

Desert Edge

UFCW LOCAL 1167

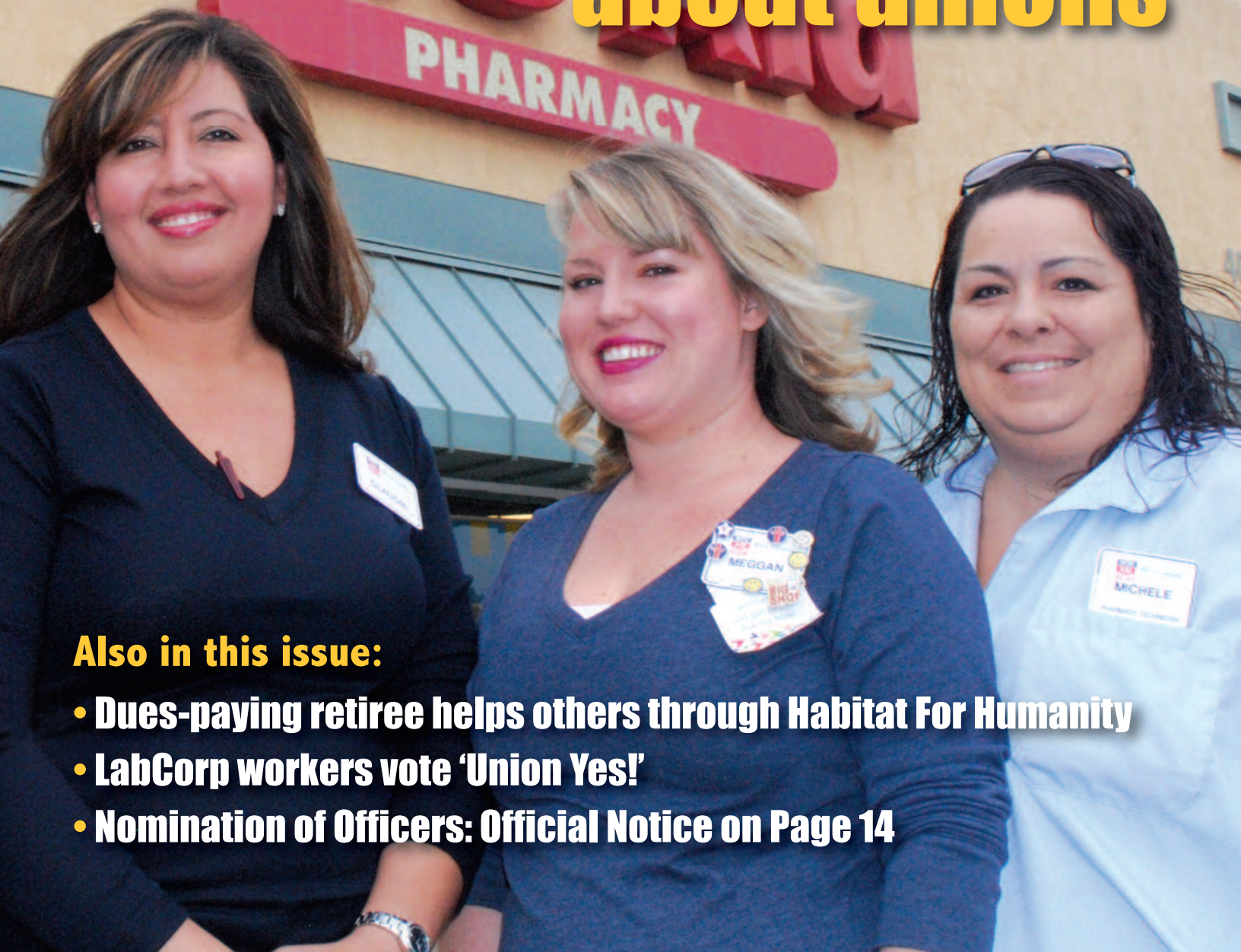
a VOICE for working America

Official Publication of United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1167

Summer 2015

President's Report:

Teach our children about unions



Also in this issue:

- Dues-paying retiree helps others through Habitat For Humanity
- LabCorp workers vote 'Union Yes!'
- Nomination of Officers: Official Notice on Page 14

**Union
offices
closed:** **Independence Day**
July 3
Labor Day
Sept. 7

Next Quarterly Membership Meeting:

Wednesday, Sept. 23, 2015

Meeting starts at 7 p.m.
New Member meetings
held at 10 am and 5:30 pm.

UFCW Local 1167 Auditorium
855 W. San Bernardino Ave.
Bloomington, CA 92316

DESERT EDGE

Rick Bruer
Editor

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Imperial Counties, California.

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Monday-Friday, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.
Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

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(909) 877-5000

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(800) 698-UFCW

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(909) 877-1110

Drug & General Sales Division insurance:

(909) 877-2331

Telephone hours:

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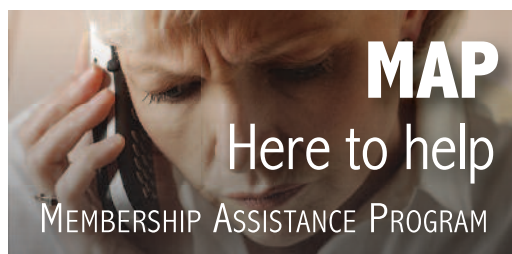


www.ufcw1167.org

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ON THE COVER: Members from Rite Aid 5728 in Murrieta.



If you have

problems with:

Alcohol, drugs, children
& adolescents, family,
emotional issues,
gambling, marriage
and/or financial/legal.

Eligible active or retired
members can call the toll-
free MAP number at the

Health Management Center
any time, day or night,
24 hours a day,
seven days a week.
All calls are confidential.

Food Division

call (800) 461-9179

Drug Division

call (866) 268-2510

NEW MEMBER MEETINGS

Are you a new member of
UFCW Local 1167? Has one of your
co-workers recently joined our union?

Get up to a \$65 credit toward your initiation
fee when you attend a New Member Training
Meeting within six months of your hire date.

Call (909) 877-5000 for dates,
locations and if you have any questions.

Notice to all members: 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: YOUR DUES ARE NOW DUE AND PAYABLE. IF YOUR DUES ARE NOT PAID ON OR BEFORE THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH, 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.

Nonpayment 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!

Solidarity through the generations

Teaching our children about unions

Do you talk with your children about unions? If you don't, now is a good time to start. As union members, we are part of an unbroken American tradition of working people leading the charge for democracy, economic fairness and social justice.

This tradition extends back in time to the Revolutionary War era, when British soldiers fired into a crowd of workers demanding an end to unfair taxation. Six men — two sailors, a rope maker, a boat maker, a carpenter and a leather worker — died in the incident we remember as the Boston Massacre.

In the 245 years that followed, worker solidarity has had a central and crucial role in the struggle for human dignity that continues in our time.

The names of union leaders like Samuel Gompers, Mother Jones, John L. Lewis and A. Philip Randolph deserve remembering, along with those

of the presidents, generals, inventors and industrialists who are generally credited with shaping American history.

They and countless others struggled against enormous odds to achieve many things we now take for granted: the five-day work week, overtime pay, safety and health standards, lunch breaks, health benefits, pensions, family leave, anti-discrimination laws and much, much more.

Today, much of what we have achieved is under attack. Some extremely wealthy and influential people are behind a well-funded campaign to undermine and destroy the Labor Movement.

They hide their true motives behind audience-tested catch phrases like "right to work" and "freedom from excessive regulation," but what they're really aiming for is a frightened and compliant work force that will do what they say and accept whatever it is given without complaint.

It's unfortunate that some working Americans are buying into this cynical campaign and are turning against the union movement that has done so much for them. As long as they continue to misunderstand and mistrust unions, the great American middle class — which is the product of the post-World War II generation of trade unionists — will continue its decline.

This is why it is so important for all union members to stand up and speak out for the right to organize and bargain collectively. And it is also important to educate the coming



United we stand — divided we fall.

generations about the incredible achievements of the American Labor Movement in the distant and near past.

Just as we typically pass our spiritual and ethical traditions onto our children, we are obliged to teach our children about the legacy of generations of union activists who preceded us.

These are challenging times, but we can find inspiration in the struggles of ordinary Americans who braved bullets and billy clubs so we can own our own homes, send our kids to college and retire with dignity.

The union spirit lives within us. Start talking to your kids so it will flourish for generations to come.

United we stand — divided we fall.



RICK BRUER
President

What's Happening

Just Married

Lisa Boone, Albertsons, married Gameyell Driver on Feb. 10 at the Special Memory Chapel. The couple honeymooned in Las Vegas. ... **Kaitlin Morales**, Food 4 Less, married Frank on March 3. ... **Jose Tapia**, Stater Bros., married Angelica on March 13 in San Bernardino. The couple honeymooned in Laughlin. ... **Aaleesa Edwards**, Stater Bros., married Chad Johnson on March 13 in San Bernardino. The newlyweds honeymooned in San Francisco. ... **April Avery**, Rite Aid., married Keagan Dane Smith on April 11 in Laughlin, Nev. The couple honeymooned in Miami, Fla. Congratulations to all of our newlyweds!

Just Retired

The months of March, April, May and June brought us several new retirees. **Larry Fujiwara** worked for Ralphs for 38 years. **Buddy Baker** worked for Albertsons, Alpha Beta and Lucky for 35 years. **Robert Wiksten** worked for Alpha Beta and Ralphs for 36 years. **Kathleen McGehee** worked for Stater Bros. for 35 years. **Diane Valenzuela** worked for Stater Bros. for 30 years. **Carol Loera** worked for Ralphs for 36 years. **Maria Gleeson** worked for Albertsons for one year and Stater Bros. for 17 years. **Lucinda Rivas** worked for Vons for 34 years. **Debra Holmes** worked for Safeway and Vons for 29 years. **Quintin Green** worked for Ralphs for 31 years. **Elisa Fernandez** worked for Vons for 25 years. **Karen Anderson** worked for Ralphs for 11 years. **Dawn Potter** worked for Ralphs for 33 years. **Rafael Monge** worked for Stater Bros. for 42 years. **Diana Montoya** worked for Albertsons for 38 years. **Cindy "Kiss" Lawson** worked for Albertsons for 26 years. **Susana Roach** worked for Stater Bros. for 38 years. **Terri Gatten** worked for Vons for 10 years. **David Ruiz** worked for Alpha Beta and Stater Bros. for 37 years. **Lydia Ellsworth** worked for Vons for 13 years. **Barbara Dulaney** worked for Stater Bros. for 36 years. **Douglas Behringer** worked for Vons for 43 years. **Kathleen Hurst** worked for Alpha Beta and Ralphs for 39 years. **Lisa Covarrubias** worked for Albertsons for 27 years. **Kelly Maki** worked for Stater Bros. and Vons for 40 years. **Carol Collison** worked for Albertsons for 37 years. **Robert Ledford** worked Albertsons and Stater Bros. for 30 years. **David Isham** worked for Stater Bros. for 24 years in the union and was in management for 20 years. **Antonio Alaniz** worked for Albertsons, Alpha Beta, Lucky and Stater Bros. for 32 years. **Patricia Flores** worked for Albertsons for 36 years. **Robert Olvera** worked for Alpha Beta and Vons for 38 years. **Bonnie Barnes** worked for Rite Aid for 27 years. **Russell McGuern** worked for Albertsons for 25 years. Congratulations to all of our new retirees! We wish you many healthy, happy years ahead to enjoy your well earned retirements!

Union Staff in Memoriam



Martha "Marty" Guzman from the Food Insurance Department at UFCW Local 1167 died on April 7 at the age of 56. She started in the industry in May of 1979, working for Vons, as a member of Local 439. She began working at UFCW Local 1167 on Jan. 23, 2006.

Just Born

Sara Portillo, Stater Bros., has a new daughter, Izabella Karie Portillo-Nunez, who was born on April 5, weighing 6 lbs. 6oz. ... **Marissa Peraza**, Stater Bros., is pleased to announce the birth of Charlotte Mira Vargas on April 9. Charlotte weighed 7 lbs. .05oz. ... **Brandon Moreno**, Stater Bros., has baby girl no. 4, Brenna! Brenna Vi was born on Jan. 9, weighing 7 lbs. 14oz. ... **Annette Sifuentes**, Albertsons, gave birth to Esai Esqueda, born on April 2, weighing 8 lbs. 3oz. Mom says that she is "Thankful for God's blessing!" ... **Michelle Rock**, Vons, is proud to announce the birth of Aurora Nova Simon, born on Jan. 19. Aurora weighed 8 lbs. 12oz. ... **Nicholas Beale**, Vons, welcomed Dallin Beale into the world on Dec. 20. Dallin weighed 8 lbs. ... **Timothy Martin**, Stater Bros., is proud to announce the birth of his daughter, Violet Leigh, born on Jan. 28, weighing 3 lbs. 15oz. ... **Carlos Lozano**, Stater Bros., has a new son Charlie Tate Lozano, born on Feb. 15, weighing 8 lbs. 8oz. ... **Carmen Figueroa**, Food 4 Less, welcomed Mila Vargas, born on Feb. 25. Mila weighed 8 lbs. 12oz. ... **Stephanie Garza**, Food 4 Less, has a new baby girl, Bella Linda, born on March 7, weighing 7 lbs. 11oz. ... **David Galve**, Stater Bros., welcomes his new baby Gabriella Marisol, born on April 17, weighing 7 lbs. 12oz. ... **Martin Rodriguez, Jr.**, Stater Bros., has a new son Anthony Alfonso, born on March 9. Congratulations to all of the new mommies and daddies!

IN MEMORIAM

Velia Castruita, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Safeway, died on March 29 at the age of 84. She had been a continuous member since November 1967.

Martha Delgado, a general clerk employed by Food 4 Less, died on April 15 at the age of 53. She had been a continuous member since February 2006.

Terry Diggs, an affiliated member formerly employed by Vons, died on Feb. 18 at the age of 75. He had been a continuous member since October 2000.

Katherine Estep, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on Jan. 25 at the age of 64. She had been a member since May 1996.

Charles Fitz, a retired general sales clerk formerly employed by Standard Brands Paint Company, died on Jan. 1 at the age of 91. He had been a continuous member since May 1964.

Russell Frannea, Jr., a retired food clerk formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on April 13 at the age of 67. He had been a member since June 1965.

Marcus Fregoso, a clerk's helper employed by Stater Bros., died on May 17 at the age of 19. He had been a continuous member since July 2014.

Martha "Marty" Guzman, a Local 1167 employee in our Food Insurance Department formerly employed by Vons, died on April 7 at the age of 56. She had been a member since May 1979.

Viva Hargraves, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Market Basket, Food Giant and Van de Kamp, died on March 18 at the age of 96. She had been a member since April 1958.

Eileen Hause, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on Dec. 11, 2014 at the age of 71. She had been a continuous member since June 1981.

Roland Kelley, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Mayfair Markets, Safeway and Stater Bros. died on March 18 at the age of 106. He had been a member since November 1937.

Su Kim, a pharmacist employed by Rite Aid, died on May 2 at the age of 47. She had been a member since June 1999.

Salvatore Logrosso, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Vons El Monte Meat Service Center, died on April 9 at the age of 63. He had been a member since October 1976.

Kathi Lopez, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on May 21 at the age of 45. She had been a continuous member since May 1988.

Diane Merrill, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on Dec. 21, 2014 at the age of 76. She had been a member since July 1971.

Please see page 13

LabCorp workers vote 'Union Yes!'

Forty LabCorp phlebotomists, specialists in drawing and handling blood, voted to join UFCW Locals 1167 and 1428 in May.

The 40 workers are based at seven lab facilities, clinics and doctors' offices across Southern California. Bargaining sessions with the employer are expected to begin in July or August.

LabCorp workers described how they came together to join a union for better wages, working conditions and improved safety measures.

"I voted yes to join the union to improve working conditions at LabCorp and to lift the standard of living for my co-workers," phlebotomist Leon Gutierrez said.

"I have been in phlebotomy for more than 24 years and the conditions for non-union phlebotomists at companies like

LabCorp have only gotten worse. It's time that LabCorp values us like the professionals we are and gives us the respect and dignity we deserve."

Both local unions hosted meetings and compiled telephone trees to communicate with the workers during the organizing campaign. In response, the company hired anti-union consultants in an attempt to persuade the workers not to join the UFCW.

"I am very proud of my co-workers and myself for staying united to have a voice on the job," LabCorp phlebotomist Veronica Beltran said.

"Despite LabCorp's efforts to convince us otherwise, we stuck together to make sure we have the opportunity to improve our working conditions," Beltran added.

"I am excited to become a member of the UFCW!"

El Super faces charges from NLRB

El Super workers and their supporters rallied outside the company's Highland Park store in May after a federal agency issued a formal complaint against the company.

The National Labor Relations Board said it will prosecute El Super for its coercive and threatening conduct designed to silence its workers.

The NLRB issued a complaint describing El Super's "interfering with, restraining and coercing" employees standing up for their rights and its refusal to bargain with union workers.

The complaint alleges that all levels of management, including CEO Carlos Smith, participated in the illegal tactics.

UFCW local unions represent approximately 600 El Super employees at seven stores throughout Southern Cali-



fornia. These employees have been without a union contract since September 2013, but El Super has refused to negotiate with its employees' union for more than a year.

After more than a year of operating without a union contract, El Super employees and the UFCW launched a boycott in December 2014 to protest poverty pay, widespread violations of workers' rights, including the termination of El Super cashier and union leader Fermin Rodriguez, and the company's refusal to negotiate in good faith.

More than 80,000 shoppers have been turned away by community supporters and workers at informational

picket lines in front of the stores.

Since December, support for the boycott has grown tremendously, gaining endorsements from elected officials and community groups.

More than 110 community organizations, 18 Los Angeles neighborhood councils and the 2.1-million working families of the California Labor Federation have endorsed the "do not shop" campaign.

In addition to unfair labor practices, many community and elected leaders have raised concerns about the number of health code violations at Southern California El Super stores — more than 670 documented violations since February 2014.



Meggan Wood

A steward of six years with Rite Aid, Meggan Wood knows how important this round of negotiations is for her, her co-workers and the UFCW in general.

Wood, a supervisor at Rite Aid 5728 in Murrieta, has been talking about the current Rite Aid negotiations with her co-workers and others in UFCW Local 1167.

“Our union is a team,” she said. “We stick together and we fight for each other. We stood with the grocery workers when their contracts were on the line and my friends in the supermarkets

‘Our union is a team’

Steward Meggan Wood is fighting to maintain her access to affordable health care

have told me they will stand with us.

“It’s all about benefits,” she added. “We want to keep our benefits as they are.”

Wood said Rite Aid members in the UFCW’s Drug Division have good benefits and they don’t have to pay a lot for them.

“We want what we already have — good insurance for a good price,” she said. “We don’t want to pay a lot more for bad insurance.”

She added: “The company wants us to switch to Rite Aid’s company medical plan, where our options are limited. Their idea of ‘company medical’ is not an option we are OK with.

“They say they want to offer us a raise to compensate for the higher cost of their company medical plan, but the bottom line is we don’t want to pay more for lower-quality health insurance.

“There is strength in numbers and we like the strength of our union benefits trust fund.”

Wood has been with Rite Aid for eight years and has worked as a photo clerk in Big Bear, as well as a cashier

and supervisor in Murrieta.

She said she became a steward because she likes to gather all of the information she can and pass it on to her fellow members.

“Most of the questions I have from members in the store are about the contract,” she said. “They ask questions about such things as hours, time off and vacations, so it’s good to know the contract language.”

Brion, her high school sweetheart and husband, has been a member of the Carpenters Union for nine years, which is how long they have been married.

The Woods are into racing, both as fans and as racers. They both have Subaru WRXs that they take to the California Speedway and the Chuckwalla Valley Raceway.

During the winter, you can also find them snowboarding.

“Having been born and raised in Big Bear, it was a bit of a culture shock for me to see all the tract homes here in Murrieta,” she said. “All of the homes here look the same. It was a bit of an adjustment for us!”

Your union working for you

Meat Clerk Christopher Chandler received a settlement check from Ralphs for eight hours of journeyman wages for a day. Fifteen members were given settlement checks for failure to have eight hours of meat cutters on duty each day.





Members at Work: Rite Aid 5469, 5727 and 5728 in Murrieta, Temecula



Living the Good Life

Grateful for her union pension, dues-paying retiree Patsy Svete works for Habitat for Humanity



Patsy Svete, who retired in 2008 after 34 years with Stater Bros., says she feels “blessed” to have been a member of UFCW Local 1167.

“I’m so glad I stood with this union over the years so I can get my pension check every month,” she said.

“It’s not just about the pension,” she continued. It’s also about the wages I earned, the health benefits I received and the union’s defense of our members’ rights on the job.

“And then there’s a camaraderie, a fellowship among union members — there’s nothing like it.”

Svete said her father, who belonged to the Carpenters Union, taught her and her 11 siblings about the importance of unions to working families.

“I was so proud to join the UFCW and tell my dad I got a union job,” said Svete, whose brother David is a retired member of the Carpenters Union.

She began her career in the supermarket industry in 1974 with a job at

the Stater Bros. store on Town Avenue.

Over the years she worked as a Certified Receiver and as a Customer Service Representative in charge of “Kiddy Tours.”

“That was my favorite part of this job,” she recalled. “I would give the children tours of the store and watch their eyes light up at the bakery. I loved their looks of gratitude when I’d hand them a balloon — it never got old.”

Svete said she still pays union dues in retirement.

“I have to support my union and everybody in it,” she explained.

“Running a union takes funds, and paying dues is part of my responsibility for everything I have and for those coming up behind me.

“It’s like being a good parent. If you’re going to tell your kids not to smoke, you don’t smoke either. And if you’re going to tell your kids to pay dues, you pay dues, too!”

Svete said she considered herself a union steward long before the steward program began at UFCW Local 1167.

“I felt it was part of my responsibility as a union member to be the eyes, ears and voice of the union,” she said.

After retiring, “I found myself asking, ‘What is my why? What is my pur-



Local 1167 Meat Clerk Frank Aguirre, left, with his son, Gabriel, and his wife, Jessica.



The lot above will become the future home of Frank and Jessica Aguirre and their family in San Jacinto/Hemet. Habitat for Humanity builds homes for families, and when construction is completed, the families assume the responsibility of mortgage payments, property taxes and homeowner's insurance costs.

‘These homes are built at lower cost for working American people who have had steady employment for two years, are residents of California and are first-time home buyers,’ Svete said.

pose?’ I spoke to God about it a lot.

“My dad was a carpenter and I thought it would be great to help build homes for families in need. So I started volunteering at the Habitat for Humanity in San Jacinto/Hemet and clicked with the woman who was working in the office.

“She had to take a leave of absence to have her baby and I found myself running the office. After her maternity leave, she let us know that she was not going to return and I took over the office.”

In the four years she has been with

Habitat for Humanity, Svete has seen the completion of 19 homes. The 21st house will go to Frank Aguirre, a Local 1167 meat clerk at Staters Bros. 46, where Svete worked for 20 years until her retirement.

“It’s such a small world how this worked out,” she said. “It’s amazing.”

“Frank volunteered at Habitat for Humanity for years before he knew he could possibly have a house coming his way,” Svete continued. “He’s still building sweat equity by working on other people’s homes and needs 500 more hours to qualify for his home.”

Svete said she wants to make it clear that “these are not free homes.”

Aguirre’s family — including Jessica and children Alana, Jaylene, Elyssia, Leanna and Gabriel — and all the other families who qualify for homes pay their own mortgages, taxes and insurance.

“These homes are built at lower cost for working American people who have had steady employment for two years, are residents of California and are first-time home buyers,” Svete said.

“In Hemet we focus on working families with children, so the children can have security and stability as they grow up.”

Svete said contributions can be made by visiting www.dv1run.com.

“And if folks want to donate time, they can call the office at (951) 658-0235,” she added.

With her husband, Stan, who is also retired, Svete enjoys fishing, camping and hiking.

Her son Szabo Martinez, 20, works for Stater Bros. in Riverside. Her other children are Nash, 25, and Esther, 23.

“I am truly grateful for my life in retirement,” Svete said.

“None of this would be possible if it wasn’t for the union and my pension.”



Patsy Svete answers questions for Hemet/San Jacinto Habitat for Humanity.

Annual Charity Golf Classic



13th Annual Charity Golf Classic raises funds to fight leukemia

The United Food and Commercial Workers Union (UFCW) has been a powerful voice for the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society in North America for almost 30 years.

On May 5, UFCW Locals 1167 and 1428 hosted their annual Charity Golf Classic, raising money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. Money raised at the event also goes to support the union's scholarship programs.

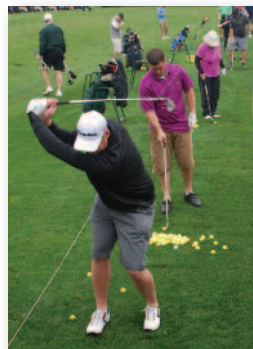
"The participants and contributors in this annual event help make a difference in peoples lives. Thank you to everyone who made this event a huge success," President Rick Bruer said.

Thanks to the continued generous commitment of the UFCW, more than \$47 million has been raised since 1983 to support blood cancer research. The UFCW and its 1.3 million union members, shine as an example to the kind of impact their solidarity with the LLS cause can make.

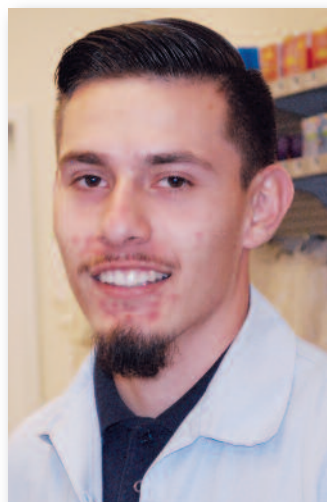
More than a million people in the United States are living with, or are in remission from, blood cancers such as leukemia, lymphoma or myeloma.

Responding to this challenge, UFCW Local 1167 and 1428 perform a significant role in supporting the Leukemia & Lymphoma Society (LLS).

The LLS is the world's largest voluntary health agency dedicated to blood cancers. Its missions are to cure leukemia, lymphoma, non-Hodgkin's disease and myeloma, and to improve the quality of life of patients and their families.



Members at Work: Rite Aid 5681 and 5682, Palm Desert



Members at work: Ralphs 27, Palm Desert



Union Representative's Report

Jerry Espinoza

We're all in this together!

UFCW Local 1167 is the collective voice of more than 18,000 working women and men, from Pasadena to the Arizona border and from Barstow to Calexico.

Our members work for many employers in a wide variety of industries and locations, including supermarkets, food distribution centers, drug stores, pharmacies, hospitals, dental offices, opticians, factories, legal offices and more.



Jerry Espinoza
Union Representative

Together, we combine our energy and resources toward achieving the best wages, benefits and workplace protections in all of the industries we serve.

Every person in our union has a role in our success.

Right now, we have members at Rite Aid who are in the midst of tough contract negotiations. They need the support of all of their union sisters and brothers to reach a fair and equitable agreement.

Many of our members in the grocery stores remember how the drug store members came to their aid in 2011, when negotiations with Albertsons, Ralphs and Vons were especially difficult. Folks from Rite Aid and CVS stood with their supermarket colleagues, handing out leaflets, circulating petitions and attending rallies in defense of affordable health care.

That same kind of support helped our union prevail through its most difficult days in recent decades, during the epic 141-day strike and lockout of 2003-2004.

The last round of negotiations with Food 4 Less was also difficult. Our members were challenged by their employer's demands and had to take a strike vote. Here again, our members stood strong with the support of their union sisters and brothers, and once again we prevailed with a fair and equitable contract.

Now it's time to stand united once more.

No matter where you work, please do whatever you can to demonstrate your solidarity with our Rite Aid members.

Ask your Union Representative about opportunities to participate in rallies and other union actions.

Stand up and be counted.

We're all in this together!

Future uncertain for trade bill's 'fast-track' bid

In the first of an expected series of maneuvers, Republicans in the United States House of Representatives, joined by some Democrats, effectively backed "fast-track" status for the proposed Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade deal.

But the game is far from over as this edition of *Desert Edge* goes to press.

Fast-track status would prevent Congress from debating details of the trade pact or making changes in it, greatly improving its chances for reaching President Obama's desk intact. The president is a leading advocate for TPP and would be expected to sign the legislation.

On the other hand, fast-track's failure could mean serious trouble for the TPP, a complicated trade agreement among 12 nations in eastern Asia and North, Central and South America.

Countries that participated in negotiating the TPP include Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Japan, Malaysia, Mexico, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, the United States and Vietnam.

The House vote on June 18 reversed an apparent victory for America's labor Unions in their fight to bring openness and debate to the upcoming trade bill.

Consideration of fast-track status now returns to the Senate, where Republican leaders previously inserted worker-protection language to the package to win the support of Democrats. This language was voted down in the House as part of the effort to derail the fast-track express.

Senate Republicans hope to repeat their previous success in gaining Democratic votes by reinserting the worker-protection language in other legislation.

**CORRECT ADDRESS AND
PHONE NUMBER A MUST!**

You lose out if there is no correct address and telephone number on file for you. We know the problem: people move frequently. But it only takes a phone call, a minute with the Union Rep or a letter to our office. It could avoid a big problem with a hospital, medical claim or pension inquiry.



Steward Terra Jimenez joins E-Board

UFCW Local 1167 President Rick Bruer administered the oath of office to new Executive Board member Teracita "Terra" Jimenez, steward at Rite Aid 6231 in Moreno Valley.

IN MEMORIAM

Continued from page 4

Doralee Newberry, a retired drug clerk formerly employed by Thrifty Drug, died on May 10 at the age of 77. She had been a continuous member since July 1964.

Eric Nord, a meat wrapper employed by Albertsons, died on May 27 at the age of 27. He had been a continuous member since January 2008.

Anthony Paolini, a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on March 16 at the age of 73. He had been a continuous member since March 1981.

John Payn, a utility clerk employed by Food 4 Less, died on Feb. 19 at the age of 20. He had been a member since November 2012.

Alice Ruiz, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Lucky, died on April 27 at the age of

79. She had been a continuous member since June 1964.

Anthony Schiano, a retired drug clerk formerly employed by Sage's Market, died on March 2 at the age of 75. He had been a continuous member since June 1964.

Burl Sommerville, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Albertsons, died on Jan. 25 at the age of 83. He had been a member since March 1956.

Mario Stefani, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Safeway, died on March 3 at the age of 84. He had been a member since February 1953.

Deborah Wilson, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Safeway/Vons, died on May 1 at the age of 63. She had been a member since October 2005.

Our condolences go to the families of these deceased members.

IT PAYS TO BE UNION

| | MAR-MAY | 2015 TOTAL |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| BACK PAY AND BENEFITS RESTORED TO MEMBERS | \$14,380.26 | \$26,945.98 |
| MEMBERS REINSTATED | 74 | 128 |
| GRIEVANCES SETTLED | 277 | 383 |
| UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS RESTORED TO MEMBERS | | \$376 |

Union Representative's Report Carmen Paz

Attend our meetings for new members!

Learn about the union and how we can help you

It only takes one hour to learn how your union works for you.

UFCW Local 1167 hosts meetings for new members every fourth Wednesday of the month at the local office and quarterly meetings in the outlying areas to explain the many benefits of belonging to our union.

The new-member meetings provide opportunities to meet our Union Representatives and become familiar

with what the staff in our Benefits, Membership and Insurance Departments can do for members.

These meetings are especially helpful to new members who have never belonged to a union before but want to learn. We inform them of their rights on the job and whom they should contact when they have questions.

The role of a steward is common knowledge to



Carmen Paz

Union Representative

most of us, but some new members might not even know what a steward is or what he or she does. Our new-membership meetings provide useful information to help close the gap.

We also explain the union contract and its features, including the grievance procedure, and provide information on contract negotiations, scholarship awards and special offers for members.

If a new member isn't registered to vote, we help with the process and provide union perspectives concerning state and local elections.

Union veterans, as well as newcomers, are invited to our union's quarterly membership meetings. We list the dates and times on page 2 of each issue of *Desert Edge*.

Whether you are a newcomer or a veteran, please make a note to attend a meeting. You could learn something new that can help you or a co-worker, and you would be making your union stronger in the process.

Remember, standing together we are stronger!

Official Notice: Nomination of Officers

Alan Kontra, General Election Chairperson

Nominations for UFCW Local 1167 President, Secretary-Treasurer, Recorder, and 12 Vice Presidents (Executive Board positions) for the term of office commencing January 1, 2016 and ending December 31, 2018 will be conducted by petition. Each of the 12 Vice Presidents is numerically designated for nomination and election purposes, for example, Vice President No. 1, Vice President No. 2, etc.

This shall serve as official notice to the active membership of UFCW Local 1167 that nomination petitions for any of the above offices must be **received** by General Chairperson, Alan Kontra, at the office of Local 1167, 855 W. San Bernardino Ave., Bloomington or P.O. Box 1167, Bloomington, CA 92316 no later than **4:00 p.m. on Aug. 7, 2015**. Petitions shall be filed either in person or by mail.

Each petition must contain the name or names of the active member or members being nominated, the specific office or offices for which that member or members are being nominated, and valid, verifiable original signatures. (Any petition may nominate more than one (1) member for office, provided that each member is being nominated for a different office and that the office for which each member being nominated is specifically indicated.) No fewer than **352** active members in support of said nomination are required.

The nominating petition must contain information sufficient to permit the General Chairperson to verify the identity of the signatories thereto. For that purpose, in addition to their signature, each member must print his or her full name and Social Security number. The Social Security numbers and signatures will assist in verification.

You may create your own petitions which must contain the information as spelled out above. A sample can be obtained from General Election Chairperson, Alan Kontra.

Procedures governing nominations are set forth in the UFCW Local 1167 Bylaws as follows:

Article 12 — Elections

Section B. Nominations and elections shall be conducted during the last six (6) months preceding the expiration of the term of office.

Section C. (1) Not less than thirty (30) days prior to the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions, notice shall be mailed by the Local Union to each member at the member's last known home address, setting forth the manner for conducting the nominations, the actual number of signatures required for nomination petitions, the deadline date for the receipt of nomination petitions, and all other relevant requirements for the filing of petitions, including what each petition is required to contain.

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

(3) Notice of nominations and elections may be combined into a single notice, which shall be mailed in accordance with the time

requirements specified in the first (1st) paragraph of this Section.

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

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

(2) An active member in the Local Union who has been an active member in the International Union continuously for at least twenty-four (24) months immediately preceding the month in which the deadline for the receipt of nomination petitions occurs.

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

(4) Persons accepting nominations shall sign a statement in writing that he or she accepts the nomination and consents to be a candidate for the office or position for which he or she has been nominated.

(5) Persons declining nominations must do so in writing.

Section E. (1) Nominations shall be conducted by petition. Nomination of a member for a specific office shall require the signatures of two percent (2%) of the average monthly active membership of the Local Union, based on the number of active members on which the Local Union pays per capita tax to the International Union, for the twelve (12) month period ending with the next to last month prior to the month in which the notice of nominations is mailed to the membership.

(2) Each petition shall indicate the member who is being nominated and the specific office for which he or she is being nominated. If a member is being nominated for a Vice President position, the petition shall specify the numerically designated Vice President position for which he or she is being nominated. Any petition may nominate more than one (1) member for office, provided that each member is being nominated for a different office and that the office for which each member is being nominated is specifically indicated. Each petition shall contain the signature, printed name and other identifying information, as determined by the general chairperson of the election, of each member signing the petition.

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

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

Any questions regarding the nomination process must be directed to Local 1167 General Election Chairperson Alan Kontra at (909) 877-5000.

106-year-old Roland Kelley called union 'one of the best things in life'

One month shy of his 107th birthday, UFCW Local 1167 retiree Roland Kelley passed away on March 18.

Born April 22, 1908 in Camden, N.J., his father was a steamfitter and his mother was a factory worker. When the Great Depression hit in 1929, neither had a union to protect their jobs.

He had an uncle in California who was a supervisor for Safeway at the time. So in 1930 his family packed everything up into a Model-A Ford and drove to California.

The cross-country trip took seven days to complete. When the family arrived in Fontana, both Roland and his father went to work for Safeway.

Roland worked for Safeway for 15 years. At the onset of World War II, he joined a movement to acquire some job benefits for Safeway employees, but he was told to wait until after the war to talk about it. Kelley was too old to fight in the war, but not too old to fight for a union. He and his co-work-



Roland Kelley

ers finally organized into a union in the 1940s.

Before the Retail Clerks Union represented them, Safeway employees worked 60 hours for \$19 a week. The new union's first order of business was to regulate the hours worked for all employees and to secure overtime pay.

Roland worked in many jobs in

many stores during his 40 years with UFCW Local 1167.

When Stater Bros. was just getting started, he first worked in a two-man grocery store and then graduated to a four-man store. When Stater Bros. started up their supermarkets, he worked in one of those, too.

He worked for Safeway, Owens and Sages markets, and retired from Stater Bros. in 1962.

Roland continued to loyally pay his dues on time. As a retiree, he worked for several independent stores and enjoyed yard work and bicycling.

Roland is survived by his wife Waneta; daughter Sharon, son Ronald, four grandchildren, seven great-grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren, four step-children, seven step-grandchildren and three step-great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife of 60 years, Evelyn, and grandson, Jeffrey.

"Stick with the union" was his advice to current members back in 2008. "Take it from me, the union is one of the best things in life."



Roland Kelley, left, manager at the Safeway store in Rialto, 1937.

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

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
SAN BERNARDINO, CA
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Rite Aid and Ralphs members from Murrieta, Temecula and Palm Desert