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### THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE **Tony Speelman, President @aspeel1500**

### I WORRY

I used to worry about getting to work on time every day. I had to serve my customers and do it well at Dairy Barn because I needed my job. I worried about my new born children and my wife and wondered often if I was making the best decisions for their future. Now my kids are adults and I think I worry about them even more. In 1986 when I started working at Local 1500 I added more concern as I started to worry about the members. After all I was a member just a few months before. I knew what it felt like to work, to be an employee and a Union member. I knew I had to make sure I treated the members I represented with the care and attention I always wanted.

To my wife's chagrin, I woke up one day in 2000 and decided to run for town council. Apparently, I didn't think I had enough to worry about and wanted to add the entire town of Brookhaven to my list. Thankfully I lost, and focused on starting to move up through the ranks of 1500. When I became Secretary-Treasurer of Local 1500 in 2009 I became responsible for the finances of the Union. Money coming in, money going out, trying to make sure I did the right thing by the membership. Without fail.... That is worrisome. Now I'm the president of this great Union. That means I am responsible for about 20,000 members. Correction... that means I am responsible for 20,000 members AND their families. So, I come to work every morning at Meehan Hall wondering what the day will bring. Will there be another store closing to be announced today? Are there lay-offs needed somewhere that I'm going to get a call about? What new non-union company is coming to town today? Which company is next up to try and take away some of our members hard earned benefits? How did our Pension Fund do this month? How much money do we need to ensure everyone continues to get the medical they deserve? How do we battle the onslaught of technology and automation as your employer's search for new ways to cut their labor budgets to unrecognizable levels? How are my field and office staff holding up? Can we afford to add more staff?

These are just a fraction of the questions I worry about daily. However, most are questions that have been asked before, and always need to be addressed. So, it's really nothing new around here. My mentor was the late, great Frank Meehan. I would sit in his office, or drive him to meetings and watch as he handled anything that came his way. Not just with ease, but with class and with conviction. I remember thinking that one day all this responsibility may very well land on my shoulders. Thanks to the hard work of my predecessors, I was prepared when my time came. One of the most important lessons I learned as a president is—you can't do it all on your own. You surround yourself with a team and let then all help make good things happen. Now I look back to the days of being in those rooms with Frank and realize that I was a part of his team, and we were GOOD.

Now can I control Union density or market share? No. What about the stock market or ever-changing labor laws that make it challenging for us to negotiate new benefits or organize? No, but I still worry about it all, though. However, one thing I do not worry about is the level of confidence I have in my team to get the job done. For years we have crafted a team of individuals that, when they work together, can handle almost anything that comes our way. From our ecent organizing victory at Hale and Hearty, to overcoming huge challenges during negotiating contracts for SRS, Glass, and Mannix Shop Rite's our team has accomplished a great deal over the last year. We have also made incredible strides in servicing our members better and expanding our

media and communications efforts. My team is right there with me every step of the way.

As this year quickly moves along we are getting ready to begin negotiations with Stop & Shop, King Kullen and Tops. We feel confident that we will once again be able to deliver solid contracts that you can all be proud of. With the recent settlements at Shop Rite behind us, our team has mapped out the course for the next round bargaining and we know where we'd like to end up. But after telling you about many of the things I worry about, where do I get the confidence to make that statement...It's from you, the amazing membership of Local 1500. You have shown me time and time again that when our backs are against a wall, you will come out ready for a fight. This opinion was solidified once again recently when our Shop Rite members filled the rooms at their respective contract update meetings. Literally hundreds and hundreds of our members came out to show Shop Rite just how much you care about your contracts. Even though we had settled with SRS Shop Rite the week before I knew you were planning to come out in droves to your meeting as well, so thank you to everyone.

It sounds a little funny to say but the one thing I worry about most, is the thing that gives me the most strength every day...You!

So, keep sticking together, stay involved in the process and be ready for anything. I am confident that together we can overcome all challenges ahead. I hope you all had a great Summer and I look forward to seeing you at the contract update meetings and in your stores.

### **UFCW - Local 1500 Nomination of Officers**

The offices of President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recorder and Vice Presidents 1 through 17 inclusive, are open for nomination for election to three-year terms of office commencing January 1, 2018, and ending December 31, 2020. The nominations shall be conducted by petition. Each of the 17 Vice Presidents is numerically designated for nomination and election purposes, for example: Vice President Number 2, etc.

This shall serve as official notice to the active membership of UFCW Local 1500 that nomination petitions for any of the above offices may be submitted in person, by U.S. mail or other carrier and must be received no later than 5:00 p.m., October 2, 2017 at the main office of UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590, to the attention of Brendan Sexton, General Chairperson. Submission by facsimile, email, computer or other form of electronic transmission is not valid.

Each page of the petition will contain the name of the active member being nominated, the specific office for which that member is being nominated, and valid, verifiable original signatures. No less than 300 active members in support of said nomination are required. Petitions are available from Brendan Sexton, General Chairperson, UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590. The nominating petition will contain information sufficient to permit the General Chairperson to verify the identity of the signatories thereto. For that purpose, in addition to their signature, each member should print their full name, last four digits of their social security number, company and store to assist in verification.

Only active members of UFCW Local 1500 shall be permitted to solicit and obtain nomination signatures from active members. Each page of the petition must contain verification that all the signatures on the petition page were solicited and obtained by an active member of UFCW Local 1500.

Procedures governing nominations as set forth in the UFCW Local 1500 Bylaws are as follows:

#### ARTICLE XII

### Elections

Section A. All officers shall be elected by secret ballot of

the membership, and their term of office shall be for three years, commencing January 1. Terms of office shall expire on December 31, and the terms of newly elected officers shall commence on January 1.

**Section B.** Nominations and elections shall be conducted during the last six months preceding the expiration of the term of office.

**Section C.** Not less than 30 days prior to the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions, notice shall be mailed by the Local Union to each member at the member's last known home address, setting forth the manner for conducting the nominations, the actual number of signatures required for nomination petitions, the deadline date for the receipt of petitions, and all other relevant requirements for the filing of petitions, including what each petition is required to contain.

Not less than 15 days prior to the election, notice shall be mailed by the Local Union to each member at the member's last known home address, setting forth the times, dates and places for conducting the election.

Notice of nominations and election may be combined into





# LA PERSPECTIVE DE EL PRESIDENTE **Tony Speelman, Presidente @aspeel1500**

### **ME PREOCUPA**

Solía preocuparme por llegar a trabajar a tiempo todos los días. Tuve que servir a mis clientes y hacerlo bien en Dairy Barn porque necesitaba mi trabajo. Me preocupaba por mis hijos recién nacidos y mi esposa, y me preguntaba a menudo si estaba tomando las mejores decisiones para su futuro. Ahora mis hijos son adultos y creo que me preocupo por ellos aún más. En 1986 cuando empecé a trabajar en la Local 1500 añadí más preocupaciones cuando empecé a preocuparme por los miembros. Después de todo, yo era miembro unos pocos meses antes. Sabía lo que se sentía trabajar, ser un empleado y un miembro de la unión. Sabía que tenía que asegurarme de tratar a los miembros que representaba con el cuidado y atención que siempre deseé.

Para el disgusto de mi esposa, un día en el 2000 me desperté y decidí postularme para el consejo municipal. Al parecer, no pensé que tenía suficiente para preocuparme y quería añadir todo el pueblo de Brookhaven a mi lista. Afortunadamente perdí, y me concentré en comenzar a subir a través de las filas de 1500. Cuando me convertí en Secretario-Tesorero de la Local 1500 en el 2009 me hice responsable de las finanzas de la Unión. Dinero entrando, dinero saliendo, tratando de asegurarme de que hice lo correcto por la membresía. Sin fallar.... Eso es preocupante. Ahora soy el presidente de esta gran Unión. Eso significa que soy responsable de unos 20.000 miembros. Corrección ... eso significa que soy responsable de 20.000 miembros Y sus familias. Así que, vengo a trabajar cada mañana en el pasillo de Meehan preguntándome qué traerá el día. ¡Habrá otro cierre de tienda por ser anunciado hoy? ¿Hay algún despido en algún lugar del que me vayan a llamar? ¿Qué nueva compañía no sindicalizada viene hoy a la ciudad? ¿Qué compañía es la próxima que tratara de quitar los beneficios a algunos de nuestros miembros que duramente han ganado? ¿Cómo funcionó nuestro Fondo de Pensión este mes? ¿Cuánto dinero necesitamos para asegurarnos de que todo el mundo continúe recibiendo la medicina que merecen? ¿Cómo luchamos contra el embate de la tecnología y la automatización como la búsqueda de su empleador de nuevas formas de reducir sus presupuestos laborales a niveles irreconocibles? ¿Cómo se mantiene mi personal de campo y de oficina? ¿Podemos permitirnos agregar más personal?

Estas son sólo una fracción de las preguntas que me preocupan a diario. Sin embargo, la mayoría son preguntas que se han hecho antes, y siempre hay que abordarlas. Por lo tanto, no es nada nuevo por aquí. Mi mentor fue el difunto, gran Frank Meehan. Me sentaba en su oficina, o lo llevaba a las reuniones y miraba como él manejaba cualquier cosa que se le presentara en su camino. No sólo con facilidad, sino con clase y con convicción. Recuerdo pensar que un día toda esta responsabilidad puede muy bien caer sobre mis hombros. Gracias al trabajo duro de mis predecesores, estaba preparado cuando llego mi momento. Una de las lecciones más importantes que aprendí como presidente es que no puedes hacer todo por tu cuenta. Usted se rodea de un equipo y deja que todos ayuden a hacer que las cosas buenas sucedan. Ahora miro hacia atrás los días de estar en esas habitaciones con Frank y darse cuenta de que yo era una parte de su equipo, y estábamos BIEN.

¿Ahora puedo controlar la densidad de la Unión o cuota de mercado? No. ¿Qué pasa con el mercado de valores o las leyes laborales en constante cambio que hacen que sea un desafío para nosotros negociar nuevos beneficios u organizar? No, pero todavía me preocupo por todo eso. Sin embargo, una cosa que no me preocupa es el nivel de confianza que tengo en mi equipo para hacer el trabajo. Durante años hemos creado un equipo de individuos que, cuando trabajan juntos, pueden manejar casi cualquier cosa que venga a nuestro camino. Nuestro equipo ha logrado mucho durante el último año desde nuestra reciente victoria de organizar "Hale and Heartv" hasta superar enormes

desafíos durante los contratos de negociación de SRS, Glass y Mannix Shop Rite. También hemos hecho progresos increíbles para el mejor servicio de nuestros miembros y en la expansión de nuestros medios de comunicación y las comunicaciones. Mi equipo está ahí conmigo en cada paso del camino.

A medida que este año avanza rápidamente, nos estamos preparando para comenzar las negociaciones con Stop & Shop, King Kullen y Tops. Estamos seguros de que volveremos a ser capaces de entregar contratos sólidos de los que todos pueden estar orgullosos. Con los asentamientos recientes en Shop Rite detrás de nosotros, nuestro equipo ha trazado el curso para la próxima ronda de negociación y sabemos dónde queremos terminar. Pero después de decirle de muchas de las cosas que me preocupan, ¿de dónde consigo la confianza para hacer esa declaración ... es de usted, la asombrosa membresía de Local 1500. Usted me ha demostrado una y otra vez que cuando nuestras espaldas están en contra de un Pared, saldrás listo para una pelea. Esta opinión se solidificó una vez más recientemente cuando nuestros miembros de Shop Rite llenaron las habitaciones en sus respectivas reuniones de actualización de contratos. Literalmente, cientos y cientos de nuestros miembros vinieron a mostrar a Shop Rite lo mucho que se preocupan por sus contratos. A pesar de que nos habíamos establecido con SRS Shop Rite la semana antes yo sabía que estaban planeando salir en masa a su reunión, así que gracias a todos.

Suena un poco gracioso decir, pero la única cosa que más me preocupa, es la cosa que me da más fuerza cada día ... ¡Usted!

Por lo tanto, permanezcan juntos, manténganse involucrado en el proceso y estén listos para cualquier cosa. Estoy seguro de que juntos podemos superar todos los desafíos que tenemos por delante. Espero que todos hayan tenido un gran verano y espero verlos en las reuniones de actualización de contratos y en sus tiendas.

a single notice, which shall be mailed in accordance with the time requirements specified in the first paragraph of this Section.

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

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

Any member satisfying the eligibility requirements of this Section must maintain continuous active membership in the Local Union to remain eligible to run for or hold elected office.

**Section E.** 1. Nominations shall be conducted by petition. Nomination of a member for a specific office shall require

the signatures of 300 active members of the Local Union; provided that, if this number is greater than 2 percent of the average monthly active membership of the Local Union, based on the number of active members on which the Local Union pays per capita tax to the International Union, for the twelve-month period ending with the next to last month prior to the month in which the notice of nominations is mailed to the membership, the number of signatures required shall be the number which is 2 percent of the average monthly active membership of the Local Union, based on the above calculation.

2. The top of the page of each petition shall indicate the member who is being nominated and the specific office for which he or she is being nominated. If a member is being nominated for a Vice President position, the petition shall specify the numerically designated Vice President position for which he or she is being nominated. Any petition may nominate more than one member for office, provided that each member is being nominated for a different office and that the office for which each member is being nominated for is specifically indicated. Each petition shall contain the signature, printed name, and other identifying information, as determined by the general chairperson of the election, of each member signing the petition.

Petitions shall be filed at the Local Union office by mail or in person. The original signatures are required to be filed, and transmission by facsimile, computer, or other form of electronic transmission shall not be valid.

If a signature on any petition is not accompanied by a printed name or the other identifying information required by the general chairperson, but the identity of the member can be determined from the signature, the signature shall be deemed valid and shall be counted.

**Section F.** No member may run for more than one office in any election and no member may hold more than one elected office at any one time. The regular employees of the Local Union shall not constitute more than 50 percent of the membership of the Local Union Executive Board.

**Section G.** Any active member in the Local Union, as defined in Article 4(B) of the International Constitution, shall be eligible to vote in the Local Union's elections.

All questions concerning the nomination process must be directed to Brendan Sexton, General Chairperson, UFCW Local 1500, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590, 516-214-1354 or 1-800-522-0456, ext. 1362.





### JUST FOR THE RECORD Rob Newell, Secretary-Treasurer @ufcw1500

### TIMES ARE CHANGING

Change is a natural part of everyday life. A simple example would be what typically happens when you get a new store manager. Many times, a new manager comes to your shop and without explanation or warning he/she just starts changing days off or implementing late nights without out even giving you the courtesy of a conversation. Now, without much time you're left to scramble and figure out your life. You may have to cancel doctor's appointments, arrange for child care or even call out to your second job. However, as crazy as this change has just made your life many of you won't call your Union Rep or even speak with the store's shop steward.

Your Representatives are well versed in handling the multitude of problems brought on by the daily changes in your stores and they are there to assist you. Unfortunately, too many members don't know enough to exercise their rights. They just accept whatever life, or their manager, throws at them. Maybe you accept these changes because you don't know what your rights are? Maybe you're afraid to challenge what you think is the managers authority? Perhaps it's because you know someone else who had the same problem and nothing happened for them? I'd imagine that all those things have rung true at one point or another for many of you.

I'm not saying that our Reps have a magic potion or the perfect solution to every issue brought to their attention but the policy of your Union is to try and positively impact the lives of every member. As your representatives, we have the right to sit and discuss any situation that is creating a hardship for our members with management. In extreme circumstances, we have filed arbitrations when a fair resolution cannot be worked out. Truthfully, there are more scenarios where a better, more productive solution is worked out in a Union meeting than not. Calling your representative, exercising your rights and sitting down with management to resolve your issue is a HUGE benefit. As a matter of fact, it is one that most retail workers can't even imagine having. Unfortunately, in many of our shops this benefit is overlooked and underutilized by our members. Our goal is to return every call, email or social media inquiry within 24 hours and I'm happy to report that in many cases our response time is within the first 1-2 hours after contact.

Typically, one of the first items non-union workers discuss with our organizers in any campaign is the need to be represented. These workers would love to have a voice in their workplace. The ability to have an experienced advocate speak for them when management calls them into the office to interrogate them is immeasurable. Although there are normally changes whenever we negotiate a new contract, one of the cornerstones of every Local 1500 contract is a member's right to be represented. To have your Union Representative grieve a workplace issue or be present when you are being questioned isn't something that one could easily put a dollar value on. Sadly, I think for some members it probably falls more under the category of "I don't even really need that" ... Until the day you do.

What separates our members from the Whole Foods workers, or any non-union workers out there, is our collective ability to stand up and declare "No More" and "We have had ENOUGH".

For far too long our members voices seem to have been getting quieter and quieter in the stores. Well times are changing, especially in retail job sector. You all know better than I about the constant push to eliminate jobs, cut hours and find a way for technology to reduce cost. The employees at Whole Foods, a giant non-union operator, are now facing an uncertain future with the expected technology implementations that Amazon will bring to their merger. One of the first criticisms that Amazon had for Whole Foods management

was that they had spent too much money on their Labor force. I don't envy the inevitable future that the Whole Foods employees are facing.

This couldn't have been better illustrated than it was by the crowd at the Mannix Shop Rite Contract Update meeting in June. Approximately 30% of the Mannix workforce came out and voted to give their negotiating committee strike authorization. A very similar situation also happened the night before at the Glass Gardens Shop Rite meeting. These members finally stopped accepting the changes being pushed across the table by their employers, stood up with their Union and declared "Enough is Enough!" This was a significant change for our Union and these members. This was the first time that these two Companies were ever forced to take a strike vote and they didn't blink. This change in our members behavior caused a change in the behavior of their employers. I'm very proud to report that shortly after those meetings strong contract settlements were reached across the bargaining table and they were overwhelmingly approved by membership votes.

I think we all accept the fact that change is inevitable. But the challenge for the future is in trying to initiate positive changes on the job. Having the strength to stand up and exercise your right to contact the Union and be represented when a negative or unfair change is thrust in your direction. If there is going to be unrest or disruption why should it be in your life?

In conclusion, I do need to point out that sometimes, unfortunately, tough change is unavoidable. It is with a big smile but a heavy heart that we are forced to say good bye and good luck this month to another of our senior office staff here at Frank Meehan Hall, Executive Secretary, Gloria Benton-Williams. Glo, I hope you bring as much happiness to your retirement as you brought us every day that you came to work. Your infectious giggle, hearty soul and enormous smile can never be replaced! Good luck, stay healthy and God Bless you and Dion, enjoy!

## FISHING FOR A CURE

UFCW Local 1500 Members Held Charity Fundraisers Throughout the summer.





### **SHOPRITE 2017 NEGOTIATIONS**







When the Union initially heard that New York State's Minimum Wage was increasing to \$15 per hour in the City, we knew that negotiating the next set of Collective Bargaining Agreements would be challenging at the least. SRS, Glass Gardens, and Mannix ShopRite contracts were set to expire in July and August of 2016. We held our respective proposal meetings with each company, members selected their committees, and we went on to schedule bargaining dates with them. Typically, when the Union committee and the Company meet across the table, it's a struggle. Members want to sustain their standard of living and get improvements in their next contract...like good wage increases, or higher premiums, or more paid time off, while the company looks to cut costs and streamline budgets. With every contract cycle, negotiating a good deal becomes increasingly difficult. When we finally met with ShopRite last year, we didn't realize just how difficult it would be.

We knew going in that we would want to increase the benefits mentioned earlier and more, but we also knew that we would need to secure the proper contribution increases needed to sustain the Pension, Welfare, and Legal Funds going forward. We know that your paycheck is extremely important to you, and we know that your health and your retirement are equally as, if not more important to you. Achieving all of this seemed to be an impossible task ahead of us.

At the first session, the company basically let us know that because they would have to pay the Part Time population a minimum of \$11.00/hr in December 2016, \$13.00/hr this December, then \$15.00/hr December of next year—they have a genuine issue. The fact that when a

Part Time employee completes their "tunnel" to time and one half, they will be paying a Part Timer at least \$22.50/hr to work on Sundays, was something they stated would hurt their companies. That they would not be able to pay any sort of meaningful wage increases for anyone else or any other positive changes in your benefit structure. In fact, they were looking for cuts; givebacks; concessions to the current CBA. They wanted to erode items that you've earned with you hard work and tenure. One of the Company's first demands was to remove the Sunday premium and time and one half from current members. Another item the companies wanted was for everyone to begin paying 9.5% of your gross weekly income toward your medical coverage. Can you imagine that? Full Time, Part Time, whomever...no matter how many hours you work this week, be prepared to pay almost 10% of it for your medical. Covering someone's vacation? 9.5%. Working a ton of hours during this week's Can-Can sale? 9.5%. Yay you made \$1,000 this week! Well you just paid \$95 of it to your medical. Boo. You may not need to imagine it if you know of someone or have a family member that is already paying that percentage into their medical. But that was unacceptable to us. And it set the tone for these negotiations. The Companies were, for the most part, not adversarial with us as we understood their plight. However, it is our responsibility to negotiate as much as possible for our members, so the battle was on.

After months of back and forth good faith bargaining, it became evident that the negotiating committee needed some help. We turned to the SRS, Glass Gardens, and Mannix membership and let them know where we

were with negotiations. We told them that their companies were not budging beyond a certain point, which their committees felt was not enough. After a 16-hour negotiating session, we settled with SRS at about 12:30 one morning. Then hundreds of Glass and Mannix members came out to contract update meetings where they gave the Union authorization to strike if necessary. Ultimately, it was the push their committees needed - a single showing of solidarity from the members back at the stores, to let management and ownership know that they were that serious about their future.

So how do we accomplish everything we want and need in an ever-increasingly difficult environment? With costs going up, market-share decreasing, and technology replacing employees? There's a quick and not-so-easy answer to that. We don't. We knew wanted more. We always want more than we settle for. That goes for both sides. Nevertheless, we fight like hell across the table with the Company. We fight like hell across the table with the Trustees. And when the smoke clears we come up with the best possible solution for the members of Local 1500 and their families.

The new minimum wage was a mountain to climb during these negotiations, but we got there. To the members employed by SRS, Glass Gardens, and Mannix ShopRite stores: thank you for remaining patient, yet strong. And thank you for having your committees' backs when push came to shove.

This idea will never get old: when we fight together we can accomplish so much more!









### **STAFF CHANGES**





### **CONGRATULATIONS GLORIA!**

After over 30 years of providing Local 1500'S Executive staff with dedicated and loyal service, our Executive Secretary, Gloria Benton-Williams has announced her retirement. Throughout her career, Ms. Benton tirelessly assisted Local 1500 always putting Local 1500 members first.

We would like to thank Gloria for her wonderful contribution to our union, we wish you a long, healthy retirement with your family.



### **TARRIK THOMAS**

Tarrik Thomas began working with UFCW Local 1500 in February 2017 as intern in the Media and Communications Department. Mr. Thomas brings experience and a high level of skill in film production and media. In a continued commitment to improve Local 1500's communications, we are happy to welcome Tarrik to our media and communications team in a full-time capacity.

You can contact Tarrik Thomas at 516-214-1372 or email at TThomas@UFCW1500.org



### FRED WALTER, JR.

Fred Walter Jr, began working with Local 1500 in June 2017 as an intern in the Organizing Department. During his short tenure, Fred has learned about the difficulties workers face without a Union contract and has a better understanding of the value that Local 1500 provides for its members. In August, Mr. Walter joined Local 1500's team as a Membership Servicing Representative, he will now utilize his experience to engage with members throughout Local 1500's jurisdiction.

You can contact Fred Walter at 516-214-1349 or email at FWalter@UFCW1500.org



# MAKING STRIDES AGAINST BREAST CANCER



VOICE for working America
Local 1500
Inverted Concerty
America

**JONES BEACH** 

FIELD 5

SUN. OCT. 15, 2017 WALK: 7AM - 12PM

RSVP:

UFCW1500.ORG/BC17 516-214-1305



LEUKEMIA & LYMPHOMA SOCIETY° fighting blood cancers LIGHT THE NIGHT WALK

JOIN OUR TEAM & WALK WITH
OUR UNION IN HONOR OF FORMER
PRESIDENT FRANK MEEHAN

TAKING STEPS TO MAKE SOMEDAY TODAY

### **SATURDAY, OCT. 21, 2017**

5:30 PM KICKOFF PARTY AT OUR UNION HQ 7 PM WALK START AT EISENHOWWER PARK

American

Societv®



SIGN UP AT UFCW1500.ORG/LTN CALL: 800-522-0456 EXT 1305















































### RECORDER & EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT Rhonda Nelson

# Are you ready to become a U.S. citizen?

Today, more than one million New Yorkers are eligible to apply for U.S. citizenship. Many of them are UFCW members who work hard every day to provide for themselves and their families. Like all of us, they seek, "The American Dream." Many factors might prevent members from taking that extra step to become U.S. citizens, such as the current antiimmigration climate, financial hardship, misinformation, dealings with unscrupulous professionals, or fear.

WE WANT TO HELP! That's why Local 1500 has partnered with the UFCW International Union to help Local 1500 members with green cards and their families become U.S Citizens. The UFCW Union Citizenship Action Network (UCAN) program can help members and their families apply for U.S. citizenship.

During September and October, Local 1500 representatives, and a UFCW Civil Rights and Community Action department representative will visit members to answer immigration questions and to discuss how we can assist you and your family with the application process.

In October, Local 1500 will host a UCAN Clinic where members will receive information, legal services, and application assistance from trustworthy individuals. When asked about this clinic, President Speelman said, "We want to be the resource that our members can depend on to help assist them during a crucial time in their lives." He further stated that the officers and staff of Local 1500 want members to know that we will always have their backs, not only at the workplace but we will also do our best to help them outside the workplace.

Please note that Local 1500 members and their families who complete the application process and become Naturalized citizens may qualify for a minimum reimbursement of \$350.00 under the Local 1500 legal services plan.

### To Be Eligible You Must:

- Have been a legal permanent resident for 5 years; Or 3 years if married to U.S. citizen.
- · Have no problems with the law.
- Speak, write and read basic English.

### Please come to the clinic prepared with the following information:

- Your permanent resident card (green card). Driver's license or License or any other Photo ID.
- · Social Security Card
- List of Home Address for the past 5 years and the dates which you lived at the address.
- List of Employer names and addresses for the past 5 years and the dates you worked for that employer
- Dates you have been outside of the U.S. for the 5 years and the countries you traveled to bring your passport, itineraries, tickets etc. for all trips made outside of the U.S.
- Complete names, Dates of Birth, Addresses and A#s (Green Cards) for all your children.
- Your most recent tax return.
- A money order for \$725.00 payable to U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

For further information or to schedule an appointment to become at U.S. citizen at our October Clinic, please contract Rhonda Nelson at 516-214-1303, Aly Waddy at 516-214-1322 or Terry Quińones at 516-214-1318





## DIRECTOR OF ORGANIZING & POLITICAL COORDINATOR **Brendan Sexton**

# Vote No on Con-Con

On whether to hold a Constitutional Convention or not. This decision is so important, that most people have never heard of it or if they have, only in terms of how our opponents a calling it, "A People's Convention". These are both not good. And therefore, we need to vote "NO".

A Constitutional Convention is anything but "A People's Party". It is facetious to suggest anything close to a people's convention. In fact, corporations, their lobbyists and Albany politicians will take full advantage of the system to rewrite the State Constitution to weaken worker's rights and protections. Only special interests like the Koch Brothers and Alice Walton -Walmart Heir- will take control and eliminate the right to organize, the right to negotiate with your employer and remove all the care and benefits for injured workers.

According to a recent Siena College Poll 89% of New Yorkers have heard little or nothing about the convention. Of course, the corporations and their lobbyists know all about it! The cost alone for the Constitutional Convention is staggering. Estimates have the price tag between \$200 million and \$320 million dollars, but it can

be open-ended and last for years. The delegates will be Albany insiders, Political Bosses, state elected officials and they will all receive, \$80,000 a year; plus, they can hire all their friends and family on the tax-payers tab. A Constitutional Convention would serve as a financial boondoggle, while enabling corruption and jeopardizing our rights. Did you know we can already change the Constitution? That's right, if elected officails were already doing their jobs, then they would be writing and passing legislation or use amendments, like we have done 222 times before, most recently in 2013. Why waste all this money, when it can be used to invest in infrastructure, education and public safety?

Make sure you vote on November 7, 2017 and as we strongly recommend voting "NO". Let us not be fooled by charlatans using phony phrases like a "people's convention" or wasting hundreds of millions of dollars throwing a party for corporations and their lobbyists. As you go to the ballot box to vote for Governor and other local races, please do not forget to go all the way to the end and cast a vote for preserving the strong worker's rights enshrined in the New York Constitution.





A MESSAGE FROM YOUR UNION

In the November general election, you will be asked to vote on whether or not New York should hold a convention to change our state constitution. A Convention would be a boondoggle for politicians and corporate lobbyists to take away your wages, benefits and rights. And to make matters worse, you'd have to pay the price tag-hundreds of millions of taxpayer dollars. Your union urges you to **YOTE NOI** 

A Constitutional Convention would be controlled by well-funded special interests and career politicians who would dominate the process and take advantage of the system to benefit themselves at your expense.

Corporations and their lobbylsts will use a Convention to weaken workers' rights and protections. Pensions, prevailing rate in construction, collective bargaining, and care and benefits for injured workers could all be on the chopping block.

It's a financial boondoggle that could cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars and invite corruption by enabling entrenched Albany politicians to make up to \$80,000 on top of the taxpayer-funded salaries they already receive.

With no timeline to complete their work, there could be no end in sight. Albany politicians, their friends and insiders could continue enriching themselves at the taxpayers' expense for



For more information, contact the NYS AFL-CIO at 518-436-8516 or visit  $\underline{www.nysaflcio.org}$ , or text ConCon to 877877.



#### **CLIFF NOTES:**

### Q: Why is this question on the ballot?

A: Every twenty years the question of a Constitutional Convention must come before the voters. There is no way to take it off the ballot. It must be there, and that's why we need to vote "NO".

### Q: Who will be the delegates to the convention? Will I be able to be one?

A: The delegates will be already elected officials who have the money and the campaign experience to be voted in. People already vote for them so it is not a big stretch to be voted in as a delegate. Since there are only 3 delegates per Senate district, unfortunately the State Senator and the Assembly people will become the delegates just by sheer force the network and money it takes. Any reaming spots will be taken by Political Bosses and corporate lobbyists.

#### Q: What happens when we vote "NO"?

A: When most us vote "no", then we get back to work. We hold our elected officials accountable and if they do not represent us, then we vote them out of office. We demand they write and pass legislation and if need be, make amendments to the constitution to protect worker's rights and our inalienable right to have a voice when it comes to our wages and working conditions.



### **HEALTH CARE**



# Preventive Care – Covered In-Network at 100%

### Prevention is key.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, "Chronic diseases, such as heart disease, cancer, and diabetes, are responsible for 7 of every 10 deaths among Americans each year and account for 75% of the nation's health spending."

The Patient Protections and Affordable Care Act of 2010 requires 100% coverage for certain medical services for the Full-Time, Special Part-Time, and Part-Time ACA plans as long as the patient is seen by an in-network provider.

Below you will find a list of the most common preventive services that are covered in-network at 100% without cost sharing. This means, you will have no deductible, co-payment or co-insurance for your wellness exam and related tests as long as you see a participating provider. Please note, some screenings are required for patients with a history of illness and, in those situations, may be covered under the Major Medical benefit instead of the Preventive Care benefit. In those cases, you may have out-of-pocket expenses. If you have any questions about what is covered under the Preventive Care benefits, please call Associated Administrators at 855-266-1500.

### **Common Preventive Services:**

 Annual physical exam (If the preventive item or service is not billed separately from the office visit, and the primary purpose of the office visit is the delivery of such preventive item or service.)

- Blood Pressure screening for all adults (included in the payment for a physician visit).
- Cholesterol screening (Lipid Disorders Screening) for men aged 35 or older, women aged 45 or older, or those with increased risk for coronary heart disease.
- Colorectal cancer screenings (fecal occult blood testing, sigmoidoscopy, and colonoscopy) for adults aged 50 or older, including bowel preparatory medications as required.
- Breast cancer screening (mammography) for women aged 40 and older, every 1 to 2 years.
- Annual well woman visits along with cervical cancer screening provided to women with cytology (Pap smear).
- Immunization vaccines for adults and children. The specific dose, recommended age, and/or recommended populations must be satisfied:
  - Diphtheria/tetanus/pertussis
  - Measles/mumps/rubella (MMR)
  - Influenza
  - Human papillomavirus (HPV)
  - Pneumococcal (polysaccharide)
  - Zoster
  - Hepatitis A
  - Hepatitis B
  - Meningococcal

VALUE OF MY UNION
TOTAL PENSION PLAN
DISBURSEMENTS YID 2017
\$6,7/7/22622.67

VALUE OF MY UNION
TOTAL WELFARE FUND
DISBURSEMENTS YID 2017
\$6,164,700



# DIRECTOR OF REGION 1 **Dave Young**

### Standing Together

# **Against Work for Less Laws**

Imagine for a moment that you work with someone who enjoys the benefits of belonging to a union without paying for them.

That's exactly what's happening right now in 28 Work for Less states. These laws are pitting workers against workers, and making it easier for companies to offer jobs in our communities that come with low wages and few benefits.

Members of Local 1500 know that Work for Less laws are not about earning a better life and better wages. They're about cutting wages and benefits so that irresponsible corporations make more profits and hard-working people earn less than they deserve.

Work for Less laws do not boost economic growth or attract employers to one particular state over another. Work for Less laws undermine the ability of working people to improve their workplaces and hold irresponsible employers accountable. These laws reduce wages and adversely affect the level of discretionary spending

in the local retail, real estate, construction, and service industries.

And that's why we must continue to reach out to our friends, neighbors and coworkers and let them know about the value of belonging to our union family.

We must spread the word that union workers earn better wages and benefits than nonunion workers, and union workers are more likely to have jobs that provide health insurance, retirement security paid vacation, holidays and sick leave, scheduling overtime protection and other benefits. We must make the point that unions are also good for the private sector and help employers create a more stable and productive workforce.

We need to share our belief that hard work should be rewarded with a better life. We need to underscore our position that the basic rights of workers must be respected, including the right to stand together and negotiate better wages and benefits, fair scheduling, and workplace safety. The key to economic prosperity for working people is power in numbers. When we stand strong together, we have the power to change lives for the better.

Thank you all for helping to share the incredible value of belonging to our union family. We appreciate you and all the hard work you do to make Local 1500 a better and stronger union.

VALUE OF MY UNION
MENDERS ASSISTED BY
LEGAL SERVICES YID:

494

VALUE OF MY UNION
REMBURSEMENTS TO MEMBERS
YUD 2017:

# Here are some Local 1500 Business Agents acquiring training, while assisting UFCW Locals in Right To Work States; Tennessee & Texas.



Business agents Meredith Gaia and Chad Smith of UFCW Local 1529 and in the middle Business Agent Jeffrey Guardado of UFCW Local 1500



UFCW Staff Members of Local 1529



Business Agent Paul Waldron with UFCW Local 455 Business Agent Rydell Cummings, staff members and Kroger members.



Business Agent Paul Waldron with UFCW Local 455 Business Agent DeMarcus Grover and members from Kroger.

## **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.

Allen, Robert F. Aloia, James Aquije, Dante Bartolomucci, James Bassani, Louise Bennett, Thomas Burghardt, Howard C. Calautti, Katherine Carter, Paula Costa, Anthony Dell, Diana H. DeRoberts, Frank Dibble, Harold Dicioccio, Michael D. Digilio, Maureen Dilek, Nicole L. Diorio, Margaret Downey, Luann Durocher, Dean Facci, Adia C. Faist, Fred R. Fatta, Thelma S. Fava, Anthony S. Ferguson, Joanne M. Ferrandino, Elizabeth Flower, Helen L. Flynn, Eileen M. Garza, Dennis Gonzales, Eduardo Gordineer, Muriel Hickey, Bernard Hooks, Gerald D. Hughes, Ann Ingrassia, Peter Jackson, Frederick Jackson, Robert A. Jankowski, Ruth Johnson, Phyllis Jones, Joanne M. Kouvaris, Nicholas Krauthamer, Richard Lavaglio, Frances Lyba, Michael Lyles, Anthony

Mac Gibbon, William Mason, Michael McCarthy, James McEnery, Roger W. McLean, Eleanor Mendez, Wilfredo Mildenberger, Sarah Miller, William Miranda, Jose Mosso, James Oliveri, Jean Ota, Jeanne Palopoli, Denise M. Payne, William Pesce, Renato V. Pintavalle, Richard J. Platt, Virginia Porcelli, Margaret Pressley, Cassandra E. Renato, Pesce Ricio, Paul Rodriguez, Rosa Rousell, Edwin B. Ruppel, Elizabeth Schneider, Susan A. Scutieri, Alfonso Seymour, Diane M. Spano, Louise Steinberg, Richard M. Stransky, Debbie Timpanelli, Jean C. Tobe, Loretta Tocco, Evelyn Tullo, Joan Vetter, Waltraud I. Villa, Maria Weber, Donald Weiner, Frances Woods, Frankie Wright, Valencia Zanette, Marylou Zarringhalam, Fereydun Zeneski, Andrew E. Zollo, Jean

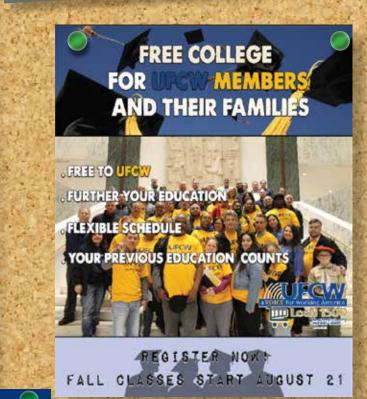
### **Prescription Drug Exclusions**

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.





### **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.

# 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, CVS DRUG STORES, TRADER JOES WALGREEN'S. COSTCO WHOLESALE CLUB. HANNAFORD BROTHERS

> ALDI, MRS. GREEN'S NATURAL MARKET AMISH MARKET. THE FRESH MARKET. SAVERS

SHOP UNION - SAVE JOBS

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 White Plains, NY and additional mailing offices: (USPS 0306-010). POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Local 1500, 425 Merrick Ave, Westbury, NY 11590. Vol. 51, No. 3, Fall 2017 Copyright Local 1500, White Plains, NY 2017.

# Bulletin Board



### **LOCAL 1500 RETIREES**

The officers of UFCW Local 1500 extend their warmest congratulations to these new Retirees and urge them to join the Union's Retiree Club. Contact the Club through the Union office. Call 516-214-1300 or 1-800-522-0456, and ask for Yahaira Abreu, Ext. 1330 or Ronnie Survilla, ext. 1333.

Abraham, Samuel Beaumont, Everton Blumberg, Charles J. Bortfeld, George Bradley, Tyrone Brody, Elizabeth M. Brown, Judith D. Capazzola, Linda K. Carpenter, William B. Castelli, Joseph Chavez, Francisco Crivera, Giovanni Daly, Patrick J. D'Assisi, Josephine Deda, Nikolin Depa, Edward Digirolamo, Peter J. Dominguez, Claudio A. Duncan, Hilda L. Edwards Brown, Yolanda Fabia, Christopher R. Fauvell, Maureen A. Ferri, Michael F. Franzitta, Elaine F. Friel, Julie Frierson, James L. Gibbs, Sherman L. Giusto, Joseph T. Goldstein, Warren A. Gordon, Berris Graham, Florence Halloran, Margaret S. Haynes, Hattie M. llovic, Michael M. Jackson, Phyllis Jones Jr., Robert G. Kenney, Francine

Kerr, MaryAnn Latasso, Paul B. Leonard, Philip D. Lopez, Vincent A. Macchia, Diane L. Maco, Joseph P. Mancusi Lauria, Dawn M. Marchesi, Paula Mastanduno, Arlene Milito, Vincent E. Mitchel-el, Ahmad Moran, Kevin P. Morgan, William J. Musetti, Benedetto M. Obleton, Richard R. O'Donnell, Richard J. Oplacio, Patricia Orourke, Matthew B. Pesante, Jose A. Polonski, Nancy Rademacher, Diane A. Ramos, Juan Rivera, Jessica Rossi, Paula F. Rudolph, Deborah Ryder, Edward K. Salvador, Jose H. Scherer, Daniel J. Sniffen, Daniel J. Steinmann, Roger W. Tesoro, Anna Turzio, Ellen M. Velez, Peter Wainwright, Thomas E. Williams, Maurice Winterroll, Curtis Zappasodi, Guido W.

# THANK YOU FOR SHOPPING UNION STORES

■ YOU HELP PRESERVE YOUR JOBS WHEN YOU SHOP UNION ■ UNION JOBS CONTRIBUTE TO THE COMMUNITIES TAX BASE CONTINUE TO SHOP UNION STORES IN YOUR COMMUNITY WHERE UNION WORKERS HAVE BETTER WAGES, BENEFITS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

### SHOP THESE UNION STORES

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

SHOP UNION - SAVE JOBS

### **GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS**

Wednesday, September 13, 2017 Wednesday, December 6, 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!

2017 LABOR DAY PARADE

## NEW YORK CI

WORKING **TOGETHER** LEADING THE WAY

**SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9, 10AM** 

**GRAND MARSHALL EDGAR ROMNEY** SECRETARY-TREASURER WORKERS UNITED, SEIU



**PARADE CHAIR** 

JAMES J. CLAFFEY, JR. PRESIDENT LOCAL ONE INTERNATIONAL VP, IASTE

**MEET: E45 STREET BETWEEN 5TH & VANDERBILT** LONG ISLAND BUS PICK UP: 7:30AM @ LIE EXIT 49 PARK & RIDE FRANK MEEHAN HALL PICK UP: 8:15AM @ 425 MERRICK AVE RSVP: UFCW1500.ORG/LDP17

INFORMATION 212-604-9552 NYCCLC.ORG

516-214-1353 INFO@UFCW1500.ORG TWITTER/INSTAGRAM: @UFCW1500

FACEBOOK.COM/UFCW1500















Any suggestions or comments for the Register?

Send us your feedback to Nallen@ufcw1500.org



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

General Office Hours, Pension & Welfare & Legal Services, Mon. thru Fri. 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

UFCW1500.org INFO@UFCW1500.ORG

### 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, 800-522-0456and 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. 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 Ronnie Survilla, Ext. 1333

#### **MEDICAL-DISABILITY-VISION**

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

#### **MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION**

Arnetta Ellison-Bates, Ext. 1306

**SCHOLARSHIP** 

Wendy Flores, Ext. 1310

#### **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 Wendy Flores

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

#### **EXECUTIVES**

1305 Speelman, Tony – President

1306 Newell, Rob - Secretary & Treasurer

1303 Nelson, Rhonda – Recorder & Executive Vice President

1304 Waddy, Joe - Vice President & Assistant to the President

1322 Waddy, Aly - Vice President & Director of Special Projects

### DIRECTORS

1318 Quiñones, Theresa - Vice President-Field Director

1369 Santarpia, Paul - Vice President-Field Director

1362 Sexton, Brendan - Director of Organizing & **Political Coordinator** 

### UNION REPRESENTATIVES

1311 Aponte, Teresa 1343 Mausser, Jeff 1350 Canas, Alicia 1360 Waldron, Paul 1353 Ecker, Robert\* 1340 Scorzelli, Jav 1317 Guardado, Jeff 1357 Woods, John 1356 Pasquale, Greg 1371 Solivan, Vilmarie 1358 Mauleon, Rafael \*Administrative Field Coordinator

#### MEMBERSHIP SERVICING REPRESENTATIVE **ORGANIZING & POLITICAL**

1315 Farrands, Bruce 1341 Hunt, Mattew

1349 Walter, Fred Jr. 1345 Organizing Hotline

1361 Hernandez, Rafael 1355 Political Hotline

1339 Shiels, Lvnn

#### **MEDIA & COMMUNICATIONS**

1374 Allen, Nicholas - Media & Communications Coordinator 1372 Thomas, Tarrik



