18,480,939, unrealized losses on investments of \$10,095,016, and other income of \$2,449,193.

Minimum Funding Standards

An actuary's funding statement shows that enough money was contributed to the plan to keep it funded in accordance with the minimum funding standards of ERISA.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- 1. An accountant's report;
- 2. List of assets held for investment:
- 3. Actuarial information regarding the funding of the Plan,
- Financial information and information on payments to service porviders,
- 5. Transactions in excess of 5% of plan assets,
- 6. Insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.
- 7. Information regarding any common or collective trusts, pooled separate accounts, master trusts or 103-12 investment entities in which the plan participates.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Mr. Anthony Speelman who

is the Plan Manager, at 425 Merrick Avenue Westbury, NY 11590 (516) 214-1300. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$7.50 for the full annual report, or \$.25 per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the Plan manager, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Plan and accompanying notes or a statement of income and expense of the Plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of this full annual report from the Plan Manager, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include the charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge. You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan,

UFCW Local 1500 425 Merrick Avenue

Westbury, NY 11590

and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor, correspondence should be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration Public Disclosure Room 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-1513, Washington D.C. 20210.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE - SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT – 2015 - UFCW LOCAL 1500 WELFARE PLAN - 425 MERRICK AVENUE - WESTBURY, NY 11590

This is a summary of the annual report for the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Plan, EIN 23-7176373, Plan number 501 for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration, as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Insurance Information

The plan has a contract with insurance carriers to pay claims incurred under the terms of the plan. Benefits under the plan are provided by insurance contracts and directly from the plan.

Basic Financial Statement

The value of the plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$33,557,160 as of December 31, 2015 compared to \$21,313,595 as of January 1, 2015. During the plan year, the plan experienced an increase in its assets of \$12,243,565. This increase includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the plan year, the plan had total income of \$75,253,431, including employer contributions of \$72,194,920, employee contributions of \$1,547,404, earnings from investments of

\$259,523, and other income of \$1,251,584. Plan expenses were \$63,009,866. These expenses included \$1,626,792 in administrative expenses and \$61,383,074 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- 1. An accountant's report;
- 2. List of assets held for investment,
- Financial information and information on payments to service providers,
- 4. Insurance information including sales commissions paid by insurance carriers.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Mr. Anthony Speelman, who is the plan Manager, at 425 Merrick Avenue Westbury, NY 11590, (516) 214-1300. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$7.50 for the full annual report, or \$.25 per page for any part thereof.

You also have the right to receive from the plan Manager, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and

liabilities of the plan and accompanying notes or a statement of income and expense of the plan and accompanying notes, or both. If you request a copy of this full annual report from the plan Manager, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include the charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge. You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan:

UFCW Local 1500

425 Merrick Avenue Westbury, NY 11590

and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor, correspondence should be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration Public Disclosure Room 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-1513, Washington D.C. 20210.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

OFFICIAL NOTICE - SUMMARY ANNUAL REPORT - 2015 - UFCW LOCAL 1500 LEGAL SERVICERS PLAN - 425 MERRICK AVENUE - WESTBURY, NY 11590

This is the summary annual report for the UFCW Local 1500 Legal Services Plan, EIN 11-2531776, Plan number 501 for the period January 1, 2015 to December 31, 2015. The annual report has been filed with the Employee Benefits Security Administration as required under the Employee Retirement Income Security Act of 1974 (ERISA).

Basic Financial Statement

The value of the plan assets, after subtracting liabilities of the plan, was \$364,929 as of December 31, 2015, compared to \$392,195 as of January 1, 2015. During the year, the plan experienced a decrease in its assets of \$27,266. This decrease includes unrealized appreciation or depreciation in the value of plan assets; that is, the difference between the value of plan's assets at the end of the year and the value of the assets at the beginning of the year or the cost of assets acquired during the year. During the year the plan had total income of \$380,810 consisting of employer contributions of \$379,028 and earnings from investments of \$1,782.

Benefits under the plan are provided directly through the plan. Plan expenses were \$408,076. These expenses included \$267,784 in administrative expenses and \$140,293 in benefits paid to participants and beneficiaries.

Your Rights to Additional Information

You have the right to receive a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, on request. The items listed below are included in that report:

- 1 An accountant's report;
- 2. List of assets held for investment.
- Financial information and information on payments to service providers.

To obtain a copy of the full annual report, or any part thereof, write or call the office of Mr. Robert Newell, who is the Plan Manager, at 425 Merrick Avenue Westbury, NY 11590 (516) 214-1300. The charge to cover copying costs will be \$7.50 for the full annual report, or \$.25 per page for any part thereof

You also have the right to receive from the Plan manager, on request and at no charge, a statement of the assets and liabilities of the Plan and accompanying notes or a statement of income and expense of the Plan and accompanying notes,

or both. If you request a copy of this full annual report from the Plan Manager, these two statements and accompanying notes will be included as part of that report. The charge to cover copying costs given above does not include the charge for the copying of these portions of the report because these portions are furnished without charge. You also have the legally protected right to examine the annual report at the main office of the plan

UFCW Local 1500 425 Merrick Avenue

Westbury, NY 11590

and at the U.S. Department of Labor in Washington, D.C., to obtain a copy from the U.S. Department of Labor, correspondence should be addressed to:

U.S. Department of Labor

Employee Benefits Security Administration Public Disclosure Room 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Room N-1513, Washington D.C. 20210.

IMPORTANT NOTICE

FOR FULL-TIME PLAN PARTICIPANTS & SPECIAL PART-TIME PLAN PARTICIPANTS

SUMMARY OF MATERIAL MODIFICATION

This notice, called a "Summary of Material Modifications" ("SMM"), is being provided to advise you of certain changes that the Board of Trustees has made to the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund, Full-Time Plan and Special Part-Time Plan. After you have read this SMM, please keep it with your Summary Plan Description ("SPD") and Summary of Benefit Coverages ("SBC") so that when you refer to either document you will be reminded of the benefit changes described in this SMM.

IMPORTANT NOTE: All other Plan rules, including but not limited to eligibility, medical necessity and pre-certification requirements, remain in effect.

Effective February 1, 2017, claims for services of Out-of-Network land ambulance providers will be processed using the In-Network rules regarding co-insurance, deductibles and out-of-pocket maximums.

The benefit will cover emergency land ambulance service to the nearest acute care hospital when provided by a licensed ambulance service. Such service must be (1) in connection with emergency room care or an emergency inpatient admission and (2) ordered by law enforcement or when a prudent layperson, possessing an average knowledge of medicine and health, could reasonably expect the absence of such transportation to result in:

(a) placing the patient's health in serious jeopardy or, for behavioral condition, placing the health of the patient or others in serious jeopardy; or

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- (b) serious impairment to a person's bodily functions;
- (c) serious dysfunction of any bodily organ or part of a person; or
- (d) serious disfigurement to the patient.

Benefits are not available for transfers between healthcare facilities or upon discharge from a hospital.

The allowed amount for the above Out-of-Network service will be based upon the Fund's usual and customary fee schedule, **not** the amount billed by the provider.

If you have any questions regarding the information in this notice, please contact the Fund Office at 1-800-522-0456. If you have any questions regarding your benefit coverage, please contact Associated Administrators, LLC at 1-855-266-1500.

Sincerely,

The Board of Trustees

MEMBERXG – NEW SERVICE TO ACCESS YOUR BENEFITS ONLINE AND THROUGH YOUR MOBILE DEVICE

Associated Administrators, LLC is pleased to announce that an online access service called **MemberXG** is now available to you. This service provides personal benefit information to you and your eligible dependents via the Internet which complies with all privacy regulations.

MemberXG Offers These Features And Enhancements:

- Secure internet access to the information you need with assured privacy.
- Mobile-ready access allows you to view your benefit information 24 hours a day.
- eEOB feature allows you to review and print your Explanations of Benefits.
- Benefit access which allows you to track your claims and view the following:
 - Dashboard the landing page containing quick navigation to other Benefit pages
 - Demographics displays demographics for a member and/or dependent(s)

- Health Claims displays claims submitted under the benefit plan
- Eligibility past and present eligibility for you and/or your eligible dependent(s)

How Does It Work?

Log in to www.associated-admin.com, select *Your Benefits*, located at the left side of the page, and click on *UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund*. At the top of Local 1500's home page, click on *MemberXG* which will take you to Member XG's site.

Select *Create Account,* located at the upper, right corner. You will be asked to create a username and password.

If you had a NETime password, it will not apply to this site. You will need to create a new username and password for MemberXG.

Full-Time, Special Part-Time and Part-Time ACA participants will be able to view medical, vision, and dental claims. Basic Part-Time members will be able to view vision and dental claims and Retirees will be able to view medical claims. If you have any questions about a claim that you see on MemberXG, please call the Participant Services Department at Associated Administrators, LLC at 855-266-1500.

NOTICE REQUIRED BY THE WOMEN'S HEALTH AND CANCER RIGHTS ACT

The Women's Health and Cancer Rights Act ("WHCRA") provides protections for individuals who elect breast reconstruction after a mastectomy. Under federal law related to mastectomy benefits, the Plan is required to provide coverage for the following:

- All stages of reconstruction of the breast on which a mastectomy is performed;
- Surgery and reconstruction of the other breast to produce a symmetrical appearance;
- Prosthesis; and
- Treatment of physical complications of all stages of mastectomy, including lymphedema.

These benefits will be provided subject to the same deductible and coinsurance applicable to other medical and surgical benefits provided under your plan.

Local 1500

In Memoriam

Local 1500 mourns the passing of the following members. To their families and friends, we extend our deepest sympathy. May they rest in peace.

Alfieri, Frank Amato, Julia Anderson, Doreen S. Annunziato, Thomasine Bacchi, Lillian Benevento, Isabella Betancourt, Robert Bianco, Sheila Carter, Mary Charron, Gwynneth Chiapparino, Angelo Chien, Jenny C. Chiossone, Virginia L. Cohen, Ellen Commander, George Davenport, Raymond Devries, Raymond Dillhoff, Joseph P. Dotterman, Michael Dunn, Marie E. Earey, Brian Felix, Selma Ferguson, Paul G. Gajda, Raymond M. Gallagher, Joan Guaiquier, Maria Hernandez, Jonathon Holmes, Col D. Hunter, Claudia M. Jennett, Clifford Jones, Ronald J. Keating, Rosemarie

9400 Net 42nd Avenue Bess Tables, FL 35495 Bess Net 42nd Avenue Bess Net 42nd Avenue Bess Neton Ju 35495

5455 NW 42nd Avenue Econ Raton, FL 35495

5485 NW 42nd Avenue

Kennedy, Thomas A. Kuminski, Paul T. Lane, Patricia E. Langhorn, Thomas Liedtke, Dorothy I laverias, Hilda Lugo, Lydia Marston, Marcia Massey, Patricia Montano, Marie E. Mullaney, Marcella M. Muller, Anna Muller, Michael Mungo, Hazel Piccola, Jon-Eric Quinn, Patrick Roach, Richard A. Schmitz, Richard J. Schnaars, Deborah L. Semonella, Albert Shah, Varsha A. Silvers, Louis Simone, Lena Smith, Peter Sorrenti, Joan B. Szarapata, Mary Tansey, James F. Uzzalino, Marie H. Ward, Kendall W. Whymark, James C. Yost, Edward A.

THE REGISTERS ***THE TRANSPORT ROLL **THE TRANSPORT ROLL **THE

Prescription Drug Exclusions

We advise all members that the Trustees have specifically indicated that any drugs purchased in the following stores will NOT be reimbursed under the Local 1500 Welfare Fund Prescription Plan under any conditions:

K-MART, C.V.S., WALMART, SAM'S,
PRICE CHOPPER, COSTCO, BJ'S, (SAVON DRUGS, SUPER X & BROOKS
DRUGS), WALGREENS, TARGET & HANNAFORD.



CELEBRATE W/ YOUR UNION

RSVP: UFCW 1500.0RG/SANTA - 800-522-0456 EXT. 1305

The Register is the official publication of UFCW Local 1500 and is published four times a year in March, June, September, and December by Local 1500 of the United Food and Commercial Workers Union, AFL-CIO-CLC, Anthony G. Speelman, President, Robert W. Newell, Jr., Secretary-Treasurer, Paper & Ink Graphics, LLC, Managing Editor. Periodicals postage paid at Jamaica, NY and additional mailing offices: (USPS 0306-010). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Local 1500, 425 Merrick Ave, Westbury, NY 11590. Vol. 50, No. 4, December 2016 Copyright Local 1500, Jamaica, NY 2016.

Bulletin Board

Teachers Federal Credit Union

All Long Islanders* Can Bank with TFCU!

Low Rates Easy Access

- New/Used Auto Loans & Leases
- Mortgages
- Home EquityVisa® Credit Cards
- Free Checking
- Free Online & Mobile Banking
- Free Bill Payer
- Worldwide ATMs

The GreenPath Financial Wellness Program FREE Money Management counseling/credit report reviews.

Call 631-698-7000, ext. 6780 or visit www.TeachersFCU.org

*Subject to membership eligibility.

MOVING? KEEP THE FUND OFFICE INFORMED OF YOUR NEW ADDRESS

It is very important that you tell the Fund Office when your address and/or telephone information changes. Often, the Fund Office sends out important information about your benefits, coverage change notices, Plan booklets, and even the Register. If we don't have the correct information, we may not reach you and that may affect your benefits.

If you are planning to move (even temporarily), or have recently moved, let the Fund Office know your new address and telephone number by calling (800) 522-0456. Remember, telling the Union or your employer is not the same as telling the Fund Office. Tell us where you live so we can send you important information regarding your benefits, claims, changes, etc.

THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING UNION STORES

You help preserve your jobs when you shop unionUnion jobs contribute to the communities tax base

CONTINUE TO SHOP UNION STORES IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHERE UNION WORKERS HAVE DECENT WAGES, BENEFITS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

SHOP THESE UNION STORES

KING KULLEN GROCERY COMPANY, INC • TOPS MARKETS
KING'S SUPERMARKET • SHOP-RITE • STOP & SHOP SUPERMARKETS
KEY FOOD: MAN-DELL FOOD STORES • PICK QUICK FOODS
DAN'S SUPREME • SCATURRO SUPERMARKETS • GRISTEDES
FAIRWAY MARKETS • D'AGOSTINO SUPERMARKETS
WILD BY NATURE HEALTH FOODS SUPERMARKET • FOOD BAZAAR

SHOP UNION – SAVE JOBS

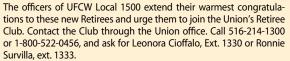
DON"

SHOP THESE NON-UNION STORES

STEW LEONARD'S • BEST YET MARKETS • GOLDEN MANGO
COMPARE FOODS • BJ'S WHOLESALE CLUB • WALMART STORES
SAM'S WAREHOUSE CLUB • K-MART • TARGET • GARDEN OF EDEN PRICE
CHOPPER • WHOLE FOODS • C.V.S. DRUG STORES • TRADER JOES
WALGREEN'S • COSTCO WHOLESALE CLUB • HANNAFORD BROTHERS
BROOKS • ALDI • MRS. GREEN'S NATURAL MARKET
AMISH MARKET • THE FRESH MARKET • SAVERS

SHOP UNION - SAVE JOBS

LOCAL 1500 RETIREES



Adekova, Milton Anderson, Thomas Aragon, Doris R. Arico-Himberger, Judith A. Bagnato, James A. Baione, Michele Baldwin, John Barrezueta, Lidia I. Basso, Richard Basterl, Lisa N Beck, Debra Behr, Alan Boccia, Amelia Brooks, Raymond T. Brown, Glenn M. Buechele, Ronald R. Cabral, Adolfo E. Callies-Salamone, Kathy D. Camporini, Mteresa Carbone, Vincent Carlos, Michael R. Cavounis, Harry Chaffee, Andrew A Chanowsky, Michael Cheshire, Sara Chilelli, Adamo Connors, Thomas Copeland, Theophilus Cruz, Elizabeth T. Curnan, Dale DeHoyos, Juan Dezelich, Virginia M. Diamonti, Anthony J. DiCamillo, Aileen DiMaggio, Barbara A. Dixon, Ann Eff, Joyce S. Ellison-Bates, Arnetta E. Emond, George Escobar, Nelson Fabal-Theogene, Mercedes Farina, Edmond J. Farrer, Janet Ferrandino, Louis Ferro, Mariann Finch, Nancy J. Fowles, Michael Gamble, Carolyn L. Gilchrist, Yvonne J. Godomar, Andrew Goldstein, Alison J. Greene, Berndette Grover, Michael Henry, Linton R. Hobson-Jones, Sheila Holder, Margaret E. Howe, Richard Huntley, Gary G. Jacobs, Sylvia B. Johnson, Alexander Kaufmann, Donald Kempen, Joseph J.

Kerley, Deborah A.

Adames-Gomez, Agustin

Kieran, Janet T. King, Robert T. Knobloch, Candace Kopejzna, Steven P. Labosco, Frances Lagoumis, Catherine Lecog-Leach, Susan Lee, Shiriey A. Linares, Jorge Loding, William J. Lugo, Jose Macaluso, Umberto Madigan, Stephen F. Madison, Fern L. Marabello, Mario McDonough, Kathleen McEnaney, Paul F. McNab, Susan L. Miller, Patricia Mitrovic, Vida Moore, Cecelia H. Mosley, Robert E. Muir, Thomas Murphy, Janet E. Murphy, Liam M. Musella, Theresa A. Neilson-Vitale, Susan Northrop, Gary Peloso, Michelle Perez, Cruz Phillips-White, Laura Piraino, Denise Porco, Joseph Portee, Peggy A. Pulliam, Joseph Pursino, John Reardon, Teresa L. Rega, Ambrose V. Renz, Paul R., Sr. Rivera-Pineda, Maria Rivers, Philip C. Rojas, Roger Rosenthal, Ted A. Rotsheld, Robert Ruiz, Kathleen Saccente, Helanie Saives, John Shirlaw, Kathleen R. Sprenger, Pauline Tapia-Siquencia, Cesar Terracciano, Robert J. Theriot, Christopher Thompson, Ernest Trinca, Patricia Uelman, Nicholas Vadala, Larry Vail, Carmen L. Vasquez, Jesus M. Ventaloro, Carmelo Vitale, Joseph V. Wanchew, John Yzaguirre, Jay Zeolla, Nicola Zohlmann, Eugene



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Wednesday, December 14, 2016

Wednesday, March 8, 2017 Wednesday, June 14, 2017 Wednesday, September 13, 2017

ALL MEETINGS START AT 7:00 P.M.

UFCW LOCAL 1500, FRANK MEEHAN HALL 425 MERRICK AVENUE, WESTBURY, NY 11590

Prizes Will Be Awarded!



Anthony G. Speelman

So proud of the work by our union-raising over \$100k for the @LLSusa to battle blood cancers in 2016! #GivingTuesday **Follow your President**



Couldn't be more thankful of the hard work the men & women throughout our #union grocery stores during this holiday season! #1u #labor #THANKYOU

Follow your Union on Twitter @UFCW1500



@UFCW1500



@UFCW1500



@UFCW1500



Any suggestions or comments for the Register? Send us your feedback to jfedele@ufcw1500.org



FRANK MEEHAN HALL OFFICE HOURS & PHONE 516-214-1300 • 800-522-0456

UFCW1500.org

General Office Hours, Pension & Welfare & Legal Services, Mon. thru Fri. 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

WHOM TO CALL:

Do you have a question about Blue Cross? Or a problem with Group Life?

Or about any other benefit or membership service?

For a quick and accurate answer, phone the Union -516-214-1300 or the toll-free number, 800-522-0456 - and ask for the office staff member listed next to the subject of your inquiry. They will be glad to help you.

Local 1500 has voice mail to better serve the membership. **Members can call Local 1500** regarding any matter 24 hours a day.

To access the voice mail, a member can call Local 1500 at 516-214-1300 or 800-522-0456, followed by the 4 digit extension number of the person with whom you wish to leave a message. Voice mail can only be accessed from a touch tone phone. You may also email the union at info@ufcw1500.org for any questions or concerns you may have.

DUES REFUND

Ejay Martin, Ext. 1328

WITHDRAWAL CARDS

Rosanne Wynne-Torres, Ext. 1332

PENSION

Yahaira Abreu, Ext. 1330 Leonora Cioffalo, Ext 1330 Ronnie Survilla, Ext. 1333

MEDICAL-DISABILITY-VISION

Tara LeRose, Ext. 1335 Zaida Rodriguez, Ext. 1336 Michelle Sefcik, Ext. 1337

MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION

Linda Campisi, Ext. 1325

SCHOLARSHIP

Gloria Benton-Williams, Ext. 1306 Eiav Martin, Ext. 1328

WELFARE FUND BENEFITS

Associated Administrators, LLC 855-266-1500

HEALTH & WELFARE MEDICAL FORMS

516-214-1300 or 800-522-0456 Exts. 1334, 1335, 1336 & 1337

LEGAL SERVICES

Direct Line: 516-214-1310 or 800-522-0456 Ext. 1310 for Norberta Volmar

You cannot leave a message for a Union Representative by dialing the direct number for Medical or Legal Services.

EXECUTIVES

- 1305 President's Office
- 1306 Secretary-Treasurer's Office
- 1303 Nelson, Rhonda Recorder
- 1304 Waddy, Joe Assistant to the President
- 1318 Quiñones, Theresa Vice President/Field Director
- 1322 Waddy, Aly Director of Organizing
- 1369 Santarpia, Paul Vice President/Field Director

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

1311 Aponte, Teresa 1339 Shiels, Lynn

1353 Ecker, Robert 1371 Solivan, Vilmarie 1343 Mausser, Jeff 1317 Vargas, Anselmo

1356 Pasquale, Greg 1360 Waldron, Paul 1357 Woods, John

1340 Scorzelli, Jay

— MEMBERSHIP SERVICING REPRESENTATIVE – 1358 Mauleon, Rafael

ORGANIZING

1374 Allen, Nicholas 1345 Organizing Hotline

1315 Farrands, Bruce 1355 Political Hotline

*Political Coordinator

1361 Hernandez, Rafael 1362 Sexton, Brendan*

NEW MEDIA & RESEARCH

1354 Fedele, Joe - Director

