

Fairway Re-Opens Hurricane Ravaged Store in Red Hook



FAIRWAY RED HOOK, NOVEMBER 2012



LOCAL 1500 AWARDS \$25,000 TO 12 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS – SEE PAGES 8-9



THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Bruce W. Both



CHESS MATCH

For over 70 years, United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1500 has been negotiating contracts on behalf of working men and women. Naturally, over the years, the names and faces of the employers we negotiate with have changed but the method and goal of collective bargaining has remained consistent: to negotiate the best wages, benefits and working conditions possible for the members of Local 1500.

As we head into negotiations in the coming months our goals have not changed, nor will they ever. Your Union negotiating committee will meet face to face with your employers and attempt to negotiate a fair contract. However, this year there will be a third party at the negotiating table and their presence will bring about major changes to your contracts and the rules we're used to negotiating by.

Over the years, many members have described our negotiations as a chess match. Well imagine if you will, after all these years of playing chess one-on-one, someone comes along and tells you that you will now be playing chess with three players at the board instead of two, a three dimensional chess game if you will.

These negotiations will force your Union and your employers to involve the federal government as a third party, in a substantial way at the bargaining table. That is because massive and historical changes to our nation's healthcare laws through the Affordable Care Act (ACA) will legally require us to make changes to our Union's Health and Welfare plans.

I want to make this point very clear: Certain changes to our healthcare plans will be required under federal law and leave the Union and the employer with no other choice but to comply.

The changes required under the ACA will increase the cost of

our health care plans, require us to redesign them, and still force thousands of our members to deal with purchasing health insurance through the New York State Health Care Exchanges this coming fall.

Despite the best intentions of the ACA, the end result is presenting our Union with one of its greatest challenges in decades.

I want to assure you that your Union has been preparing for these changes well in advance of these upcoming negotiations. We have been meeting with health care experts, monitoring other UFCW contracts from around the country, and meeting on a weekly basis with staff. Still, as we have all come to expect when dealing with a bureaucracy like the federal government, they have yet to provide us with all the necessary guidelines and regulations required by ACA. Therefore the situation continues to evolve.

Clearly this is not how your Union would choose to negotiate collective bargaining agreements. We prefer to play chess the way it was intended: one-on-one. For over 70 years without legislative interference from the federal government, our Union has negotiated the finest wages, benefits and working conditions in the supermarket industry throughout the country using this process. We also achieved this with tough bargaining, a united membership and knowing whom we were dealing with across the table. While we will still need to use all of those tools to be successful, the unknowns of the ACA loom.

Despite the challenges that lie ahead our goals have not changed nor has the formula for success. What has changed is the role of the federal government in our contract negotiations. We must all be prepared what the new player brings to the table.



KINGS IN GARDEN CITY GETS A MAKEOVER!

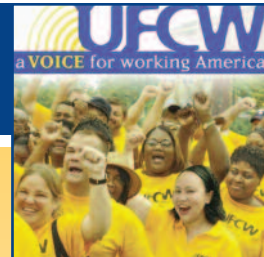
President Both joined in on the celebration with UFCW Local 1500 members at Kings Food Market in Garden City, as the store celebrated its "Taste of Spring" event. The newly designed store has a fresh feel and the UFCW Local 1500 members were excited. Located at 870 Franklin Ave, Garden City, NY, Kings celebrated a re-grand opening with their traditional pasta (instead of a ribbon) cutting ceremony. "We are proud to represent the working men and women at Kings," President Both explained, "Our union brothers and sisters working at smaller stores, not for big operators like Stop & Shop or Fairway, are the ones who made this union what it is today."





JUST FOR THE RECORD

By Anthony G. Speelman, Secretary-Treasurer @Aspeel1500



UNITY IS THE ANSWER

For two weeks in May, members from Stop and Shop and King Kullen grocery stores attended contract proposal meetings throughout our region. As you know by now, the contracts for these companies expire at the end of September. Contracts for several other companies will expire in October and proposal meetings for those companies will be held in the near future.

Due to the tremendous changes to our healthcare fund required by the Affordable Care Act (ACA), these Stop & Shop and King Kullen contract proposal meetings were very different from past meetings. There was a lot of discussion about the increase cost to our Health and Welfare Fund due to ACA. There was also discussion about pensions cost and changes we were forced to make under the Pension Protection Act. Of course, we also discussed raises, working conditions and quality of life issues but much of the meeting time was dedicated to understanding the financial impact of the ACA.

When you combine all of these issues with other arguments we can expect to hear from your employers, such as the economy and non-union competition, it is clear that we are facing the most challenging negotiations this Union has ever conducted.

At one point in the Stop & Shop meeting, a member stood up and asked a very important question: "With all of these problems we are facing, what's our leverage against the company? How are we going to get a good contract?"

The answer to that question is no different today than it has been for every contract this Union has negotiated: You! You are the leverage.

The one thing that your employers will never be able overcome is the solidarity of the membership. It may seem like a cliché but

today the words "The union united will never be defeated," have never been more important.

If you look around the country, and even in your own backyard, you will see that solidarity movements are springing up everywhere. From fast-food workers right here in New York City, to Walmart workers nationwide, employees are walking off the job united for a better life. Each group of workers all united with common goal, seeking an end to jobs that pay minimum wage, offer no job protection and no benefits. Most importantly, they seek what you already have: a Union!

While their fight is just beginning, yours has been going on for years. During each contract negotiation you have stood with your Union as we struggle and fight to reach a fair settlement. You have joined in solidarity with your co-workers, part timers and full timers, sending a message to your employers that you are prepared to fight any attempt to divide you or weaken your resolve.

You have never backed down. Your solidarity over the years has paid off. You have some of the best contracts in the supermarket industry. You have excellent health insurance and strong pensions as well as wages and other benefits that are superior to so many workers in retail. You have fought for and **earned** your Union contract.

So, as in the past, it is that solidarity that will continue to be key leverage we will have over the employers this and every contract. Of course, we will be prepared with our media campaign and will seek the support of the public if necessary but it is you, the members that will deliver a fair settlement.

A united Union is the all the leverage we will need to be victorious!

"We have an opportunity that so many throughout the world and in our country wish for each day: the opportunity to change our lives and demand what our working conditions are."

FIELD DIRECTOR ROB NEWELL ELECTED TO UFCW LOCAL 1500 EXECUTIVE BOARD



In March 2013, Local 1500 Field Director Rob Newell was unanimously elected to the UFCW Local 1500 Executive Board. Rob Newell has been an invaluable asset to Local 1500 since joining the staff in 1995. Newell began his career at Pathmark, and has been a UFCW Local 1500 member for over 20 years. Following his election to the Executive Board Newell said, "I am humbled and honored to sit on the same Executive Board where so many great labor leaders have served Local 1500 members." President Bruce Both echoed the sentiments of the Executive Board, "Rob Newell brings intelligence, a strong attention to detail and an unequivocal courage to stand up for what is right to our Executive Board," President Both continued, "I congratulate Rob, we couldn't be happier to have him serve on the board."

What is the Executive Board?

Our Union is run by an elected Executive Board. The Executive Board is comprised of Officers who meet on a monthly basis to approve finances, accept new members, discuss local business and the state of the union and determine events and activities. The Board is made up of Full-Time Representatives who work throughout Local 1500's jurisdiction. The entire Executive Board meeting is recorded and read at quarterly General Membership meetings by the Recorder (Rhonda Nelson) and voted on for approval or disapproval by the General Membership of Local 1500.

For more information on the Executive Board ask your Union Representative or send us an email at info@ufcw1500.org.

2013 Contract Campaign Kicks Off With Proposal Meetings

We've held contract proposal meetings for Stop & Shop and King Kullen, you've elected negotiating committees. Now, it's time to get active and get involved! Together we can win a contract we're all proud of and secure better working conditions for our future. Below are just a few facts on why getting involved with your contract campaign means more than you may think:



With a union contract, your union representative ensures that you are not fired unjustly and will hold your employer accountable for their actions.



Making your voice heard and becoming active in your contract campaigns is being part of labor history. You are changing the workplace and our rights on the job for the better. Remember that the labor movement is the only thing that has ever changed the existing labor laws by demanding that employers, politicians and the community takes workers' rights seriously.

Everything that we as a working class have come to appreciate over the years had been fought long and hard for by the labor unions of this country. The 40 hour work week, 8 hour workday, overtime pay, pensions, lunch breaks, paid vacations, holiday pay, sick leave, social security, minimum wage, child labor laws, unemployment insurance, workplace safety standards, sexual harassment laws, pregnancy and parental leave, and plenty more.



WE EARNED IT

CONTRACT 2013



The union contract is the most important thing that you can fight for as a member. Union members of the past have fought and died for the right to band together, organize, and demand a contract. Without a contract, employers don't have guidelines they NEED to follow outside of federal law. Just look at job security or workers' rights in a non-union grocery store, nothing is guaranteed! Without a contract the door to exploitation, labor abuses, wage theft, low wages, no job security and unfair treatment is wide open. We've seen first hand how greedy employers will walk over the rights of their workers in order to save a buck.



The 2013 King Kullen Negotiating Committee (name & store, left to right): Norman Checkers (Dept. Mgr., #12), Rich Stark (Part-Time, #38), Kelly Johnson (Bookkeeper, #16), Anthony Portesy (Part-Time, #38), Diane Mancini (Full-Time, #32), Bjorn Romahn (Dept. Mgr. #47)

DID YOU KNOW?

You can now pay certain dues by Credit Card

Local 1500 members who are on a leave of absence, i.e.: disability, workers compensation, FMLA or a personal leave, or, any member who owes back dues can now pay them by debit or credit card. These are the only types of dues payable by credit card. Your payment can now be made fast, either over the phone by calling the union office at **1-800-522-0456 (ext. 11329 or 11332)** or by stopping by the Union Office (**425 Merrick Ave. Westbury, NY 11590**). We accept most major credit/debit cards, and there are no fees involved!

Fairway Red Hook Re-Opens



New York City Mayor Bloomberg, U.S. Senator Chuck Schumer, Brooklyn Borough President Marty Markowitz, and even Ms. America couldn't wait for the March 1st grand re-opening of Fairway in Red Hook. None though, were happier than the 300 UFCW Local 1500 members finally returning to their home store in Brooklyn after working at other Fairway locations while their store was repaired. Hurricane Sandy devastated the once gorgeous waterfront store, filling it with over five feet of water and forcing the store to close for a three-month renovation.

Walk around Fairway in Red Hook and you'll be greeted with smiles from Local 1500 members who are sincerely happy to be back in Brooklyn. "Our members are genuinely ecstatic to be back in Red Hook," said Rob Ecker, Union Representative for the store. "There is a certain pride here, and it grew even more after Hurricane Sandy pounded this waterfront community. Our members could not wait to get back and serve, help, and be with the Red Hook community." Tomas Caceres, who was highlighted in the last issue of The Register was ecstatic to say the least,

"I am so happy to be back here, I cannot stop smiling!"

UFCW Local 1500 Vice President/Field Director Rob Newell explained the importance of Fairway to Brooklyn, "The re-opening of Fairway was more than just a 'grocery store grand opening'. They've brought affordable and healthy food to Red Hook, anchored a revitalization of small businesses in the area, and and most of all, provided over 300 great union jobs for the neighborhood. Their impact and value to this community is inexpressible."

President Bruce Both weighed in on the re-opening, "Fairway is a symbol of recovery for this community. The re-opening of the store is almost like a re-opening of a neighborhood that was so devastated from Hurricane Sandy. I couldn't be happier to "be a part of the celebration, and for our great members returning to their beloved

home store." President Both concluded.

Read how Fairway kept Red Hook's over 300 UFCW Local 1500 members working during Hurricane Sandy renovations online at: www.ufcw1500.org/read-the-latest-edition-of-the-register/red-hook-fairway



Danny Glickberg, President Bruce Both, U.S. Senator Charles Schumer, Fairway Owner Howie Glickberg



UFCW Lobby Day in Albany, NY!

UFCW members from local unions all across New York descended upon the Capitol in Albany to lobby their elected officials about important bills pending in the Assembly and the Senate.

"We're here to lobby for issues that affect our jobs and lives every day," said Tara LeRose, a Shop Steward from Pathmark. "It's a great thing to be in an active union, traveling to the State Capitol to speak to our elected officials in person, it is kind of surreal," LeRose said. UFCW Local 1500 members lobbied in support of the New York DREAM Act, the Fair Elections Act, the Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act, medical marijuana, and conveyed their strong opposition to the Walmart tax credit that was structured the recently passed minimum wage deal.

For Isha Matko, a UFCW Local 1500 Shop Steward who works at Gristedes in New York City, this was her first lobbying experience.

"We're here to help bring a voice to more workers. This helps to ensure that Assemblymembers and Senators are seeing and hearing from real people. It's a powerful experience being able to talk with people who have the ability to make a difference in all our lives."

The real impact in lobbying comes from elected officials being able to attach a personal face to the bills that they vote on. Having a lobby day sends a strong reminder that they work for real people—not just the wealthy or big corporations. Juan Guardado, a UFCW Local 1500 member who works at Stop & Shop in West Islip, had a very personal reason for lobbying.

"I'm happy to be here because I really support the DREAM Act. I have a family member who is undocumented and despite getting straight A's wasn't eligible for any financial aid. He had to stop going to school because he couldn't afford it. It's important for working people to talk to their elected officials because they need to see firsthand that we care, we're informed and we're struggling."

Anthony Mustacchio, a Local 1500 member from Staten Island, said that it was important to talk about issues like the teenage tax credit that came out of the minimum wage deal in the budget. "These tax breaks are free money for huge corporations like Walmart," said Mustacchio. Anthony felt that we definitely struck a chord with legislators who saw yellow shirts flood the hallways throughout the day. "We definitely made progress and we were showing legislators that we do care, we are passionate, and we will travel far to make our voices heard," Mustacchio concluded.

As the lobby day came to a close, Pat Purcell, Assistant to the President of UFCW Local 1500, conveyed the true importance of the day.

"We're working people. We don't have \$1,000 suits or a big checkbook, but we have a right to let our elected officials know what we're concerned about, it's what our country was founded on. Too often politicians listen to dollars from corporations rather than their actual constituents. That's what this day was about, making our voices heard, and showing our politicians we're here, active and will hold them accountable. It was simply awesome seeing UFCW gold shirts all over the capitol building, speaking on behalf of UFCW members in New York. We all made sure elected officials associated 'lobby' with 'workers.'"



WHAT WE LOBBIED FOR:

- **Opposition to Walmart Tax Credit in Minimum Wage Deal**
 - New York DREAM Act
 - Fair Elections Act
 - Farmworker Fair Labor Practices Act
 - Medical Marijuana

(UFCW represents over 3,000 Medical Marijuana Workers throughout the country)

Interested in working on any of these issues or in Politics?
Contact Adam Obernauer at 516.214.1341 or email info@ufcw1500.org

March 26, 2013

Bruce W. Both
President/Trustee
UFCW Local 1500
425 Merrick Avenue
Westbury, NY 11590-6601

Dear Mr. Both,

I am honored to be one of the recipients of the UFCW Local 1500 Scholarship. Thanks to your support I am the first in my family to attend college.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you personally for your generosity. Without scholarship patrons like you, there would be many students such as myself unable to pursue the career they've dreamed of.

Sincerely,
Alex Gutwillig
Alexander Gutwillig

CC: Lynn Shiels



UFCW LO SCHOLARSH

UFCW Local 1500 is proud to announce the names of 12 winners in the 2013 scholarship assistance to members and dependents of members.

The Trustees of the Scholarship Fund, Local 1500 Executive Board Members and winners and their families. "It is essential to help ensure that higher education is a reality for all." Bruce W. Both.

Selection of the 2013 Scholarship Award Winners took place on Tuesday, March 26, 2013. Mr. Joseph Sciamme of St. John's University, Ms. Jean Belmont, formerly of Yeshiva University, Klein, P.C. and Mr. David Fisch, certified public accountant of David Fisch & Company, P.C.

The Trustees of the Scholarship Fund are: Bruce W. Both, Local 1500 President, Board of Man-Dell (Key Food) Stores and Michael Grosso, Director of Labor Relations.

Liza Bell

\$4,000

Patrick Gleeson
Memorial Scholarship



Liza is a High School Dependent of Marcia Bell of Stop & Shop 563 in Holbrook.

Jillian Gannon

\$4,000

Eugene Kennedy
Memorial Scholarship



Jillian is a Part-Time cashier at ShopRite 206 in Poughkeepsie. She is currently preparing for a career in Engineering.

Nicholas Kumia

\$4,000

Arthur Wolfson
Memorial Scholarship



Nick is a High School Dependent of Rickey Kumia of Pick Quick 17 in Brooklyn.

Kelly Hughes

\$2,000

Patrick O'Flaherty
Memorial Scholarship



Kelly is a cashier at ShopRite Store 110 on Hylan Blvd. in Staten Island. Kelly is regarded as extremely dependable by her peers and that trait has helped her achieve such high standing in her academics and athletics.

Alexander Gutwillig

\$2,000

Graduating High School
Senior Scholarship



Alexander is a dependent of Anthony J. Borkowski who has been a Local 1500 member at ShopRite 235 since 2002. Alexander is also a member of the Science Olympiad and plans on pursuing a career in Engineering in the future.

Cassandra Rusch

\$2,000

Graduating High School
Senior Scholarship



Cassandra is a dependent of William P. Rusch who is a member at Pathmark 604 on Nesconset Hwy. In the future, she looks forward to pursuing a Bachelors of Fine Arts degree wherever she decides to attend college.

LOCAL 1500 TOP WINNERS

College Scholarship program awarding twenty-five thousand dollars in scholar-

and the members of Local 1500 extend their congratulations and best wishes to the accessible to every qualified and motivated student," stated Local 1500 President

on March 19, 2013. Serving on the Local 1500's Scholarship Selection Committee were: Binghamton University, Ms. Jessica Drangel Ochs of the law firm of Meyer, Suozzi, English & many.

Lynn Shiels, Local 1500 Union Representative, Lawrence Mandel, Chairman of the Board of King Kullen Grocery Company.

Dear Mrs. Shiels

I would like to thank you for selecting me as a recipient of the Local 1500 scholarship fund. I am a Local 1500 member working at the Stop and Shop of Ronkonkoma as a cashier. Winning this scholarship is important for me because for many years I have worked hard at my school work and extracurricular activities. In the last few months all that hard work started to pay off. First I received this scholarship and just recently was accepted to my first school of choice, Binghamton University.

This scholarship will certainly help since I expect to attend school for a long time to be a Physician's Assistant. Thank you very much for your consideration.

Brian Trusley
Brian Trusley

16 Win Place

Lake Grove, N.Y. 11755

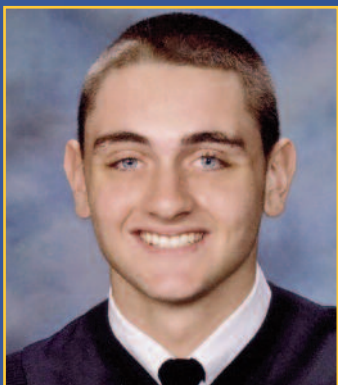
631-467-1582



Brian Trusley

\$2,000

Graduating High School
Senior Scholarship



Brian works as a cashier at Stop & Shop 544 in Ronkonkoma. Brian has been admired by his peers for his spirit and steadfast determination in whatever endeavors he pursues, never settling for less than his best.

Anthony Mormando

\$1,000

College Freshman Scholarship



Anthony is a member of the grocery department at ShopRite 110 in Staten Island. Anthony currently attends John Jay College where he is studying Criminal Justice.

Francesca Thompson

\$1,000

College Freshman Scholarship



Francesca is a cashier at Key Food 11 in Pleasantville, NY. Francesca is an extremely well-rounded individual. Francesca is currently studying at Westchester Community College where she hopes to attain an Associate's Degree in Behavioral Science.

Kevin Cahill Jr.

\$1,000

College Freshman Scholarship

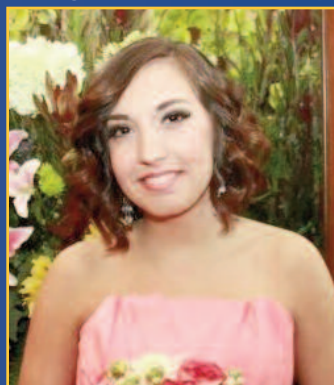


Kevin is a cashier at Pathmark 682 in Staten Island. Kevin is currently studying Nursing at the College of Staten Island.

Dana Mallon

\$1,000

College Freshman Scholarship



Dana has been an employee at ShopRite 110 in Staten Island since 2008. This is Dana's second year in a row winning a Local 1500 Scholarship. Dana is now studying Criminal Justice and Police Science at John Jay College.

Christine Coggins

\$1,000

College Freshman Scholarship



Christine is a cashier at King Kullen 29 in Patchogue. Christine currently studies Accounting at St. John's University.

What's the Difference?

Walmart has often gotten the brunt of bad press due to their dreadful treatment of workers, women and communities. Until UFCW Local 1500 waged a union campaign against the mega-retailer Target, they [Target] received no attention for their poor treatment of workers. In April the National Labor Relations Board ordered a new Union election at Target in Valley Stream, and found their nationwide employee handbook illegal. Target's poor treatment of workers is not common knowledge, but they stack right up with Walmart. See for yourself below:



VS

- **Convicted of bribing Mexican Government Officials**

- **Low Prices at Any Cost:**

Workers making clothing in Bangladesh factories for Walmart were forced to work in despicable environments. Earlier this year, over 110 workers died in a fire due to horrendous working conditions with no safety persuasions. Then two-weeks later in another factory supplying Walmart with clothing, after workers' complaints on how unsafe the building was were ignored, the building collapsed killing over 1,000 garment workers.

- **Donated Over \$400k since 2010 to NY Politicians for Sweet-heart Subsidies:**

Walmart was awarded a subsidy that was never announced publicly and is expected to provide big retailers like Walmart millions of dollars each year. It would also give Walmart a tax-credit to replace their seasoned workforce with inexperienced teenagers at minimum wage.

- **Walmart workers in over 100 cities across America went on strike last Black Friday**

- **CEO Pay: \$18.1 Million**

It would take 796 Walmart employees' salaries to match his pay.

- **Convicted of Violating Federal Labor Laws , New Union Election Ordered**

The National Labor Relations Board ruled Target Violated numerous Federal Labor laws and violated the civil rights of its employees during a Union election with UFCW Local 1500 at their store Valley Stream N.Y. The Federal Government ruled the election null, and ordered a new, fair election be held.

- **Company Handbook Ruled Illegal, Federal Gov. Orders Nationwide Remedy**

In a decision that affects all Target workers nationwide, the NLRB reviewed Local 1500's charges against Target and agreed, ruling their employee handbook illegal

- **Threatened to Close Store if Employees Voted For Union**

Weeks prior to a Union election with Local 1500, Target management handed out literature to their employees that threatened the store would close if the Union was voted in. Target was later charged with threatening employees and violating federal labor laws.

- **Conducted Illegal Surveillance of Workers**

- **CEO Pay: \$23.9 Million**

It would take 805 Target employees' salaries to match his pay.

You Make the Call.

At the end of the day, they're both about profits at any cost, not people!

Join the movement to change target at www.targetchange.com.

Interested in organizing, or fighting for workers' rights? Send us an email to info@ufcw1500.org or head to www.ufcw1500.org for more info.



REGIONAL VIEWPOINT

By Richard J. Whalen, Int'l Vice President & Director, UFCW Region 1



NEW ALLIANCE PROMOTES WORKPLACE BENEFITS FOR RETAIL WORKERS

With the exception of retail workers who have a union and a voice on the job, too many retail workers are struggling to survive on low wages and part-time hours with little or no benefits. As the nation's largest retailer, Walmart has played a huge role in influencing the retail industry, and many retail employers have followed Walmart's lead by skimping on hours and preventing full-time schedules so they won't have to provide benefits.

Recently, a coalition of social justice and policy experts from around the country launched the National Retail Justice Alliance to highlight the social and economic plight of retail workers in the United States. On March 26, the alliance, in partnership with Citizen Action/Illinois, Women Employed and Jobs With Justice, hosted a hearing in Chicago with Representative Jan Schakowsky (D-Ill.) to highlight the economic struggles of part-time workers in retail and other service industries. The hearing also underscored the need for Rep. Schakowsky's legislation—the Part-Time Worker Bill of Rights Act of 2013 (H.R. 675)—which would extend protections to part-time workers in the areas of employer-provided health insurance, family and medical leave, and pension plans.

Sponsored by Schakowsky and Representative George Miller (D-Calif.), the Part-Time Worker Bill of Rights ensures that part-time workers (defined as working less than 30 hours a week) and their families have access to critical workplace benefits. The legislation strengthens the Affordable Care Act, which currently penalizes only those employers who fail to provide health insurance to full-time workers, but includes no such penalties for employers who deny health coverage to part-time workers.

For years, Local 1500 has fought to make sure that retail jobs are good jobs with benefits, and more and more retail workers are joining the UFCW for a better life. It's important that we support groups like the National Retail Justice Alliance and policies like the Part-Time Worker Bill of Rights in order to protect the health and well-being of millions of part-time workers in retail and other service industries.

For more information about this legislation and the National Retail Justice Alliance, visit:

www.govtrack.us/congress/bills/113/hr675/text
www.retailjusticealliance.org

Ralph Palumbo



We regret to announce the passing of long time UFCW Local 1500 Representative, Ralph Palumbo. Ralph passed away on March 13, 2013 after serving UFCW Local 1500 members and fighting for worker's rights for over 30 years. As a tribute to him, to the right is the original article as seen in the April 1971 edition of *The Register* when Ralph was hired by UFCW Local 1500.

April, 1971

RETAIL FOOD CLERKS UNION

Bus. Agent Ralph Palumbo Brings 31 Years Of Experience to the Service of Members

With time out for service with Uncle Sam, Business Agent Ralph Palumbo has logged 31 years in the retail food industry.

In his long career he has seen what was once called the grocery business, consisting mostly of small stores, develop into today's multi-billion-dollar supermarket industry.

Ralph's first job, in 1940, was in a new-fangled food operation, a ten-man store called a superette. His employer, the A&P, was setting a trend with its new self-service stores.

Shortly after he began working in the superette Ralph took a pay cut, from \$18 a week to \$21 a month, when he was drafted into the Army in the nation's defense buildup on the eve of World War II.

An MP in World War II

After receiving basic training at Fort Belvoir, Va., with the First Infantry Division, the old Rainbow Division of World War I fame, he was shipped to England as a member, one of the first U.S. combat units to land there.

Among his duties, he was assigned to a military police detachment. During his furlough assignments as an MP staff sergeant Ralph often saw two of the war's most celebrated figures, Generals Eisenhower and Patton.

Though Ralph was one of the first to be drafted, he, along with his unit, was among the last to be discharged, because the MPs were still needed for headquarters duty. In all, he spent four and a half years in Europe.

Following his discharge in 1946, Brother Palumbo returned to the employment of A&P and became very interested in union activities during Local 1500's efforts to organize the chain.

His involvement in union affairs led to his eventual appointment as an International Representative of the Retail Clerks International Association.

Organizer for RCIA

In the RCIA post he conducted organizational drives in the New York area.

After serving with the International for four and a half years, he returned to his home union, Local 1500, first as an organizer and then as a business agent.

Ralph is currently servicing members in supermarket chains and independent shops in Queens County.

Business Agent Palumbo is concerned with the members' welfare, both with their on-the-job complaints and their problems off the job as well.

One of Ralph's especial concerns is the drug issue and its effect on our junior members. He has attended seminars on this subject, both at school and at union levels.

Brother Palumbo's record certainly merits praise and we at Local 1500, on behalf of the membership, are fortunate in having him as a member of our staff.

Bus. Agent Ralph Palumbo

HEALTHCARE CORNER

Full-Time Plan Members: New Blue Cross Blue Shield ID Cards Mailed

On June 1, 2013, in an effort to better serve our Full Time Plan members, the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund switched from a Blue Cross Blue Shield EPO (Exclusive Provider Organization) network to a POS (Point of Service) or a PPO (Preferred Provider Organization) network, based upon your zip code on file with the Fund Office. Blue Cross Blue Shield continues to provide the networks and claims discounting; however, effective June 1, 2013, claims processing and member services is now provided by Associated Administrators. Utilization management is now administered by Healthlink Medical Management, a Blue Cross Blue Shield subsidiary. Their telephone number is toll free (877) 284-0102.

There is no change in your plan of benefits as a result of this change in network, claims processing and utilization.

ID Cards Sent

A new Blue Cross Blue Shield identification ("ID") card was recently mailed to all participants and eligible dependents covered by the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund Full Time Plan. Show this ID card to the doctor and/or hospital before treatment. Read the back of the card for important instructions on hospital pre-certification and certification of Mental Health/Substance Abuse treatment.

Remember to destroy your old card and use the new ID card on and after June 1, 2013.

POS or PPO Network

The front of your new ID card identifies whether you are in the POS or PPO network. You can confirm your provider's participation in the Blue Cross Blue Shield network by calling them directly at 1-800-810-BLUE or you may visit them online at www.anthem.com.

Benefits of Blue Cross Blue Shield

- Choose any network provider – the POS and PPO Networks provide access to a wide choice of top-quality physicians and hospitals in the New York area. There is no need to select a primary care physician (PCP) and you may choose to see any participating network provider without a referral.
- Get coverage across the country – whenever you and your covered dependents are outside of the New York area, you have access to one of the largest networks in the country through the BlueCard PPO provider network.
- Get maximum savings – when you use in-network providers, your out-of-pocket costs are lower.

If you have questions or did not receive a new ID card, please call Associated Administrators toll free at (855) 266-1500. Please be sure the Fund Office has your current address on file.

Emergency Blood Drive Helps Over 250 Patients in Need

NEXT BLOOD DRIVE

July 10, 2013 - 2 – 8PM @
UFCW Local 1500 Office



Hurricane Sandy, a flu pandemic, immense winter storms: just a few things that led to the dire need for blood throughout New York hospitals this past winter. The NY Blood Center contacted UFCW Local 1500, asking our Union to hold an Emergency Blood Drive on March 19th. As always, Local 1500 members responded to the call of community service, donating over 75 pints during a brief four-hour blood drive! "We are ecstatic by the quick turnout, but I'm not surprised, our union has a proven track record of helping others in need," Secretary-Treasurer Tony Speelman said, "I sincerely thank all who donated and waited with patience on the long lines to donate." In three blood drives since July 2011, our Union has donated

over 290 pints of blood! Interested in donating blood? **Come to our annual Summer Blood Drive and BBQ at our Union Office on July 10, 2013 at 2 PM!**



PLEASE FILL OUT AND SUBMIT THE FORM ON BACK PAGE

**MOST OF OUR CONTRACTS ARE SET TO EXPIRE LATER THIS YEAR,
NOW IS THE TIME TO GET CONNECTED WITH
YOUR UNION!**

**STAYING CONNECTED WITH YOUR UNION
THROUGH SOCIAL MEDIA, MOBILE ALERTS
& EMAIL IS ESSENTIAL IN TODAY'S WORLD**



@UFCW1500



FB.COM/UFCW1500



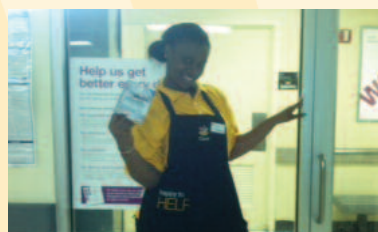
**TEXT 'UFCW' TO 69302
FOR MOBILE ALERTS**



**SCAN WITH YOUR
SMART PHONE TO
SIGN UP!**

To Scan: Head to iTunes or GooglePlay and search for "QR Scanner" Download the Free APP and Scan the barcode! Or head to www.ufcw1500.org/text-alerts

**THROUGHOUT MARCH & APRIL, WE
SIGNED UP OVER 4,000 MEMBERS TO STAY
CONNECTED, SELECTING 10 AT RANDOM
TO WIN \$100 GIFT CARDS.
HERE ARE THE WINNERS!**



Shinelle Perry



Joe Waddy & Wil Smith



Chris Psanis & Rep. Lynn Shiels



Rep. Lynn Shiels & Inga Glazova



**Michael Mancuso
& Rep. Vilmarie Solivan**



**Marianela Bravo Castenda
& Rep. Vilmarie Solivan**



**Rep. Vilmarie Solivan
& Lesly K. Guillen-Boza**



Joe Waddy & Stephanie Vasquez



Susie Merz & Rep. Joe Castelli



Allison Winowsky with Rep. Jay Scorzelli

Local 1500

DELEGATES ELECTED BY ACCLAMATION TO THE 7TH REGULAR UFCW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

Special meetings for the nomination of Delegates to the International Convention were held at various locations throughout the jurisdiction of Local 1500 on March 13, 2013. Two meetings were held each day at each location. The President and Secretary-Treasurer of Local 1500 are Delegates to the Convention by virtue of their election to office.

The other Delegates who were nominated and elected by acclamation are:

Rhonda Nelson, UFCW Local 1500
Stephen Gallagher, Pathmark #614
Anthony Drago, MLTK (SR) #110
Fred Walter, UFCW Local 1500
Michael Onufrak, UFCW Local 1500
Paul Santarpia, UFCW Local 1500
Charles Haughwout, Stop & Shop #594
Anthony Giamei, D'Agostino #4
Elinore Hamann, Glass SR #218

Daniel Gleason, King Kullen #29
John Woods, UFCW Local 1500
Paul Waldron, King Kullen #35
Gregory Pasquale, Stop & Shop #517
Anselmo Vargas, UFCW Local 1500
Theresa Quiñones, UFCW Local 1500
Karen Lubbers, ShopRite #231
Keith Jefferson, Pathmark #638
Robert Newell, Jr., UFCW Local 1500

The Convention will be held in Chicago, Illinois during the week of August 12th through August 16, 2013.

NEED A WITHDRAWAL CARD?

Send an email to wcards@ufcw1500.org with the following content in the email:

- Name
- Store Number
- Company
- Last Day Worked

For further questions on withdrawal cards, please contact your union representative. You can also send a letter requesting a withdrawal card to:

UFCW Local 1500 Attn: Carol Borcharding
425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY, 11590

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 Leonora Cioffalo, Ext. 11330 or Patricia LaProvidenza, Ext. 11333.

Abramoske, Patricia	Havlin, Margaret
Ayala, Hector	Hayes, Katherine A.
Barr, Robert W.	Jacobs, Midge
Battista, John	Johnson, Elaine I.
Blackman, Carlos	Larson, Susan J.
Blamon, Charles	Lewis, Walter
Bowman, Roosevelt	Marchello, Linda A.
Brownlee, Lolita	McGuire, Michael
Calabrese, Mario	McKenzie, Blossom M.
Cali, Joann M.	Moultrie, Dorothy J.
Cannella, Charles	Padilla, Guillermo
Cantelmi, Candida A.	Ramos, George
Ciaravino, Gaspar	Ramos, Nicholas
Delossantos, Rafael	Ruiz, Humberto H.
DiMaggio, Christine	Schneider, Martha
DiMassi, Tom	Seaman, Charles
Dimig, Pamela	Slezicki, Kenneth
D'Oria, Cataldo	Soroff, David L.
Drennan, Patrick	Sorrentino, Michael A.
Farron, Steven M.	Soto, Jose
Flandera, Emil	Stabile, Pietra
Garraway, Richard	Tucek, Douglas
Gordon, Stuart	Valentin, Peter
Hamilton, Calvin Jr.	Wall, Robert
Hanlon, Moira	Wasserman, Sonia
Hart, Gary	Whyte, Monica D.

Follow us on



Anthony G. Speelman said it:

Proudly support my @UFCW342 brothers & sisters! Very disappointed in Stop & Shop's corporate greed during negotiations! #StandStrong #1u

Follow your Secretary-Treasurer on Twitter @Aspeel1500

#BREAKING: @NLRB orders a new #Union vote @Target & finds their employee hand-book illegal! #1u #labor <http://goo.gl/etLVS>

Follow your Union on Twitter @UFCW1500



You can also find us on [Facebook.com/ufcw1500](https://www.facebook.com/ufcw1500)

Member Assistance Program (MAP)



Long Island Council on Alcohol and Drug Dependency

Counseling for Local 1500 Members on all substance abuse, gambling and other personal problems:

Nassau Office
114 Old Country Rd, Ste. 114
Mineola, NY 11501
516-747-2606

www.licadd.org
recover@licadd.org

Suffolk Offices
2805 Veterans Hwy, Ste. 26
Ronkonkoma, NY 11779
631-979-1700

877 East Main Street, Ste 107
Riverhead, NY 11901
631-979-1700

Bulletin Board

BREAST CANCER WALK

Sunday, October 20, 2013 • Jones Beach State Park
Parking Fields #4 & #5

Registration begins at 8:00 a.m. • Walk begins at 9:00 a.m.

For more details and to become a sponsor, please contact Local 1500 Coordinators
Rhonda Nelson & Terry Quiñones 800.522.0456 exts. 11303 or 11318



All Long Islanders* Can Bank With TFCU!

Low Rates

- New/Used Auto Loans & Leases
- Mortgages
- Home Equity
- VISA® Credit Cards

Easy Access

- Free Checking
- Free Online & Mobile Banking
- Free Bill Payer
- Worldwide ATMs

The BALANCE Financial Fitness Program
FREE Money Management counseling/credit report reviews.

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



*Subject to membership eligibility.



DON'T

SHOP THESE NON-UNION STORES

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 • STEW LEONARD'S • TRADER JOES
COSTCO WHOLESALE CLUB • WALGREEN'S
HANNAFORD BROTHERS
BEST YET • BROOKS • ALDI • FRESH DIRECT
SHOP UNION – SAVE JOBS

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 DECENT WAGES,
BENEFITS AND WORKING CONDITIONS

SHOP THESE UNION STORES

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

SHOP UNION – SAVE JOBS

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.

Agatstein, Sadie
Bardes, Eleanor
Brunson, William
Cear, Michele
Clarke, Joan C.
Clasen, Barbara
Costa, Carmine
Crawford, Thomas
DeLeonard, Irene C.
Dell, Leonard
DiCarmine, Anne
DiMaggio, Salvatore
Donahue, Thomas
Erps, Lea
Esposito, Rose
Finnican, Michael
Gaglio, Joan
Galosich, John
Garrazone, Mary
Gikas, Alex
Gosine, Ramgir
Greenfield, Sidi
Harris, Lorraine A.
Hughes, Ann
Ingram, John
Jantzen, Patricia A.
Kaufman, Thomas G.
Kreye, John
Kreytak, George

Leitman, Eugene
Lewis, Leonard D.
Mackey, Clarence A.
Martinez, Jose
Napolitano, Frank
Osher, Larry
Ovalles, Victor M.
Palumbo, Ralph
Paradies, Marie
Pizzolo, Gertrude V.
Ryan, Frances
Salomon, Nachum
Schmidt, Catherine
Serenita, Catherine
Silon, Margaret
Sinclair, Gary
Skowronski, Charles
Sorrentino, Mary
Stile, Michael
Sweetland, Charles
Tedesco, Jean
Wheaton, Robert
Witter, Angela
Wysowski, Margaret
Zigmont, Marilyn
Zigray, Maryann
Zimmerman, Dorothy K.
Zuzolo, Flora

Don't Suspend Yourself!

Under provisions of the UFCW International Constitution, "Any member two calendar months in arrears for dues or other financial obligations to the Local Union shall stand suspended if same are not paid on or before the first day of the third month.

The responsibility for maintaining membership in good standing rests with the member suspension, therefore, when it occurs, is the voluntary act of the member involved."

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.



GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS



Wednesday, June 12th
Wednesday, September 11th
Wednesday, December 11th

ALL MEETINGS START AT 7:00 P.M.

UFCW LOCAL 1500 UNION HALL
425 MERRICK AVENUE, WESTBURY, NY 11590

Prizes Will Be Awarded!

BLOOD DRIVE WEDNESDAY, JULY 10, 2013



PLEASE CHECK BOX:

- ☐ YES, I AM INTERESTED IN DONATING BLOOD
☐ YES, I AM INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR THE BLOOD DRIVE

NAME: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMPLOYED BY: _____

STORE#: _____ PHONE#: _____

EMAIL: _____

COMMENTS: _____

PLEASE EMAIL THIS FORM BACK TO: info@ufcw1500.org
or send it to us by June 28, 2013:

**Special Events
UFCW Local 1500**

425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY 11590



OFFICE HOURS & PHONES

516-214-1300 • 800-522-0456

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

CHECK OUT THE NEWLY IMPROVED

www.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, 800-522-0456 - 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, then press 1, followed by the four 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

Withdrawal Cards: Carol Borcharding

Pension: Leonora Cioffalo & Patricia LaProvidenza

Medical-Disability-Dental-Vision:

Sheila Hobson-Jones, Eileen Hansen &
Michelle Sefcik

Membership Applications:

Linda Campisi

Scholarship:

Patricia LaProvidenza & Ejay Martin

Welfare Fund Benefits:

Associated Administrators, LLC 855-266-1500

Health & Welfare Medical Forms:

516-214-1300 or 800-522-0456

Exts. 11334, 11335, 11336 & 11337

Legal Services:

Direct Line: 516-214-1310 or

800-522-0456 Ext. 11310 for Norberta Volmar

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

OFFICERS/DIRECTORS

11303 Nelson, Rhonda - Recorder

11304 Purcell, Patrick - Assistant to the President

11348 Walter, Fred - Executive Vice President

11346 Newell, Robert - Vice President/Field Director

11318 Quiñones, Theresa - Vice President/Field Director

SPECIAL PROJECTS/POLITICAL

11322 Waddy, Aly - Director of Special Projects

11357 Woods, John - Political Director

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

11311 Aponte, Teresa

11340 Scorzelli, Jay

11360 Castelli, Joe

11362 Sexton, Brendan

11353 Ecker, Robert

11339 Shiels, Lynn

11343 Mausser, Jeff

11371 Solivan, Vilmarie

11342 Onufrak, Mike

11317 Vargas, Anselmo

11369 Santarpia, Paul

11349 Waddy, Joe

ORGANIZING

11361 Hernandez, Rafael

11374 Narcisse, Christina

11341 Obernauer, Adam (Political Organizer)

11345 Organizing Hotline

11355 Political Hotline

NEW MEDIA & RESEARCH

11354 Fedele, Joe - Director