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UFCW LOCAL 1167
a VOICE for working America

DESERT EDGE

March 2007

Official Publication of Local 1167, United Food and Commercial Workers Union



Preliminary Agreement Reached in 'Off-the-Clock' Class-Action Lawsuit Against Albertsons

Thousands of current and former employees of Albertsons could share \$53.3 million under a preliminary agreement between the company and participants in a class-action "off-the-clock" lawsuit.

If and when it is certified by a judge, the agreement would conclude 11 years of litigation over allegations that Albertsons coerced employees into working outside their shifts without pay. The UFCW International Union has been assisting the workers since the allegations surfaced.

The court has given preliminary approval to the settlement and will consider final approval in a hearing that is scheduled for March 22.

Upon final approval, Albertsons would pay \$53.3 million to be distributed among the claimants, with individual payouts based on information submitted in individual claims, the clarity of that information and the timeliness of its submission.

Payouts could occur as early as spring 2007, an attorney who is

familiar with the settlement said.

The parties had reached a tentative settlement six years ago, but additional litigation over the claims process had delayed the lawsuit's conclusion.

"While delayed for far too long, this settlement will mean justice for the thousands of workers who were affected by Albertsons' illegal practices," UFCW International President Joe Hansen said. "Albertsons' new owners deserve credit for bringing this long chapter to a close and moving the process forward so that the workers' case could be resolved."

The giant retail grocer was purchased in 2006 by the Minnesota-based SuperValu chain.

Attorneys in the law firm of Webster, Mrak & Blumberg, which represents the workers in the lawsuit, said they will post updates on the settlement and the claims process at www.albsuits.com. Claimants can contact the firm at (888) 222-5729 or wmb@wmblaw.net.

President's Report

Negotiations: Keep the Pressure On

Focus on a Fair Agreement
for All Members



By Bill Lathrop

One thing every athlete in a competitive sport knows is that, in order to win, the team has to stay aggressive. Small victories and defeats come and go over the course of any sports contest, but in the end, the team that refused to let up is the winner.

As our negotiations with the national supermarket employers continue, it's important not to dwell too long on recent triumphs and setbacks. Our focus is on securing fair agreements for all of our members.

In order to do that, we must remain strong and united throughout the entire negotiations process. If the employers learn that a stall in talks has diminished our solidarity or that a successful agreement with another employer is prompting us to rest on our laurels, they will seize on these weaknesses. We need to show the employers that all of our members, from all of our stores and industries, are in it for the long haul.

Your union is doing everything it can to ensure that a fair agreement is in place by March 5. We have presented our proposals to Ralphs, Albertsons and Vons/Pavilions. In fact, we gave our proposals to Albertsons twice, once in January and again on Feb. 15. But none of them have shown any interest in eliminating the two-tier wage or increasing wages and benefits.

Do the National Chains Get It?

The ball is now in their court.

Stater Bros. understands that the two-tier system doesn't work. The new

(Please see page 3)

Return in 5 days to:
United Food and Commercial Workers
Union Local 1167
P.O. Box 1167
Bloomington, CA 92316

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PERMIT NO. 2285
SAN BERNARDINO, CA

Fill Out Vacation Waiver Forms To Maintain Insurance Coverage

In order to maintain insurance coverage, Food and Meat Division members must work at least a certain number of hours every month. This does not apply to pharmacist and drug members.

The 2004 Collective Bargaining Agreements eliminated free months for insurance coverage and replaced them with a 'skip month' eligibility system. For example, September hours earn coverage for November, October for December, and so on.

Food Clerks, General Merchandise Clerks and Meat Clerks must work a minimum of 92 hours and Meat Cutters must work 76 hours, while Plan B Warehouse Clerks, General Clerks, Service Clerks and Meat Clerks must work a minimum of 76 hours. Clerks' Helpers and Utility Clerks need to work 64 hours.

Paid vacation hours count toward the minimum number of hours, but generally they need to be adjusted manually. This is because most stores report vacation hours when they are paid (on the member's anniversary date) and not when they are taken. For this reason, members may get a notice that they are short on hours in a month in

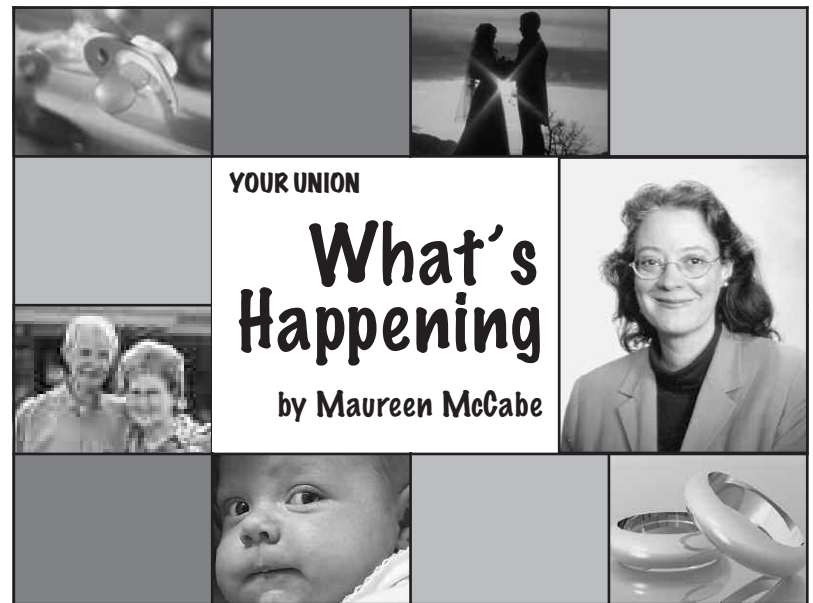
which they took a paid vacation.

Whenever members are short on hours, a billing notice with a place to list vacation hours will be sent to them. However, since these notices often go out right before the time eligibility would lapse, this sometimes results in a temporary loss of eligibility while the health trust fund processes the information and clears eligibility.

Many Food members are getting notices for the first time, since they have been used to taking vacation time off in the free months. As there are no longer any free months, any member taking vacation will get a short-hour notice.

This can be avoided by filling out a vacation waiver form at the time vacation hours are taken.

If you have taken a paid vacation and think you may be short on hours as a result, call the Insurance Department at (909) 877-1110 and request a vacation waiver form. Complete the form and mail it back to the Insurance Department after you have returned from your vacation. This will maintain your insurance coverage without any breaks in eligibility.



YOUR UNION

What's Happening

by Maureen McCabe

JUST RETIRED: The winter months brought us several new retirees. **Jim Jensen** retired in November after 33 years with Vons and Lucky.... **Jackie Pena** retired in December. She worked for 31 years for Rite-Aid.... In January, **Leonard Greenberg** retired after 32 years with Sav-on and Albertsons.... In February, several members decided to join the ranks of the retirees. **Linda Childers** worked for Vons and Food Co. for 29 years.... **Mike Gallegos** worked for Ralphs for 31 years.... **Booker T. Hall** retired after 23 years with Ralphs.... **Larry Layva** worked in the industry for 35 years with Stater Bros., Smiths, Albertsons, Vons and Safeway.... **Christine Noriega** worked for Ralphs for 30 years.... **Nanci Ojala-Raney** worked for Ralphs for 34 years.... **James Powell** worked for Stater Bros. for 36 years.... **Blanca Salas** worked for Albertsons for 32 years.... **Bonnie Wilks** worked for 33 years at Ralphs.

Congratulations to all of our new retirees! We wish you many healthy, happy years ahead to enjoy your well-earned retirements.

JUST MARRIED: **Chi Quynh Nguyen**, Ralphs Pharmacy, married **Cuong Phuly** on 11/25 in Kauai, Hawaii. The happy couple honeymooned on Kauai and the Big Island.

Congratulations to our newlyweds!

JUST BORN: **Rita Schielke**, Stater Bros., gave birth to **Aryana Stapleton** on 9/30/06. Aryana weighed 4 lbs. 9 oz. Her happy mom calls her "my sweet little angel."... **Marissa Belcher**, Stater Bros., welcomed **Aiden Michael** into the world on 11/16. Aiden weighed 5 lbs. 13 oz.... **Tarsha LaValliere**, Stater Bros., has a new daughter. **Makayla Elizabeth Ann Farber** was born on 12/16 and weighed 7 lbs. 2 oz.... **Amy Compton**, Stater Bros., is thrilled by the arrival of **Gavinn William Scott** on 12/18. Gavinn weighed 6 lbs. 15 oz. and his proud mother tells us "He was worth the long wait."... **Luz Torres**, Food 4

Less, gave birth to **Araceli** on 12/20. Araceli weighed 7 lb. 13.9 oz. "We are very happy to have you. Love you very much," Luz wrote to her new daughter.... **Melissa Bommarito**, Stater Bros., is pleased to announce the birth of her new son, **Austin James Jones**, on 12/21. Austin weighed 5 lbs. 6 oz.... **Joe Garcia**, How's Markets, has a new daughter. **Zelly Juliana** was born on 12/24 and weighed 7 lbs. 3 oz.... **Alejandrina Huerta**, Stater Bros., welcomed **Angela Adela** into the world on 12/25. She weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz. and measured 18 inches long. We're told her parents, Ali and Angel, and sister Aracely and baby Angel are all proud.... **Shannon Shay**, Rite-Aid, is pleased to announce the birth of **Lillian Kiera** on 12/29. Lillian weighed 5 lbs. 13 oz. Her proud mother tells us that "big sister Abigail is a good helper."... **Amanda Brichta**, Stater Bros., has a new son. **Logan Frederick** was born on 1/6/07 and weighed 6 lbs. 4 oz.... **Juan DelValle**, Albertsons, welcomed **Cameron Isabella** into the world on 1/6. Cameron weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. Juan writes that "Mama Sandy and baby Cameron are doing well."... **Michelle** and **Brian Boucher**, of Stater Bros. and Ralphs respectively, proudly announce the birth of **Gavin Barry** on 1/8. Gavin was born at Riverside Community Hospital, weighing 7 lbs. 3 oz., measuring 19 inches long and looking as cute as can be, his happy parents tell us.... **Maria Ruiz**, Rite-Aid, welcomed **Breanna Kaylani Cruz** into the world on 1/14. Breanna weighed 7 lbs. 10 oz.... **Karin Daily**, Albertsons, has a beautiful new daughter. **Hannah Marquez** was born on 1/19 and weighed 6 lbs. 11 oz.... **Ramon Soliz**, Ralphs, is pleased to announce the birth of **Mia Belle** on 1/25. Mia weighed 7 lbs. 4 oz. and her happy mom writes us that she is the "first daughter after two boys. Hurray!"

Congratulations to all of our new moms and dads.

UFCW LOCAL 1167
a VOICE for working America

DESERT EDGE

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(909) 877-1110

Drug & General Sales Div. Insurance:
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Bill Lathrop
Editor

Bleiwiss Communications Incorporated
Publisher



You Are Interesting! Tell Us About Yourself

You are the most interesting thing about our union! If there's something unusual or newsworthy about your life, hobbies, abilities or talents, call us at the office and tell us about it so that we may consider doing a feature about you in the *Desert Edge*. Just ask for Kathleen Franks or your Union Rep.

— President
Bill Lathrop

Unions Enjoy Positive Image Among Los Angeles Voters

A public opinion research survey of Los Angeles voters has found that labor unions have a positive image and enjoy a “brand advantage” over corporations.

The poll, conducted by Democratic pollster David Binder, showed that unions have more public support in Los Angeles than in other areas of the state and country. Among city voters surveyed, 55 percent agreed that “without unions, there would be no middle class left in America.”

The survey also found that 73 percent agreed with the statement, “Big corporations are taking advantage of people like you.”

Sixty-one percent of the Angelenos surveyed believe that oil companies manipulate oil prices, including reducing prices before elections to keep supportive politicians in office.

The Binder poll was used as the basis for a memo written by three veteran labor strategists, John Hein, Bob Cherry and Don Attore, who work with Working Californians, a nonprofit research and advocacy group. Union priorities often overlap with the key concerns of voters across the electorate. A spokesman for Working Californians said that unions should lead a public education campaign focused on union-led solutions to issues that Los Angeles voters regard as most important, including the economy, healthcare and the environment.

“Any union public education campaign should get underway before state and federal elections are held in 2008 to maximize the unions’ message without competition from political advertising,” the spokesman said.

President's Report

Keep the Pressure On

(Continued from front page)

agreement that our Stater Bros. members recently approved will abolish that broken system and give wage increases to all employees. The agreement also strengthens the company’s commitment to sustaining our health and pension trust funds.

Gelson’s gets it, too. The recent agreement with this high-end Los Angeles grocery chain is another sign that working together to solve health care and wage issues isn’t an impossible feat.

Will the national chains get it as well? Do they understand that they can treat their workers with respect without endangering the bottom line?

Time will tell, but history indicates that they’ll need reminding from us. The companies will respect our goals only when they respect our willingness to stand as one to fight for those goals.

We're Not Alone

We’re not alone in our fight. From coast to coast, UFCW members speak as one union with one voice. That voice calls out for good wages, benefits and working conditions. Our brothers and sisters across the country know that helping the members in Southern California secure a fair agreement will set the standard for other unions entering negotiations later this year.

We have the opportunity to set the bar for all working people, and we’re going to set it high. We can do that by staying informed, keeping in touch with our stewards and Union Representatives and by making sure we don’t get sidetracked by the steady stream of company propaganda.

Now is not the time to falter. By building on our successes and standing united, we will keep the pressure on the national chains to present us with proposals our members can respect.

Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Timeliness Next to Godliness



By Brent Denkers

Timing is essential in all walks of life. For a young man it could be when he asks the love of his life to marry him. For a baseball player, it’s when to swing the bat at the perfect pitch to win the game in extra innings.

For every member of this union, timing is essential to the security of your job.

It’s important that every member arrives on time when he or she reports for work. It’s also essential to be ready to work immediately after you punch in.

Too often, members are reprimanded for not being ready to work immediately.

It’s not OK to put on makeup, go to the bathroom, comb or brush your hair or change into your uniform after you check in. These actions can lead to disciplinary action up to and including suspension and/or termination.

You are not paid to get *ready* to work. You are paid to do your job as soon as you report.

It's Your Responsibility

Your manager doesn’t care about your reasons for being late. It doesn’t matter that the alarm clock didn’t go off, that your ride didn’t show up or that you missed the bus. His or her only concern is that you report on time and are ready to work.

Many members believe that there is some sort of “grace period.” There are no grace periods. If you want proof, read the contract: “The employer shall post a work schedule in ink for all employees, specifying start and finish of shifts.” There is nothing about a grace period for being late or punching out early.

Here’s another good piece of advice: Know your work schedule. It is your responsibility to copy it down correctly.

Never rely on your co-workers to find out what the schedule is for the next week.

That is a dangerous practice. They may look at an old schedule. If you have questions about your schedule, ask the store manager or the person in charge directly. Make sure you verify your schedule once you get to work. As a matter of convenience, ask your union representative for a complimentary work schedule book.

Finally, when you are at work, you must complete your shift. Never leave early, unless the person in charge tells you it is OK.

If you follow these simple rules, you can save yourself a lot of grief.

Your Dues Now Payable: Sign Up for Dues Checkoff

If you are one of the few members of the local who are not yet signed up for dues checkoff:

MARCH DUES ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE. IF NOT PAID ON OR BEFORE MAY 1, YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY SUSPEND YOURSELF.

With dues checkoff, all future dues can be deducted automatically from your paycheck. If you do not have an authorization form, call the local and one will be sent to you immediately.

Non-payment or payment of the incorrect amount will automatically suspend you—a costly and inconvenient mistake. Although not required, the local as a courtesy normally sends billing notices by first-class mail to those not on dues checkoff. It is the member’s obligation to pay dues in a timely manner. Not receiving a notice is not an excuse for failure to pay dues on time.

Avoid Suspension. Authorize Dues Checkoff Today!

In the News



Two new websites on negotiations

Two new websites have been launched to keep workers up to date on the latest negotiations news.

RespectUFCW.com is geared toward UFCW members. The site features negotiations updates, a list of goals for the upcoming contract and a way to share your experiences as a grocery worker with others.

Respectworkers.com is designed to engage the public in our struggle for a fair contract.

UFCW scholarships now available

Scholarship programs have tremendous value for young workers. Redesigned for 2007, the UFCW International Scholarship program will include several scholarships of up to \$8,000 for UFCW members and their dependents.

The scholarships are limited to UFCW members who have been in good standing since Jan. 14, 2006. The application is available online through Mar. 15.

To apply, visit ufcw.org/scholarship. For additional information, contact Mandie Yanasak, Field Assistant in the Organizing Department, at myanasak@ufcw.org or at (202) 728-1810.

WakeUpWalMart.com effort targets managers

WakeUpWalMart.com launched a new campaign in January when an estimated 2,000 Wal-Mart store managers received an open letter from the organization.

The message pointed out the managers' "moral dilemma" when they implement store policies that they know are "unfair and hurt the very people who work so hard to make Wal-Mart a success."

"By working together, we sincerely believe that Wal-Mart associates, Wal-Mart managers and WakeUpWalMart.com can be an incredible force for change that will help return Wal-Mart to Sam Walton's vision where people and country come first," said Paul Blank, campaign director for WakeUpWalMart.com



Rick Bruer, right, is sworn into the Local 1167 Executive Board by President Bill Lathrop.

Field Director Brings Wealth of Experience to Executive Board

Whenever Rick Bruer visits a store and meets with a manager, he understands where he or she is coming from.

That's because Bruer, UFCW 1167's new Field Director, once worked as a store manager for Alpha Beta.

"Having management experience helps me interact with managers," Bruer said. "My experience on the other side of the table gives me insight into how they operate."

Bruer began his career in 1978 as a Courtesy Clerk for Alpha Beta in West Covina. He moved up through the ranks and eventually became Store Director at a store in Chino Hills.

When Food 4 Less bought Alpha Beta in 1991, Bruer found that its management style was not to his liking.

"My employees and I worked as a team," Bruer said. "Alpha Beta promoted that kind of supervisory style. It was 'how can we work together to prevent or fix problems?' Food 4 Less was more authoritarian and it didn't suit the way I wanted to work."

Looking Ahead

Because he had a reputation as a manager who respected the union agreement, Bruer received an offer from Local 1428 to apply for a Union Representative position.

He was hired at 1428 in December 1991 and worked there for 10 years before moving over to Local 1167.

"I believed I could be an asset at 1167," Bruer said. "It was a bigger local, and there

was more room to advance."

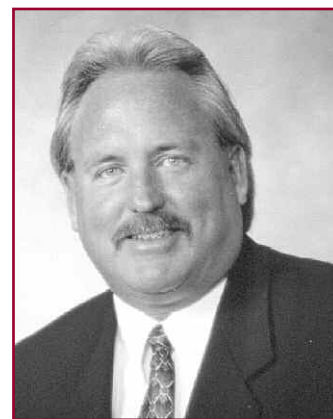
During his time as a Union Rep, Bruer was instrumental, along with President Bill Lathrop, in establishing the Stewards Program and placing bulletin boards at all work sites.

As Field Director, he has a new

opportunity to demonstrate his managerial skills.

"I supervise all of our Union Reps," Bruer said. "We have a great group of people. There is a lot of talent here."

"Our major responsibility is to enforce the agreement and ensure that managers respect it and work within its parameters. It's like the speed limit."



Rick Bruer

Bruer considers himself a "people person. I love people

and try to demonstrate that as much as I can in my professional and personal life," he said.

Philosophy into Action

In his spare time, Bruer volunteers at community service programs through the Mormon Church.

"It gives me an opportunity to put our religious philosophy into action," he said. "We go to nursing homes and spend time with people who have no one to visit them and also help disabled people with household tasks."

"If everyone could devote some spare time to help people in need, it would make our world a better place."

Bruer and his wife, Lori, live in Rancho Cucamonga. They have four adult children and two grandchildren.

Special Scholarship Program to Provide Grants to Qualified Member, Spouse or Child Students

The union local is proud to announce the launch of its scholarship program for certain members only for the academic school year 2006-2007.

Scholarships will be awarded to winners chosen from among qualified contract applicants.

Food contract members, Stater Bros. Meat Distribution Center and Vons Meat Service Center members ARE NOT ELIGIBLE for this program because they may participate in the million dollar Scholarship Award and Tuition Assistance Programs now offered by the Southern California United Food and Commercial Workers Unions and Food Employers Ancillary Benefit Fund (Benefit Fund Scholarships).

Food members who were hired prior to March 1, 2004 (or have 12 months of employment if hired after March 1, 2004 as of October 2005) are qualified to apply for the Trust Fund's Scholarship Award and Tuition Assistance Program and ARE NOT ELIGIBLE for the scholarship program listed here.

Rules and Eligibility Requirements

1. Applicants must establish basic eligibility by applying for a scholarship award and completing the "REQUEST TO PARTICIPATE IN THE LOCAL 1167 COLLEGE (UNIVERSITY or JUNIOR COLLEGE) SCHOLARSHIP AWARDS COMPETITION" application published in this newspaper at the right of this announcement. **The application must be returned to Local 1167 no later than Friday, April 27, 2007.**

2. Those eligible to compete are current active members of the local not eligible to compete in the above described Benefit Fund Scholarship Program, their spouses and their dependent children. Sisters, brothers, and grandchildren are not eligible.

3. Applicants must be at least seniors in high school.

4. Applicants are not eligible if they

previously received Local 1167 Scholarship Award monies.

5. To be eligible the member must be in continuous good standing for at least one year through June 30, 2007. The member whose eligibility is used cannot go suspended, take a withdrawal, or transfer to another local. Failure to comply with these eligibility rules disqualifies the applicant.

6. Winners are selected by the Scholarship Committee based on:

- academic record
- leadership record
- community service and volunteer activities
- character and personality
- personal achievement

7. Awards will be made to undergraduate or graduate applicants at the sole discretion of the Local's Scholarship Committee.

8. Finalists selected by the Scholarship Committee must provide proof of academic record and submit completed forms (blank forms to be provided by the union) listing leadership activities, community service and volunteer activities, and personal achievements, substantiated by two teachers and two personal recommendations.

9. Finalists may be required to appear for a personal interview.

10. Awards are contingent upon the student being accepted by, registered at and attending an accredited academic institution of higher learning. Trade schools are not included.

11. Winners must be full-time students taking at least 12 undergraduate or nine graduate units.

12. Decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

**REFER ANY QUESTIONS
TO SHAELYN
AT
(800) 698-8329**



Request to Participate in Local 1167 Limited Scholarship Awards Competition

(Please Print)

I understand that in order to be eligible for a scholarship award:

- I am not eligible for a scholarship offered by the Southern California United Food and Commercial Workers Union and Food Employers Ancillary Benefit Fund.
- Membership on which my eligibility is based must remain in continuous good standing through June 30, 2007. This means the member cannot go suspended, take a withdrawal or transfer to another local prior to June 30.
 - I must be at least a senior in high school.
 - I am not eligible to apply if I previously received scholarship award money from Local 1167.
 - If my address, telephone number or place of work changes, it is my responsibility to inform the local union so that I can receive information in a timely manner.
 - If the member is involuntarily laid off or transferred out of Local 1167, I will become ineligible and will notify the local union.
 - Finalists will be notified by mail. If I am notified that I qualify as a finalist, I will submit required information and will appear for an interview if invited to do so.
 - All decisions of the Scholarship Committee are final.

My cumulative Grade Point Average in High School is/was _____.
(Finalists to confirm with transcripts)

My cumulative Grade Point Average in College is/was _____.
(Finalists to confirm with transcripts)

My cumulative Grade Point Average in Graduate School is _____.
(Finalists to confirm with transcripts)

(Signature of Applicant in acceptance of the above)

Applicant name _____ phone _____

Full address _____

I am a member of Local 1167 yes no

Eligibility (office use only) _____

Applicant's Social Security Number _____

Employed by (only if member) _____

Full store address _____

Union Representative _____

I am related to a member of Local 1167 yes no

Eligibility (office use only) _____

Relationship to member _____

Member's Name _____

Member's Social Security Number _____

Employed by (only if member) _____

Full store address _____

Union Representative _____

Highest academic level completed by June 2006
(Must be at least a senior in High School to apply)

Year graduated from High School or month and year will graduate

I applied for a Local 1167 Scholarship in (year applied).
(Not eligible if monies received in past.)

**Complete and mail promptly to
UFCW Union Local 1167
P.O. Box 1167, Bloomington, CA 92316
Attention: Shaelyn**

RETURN BY FRIDAY, APRIL 27, 2007

Supermarket News



Wal-Mart's Neighborhood Market to Open Location in Coachella Valley

Notorious anti-union retailer Wal-Mart plans to expand its presence in Southern California with the opening of a Neighborhood Market in Coachella Valley.

Wal-Mart's Neighborhood Market grocery stores were created as an alternative to the company's Supercenters by focusing on groceries and less on general merchandise.

Local 1167 urges members to continue shopping at union grocers and to protect their good wages and benefits by avoiding Neighborhood Market and all non-union grocers.

Tesco to Open Stores in U.S.

Tesco, the British supermarket giant, is coming to the United States.

The British chain plans to open its first U.S. stores in Phoenix, Southern California and Las Vegas.

Industry analysts say the selection of Southern California, Arizona and Las Vegas is due in part to the affluence and the growing populations in those markets.

Ranked 59th on Forbes magazine's list of the 500 largest international companies, Tesco has grown into the world's fifth-largest grocery retailer with stores in such diverse countries as Poland, Turkey and China.

Overall, the company has annual sales of more than \$80 billion and about 2,800 stores in 13 countries.

It is searching for existing buildings and vacant land where it could open the stores that it is expected to call Fresh & Easy. The goal is to cater to time-pressed shoppers by offering fresh produce and prepared food that can be grabbed on the go.

(Please see page 7)

RETIREEES NEEDED!

*Retirees of 1167 are encouraged to join the club!
Renew old friendships and start new ones!
Travel, Bingo, and other special events are
just part of your Retirees Club!*

UFCW Local 1167

Retirees Club

Monthly Meeting and Potluck

Wednesday, March 21

Local 1167 Auditorium

BINGO! Everyone's invited!

Play is open to the public! Come have fun and win money!

Tuesdays, 6:30 to 9:30 p.m.

Thursdays, 12:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Local 1167 Auditorium

855 W. San Bernardino Ave.

Disneyland Tickets

Adults \$58 (\$5 savings)

Children \$50 ages 3-9 (\$3 savings)

Valid Through Dec. 13, 2007

Call the Union Office at (800) 698-8329 for tickets

In Memoriam

Florence Garbizo, a retired meat wrapper formerly employed by ABC Market and Boys, died Feb. 9, 2007, at the age of 83. She had been a member since August, 1950.

Guido Ignelzi, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Safeway, died Jan. 15, 2007, at the age of 89. He had been a continuous member since March, 1951.

Deanna Lawson, a retired general merchandise clerk formerly employed by Alpha Beta and Ralphs, died Nov. 24, 2006, at the age of 67. She had been a member since April, 1989.

Donald Lohmann, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Vons, died Jan. 15, 2007, at the age of 93. He had been a member since February, 1937.

Hope Munyon, an associate member formerly employed by Albertsons, died Jan. 28, 2007, at the age of 67. She had been a member since September, 1998.

Celestino Rodriguez, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Market Basket, died Feb. 2, 2007, at the age of 76. He had been a member since February, 1954.

Manuel Ruiz, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Star Market, died Dec. 14, 2006, at the age of 93. He had been a member since April, 1952.

James Smith, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Sages, died Feb. 10, 2007 at the age of 82. He had been a continuous member since October, 1959.

Charles Wilson Jr., an affiliated member formerly employed by Thrifty Drug Stores, died Jan. 11, 2007, at the age of 96. He had been a member since August, 1960.

Meredith Young, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Alpha Beta, Albertsons, and Safeway, died Jan. 21, 2007, at the age of 87. He had been a member since April, 1947.

Our condolences to the families of these deceased members.

Paul Miles: A Familiar Face at Union Meetings

Paul Miles can't wait to go to his next union meeting. "I like to meet people who work at other stores," he said. "It's a great opportunity to share issues and ideas. We talk-up the importance of the union and give each other support."

Miles is a Produce Manager at Ralphs 181 in Palm Springs. He has worked in the industry for 17 years, all at Ralphs in and around Palm Springs.

He was one of the first to sign-up when Local 1167 began its steward program.

"It gives me a chance to be there for my union and for my co-workers," Miles said. "It's important to have someone at each store to

represent the union and be there for the members."

"And with contract negotiations under way, it's especially important that members get accurate information and not listen to rumors. My job as a steward is to provide our members with accurate information."

Union Benefits

Miles said that he believes health care will again be a major bargaining issue.

"Although I've never had to use my health benefits for anything major, it's good to know that my wife and I will be covered in case we have any significant health problems," he said.

Miles said that he values the job

security provided by working under a union agreement.

"You can't be fired for any reason, because the union is there to protect you," he said. "And when there are layoffs, your seniority comes into play. The seniority provision saved my job when Ralphs merged with Alpha Beta a few years ago."

A native of Orange County, Miles is a "huge fan" of the Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim.

"I go to games whenever I can," he said. "And when I can't, I always catch them on TV."

Classic Cars

In his spare time, Miles likes to fish and restore old cars. He is



Paul Miles

saving money to buy parts for a 1969 Chevy El Camino that he purchased recently and wants to restore.

"It needs everything from a new body and engine to tires to get it back in shape," Miles said. "I can't wait to work on it."

Supermarket News



(Continued from page 6)

Tim Mason, CEO of Tesco USA, said the company has looked at as many

as 600 locations and is in the process of closing deals on a number of sites.

Tesco is considered by industry observers to be the Wal-Mart of the United Kingdom in terms of its size and management style. In the U.S., the company will not concentrate on big box stores but rather on smaller 15,000 sq. ft. markets, about the size of a Trader Joe's.

Tesco said its concept for the U.S. will be based on its Express format, which has more than 1,000 stores around the world. It plans to spend \$400 million annually over the next five years to launch its U.S. operation.

Shoppers Prefer Grocery Meat

According to a recent survey, food shoppers prefer to buy their meat from grocery stores rather than supercenters or other retailers.

The Food Marketing Institute states in its 2007 "Power of Meat" research report that nearly 90 percent of shoppers purchase their meat from supermarket locations because of price and value, and supercenter shoppers often visit local grocers specifically for meat and poultry purchases.



Stay Informed!

Call the Negotiations Update hotline at:
(866) 662-0686

Visit:
www.groceryworkersunited.org

Members: visit **www.RespectUFCW.com**

Public: visit **www.Respectworkers.com**

MOVIES FOR LESS

Save up to 33%

AMC TICKETS — \$5.50

Ontario Mills 30—Fourth Street off 15 Freeway, Ontario

CINEMASTAR THEATERS — \$5.50

450 N. E St., San Bernardino

REGAL CINEMAS TICKETS — \$6.00

Temecula — 40750 Winchester Road

Ontario Mills 22 — 4th Street off the 15 Fwy.

Jurupa Stadium 14 — 8032 Limonite Ave., Riverside

Corona — North Main Street at Rincon Street, just North of 91 Freeway

Discount tickets are for all Regal, Edwards or United Artists theaters in Southern California

with the exception of theaters at Hutton Centre, Main Street on MacArthur at

Costa Mesa Freeway in Santa Ana; Newport Beach at Newport Center; and Laguna Hills

Mall, San Diego Freeway at El Toro Road.

KRIKORIAN THEATERS TICKETS — \$6.50

Redlands — 340 N. Eureka St.

La Mirada — 15296 Rosecrans Blvd.

Downey — 8200 3rd St.

San Clemente — 641-B Camino De Los Mares

If mailed to you, there will be a 39-cent mailing charge per order.

CHECKS ACCEPTED FROM LOCAL 1167 MEMBERS ONLY.

Ticket prices are subject to change without notice.

What Are Grocery Workers Asking For In A Contract?

In a word, Respect.

We've worked hard to get the markets back into the black, and now that they are successful, with average profits of \$3 billion last year alone, they should share the success with us.

It's only fair.

Demand Respect.

Support the Union Contract Campaign.

Visit: www.respectUFCW.org



Membership Meetings

March 28, June 27

September 26, December 19

Meetings start at 7 p.m.,
UFCW Auditorium, Bloomington

Always Check I.D.

Be sure to check proper identification when selling alcohol or tobacco. Driver's licenses have been made easier than ever to recognize when someone is under age, so ask for it.

Beware Internal Liquor Stings

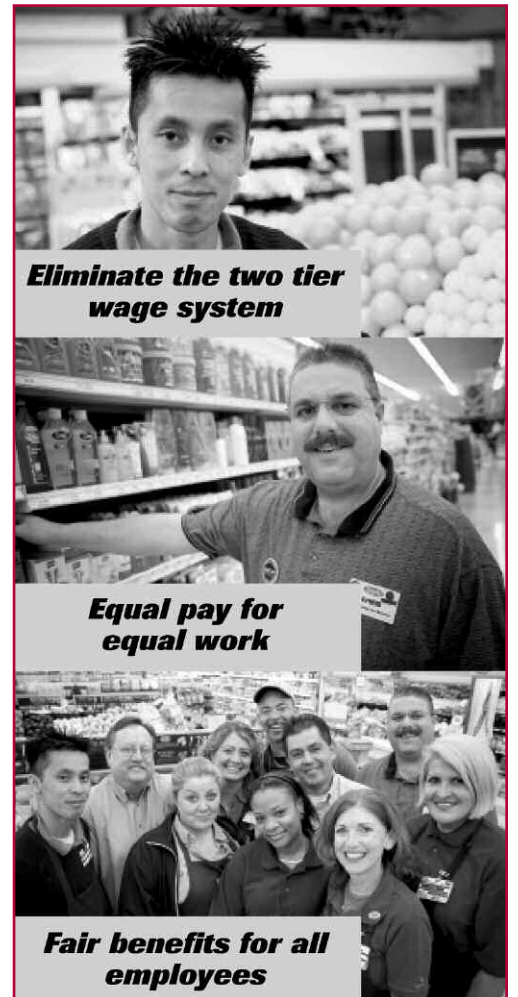
Internal liquor stings are continually being conducted by several of our union companies. Please be extra cautious when selling liquor.

Negotiations 2007

Keep Informed

Stay Active

Stand Strong



IT PAYS TO BE UNION!

	February 2007	2007 Total
Back pay and benefits restored to members	\$2,282.03	\$9,027.88
Members reinstated	37	62
Grievances settled	94	199