

DESERT EDGE

UFCW LOCAL 1167

a VOICE for working America

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

September 2012

Rite Aid members take strike vote

Union members overwhelmingly vote to authorize a strike, should one become necessary.

See page 4



Largest anti-Walmart rally in history held in Downtown L.A.

See page 10

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Don't let them silence us! Help us defeat Prop. 32!

The wealthy and powerful backers of Proposition 32, which will appear on California's ballot on Nov. 6, insist the measure is a "fair and balanced" proposal to control the influence of "special interests" in state politics.

Don't be fooled!

Proposition 32 itself is a power grab by special interests. This deceitful initiative would slap a gag on working people while doing nothing to restrict the spending of "super PACs" and other shady organizations that are polluting our airwaves with negative political ads.

Corporations and a small group of anti-union billionaires have been trying to shut unions up for decades. Previous attempts in California to pass so-called "pay-check protection" schemes included Proposition 226 in 1998 and Proposition 75 in 2005. Both were defeated by the voters by big margins.

Like those previous attempts, Proposition 32 would outlaw voluntary payroll deductions by union members for their unions' political funds. This restriction would make it almost impossible for unions to develop and maintain strong responses to their well-funded opponents.

To provide the illusion of evenhandedness, this initiative would extend the same limitations to corporations, but corporations don't raise their campaign money through payroll deductions. They rely on big donations of cash from wealthy executives and shareholders, as well as lavish grants from ideologically-motivated billionaires.

Now that the Supreme Court has ruled that corporations are "people" with unlimited First Amendment rights, there is nothing in Proposition 32 that limits these wealthy executives, shareholders and billionaires from donating as much as they want to any cause or candidate.

Inevitably, those causes and candidates will favor revoking collective bargaining rights and pushing "right to work" agendas that will further weaken the influence of labor unions. Also inevitably, they will attack your wages, benefits and working conditions.



By Bill Lathrop

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JUST RETIRED

In June, **Larry Blöse** retired after 10 years with Food 4 Less. In July, **John Arias**, **Patricia Bell**, **Barbara Blakenship**, **Richard Doherty**, **Mary Flores**, **Kathy Gibbons-Summers**, **Delma Holt**, **Dennis Jay**, **Cheryl Parson**, **Melissa Stokke** and **Carlos Villalpando** joined the ranks of our retirees. **John Arias** worked for 34 years in the industry with Stater Bros. and Vons. **Patricia Bell** worked for Albertsons for 37 years. **Barbara Blankenship** worked for Stater Bros., Albertsons, Lucky and Food Co. for 38 years. **Richard Doherty** worked for Stater Bros. for

40 years. **Mary Flores** worked for Albertsons for 23 years. **Kathy Gibbons-Summers** worked for 30 years with Albertsons and Lucky. **Delma Holt** worked for Albertsons and Lucky for 28 years. **Dennis Jay** worked for Vons and Safeway for 31 years. **Cheryl Parson** worked for Stater Bros. for 18 years. **Melissa Stokke** worked for Albertsons and Ralphs for 38 years. **Carlos Villalpando** worked for Albertsons for 34 years.

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

JUST MARRIED

Krissel Soto, Lucky, married Oscar Verdugo on April 30 in Yuma.

... **Antonio Montoya**, Food 4 Less, took Leny Pech Medina to be his bride on May 27. The wedding was held in San Bernardino and the happy couple honeymooned on Catalina Island. ... **Rafael Vasquez**, Stater Bros., exchanged vows with Ashley Hawkins on May 31 in Las Vegas. ... **Heather Goerlich**, Ralphs, married Brian Brase on June 1. The wedding was at the Pine Rose Cabins in Twin Peaks, Calif. and the newlyweds honeymooned in San Francisco.

Congratulations to all of our newlyweds!

JUST BORN

Xenia Gutierrez, Stater Bros., and **Justin Vaughan**, Vons, proudly announced the arrival of Justin D. Vaughan, Jr. on May 4. Justin Jr. weighed 6 lbs. 6 oz. and we're told that "Xavier and Justyne are very happy with their new baby brother." ... **Amanda Carroll**, Rite Aid, has a new daughter. Sofie Elise, born on May 27, joins big sister Hanna. She weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. ... **Ricardo Garcia, Jr.**, Rite Aid, is a "very proud father" since the arrival of his new son, Ryoko Ruby-Ricky, on June 7. Ryoko weighed 6 lbs. 7 oz. ... **Naomi Brown**, Stater Bros., welcomed Bodie Edward on June 16. Bodie weighed 6 lbs. 10 oz. ... **Ernest Chapa**, Vons, is thrilled with the "amazing addition to our family." Lilia Maurissa was born on June 24 and weighed 8 lbs. 9 oz. ... **Kelley Kight**, Stater Bros., has a new son. John Walter Asta was born on June 27, weighing 7 lbs. 12 oz.,

and measuring 20.5 inches long. ... **Rosxana Padilla**, Stater Bros., gave birth to Elias Alexander on June 27. Elias weighed 8 lbs. 5 oz. ... **Jessica Croll**, Albertsons, and her husband Chris are pleased to announce the arrival of their daughter Skylar Noelle. Skylar was born on June 27 and weighed 7 lbs. 14 oz. ... **Cynthia Contreras**, Stater Bros., has a new daughter. Irie Elizabeth Kneebone was born on June 28 and weighed 7 lbs. 9 oz. ... **Marc Dawson**, Stater Bros., proudly announced the birth of Marc Jacob on June 29. Marc weighed 8 lbs. 15 oz. ... **Rosalva Paz**, Rite Aid, welcomed Xavier Benjamin Partida on July 2. Benjamin weighed 5 lbs. 3 oz. ... **John Colegio**, Stater Bros., is the proud parent of his third baby boy with the birth of Jayden Romeo on July 6. Jayden weighed 5 lbs. 14 oz. ... **Janet Sotelo**, Albertsons, gave birth to Zack Benicio on July 14. Zack weighed 8 lbs. 6 oz. and measured 19 inches long. We're told "Mommy and baby are both doing well." ... **Cameron Korbett**, Stater Bros., announced the arrival of Trent on July 18. Trent weighed 5 lbs. 12 oz. ... **Indira Hernandez**, Rite Aid, has a new son. Giani was born on July 23 at 7:39 a.m. and weighed 8 lbs. 11 oz. He measured 21 inches long. "He's my handsome little man!" his happy mom writes.

Congratulations to all of our new moms and dads!

Your dues are now payable!

If you are one of the few members of the local who are not yet signed up for dues checkoff: SEPTEMBER DUES ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE. IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID ON OR BEFORE NOVEMBER 1, 2012, YOU WILL AUTOMATICALLY SUSPEND YOURSELF.

With dues checkoff, all future dues can be deducted automatically from your pay check. 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 MEMORIAM

Alicia Adams, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on Aug. 1 at the age of 56. She had been a member since June 2005.

Winifred Bell, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Alpha Beta, Market Basket, Mayfair and Van de Kamp, died on June 3 at the age of 89. She had been a continuous member since June 1963.

Marjorie Duncan, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on July 20 at the age of 80. She had been a continuous member since March 1969.

Claudia Hanson, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Market Basket, died on July 14 at the age of 96. She had been a continuous member since October 1963.

Robert MacKulin, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Lucky, died on June 30 at the age of 76. He had been a continuous member since January 1961.

Aimee Miller, a general merchandise clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on June 24 at the age of 33. She had been a member since September 2011.

W. Arland Richey, a retired pharmacist formerly employed by Alpha Beta and Thrifty Drug Stores, died on July 19 at the age of 87. He had been a continuous member since August 1960.

Carole Sheedy, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Alpha Beta and Ralphs, died on July 22 at the age of 72. She had been a member since August 1973.

Our condolences go to the families of these deceased members.



DESERT EDGE

Bill Lathrop
Editor

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PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Vote no on Prop. 32!

Continued from front page

Prop. 32 isn't reform. It is a con job.

Real reform would include public disclosure for campaign donations. Americans deserve to know who is bankrolling the frequently misleading attack ads they see on television.

Unfortunately, that common-sense idea has been blocked time and again by politicians who serve the big corporations.

This happened most recently when a minority of senators used

a filibuster to prevent a vote on the Disclose Act, which would have made independent campaign contributions open to public scrutiny.

Please vote "no" on Proposition 32 and tell your friends and family to do the same.

Better yet, join the campaign against Proposition 32 as a volunteer. Please contact your Union Representative for information about getting involved in the fight to protect working people.

SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Rite Aid members get public support

For many months the seven UFCW unions in Southern California have been engaged in difficult contract negotiations with Rite Aid.

In July, UFCW members at Rite Aid stores throughout Southern California voted overwhelmingly to reject their employer's proposals for 34 takeaways. This vote also granted the leaders of the region's seven UFCW local unions authority to call a strike, should that



By Rick Bruer

step become necessary to negotiate a fair contract.

Now, Rite Aid workers at store locations throughout Southern California have begun asking the public for support in their struggle to preserve affordable health care for themselves and their families.

The response has been astounding. Faith groups, elected officials and other supporters are joining our members in front of the stores to inform shoppers about the important issues at stake in the negotiations.

Among other proposals, Rite Aid wants to effectively eliminate health care coverage for workers' dependents. Under the company's proposal, each employee's out-of-pocket costs for health care could exceed \$10,000 a year.

Rite Aid workers in Southern California have made many sacrifices over the years to help the company succeed in the marketplace. And now that sales have increased, Rite Aid is turning its back on its workers.

We cannot stand by and allow that to happen. Rite Aid members need to stand strong and stand in solidarity!

If you are a Rite Aid employee, you are NOT ALONE in your fight for a fair contract. You are backed by the 19,000 members of our local union and 60,000 other UFCW members at grocery stores, drug stores, hospitals, factories, food-processing plants and offices from Kern County to the Mexican border.

You also have the support of millions of union workers throughout North America.

If you don't work for Rite Aid, please visit your local Rite Aid store and let the members there know that you stand with them in solidarity, just as they stood with our supermarket members during their fight for a fair contract last year.

We are all members of our union family. Like all good families, we stick together and get things done, even in the most difficult of times.



Your union works for you!

Union Rep Jerry Espinoza awards Maria Jaime, a meat clerk at Food 4 Less 517 in Coachella, with a back-pay settlement of \$3,548.54.

It PAYS to be UNION!

	<u>AUGUST 2012</u>	<u>2012 TOTAL</u>
Back pay and benefits restored to members	\$6,024.80	\$32,582.43
Members reinstated	51	209
Grievances settled	127	528

Shop union!

Drug Division negotiations under way

Rite Aid members hold strike vote

Rite Aid workers all over Southern California voted overwhelmingly in late July to reject the company's proposals for devastating concessions in their next labor contract. The vote granted authority to leaders of seven UFCW unions in the region to call a strike if one becomes necessary to reach a fair agreement.

Concurrent negotiations are continuing for union workers at CVS stores in the region.

At press time, Rite Aid is seeking 34 concessions from the workers, including effective elimination of health care for their spouses and children. The company also proposes elimination of accumulated sick leave pay and a reduction in hours employees are allowed to work.

Leaders of UFCW Locals 8, 135, 324, 770, 1167, 1428 and 1442 praised the Rite Aid members for "affirming their unshakable solidarity with their union."

"The members' emphatic rejection of Rite Aid's demands and their vote for strike authorization will push management toward negotiating an agreement the workers can ratify," they said.

While their previous contract with both of the drug store chains expired on July 15, UFCW mem-



bers remain covered by its terms under extension agreements.

Approximately 8,000 UFCW members between Bakersfield and the Mexican border are affected by the negotiations with Rite Aid and CVS.

"As these talks continue, neither side wants the process to drag on like it did last year for eight months with Albertsons, Ralphs and Vons," UFCW Local 1167 President Bill Lathrop said. "We all would like to reach a resolution soon."

Union negotiators want an agreement that will

protect the members' access to affordable health care and provide good wages, he said.

The two companies are far apart economically. Rite Aid posted a \$163 million loss earlier this year, while CVS reported a profit of \$700 million.

"The challenge is to deliver our members a contract they can be proud of while addressing the economic struggles Rite Aid faces," Lathrop added.

"We believe we will deliver on both fronts, but our members need to stick together to ensure this process goes smoothly."



Menifee

Photos: Members attend strike vote meetings throughout UFCW Local 1167's jurisdiction.



Bloomington





6438 & 5728

**Our members at work:
Standing strong together!**





2012 UFCW and Food Employers B

Launching off!

Cal Poly junior Derek Nelson wins \$10,000 to pursue aerospace engineering

Derek Nelson's out-of-this-world career expectations got a little brighter after he won \$10,000 from the UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund Scholarship Award Program.

The junior at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo is an aspiring aerospace engineer with a major decision to make in the coming months as he continues his higher education.

"I have to choose between the aeronautics of airplanes or astronautics of spacecraft," Nelson said. "I think I'm choosing the spacecraft side of things because it's fascinating."

He was recently elected vice president of Sigma Gamma Tau, a national aerospace honor society.

Launching his career ambitions

Nelson was first drawn to the field when he took basic courses at Cal Poly San Luis Obispo. He enjoyed learning about building and placing satellites into orbit.

He is so intense in his desire to be an aerospace engineer that he lives and breathes anything to do with space, even in his spare time.

"I joined the CubeSat project this year," Nelson said. "The program provides opportunities to universities around the world to access space."

The CubeSat program allows developers and universities to create systems that enable them to launch rockets into space. About 40 universities, high schools and private firms develop cube-shaped "picosatellites" (mini satellites) that have a mass of 2.93 pounds.

"By participating in launches coordinated by Cal Poly, we can focus on design and development rather than going through the process of obtaining export licenses and approvals," Nelson said. "We also work with the State Department and other authorities to produce a streamlined process for launching the CubeSats."

Family ties

Nelson's strong dedication to his studies can be traced to his family. His ties with his father, Mark Nelson, a produce manager at Albertsons 6572 in Riverside, are particularly

strong.

During the 2003-04 strike and lockouts, Derek would join his father on the picket line.

"It's interesting to see how the union affects our lives," Nelson said. "The union is not just about wages and working conditions, it also helps bring people together."

His parents have been a major influence not only during his college career, but also in life.

'The union is not just about wages and working conditions, it also helps bring people together.'

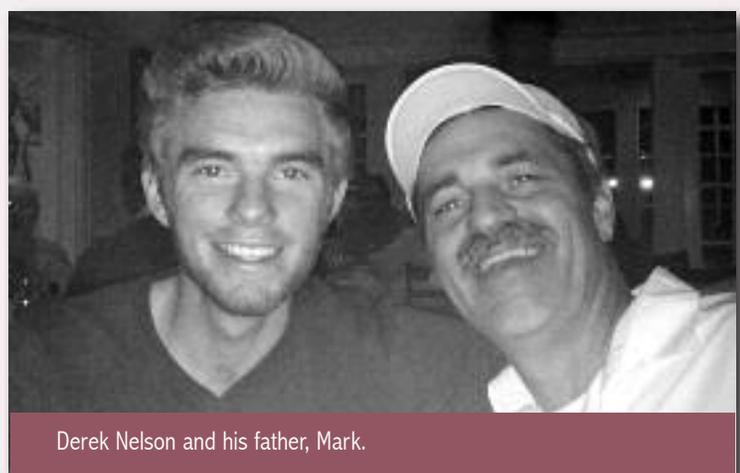
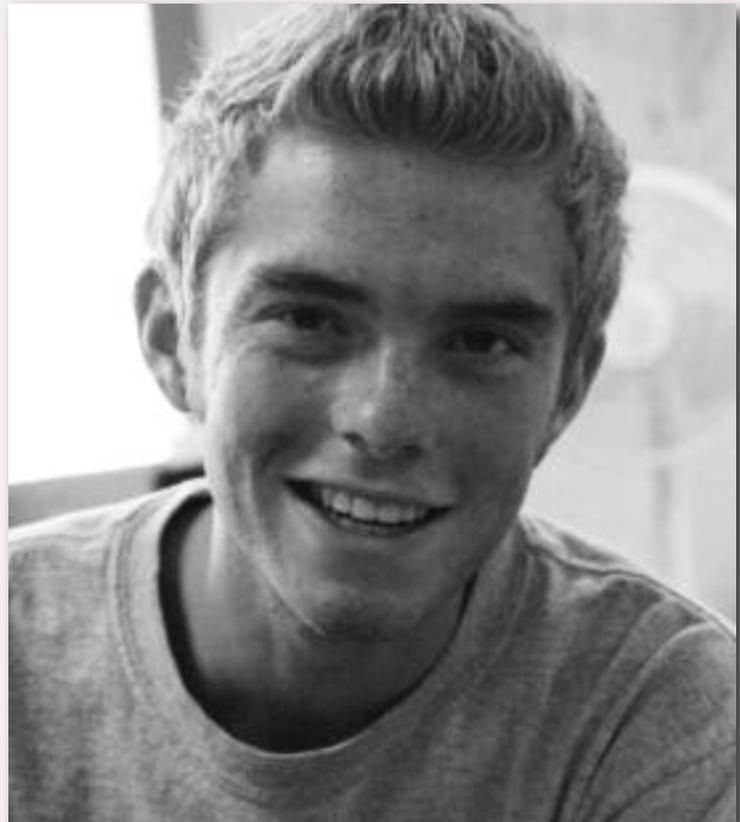
"My parents have been there for me the entire way," Nelson said. "Not only have they been supportive of my education, but they taught me to be responsible from a young age."

That attitude led to Nelson's desire to exceed expectations and ultimately succeed on his own.

"Those beliefs provided a great base for my future endeavors," Nelson said.

Nelson isn't the only family member to receive assistance from the union. His sister, Emily, also received a scholarship from the Trust Fund to assist her during her freshman year at UCLA this fall.

"On behalf of my sister, we would like to thank the union and the employers for coming together to make such a great program available," Nelson said. "We are honored to receive our scholarships."



Derek Nelson and his father, Mark.

Benefit Fund Scholarship winners



Things are cookin' now!

Vanessa Foote wins \$10,000 to further her education in the culinary arts

When Vanessa Foote was a senior in high school, she had a choice to make: pursue her dream of becoming a chef or move into the financially-stable career of nursing.

She ultimately chose nursing, but after a six-month internship at St. Mary's Medical Center in Long Beach, Foote switched careers to fulfill her desire to cook.

"Now that I've tried nursing, I'd rather get into a field I love than one that is going to make me money," she said.

Putting in the hard work

Foote has the hard work ethic to back her book smarts. She has worked at a clothing store, a law office and an international trade brokerage. Her diverse resume is accented by her current full-time gig at Carnival, a small restaurant in Apple Valley.

Her mother, Yolanda Foote, a CSR at Stater Bros. 118 in Corona, encouraged her to apply for a scholarship through the UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund Award Program.

"One day, I was on my way to the Santa Monica Pier with my boyfriend and my mom called me," Foote recalled. "I put her on speaker phone and she read me the letter saying I won \$10,000."

Foote and her mother were so overcome with joy that they cried on the phone together.

Foote is leaving Southern California in August to enroll at Santa Rosa Culinary College, where she hopes to earn a

degree in restaurant management.

She's already thinking about life after college.

"When I graduate, I want to get my chops by working in catering or at a small restaurant," Foote said. "But eventually I'd like to run my own business."

'When I graduate, I want to get my chops by working in catering or at a small restaurant, but eventually I'd like to run my own business.'

If she decides to start a catering business, Foote would like it to specialize in desserts. But if she decides on running a restaurant, she wants to have "unique" qualities.

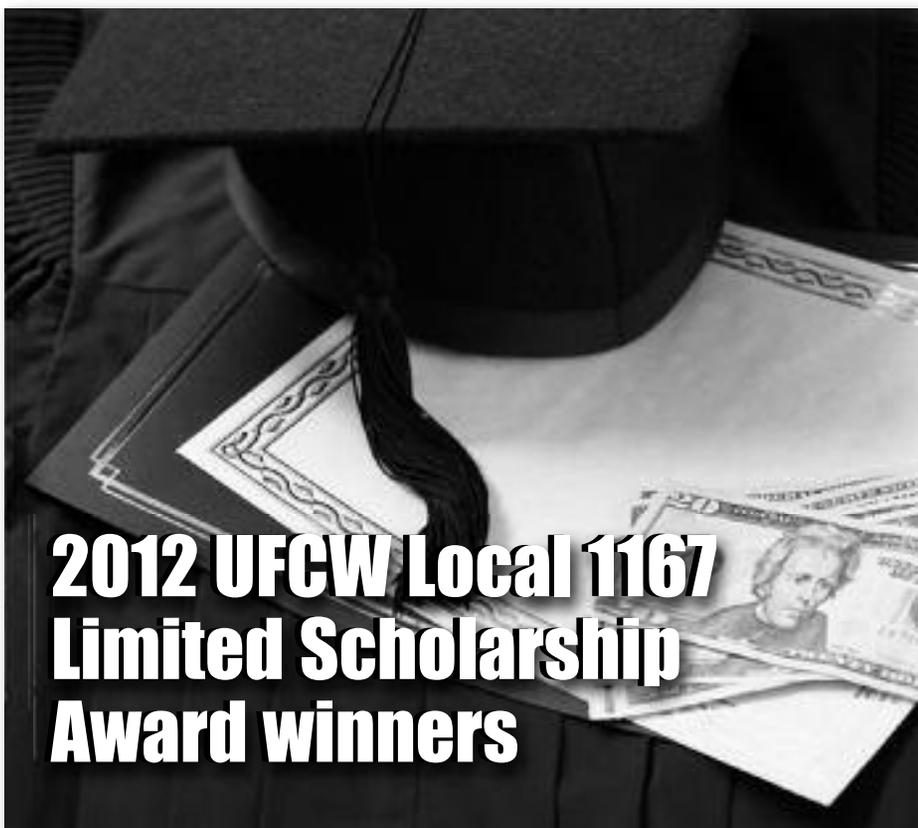
She hasn't decided on a menu yet, but she wants it to be something "you can't get anywhere else."

"I try to eat pretty healthy, so my menu would be like that — except for the desserts, of course!" Foote said with a laugh.



Vanessa Foote and her boyfriend in Santa Monica on the day she learned she won the scholarship.

Editors note: Brittani Ivan, daughter of John Ivan, Albertsons 6798, also won a \$10,000 scholarship from the UFCW & Employers Benefit Fund. At press time, she was not available for an interview.



2012 UFCW Local 1167 Limited Scholarship Award winners



Araceli Perez

graduated from Patriot High School in 2008. After attending classes at UC Riverside, she is earning her associate's degree in human services from Riverside Community College. She hopes to earn a degree from a four-year university and then set up a non-profit organization for helping at-risk families and the homeless in Riverside. Her father is a maintenance worker at Indian Hills Golf Club and her mother, Elisa, works for Windsor Foods. When she is not studying, Perez enjoys volunteering for local tutoring, mentoring and outreach programs for the homeless. "Never give up" is her personal motto.



Lindsey Morse

graduated from Patriot High School in Riverside. She plans to attend Riverside Community College and Loma Linda University so she can be a registered nurse specializing in emergency medicine. She is already a certified medical assistant and emergency medical technician. Her father is a custodian for the Jurupa Unified School District and her mother is disabled as the result of a stroke. After working in the emergency room, Morse plans to return to school and become a medical doctor. When not working at Stater Bros., she enjoys riding motorcycles and cheerleading.



Greg Sukert

graduated from Fullerton College in spring with an associate's degree. In 2010, he graduated from Western Christian High School and is accepted into Cal State Fullerton's School of Business, where he plans to continue his studies in marketing and accounting. His father owns an information technology business and his mother, Denise, is a union dental hygienist at Great Smiles. Already an entrepreneur, Sukert is the founder and CEO of Cenepop Media, a commercial production company. When not managing his studies and his business, he enjoys acting on stage and screen, performing stand-up comedy (he is a graduate of the Second City Conservatory) and playing the ukulele.

Healthy back-to-school lunch suggestions

Starting kids off right by packing school lunches with nutritious foods that taste good will help them establish healthy eating habits for life. Here are some suggestions:

- Tuna sandwich wrap with light mayonnaise, lettuce and tomatoes
- Egg salad sandwich on whole grain bread
- Peanut, cashew or almond butter with a 100 percent fruit spread on whole grain bread
- Sliced turkey, lean roast beef, or chicken from the deli with light mayonnaise, mustard and a slice of cheese
- Single portion-sized cups of unsweetened applesauce or fruit without added sugar
- Trail mix made with cereals, nuts, pretzels, dried fruit or raisins, and a few chocolate morsels
- Low-fat cheese spread on a whole-wheat cracker

- Individual serving-sized packages of low-fat yogurt, cottage cheese or yogurt smoothies
- Baby carrots, celery sticks or apple slices, with dips made from yogurt or low-fat sour cream
- Whole-grain snack crackers add a nice crunch and lots of healthy fiber
- Crunchy raw green beans with a small container of ranch dressing or French onion dip
- Put vegetable soup in a thermos on cold days

If they eat a school lunch and have a choice of which foods to eat, instruct them to choose the meal that isn't fried or one without the sauce. Also advise them to skip the potato chips and French fries. Fruit juice and milk are always better choices than sugary soft drinks, and a slice of fresh fruit is a healthier alternative to cakes and cookies.





BILL SAURIOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Journeys of service

Crystal Tsai plans to help people and the environment

Crystal Tsai always has places to go and things to do, but her toils and travels usually have one thing in common: They help other people and the environment.

"I love helping people," Tsai said. "My goal is to leave this world a better place than I found it."

Tsai's selfless attitude, stellar academic record and commitment to service activities were all factors in her receiving a Bill Sauriol Scholarship from the union.

"I am so excited that I received this scholarship," she said. "Our family doesn't get any financial aid from the government, so we have to earn everything ourselves. Every bit helps."

Crystal's father, Michael, is a pharmacist at Rite Aid. She plans to use the scholarship to attend her first-pick school, UC Berkeley, where she intends to major in environmental science.

She said her interests in the environment and renewable energy were sparked when she witnessed the effects of climate change firsthand.

"When I learned about global warming in school and saw all the ads about 'going green' appear on TV, I thought it wasn't that big a deal," she recalled. "But we hike and go up to the mountains to go skiing and snowboarding a lot. I noticed each year that the snow melted a little faster and there was less snowfall in recent years than there used to be."

Tsai said renewable energy is important for limiting the effects of climate change. "Solar is my favorite alternative at the moment," she said, "but it seems to be a little less reli-

able and efficient because of the limited time the sun is in the sky.

"I'm interested in looking into research on fusion energy because of its potential," she added.

When not studying or snowboarding, Tsai enjoys playing violin with her school orchestra and tutoring children in math. But her heart is in service projects.

"I was part of the InterAct Club, which raises money for local and national charities," she said. "So not only do we help the big-name issues, but we also help the local community."

Tsai loves to travel, but she likes to combine it with her interests of service and education.

"I've taken two Habitat for Humanity 'Learn and Build' trips, in which we go to other states and not only build homes for people, but learn about the unique challenges and environments faced by the people in those states," she said.

"Two years ago, we went to Florida, and last year we built a house in Georgia."

Through the European Club at her high school, she had the opportunity to travel to Paris, France and Madrid, Spain, with her classmates.

"We did fundraisers for three years and then went for 10 days to Europe," she recalled.

With the cost of education, Tsai said, it feels good to be able to earn her own way.

"I want to thank the union and the selection committee for their support and for awarding me this scholarship," she said. "I'm excited to continue my education at Berkeley and hope to use what I learn there to give back."

BILL SAURIOL SCHOLARSHIP WINNER

Infusing the spark

Kyle Muldbakken wants to become an electrical engineer

Kyle Muldbakken may be soft-spoken, but there's lightning racing behind his eyes.

The Chaparral High School senior graduated 17th in a class of nearly 700. He was accepted to many schools, including UC Santa Barbara, but accepted the invitation of his first choice, Cal Poly, to quench his nearly inexhaustible thirst for math and science.

"I've always enjoyed math and did my research on which school had the most compatible engineering program," he said. "Also, my friend is going there, so we'll be roommates."

Muldbakken already has taken the most advanced post-calculus math class available to students at his high school. His drive to learn is one of many reasons he was chosen to receive a Bill Sauriol Scholarship from UFCW Local 1167.

"I am really happy to have this scholarship," he said. "I've applied for several grants and this is the first I've heard back from. And it's good that it's from the union. My dad has been a member for a long time."

Muldbakken's father, Gregory, is a Vons pharmacist who encouraged Kyle to pursue his studies for an engineering degree. It doesn't hurt that his mother is a schoolteacher, either.

"I would like to be an electrical engineer," he said. "There's a company in Temecula, not far from where I live, where I would enjoy working."

"They develop and control electronics systems all over the world," he continued. "They developed the glass in the iPhone and control the water temperatures at Sea World."

When not studying or hanging out with family or friends, Muldbakken enjoys going to the beach and playing soccer.

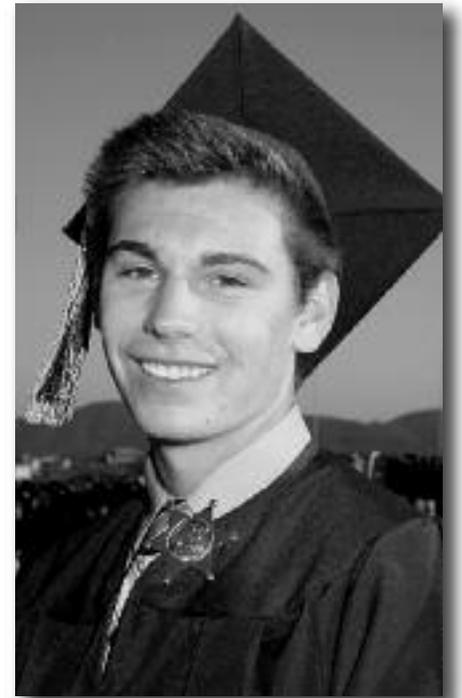
"I played soccer for 12 years," he said. "This was my last year playing for school and we made it to the nationals. But Cal Poly is a Division I school, so it takes a lot of time and discipline to play for its teams. I'll focus more on the academics side of things there."

Muldbakken is grateful for the opportunities the union's scholarship afford him.

"I want to thank the union because it's tough to pay for college these days," he said.

"The union has been great to our family over the years. I know other families that don't have a union and don't have the job stability we enjoy."

"That stability was a factor in the successes I've had in school."





Thousands turn out for largest anti-Walmart rally in history



Thousands filled the streets of Los Angeles' Chinatown in the largest anti-Walmart rally in history to tell the world's largest retailer it isn't welcome in the neighborhood.

and get their way without anyone finding out," President Lathrop said. "Walmart's track record of destroying local economies is well-documented and we don't want that to happen in Chinatown," he said.

Several unions kicked off the procession with a rally at Los Angeles State Historic Park to protest Walmart's plans to build a 33,000 sq. ft. supermarket under its "Neighborhood Market" banner.

Chinatown's economy largely relies on small businesses that specialize in Chinese foods, exotic plants and other merchandise.

Walmart obtained a permit to build the market the day before a citywide moratorium on such "formula" retail stores was to take effect.

Store owners shouted in support of the protesters as the march passed their businesses.

"We came here to tell Walmart they are not welcome in Chinatown, in Los Angeles or anywhere," UFCW Local 1167 President Bill Lathrop said. "If Walmart is allowed to continue its infiltration in Los Angeles, many small business will suffer."

The march ended at the intersection of Cesar E. Chavez Avenue and Broadway, where Rage Against the Machine guitarist Tom Morello sang an "unedited" rendition of Woody Guthrie's "This Land Is Your Land" to loud cheers.

Union members from as far as San Francisco and San Diego came to the rally, which featured renowned labor leaders and musicians.

Morello said the version heard in schools is cut because of its socially-conscious undertones. He later performed the appropriately titled "Union Song":

The rally began shortly after 10 a.m. with an address by Maria Elena Durazo, secretary-treasurer of the AFL-CIO's Los Angeles County Federation of Labor. Other speakers included famed labor leader Dolores Huerta and UFCW International President Joe Hansen.

*Like Joe Hill and Caesar Chavez
Who fought in their own time
Like our brothers and our sisters
Up and down that picket line
Like the unnamed and unnumbered
Who struggle brave and long
Like the union men and women
Standing up and standing strong*

Many rally participants held signs that read "Walmart is how the 1% hurts the 99%," while others held homemade signs that alluded to Walmart's recent Mexican bribery scandal.

Morello was later joined by Grammy-winning musician Ben Harper for another union-inspired song, "We Can't End This Way."

"For a company that is already reeling from allegations of international corruption, it's astonishing they think they can come into Los Angeles

"I'm proud to be here, not only as a fellow union member, but as someone who also lives in L.A. and doesn't want to see another Walmart built here," Harper said.

The rally included speeches by several Walmart workers who shared horror stories of working at Walmart.





Members from UFCW Local 1167 partnered with Smithfield Foods and Stater Bros. to make a donation to the Second Harvest Food Bank in Southern California.

Members of UFCW Local 1167 feed hungry in S. California

On July 18, members from UFCW Local 1167 partnered with Smithfield and Stater Bros. to participate in Southern California's Feeding the Hungry event. Thirty thousand pounds of protein were donated to the Second Harvest Food Bank.

The food bank serves the San Bernardino, Riverside and Ontario metropolitan area, which has the fourth highest rate of food insecurity in the nation.

The donation on July 18 amount-

ed to the largest protein donation the Second Harvest Food Bank has ever received in one shipment.

The Feeding the Hungry campaign is a commitment by the UFCW and Smithfield to deliver 20 million servings of protein over the course of three years to food assistance organizations across the country.

Earlier in the summer, the UFCW and Smithfield surpassed the 15 million servings mark for the Feeding the Hungry campaign.



UNION REPRESENTATIVE'S REPORT

Put that phone down!

We have published many articles about using cell phones while "on the clock." But despite our warnings that it could get them fired, some of our members continue to disregard company policies.



By Carmen Paz

These policies clearly state that cell phone use is not permitted by employees who are on the job.

This summer, several members were reprimanded (or worse) for an offense that could have been easily prevented by simply keeping their cell phones in their lockers or in their cars.

Checking Facebook or Twitter is a habit for some and a borderline addiction for others. It can be tempting to keep up with what your friends have to share, or to see what the Kardashian sisters are up to or if Snooki had a baby, but there are more appropriate times to check on those things.

You can use your cell phone when you're on break, at lunch or before or after work. But any use of a cell phone at work must be approved by management in advance.

Don't think you can get away with a sneak peek at your smart phone. There are eyes everywhere. Your supervisors will know what you've done – perhaps from a security camera, a co-worker or even a customer.

So, before you try to discreetly check your phone in a parking lot — where you think it might be "safe" because customers or managers aren't around — think twice.

Such behavior could even get you injured or killed!

Just because you're not operating a vehicle, that doesn't mean it is safe to text and walk around with cars driving around you.

Save your job and maybe even save your life. Put that phone down!



STEWARD FEATURE

A pillar of strength

Steward Rob Barnhart helps his co-workers keep their cool during difficult and strenuous Rite Aid negotiations

Three years ago, when Rob Barnhart, a service supervisor at Rite Aid 6438 in Temecula, made the transition from non-union to union, he gained peace of mind knowing UFCW Local 1167 would be at his side.

Now, as his co-workers are enduring a tense summer of negotiations, he is doing what he can to give them the same peace of mind.

"Carmen Paz, my union rep, approached me to become a steward because she knew I had a great rapport with my co-workers," Barnhart recalled.

That rapport is being put to use as he educates co-workers and customers alike about the issues at stake in the negotiations.

Tensions have heightened since signs appeared at the store announcing that Rite Aid is taking applications for "temporary workers" (scabs) in the event of a strike.

"Customers have asked about the situation, and so far, everyone has been supportive of us," Barnhart said.

Through it all, Barnhart has kept his cool and helped ease his co-workers' worries by reminding them that the union is strong and united.

Like many of his co-workers, he has a family to provide for. Barnhart's includes Fiona, his wife of 27 years, and their children, Samantha (18) and Chris (13).

"We're like any other family," Barnhart said. "We like to swim



Rob Barnhart

together, play basketball and go out for the occasional dinner."

A self-described Pittsburgh Steelers fanatic, Barnhart can't wait for the NFL season to begin so he can cheer on his team.

New roots

Barnhart and the family moved to California from Virginia eight years ago to care for his sister-in-law. She passed away in 2006 after a courageous battle with cancer.

"My grandmother, Edith, passed away five hours after Carmen (Paz) called to tell me I was September's Steward of the Month," Barnhart said.

"Earning this honor has given me something positive to focus on and I dedicate it to her."

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 26, 2012

The meeting will start at 7 p.m.
UFCW Local 1167 Auditorium,
855 W. San Bernardino Ave., Bloomington.

Anheuser-Busch workers return to work

A seven-week strike between the members of Teamsters Local 166 and an Anheuser-Busch distribution center in Riverside ended in August when the workers accepted the company's revised proposal for a new contract.

The deal puts 130 workers back on

the job and was ratified by a two-to-one vote.

Anheuser-Busch originally sought a five-year deal with increases in retiree contributions to their health care. The union was able to shorten the term to three years and reduce the increases that retirees must pay.


**Read
your mail!**

Contact the Trust Fund:

(714) 220-2297
(562) 408-2715
(877) 284-2320

www.scufcwfund.com

**Union
offices
will be
closed on
Monday,
Sept. 3,
in honor of
Labor Day**

PROP 32 Threatens our Jobs!



Prop 32 is
a trick.

Anti-union millionaires say it's
"campaign finance reform," but
it's really a one-two punch
to give corporate CEOs even
more power to offshore jobs,
cut pensions and reduce wages.

The Truth
Behind Prop 32

- Phony "reform" funded by anti-union millionaires and corporate executives
- Prohibits union members from fighting back against corporate attacks on our retirement, wages and jobs
- Full of exemptions for powerful corporate interests, Super PACs and billionaires

SAY NO TO PROP 32

STOP the Special Exemptions Act.

Details at www.CaliforniaLabor.org/NoOn32