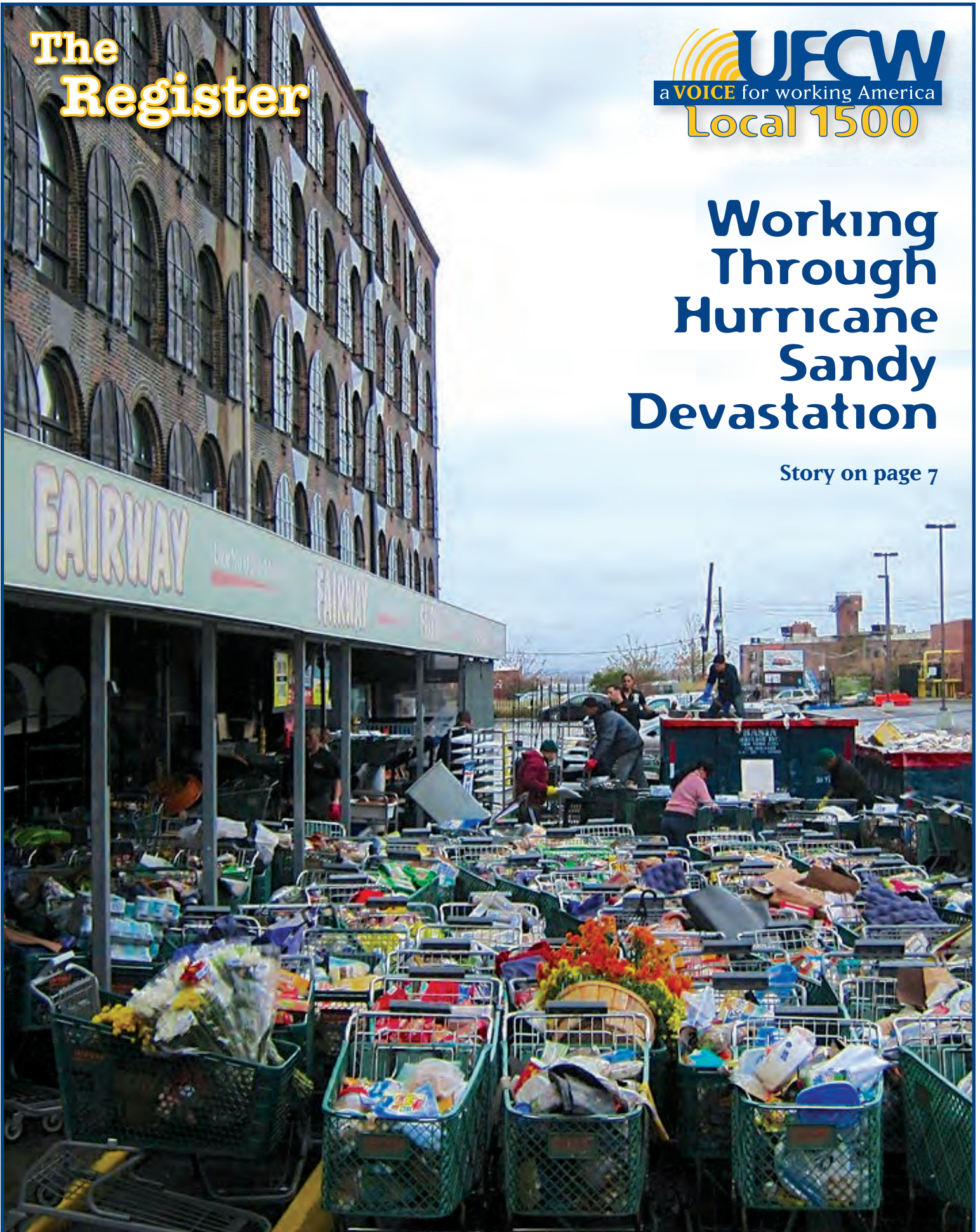


**The
Register**

UFCW
a VOICE for working America
Local 1500

Working Through Hurricane Sandy Devastation

Story on page 7





THE PRESIDENT'S PERSPECTIVE

By Bruce W. Both



IT'S TIME TO RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE



The recent worker unrest around the country and the efforts of Target, Walmart and many other retail workers to organize underscore the desperate plight of so many low-wage earners who are trying to make ends meet.

The greed of Wall Street is beating back the needs of Main Street.

It is a fact that the gap between the richest and poorest among us continues to grow. Yet across the country, the far right and big business have waged a relentless battle against working people, eroding wages, busting unions and ending workplace protections.

This past November the Michigan State Legislature voted to strip unions of organizing rights, thus further weakening the union movement and the workers who are the backbone of our economy.

Despite the attack by corporate America on working families, we here in New York State have a chance to make a loud statement about the value of hard work. Earlier this year, the New York State Assembly introduced legislation to raise New York's minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$8.50 an hour and index it to inflation. Governor Andrew Cuomo also announced his own version of minimum wage legislation. While both Bills are somewhat different, both Bills achieve the goal of raising the minimum wage.

Research has shown that raising the minimum wage spurs economic growth. The Economic Policy Institute estimates that the very small increases in the minimum wage that took effect in eight states this year, combined with their indexing laws, will generate an additional \$366 million in Gross Domestic Product and create the equivalent of more than 3,000 full-time jobs.

It's an obvious correlation: Higher wages mean higher incomes. Higher incomes mean greater spending, which provides a boost to local economies and encourages more hiring.

But though this may seem like common sense, you would never know it judging by the strong reaction of some opponents. Despite overwhelming public support, the State Senate refuses to address this issue.

Make no mistake: Raising the minimum wage — with an indexing provision that will allow the wage to rise with inflation so that it doesn't erode over the years is a priority for this Union's leadership.

Our support is built on the simple premise that no one who works full time should be poor. Unfortunately, for too many, that is the sad reality.

Contrast the fortunes of ordinary workers to the wealth of many CEOs. A typical employee at McDonald's would need to work more than a million hours to earn the pay that the company's head makes in just one year.

Low wages are a serious issue that raising the minimum wage will combat. However, the lack of benefits, wage theft, and poor working conditions are stark realities low-wage workers continue to face each day. Many of these violators are large corporations, employing a majority of Americans, and continue to see growing profits year after year.

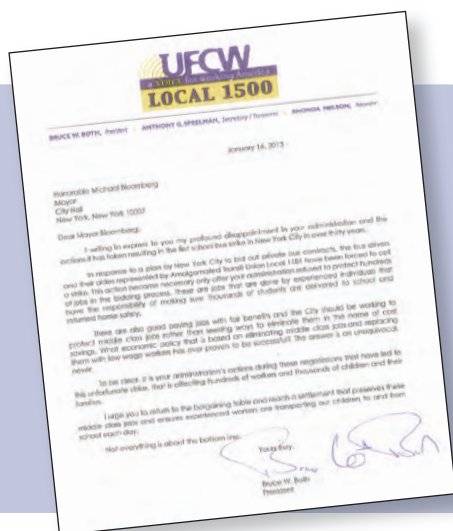
According to a report by the National Employment Law Project, while many corporations are making record profits, workers earning at or near the minimum wage have seen the real value of their paychecks erode, as the cost of living has increased while their wages have stagnated.

Today, in terms of purchasing power, 40% of American families earn less than they did 25 years ago. It is unconscionable for hard-working New Yorkers to labor for 40 hours a week only to struggle to make ends meet.

After all, our communities can reach their greatest potential only when everyone gets a chance to adequately provide for their families and live decently.

Raising New York's minimum wage, with an indexing provision to ensure that it goes up automatically over time, is one of the moral imperatives of our times.

It is a matter of social justice. It is a matter of human dignity. It is time to raise the minimum wage.



PRESIDENT BOTH TO MAYOR BLOOMBERG: "Not everything is about the bottom line!"

Read more on the bus strike on page 12

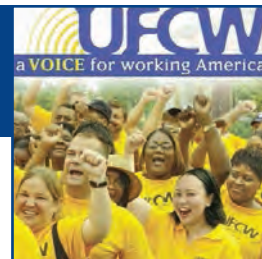
President Both's letter to Mayor Bloomberg, demanding he negotiate fairly with striking NYC Bus Drivers



JUST FOR THE RECORD

By Anthony G. Speelman, Secretary-Treasurer @Aspeel1500

PUT THE POLITICS AWAY



President Barack Obama won a second term this past November defeating Mitt Romney. Romney represented an old Republican Party that many voters see as too extreme in its conservative views, too hostile toward the interests of working families, Hispanics, African Americans and women, and too focused on representing the interest of the wealthy.

President Obama won re-election by a comfortable margin in the Electoral College and in the popular vote. He won every battleground state with the exception of North Carolina.

While the contests for the 435 seats in House showed virtually no change, the Republicans suffered a major defeat in the U.S. Senate where they had expected to make significant gains given that Democrats had to defend 23 of the 33 seats. Instead, the Democrats increased their margin.

In Missouri and Indiana, Republicans backed by the Tea Party, lost in races where the GOP were once heavily favored to win.

President Obama rode to victory based on forging together a coalition that reflects the rapidly changing demographics of the American electorate. He won African Americans, Hispanics, women and young voters. He also did well enough among white working class men in Michigan and Ohio to offset Romney's better showing among white men.

The anti-immigration views of Romney and other Republican candidates hurt them with Hispanics. When Republican senatorial candidates talked about "legitimate rape," it turned off many women voters.

Republican support for Right To Work For Less laws, attacks on collective bargaining and an obvious disrespect for workers rights galvanized the labor movement.

Repeatedly disrespecting the President, Republicans vowed to eliminate the Health Care Reform law and committed blatant attempts to suppress the vote through ridiculous voter ID laws and

other tactics, energizing African American voter turnout for President Obama.

An NBC exit poll believed that many voters rejected Romney because they believed he would favor policies that mainly benefit the rich. Fifty-two percent said Romney would favor the wealthy, 35 percent said he would favor the middle class and 2 percent said he would favor the poor.

The presidential campaign was long and bitter. Leaders of both parties should now begin the healing. In his victory speech, President Obama said he would reach out to Republicans in Congress, which still holds the majority in the House of Representatives.

"I am looking forward to reaching out working with the leaders of both parties to reduce the deficit and reform the tax system, President Obama said, adding, "You voted for action, not politics as usual."

The top priority for Democrats and Republicans should be working together to develop policies that will create more jobs and reduce unemployment.

However, President Obama was not re-elected to a second term to capitulate on core principles that come at the expense of average Americans.

The fact is that Republicans will not stop seeking to aggressively push their conservative policies. The President must be equally aggressive in rejecting policies that will hurt those who voted for him. He must leave the dance with those that brought him.

American voters did not re-elect Obama for him to agree with plans to compromise away trillions in cuts to Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, and other social programs.

The re-election of President Obama and the Democrat's victories in the Senate is a clear rejection of the extremists' views of today's Republican Party.

AUDIT COMMITTEE REPORTS LOCAL 1500 BOOKS IN EXCELLENT CONDITION

In accordance with Local 1500's Bylaws, an Audit Committee is selected annually by the Executive Board to examine the Trustees and Certified Public Accountant reports and submit their findings to the membership.

This year's committee met on Wednesday, December 5, 2012, at the Union's Headquarters, 425 Merrick Avenue, Westbury, NY and submitted the following letter to President Bruce W. Both:

"We the Board of Audit met and reviewed all books and reports covering the year ended December 31, 2011, as prepared and submitted to us by

David Fisch & Company, CPA's, PC, the Union's Certified Public Accountants, and have found them to be in order. We have also examined the Federal Return of Organization Exempt from Income Tax Form 990, and the Labor Organization Annual Report Form LM-2, for the period ended December 31, 2011.

We are pleased to state that the books, reports and records are kept in excellent condition, and we feel that it is incumbent upon us to compliment the Union's administration on its efficient conduct of the Union's operations."



David Fisch (CPA), and Local 1500 Executive Board Members Charles Haughwout, Anthony Drago & Steve Gallagher

Time is Overdue for Immigration Reform

The time to reform the broken immigration system is long overdue. Immigrants that are currently living and working hard in this country deserve a just and fair path to citizenship so they no longer have to live in fear going to work every day. As more immigrants gain the rights that come with citizenship, the fear of deportation and discrimination will lessen, allowing more workers to feel comfortable organizing and becoming union members. We are a nation of hard working immigrants and we must be a land of opportunity for **all people**. Passing comprehensive immigration reform will bring us one step closer to achieving that goal.



Immigrants are taking our jobs? President of the AFL-CIO, Richard Trumka, summed up the fallacies of this statement with a series of questions in his recent essay on immigration reform; "Did an immigrant move your plant overseas? Did an immigrant take away your pension? Or cut your health care? Did an immigrant undermine America's workers' right to organize? Or crash the financial system? Did immigrant workers write the trade laws that have sent millions of jobs from our shores? **Of course not.**"

Undocumented Immigrants are Workers. There is a common myth that undocumented immigrants are taking advantage of the

system and don't want to be citizens. The truth is that most undocumented immigrants are working long and hard days, getting underpaid for their work, and are commonly discriminated against and threatened of deportation. A strong path to citizenship would ensure that bad employers aren't undercutting other workers and taking advantage of the broken immigration system, fueling their business off of exploitation and fear.

UFCW International President, Joe Hansen, released this statement regarding Immigration Reform: "We agree with President Obama the time to reform our broken immigration system is now. The plan unveiled by a bipartisan group of Senators is a good start and they should get to work right away drafting legislation. The UFCW strongly supports comprehensive immigration reform that treats all immigrants with respect and dignity and creates a modern, 21st century system that reflects our values."

"When each new wave of immigrants arrived, they faced resistance from those who were already here. They faced hardship. They faced racism. They faced ridicule. But over time, as they went about their daily lives, as they earned a living, as they raised a family, as they built a community, as their kids went to school here, they did their part to build a nation."

**- President Barack Obama,
01/29/13 Immigration Reform Speech**

Check Your Stub!

Two monumental victories for Union Supermarket Workers

Dwayne Locke of Glass Shop Rite 218 was promoted to Full Time Receiver in November 2012. His rate however, was never properly adjusted to reflect his new position. He contacted his Union Representative, Rob Ecker, telling him he thought something was wrong in his pay. Rob and Dwayne did the math, discovering Dwayne was unpaid nearly \$1,000 dollars! Rob filed a grievance for a pay adjustment and retro-pay, the company soon acknowledged the error and paid Dwayne his proper rate including back pay.

Robert Lundberg was transferred to Pathmark 619 and promoted to Grocery Manager in July 2012. The company failed to adjust his status, and for over seven-months his rate remained the same. Thinking receiving contractual Relief Department Manager pay was the same as Full Department

Manager pay, Robert did not question the company. Union Rep. Rob Ecker noticed the error during a routine check of the payroll, and immediately filed a grievance on Robert's behalf for retro-pay and an adjusted rate. Pathmark couldn't fight the contract and agreed to properly adjust Robert's rate and pay him thousands of dollars in unpaid wages.



Remember to always check your pay stub and read your contract! If you think something is wrong or just have a question, speak to your Union Representative!

We can't survive on \$7.25!

Walking down Times Square this past December you could hear the echoes of hundreds of workers, many in the fast-food sector, chanting furiously. The dynamic between the hundreds of passerbys in Times Square and the hundreds of low-wage workers demanding their rights, respect, and better pay, was staggering. The bosses of huge corporations have been seeing record profits throughout the recession while paying their workers as little as the law allows them. The income gap between CEO's and the average worker is over 400 to 1 and is growing at higher rates than anyone would have imagined a decade ago.

Our union is fighting back!

Over the past few months our union signed over 2,000 petitions to raise New York's minimum wage. We brought them to Senate Republicans to demand an increase in the minimum wage that they've been saying is "bad for business". The reality is 66 percent of the businesses that pay minimum wage are huge corporations like Walmart and Target. Instead of low-wage workers making more and putting money back into the economy, CEOs are making record profits and keeping money hostage in overseas bank accounts.

The Governor Wants an Increase!

We all are excited that Governor Cuomo included an increase in the minimum wage to \$8.75 in the latest N.Y. budget. However, we want to make sure that in addition to a one-time increase, we annually increase the state minimum wage to keep up with the rising cost of living. With raising the wage floor we can hopefully reach a more realistic and manageable wage for New Yorkers, who live in one of the most expensive states in the U.S.

Increase the Minimum Wage, Fix Our Economy!

No one would argue with you if you said that consumer spending is the driving force behind a good economy. With more spending comes more consumer demand and small businesses and local economies begin to thrive. Unlike wealthier Americans who can afford to save money in their bank accounts, low-wage workers and the working class spend money on necessities. An increase in the wage floor will increase the amount of money that's circulating in



the economy, create more demand, and create the need for more jobs. At times of economic hardship we can always look back to Franklin D. Roosevelt and the New Deal, how establishing a minimum wage was an essential part of the economic recovery that lifted Americans out of poverty, stimulated the economy and rebuilt our great country.

Some facts about minimum wage

\$10.58

How much the federal minimum wage would be if it had kept up with inflation over the past 40 years. Instead, it's \$7.25

\$15,080

The annual income for a full-time employee working the entire year at New York's minimum wage.

19

The number of states (including the District of Columbia) which have raised their minimum wage above the federal level of \$7.25. New York is not one of them despite the high cost of living.

67

The percentage of Americans that support gradually raising the minimum wage from \$7.25 an hour to at least \$10.00 an hour, according to an October 2010 poll.

0

The number of states where a minimum wage worker can afford a two-bedroom apartment working a 40-hour week.



UFCW Local 1500 Delivers Hurricane Sandy Relief Checks

We all faced serious devastation this past November when Hurricane Sandy hit the Tri-State area. Many of us lost possessions and endured hardships that money, simply cannot replace.

Immediately after Hurricane Sandy hit our shores, our International President, Joe Hansen, established a Hurricane Sandy Disaster Relief Fund to provide vital financial support for the nearly 200,000 UFCW members living in New York, New Jersey, Connecticut and surrounding areas.

The UFCW and RWDSU collected donations through December to support our sisters and brothers who have suffered devastating losses as a result of Hurricane Sandy. "The losses suffered have been so extensive that we want to help as many people as we can, understanding that we cannot even come close to making them whole," said UFCW Region 1 Director, Rich Whalen. "Nonetheless, we wanted to assist the extent that we can."



(left to right) President Both & Greta Ziedenweber (King Kullen 57); Rep. Joe Waddy & Brenda Padilla (Stop & Shop 566); Eric Jimenez, Rep. Rob Ecker & Mary Villman (Stop & Shop 505); Rep. Joe Castelli & Katherine Vrtodusic (Stop & Shop 563)

The fund provided financial support to thousands of families severely affected by Hurricane Sandy across the North East. "We were ecstatic to hear that our Union was able to provide financial relief to over 200 of our members," said UFCW Local 1500 President, Bruce

Both. "Although money cannot nearly replace the losses and emotional stress the storm brought upon us, I was proud that our UFCW and RWDSU brothers and sisters from across the nation stepped up to support our members in need. That's union solidarity."



(Far Left) Rep. Paul Santarpia & Vanessa Wells (Shop Rite 110); (Top Left) Linda Baretta & Shop Steward Pat Murphy (Pathmark 679); (Top Right) Linda Conte (Dan's 8); (Bottom Left) Susan Fitzgerald, Rep. Paul Santarpia & Gregory Harasym (Pathmark 171); (Bottom Right) Laverne Perry (Stop & Shop 537); (Far Right) Henrietta Alder (Wild By Nature 204) & Rep. Joe Waddy

Fairway Members Prevail Hurricane Sandy Devastation

In 2006 Fairway opened a store in the seaside community of Red Hook, Brooklyn, a neighborhood starved for a quality supermarket. The store was an instant success, creating over 300 union jobs and becoming a favorite among Brooklyn residents. The store's popularity helped Red Hook in a huge way, as small businesses began to grow surrounding the store to take advantage of the tremendous traffic Fairway received. The 52,000 square foot store sits on the banks of the New York Harbor, with a spectacular view to the Statue of Liberty. In November when Hurricane Sandy hit, the waterfront store was flooded with five feet of water, destroying millions of dollars in food, merchandise and equipment, and leaving hundreds of union members with nowhere to work.



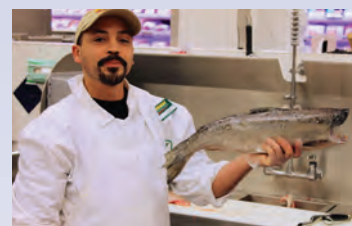
Fairway in Red Hook sits beautifully on the New York Harbor. Hurricane Sandy filled the store with over 5 feet of water, forcing the store to close for 3 months.



did, Fairway displayed the fabric of a responsible and sustainable employer. "In times of economic hardship having a company like Fairway giving every one of its employees an opportunity to work at another location until their home store reopens, is a testament to the type of company they are and type of strong labor relations we have with them," said UFCW Local 1500 Field Director Rob Newell. "Our first priority is to ensure the safety and well-being of all our employees," said Charles Farfaglia, Vice President of Human Resources at Fairway, "There would be no Fairway without them, they are Fairway."

Fairway also organized multiple relief efforts to help residents in need, donated nearly 3,000 turkeys to centers in Brooklyn and Staten Island and offered shuttles for residents to their Manhattan locations to sustain community access to food during the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy. As Thanksgiving rapidly approached, Fairway saw another opportunity to help their community and put together a Thanksgiving feast for over 4,650 storm victims, ensuring the devastated community would be able to celebrate Thanksgiving.

UFCW Local 1500 Members workers from Red Hook were shuttled to locations as far as New Jersey and Westchester, and as close as Manhattan. 11-year union member, Tomas Caceres, was glad to retain his job during the reconstruction, "It wasn't easy, it took about a week after the storm to get placed in a temporary store," said Caceres, who is now working at Kips Bay in Manhattan, "The storm was a shock, but I'm ecstatic to be able to work while Red Hook is getting reconstructed, and now my commute is actually faster!" Caceres joked.



Tomas Caceres is temporarily working at Fairway in Kips Bay while his home store in Red Hook is closed.

Fairway plans on re-opening the store on March 1st. The New York Times reported that repairing and re-opening the store would cost close to \$10 million. With the grand re-opening approaching, residents and transferred union members are getting excited about Fairway's return to Brooklyn.



Alvin Augustin from Fairway in Red Hook has worked at two different Manhattan Fairway stores while his home store is being renovated.

is now temporarily working at the Kips Bay store. "It's one big family at Red Hook, I'm excited to go back to Brooklyn," Augustin said, "I cut the best fish and Marty Markowitz (Brooklyn Borough President) is one of my biggest fans." Harvard, who helped clean up the damaged store will be returning in a few weeks to prepare to re-open it, "I'm excited to go back and re-open it," Harvard explained, "I helped clean it up after Sandy, and now I'll help re-start it, it feels good to do that."



Theophilus Harvard, a seven-year UFCW Local 1500 member, helped clean up Fairway in Red Hook after Hurricane Sandy

So what does an employer do with over 300 workers during the 3-month reconstruction? If you recall last year Target (a non-union employer) in Valley Stream closed for a 7-month reconstruction. They laid-off nearly half of their 250 workers, and rehired a new workforce at lower pay upon reopening. Fairway took a different approach. They insured all 300 workers from Red Hook a job at another one of their 11 stores. Sounds great, right? But how would the workers from Red Hook get to their new temporary jobs at other stores, some over 25-miles away? Fairway provided free hourly bus shuttles to the temporary jobs. When they could have easily taken the easy route and told employees "tough luck, you're laid off", like Target



Fairway Red Hook Union Members were able to use a bus shuttle service to other Fairway locations so they could continue to work while their store was closed for a three-month renovation after Hurricane Sandy.



Nelson Figueroa, Rep. John Woods and Charles Knapp



NYC Mayoral Candidate Christine Quinn stopped by to say hello to our amazing new union members!



Lisa Brown



Rep. John Woods, Doug Billups and Tamel Henry



Edgar Feliu, John lasillo and Field Director Terry Quiñones



Miguel Valezquez and Melody Walden



NYC Mayoral Candidate Christine Quinn gets trained on the register at Fairway in Kips Bay



**Good Food,
Good Health Co
Fairway Ope
Union Job**



Fairway members take inventory in the new store



Good Jobs, New Times To Kips Bay Stores, 300 New Jobs Created



Andrea from Kips Bay Fairway



Ariana Cruzado



Tomas Caceres & Joy Artis



Elizabeth Diaz



Ramon Emenejildo



Barbara Gregg



Terry Quiñones, Mike Amisial and John Woods



Field Director Terry Quiñones & NYC Council Speaker Christine Quinn at the Grand Opening of Kips Bay!

LOCAL 1500 MEMBERS: Responding to Disaster and Rebuilding New York



After Hurricane Sandy, union members throughout the tri-state region went to work to rebuild their communities, dedicating their spare time and whatever resources they could contribute towards helping communities recover from Hurricane Sandy. Whether it was volunteering to rebuild homes, cleaning up devastated areas, donating food and supplies, or working hard at the supermarket to ensure communities would have crucial supplies and food in order to rebuild. Union members, many of us who work jobs that are too often overlooked, displayed the fabric that make unions so essential in our society, the passion of putting people first, and our commitment to communities.

President Bruce Both, Secretary-Treasurer Tony Speelman and Assistant to the President Pat Purcell joined Smithfield Foods, and New York City Harvest, to donate over 25,000 pounds of protein to Hurricane Sandy victims in Brooklyn and Staten Island.

Thank you all for your dedication to serving your community. In 2013 we'll be out helping to rebuild our communities more than ever. If you'd like to get involved in charity events and community service, please email info@ufcw1500.org with the subject line: "Community Service" or speak with your Union Representative.



REGIONAL VIEWPOINT

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



COLLECTIVE BARGAINING BENEFITS WORKERS AND EMPLOYERS

At Local 1500, we know that collective bargaining gives workers a powerful voice in the workplace so that they can improve their living standards and have a pathway to the middle class. Collective bargaining is mutually beneficial to both employees and employers because it allows both parties to work together to solve workplace problems and negotiate their differences productively.

This year, Local 1500 will negotiate new contracts for a number of workplaces. It's important that we spread the word that collective bargaining benefits both workers and employers alike by emphasizing the following points:

Collective bargaining is good for workers and the middle class. Most workers just want a chance to share in the success of the companies they helped make profitable. Through their unions, coming together at the bargaining table gives working men and women a real voice on the job and a process to have a say in their terms of employment—including pay, benefits and workplace safety policies. The collective voice we have in our union is essential to sustaining America's middle class.

When fewer workers have a union on the job, workers have less bargaining power, resulting in a weakened middle class and lower wages for everyone.

Collective bargaining is good for employers and our economy. While workers depend on employers for wages and benefits, employers also depend on their workers to produce the products and services that earn profits. When workers and management sit down to negotiate a union contract, we identify workplace problems and processes that are wasteful, inefficient, or even harmful to the employer's operation and prevent costly labor disputes.

As we start the new year, let's spread the word that when workers stick together as a union, we have a powerful collective voice and power to make positive change at our workplaces, in our communities, and in our economy. In unity there is strength; together in our union, we can lift all working people up by changing the relationship between workers and employers so that both parties benefit from our hard work.

During 2012 our membership went above and beyond throughout the holiday season, donating hundreds of toys and gifts to help families in need throughout New York. This year toys were needed more than ever due to the devastation so many faced from Hurricane Sandy. Over 300 gifts and toys collected by Local 1500 Shop Stewards throughout New York were donated to the John Theissen Children's Foundation.

We also held our annual Holiday breakfast with Santa in December, celebrating the season of giving. Nearly 200 members brought their family to our Union Hall to

enjoy a holiday breakfast and a morning of fun-filled activities with their union brothers and sisters. All children under 12 received a gift and a free photo printout with Santa Claus.

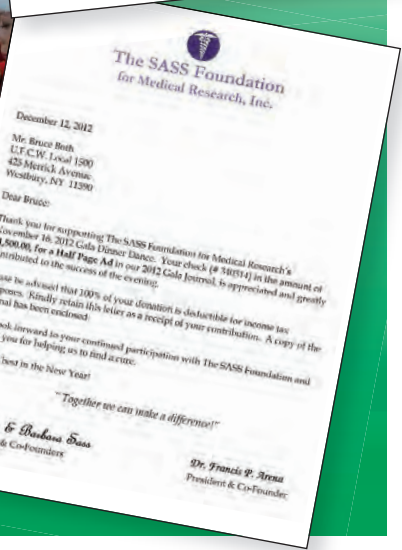
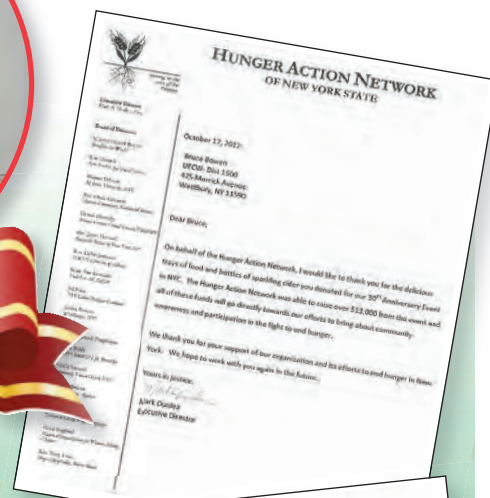
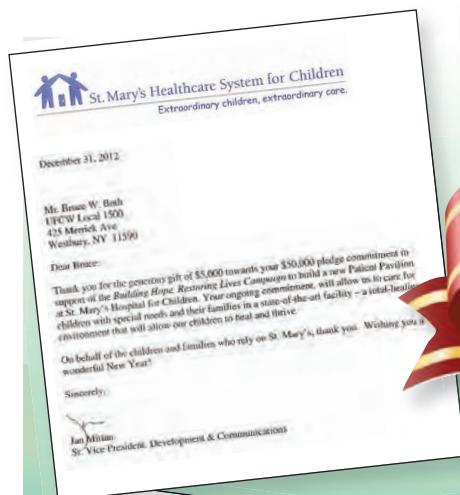
Below are "thank you" letters to our union for the tremendous charity work and community service throughout the year, from:

Mary's Healthcare System for Children, Boy Scouts of America, Sass Foundation for Medical Research, Long Island Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence.



THE SPIRIT OF GIVING:

2012



New York City Bus Drivers Fight For Their Future

Local 1500 Walks Picket Line In Solidarity

The last time New York City Bus Drivers went on strike was 1979. On January 17, 2013, members of Local 1181 of the Amalgamated Transit Union went on strike for a simple reason, to protect their jobs. As is with most unions, seniority is an essential piece of a union contract. New York City, however, has made a move to end seniority-based job guarantees, a cornerstone in ATU 1181's contract.

Seniority is crucial to ATU 1181 members for two reasons. One, senior ATU 1181 members have top choice in selecting bus routes each school year. Two, seniority guarantees re-hiring and job placement when drivers are laid off because their bus company has lost a city contract to run bus routes.

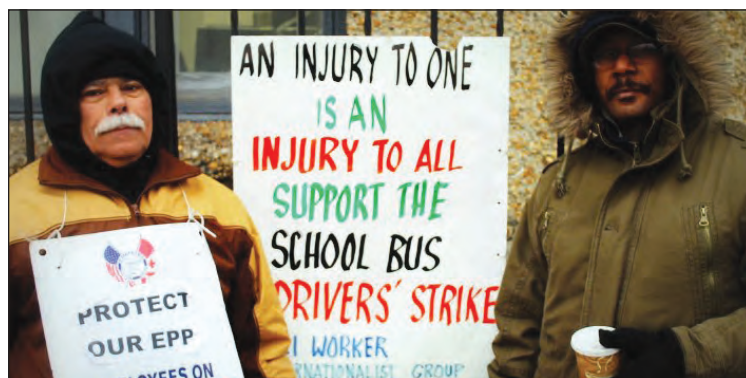
The first reason, the pick of a bus route, is more of a reward for tenure and years serving New York City. The second however, is their livelihood, it guarantees workers the ability to feed and support their family each year, a protection that cannot be compromised.

Mayor Bloomberg's Administration seeks to end seniority rights, which would not require companies to hire laid-off drivers. The move

would adjust the city's bottom line by destroying decades of job protections and union families' livelihoods. Allison Kilkenny of The Nation, said of the move to end seniority rights, "It creates a system in which workers entrusted to be responsible for a child's safety are utterly replaceable in the name of protecting the bottom line."

Nearly 5,000 of New York City's 7,700 bus routes have been shut down due to the strike. We have stood with ATU 1181 since day one. President Bruce Both has called and written to Mayor Bloomberg, expressing our disgust and disappointment, instructing him, "Not everything is about the bottom line." There is a disturbing growing trend throughout our country; it is to find a "better deal" at the expense of worker's rights. That is outright inexcusable!

UFCW Local 1500 members visited ATU picket lines throughout the city to walk the line in solidarity and warm up the striking bus drivers with hot chocolate and hand warmers (photos below). We also marched with hundreds of NYC union members across the Brooklyn Bridge in February, calling for Mayor Bloomberg and the City to end the strike keeping thousands out of work.



HEALTHCARE CORNER

Associated Administrators Is Your New Administrative Manager

On January 1, 2013 Associated Administrators, LLC became the Third Party Administrator ("TPA") for the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund, replacing the former TPA, Maloney Associates, Inc. The majority of duties Maloney Associates handled is now performed by Associated. There is no change to the plan of benefits.

Associated processes claims incurred after January 1, 2013, with the exception of Full Time Plan in-network medical claims. Empire Blue Cross Blue Shield still processes in-network medical claims for Full Time Plan participants. Associated also receives COBRA payments. Please send all claims and COBRA payments to the address shown below:

Associated Administrators, LLC
UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund
P.O. Box 1095
Sparks, Maryland 21152-1095

To learn more information about Associated Administrators, LLC or to visit UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund's website, log onto www.associated-admin.com. To view UFCW Local 1500, click on "Your Benefits" located at the left side of the page and then click on UFCW Local 1500. If you have any questions or need assistance, call Associated Administrators toll free at 1-855-266-1500.



Special Part Time Participants: MagnaCare Is Your New PPO Provider

Effective January 1, 2013, MagnaCare became the new Preferred Provider Organization ("PPO") network provider for Special Part Time participants, replacing MultiPlan. There is no change to the Plan of Benefits.

MagnaCare ID cards were mailed to participants in December. If you lost or need a replacement card, please call Associated Administrators at 1-855-266-1500.

Processing Claims

Please present your ID card to your provider at the time of service. Claims should be submitted electronically via Emdeon (Payor#11303). Completed claim forms can also be mailed to: MagnaCare, P.O. Box 1001, Garden City, NY 11530. MagnaCare will send the claims to Associated Administrators for processing.

Locating a Participating MagnaCare Provider

If you are a resident of New York or New Jersey and wish to locate a participating MagnaCare provider, call 1-800-352-6465 or log on to www.magnacare.com. If you reside outside of New York or New Jersey and want to locate a participating MagnaCare provider, call 1-800-226-5116 or visit www.myfirsthealth.com.



Prescription Drug Benefits Now Provided through Express Scripts

On December 1, 2012, your prescription drug provider switched from InformedRx to Express Scripts for eligible members in the UFCW Local 1500 Welfare Fund. There is no change to your plan of benefits.

A new prescription ID card, along with a Welcome Packet, was sent to you in late November. It is very important to show this new card to your pharmacist when picking up a prescription. If you lost or need a replacement ID card, call Express Scripts toll free at 1-877-861-8145 or Associated Administrators toll-free at 1-855-266-1500.

Use an In-Network Pharmacy

When you need to fill a prescription, be sure to use a pharmacy that is in the Express Scripts network. Remember, you will not receive prescription coverage at any of the following pharmacies: BJ's, Brooks Drugs, COSTCO, CVS, Hannaford Brothers, K-Mart, Price Chopper, Sams, Savon Drugs, Super X, Target, Walgreens, and Walmart.

Helpful Phone Numbers and Websites

- Express Scripts Website
www.express-scripts.com
- Express Scripts
Customer Service: 1-877-861-8145
TDD: 1-800-759-1089
Pharmacist Use Only: 1-800-922-1557
- Submit Pharmacy Claims To:
Express Scripts
P.O. Box 2849
Clinton, IA 52733-2849
- Submit Mail Order Prescription To:
Express Scripts – Home Delivery Service
P.O. Box 66577
St. Louis, MO 63166-6577

Or you can obtain a Mail Order/Home Delivery Form at
www.express-scripts.com

Local 1500

LONG ISLAND WORKERS' MEMORIAL SERVICE APRIL 28, 2013

The ceremony for the Long Island Workers' Memorial will be held on Sunday, April 28, 2013 on the grounds of the New York State Office Building located off Route 347 in Hauppauge, New York. Sadly every year workers give the ultimate sacrifice as a result of doing something you and I do almost every day – going to work. Workplace deaths and injuries are almost always avoidable. A death in the workplace affects all of us in the organized labor community.



Each year America's workers and their unions honor the thousands of men and women killed on the job as well as the hundreds of thousands more who are hurt or become ill by workplace hazards. We also shine a

light on just how important workplace safety is.

If you know of a Long Island Worker who has lost his or her life due to a workplace injury or illness during the past year, please contact Union Representative Lynn Shiels at 516-214-1339.

Follow us on



Anthony G. Speelman said it:

When will the public see #Target as #Walmart's red-headed sibling? Same poor treatment of workers, different color store [#1u](http://goo.gl/zsVNX)

Follow your Secretary-Treasurer on Twitter @Aspeel1500

Cold can't stop #union #solidarity! Holdin' the line and keeping striking @ATU1118 members warm today! #BusStrike#NYC #1u ow.ly/i/1pZeH

Follow your Union on Twitter @UFCW1500



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

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

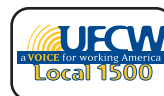
LOCAL 1500 RETIREES

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.

Bassi, Robert
Biancamano, John
Budgen, Wayne
Bufalino, Anthony
Catalano, Antoinette
Clements, Stanley
Clouthier, Arden G.
Collins, Patrick
Curry, Charles
DeRosa, Patricia
Desamours, Gladys
DiMaggio, Robert
Fernandez, Enrique
Florio, Patrick
Fraser, Donald T.
George, Yvonne
Gibbons, Thomas
Griffith, Winston
Hall, Oscar
Hayes, Annie
Hofacker, Cynthia
Jablonsky, Victor A.
Kopacz, Geraldine
Kuehne, Lance
Lauto, Nancy
Leitmann, Doris
Losada, Francisco
Macentee, Beverly
McInerney, Joan
McLaughlin, Dennis
Mendez, Doris
Meyer, Harold F.

Miller, Carol
Montano, Antonio
Neri, Joseph P.
O'Keefe, Theodore
Oliver, Mary
O'Sullivan, Constance
Ovittore, Ronald
Patanella, Carmine
Patterson, Charles
Paviglianti, Rosemary
Payamps, Josefina
Ramos, Victor
Redmond, Agnes
Rienecker, Michael
Santiago, Robert
Savino, Debbie
Schaefer, John
Schaefer, Joseph
Schiro, Charles
Schulze, Joan
Schwartz, Alan
Scro, Adriana
Simonetti, Madeline
Smaldon, Joann A.
Still, Constance
Sukhai, Victor
Tobey, Robert
Utzmann, Steven R.
White, Patricia
Whiteley, Thomas
Zito, Roseann

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



All Long Islanders* Can Bank With TFCU!

Low Rates

- New/Used Auto Loans
- Mortgages
- Home Equity
- 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.



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.

Abney, Lloyd
Albrizio, Alberta
Bara, Robert
Beneke, Rita
Beyreuther, Margaret
Braga, Jose C.
Brownstein, Pauline
Check, Leo
Delavega, Christian
DeRupo, Antonio
Forish, Maralda
Goldklang, Philip
Gonzalez, Jasmin
Guaquier, Walter
Hutson, William
Hylenski, Dolores
Isola, Vincent
Kertz, Theodore
Kleiman, Abraham
Landau, Stephen

Laska, Maureen
Lemanczyk, Henryk
Linsner, Helen
Lopez, Rafael A.
Maloney, Patricia
McGrath, Anne T.
Padilla, Paul R.
Pietronuto, John L.
Reda, George
Ross, Jean
Salvemini, Joseph
Santora, Frank P.
Scala, Frank
Sikovitz, Harry
Thompkins, Keith
Tsouprakos, James
Vena, Agnes
Wilber, John
Zukowski, Victor

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

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

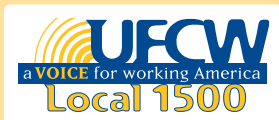


We advise all members that the Trustees have specifically indicated that any drugs purchased in the following stores will **NOT** be reimbursed under the Local 1500 Welfare Fund Prescription Plan under any conditions:

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, March 13th
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!

NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS OF LOCAL 1500 DELEGATES TO UFCW INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION

(to be held August 12th through August 16, 2013)

Meetings will be held at the following locations listed below for the purpose of conducting nominations for delegates to the UFCW International Convention. A vote will first be taken to approve or reject Local 1500 Executive Board recommendation to send fewer than the allotted number of delegates (20 rather than 24).

Please note: You may attend any of the listed meetings If you need directions, please contact your Union Representative

DATE: WEDNESDAY, MARCH 13, 2013

NASSAU COUNTY

10:00 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Followed by the General Membership Mtg.

UFCW Local 1500 Union Hall

425 Merrick Avenue
Westbury, New York

WESTCHESTER

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Westchester Marriott

670 White Plains Road
Route 119
Tarrytown, New York

STATEN ISLAND

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

LaBetti Post, VFW

390 Hylan Blvd.
Staten Island, New York

NEW YORK CITY

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Holiday Inn

440 W. 57th Street
(Between 9th & 10th Avenues)
New York, New York

SUFFOLK COUNTY

10:30 a.m. and 7:00 p.m.

Sheraton L.I. Hotel

110 Vanderbilt Motor Parkway
Hauppauge, New York

Please be advised that this notice pertains to the Nominations for Delegates to the International Convention only and has no relationship to any position or job with UFCW Local 1500.

TO BE NOMINATED: 18 Delegates (In addition to these, the President and Secretary-Treasurer of Local 1500 will automatically be delegates to the Convention by virtue of their having been elected to office in accordance with the International Constitution, Article 15E).

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS FOR DELEGATES: Must be active member of Local 1500 who has been active member of the UFCW, or who has been member of another organization merged with or chartered by the UFCW or merged into a UFCW Local Union, for a continuous aggregate of at least 12 months since December 1, 2011.



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 - Field Director

11318 Quiñones, Theresa - Field Director

SPECIAL PROJECTS/POLITICAL

11322 Waddy, Aly - Director of Special Projects

11357 Woods, John - Political Director

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

11311 Aponte, Teresa

11360 Castelli, Joe

11353 Ecker, Robert

11343 Mausser, Jeff

11342 Onufrak, Mike

11369 Santarpia, Paul

11340 Scorzelli, Jay

11362 Sexton, Brendan

11339 Shiels, Lynn

11371 Solivan, Vilmarie

11317 Vargas, Anselmo

11349 Waddy, Joe

11356 Washington, LeRoy

ORGANIZING

11361 Hernandez, Rafael

11341 Obermayer, Adam (Political Organizer)

11345 Organizing Hotline

11355 Political Hotline

NEW MEDIA & RESEARCH

11354 Fedele, Joe - Director