

Desert Edge

UFCW LOCAL 1167

a VOICE for working America

Winter 2016-17

Official Publication of United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 1167

President's Report:

Union activism makes a difference



**Union
offices
closed:**

Christmas
Dec. 23, 26

New Year's
Jan. 2, 2017

**Martin Luther
King Jr.**
Jan. 16, 2017

Next Quarterly Membership Meetings:

Wednesday, Dec. 14

Wednesday, March 22, 2017

Meetings start at 7 p.m.

New Member meetings

held at 10 a.m. and 5:30 p.m.

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

DESERT EDGE

Rick Bruer
Editor

Official quarterly publication of
Local 1167, United Food and
Commercial Workers International Union
Serving San Bernardino, Riverside and
Imperial Counties, California.

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Closed Saturdays, Sundays and holidays

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Drug & General Sales Division insurance:

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Telephone hours:

8:30 a.m.-4 p.m.

Published by

 **Bleiweiss Communications Incorporated**
100% union shop



www.ufcw1167.org

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Member from Food 4 Less 386 in Beaumont



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 Orientation
Meeting within six months of your hire date.

Call (909) 877-5000 for dates,
locations and answers to 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!



Watch your mailbox!

for important information from your health benefits Trust Fund.

Got questions? Contact the Trust Fund (ext. 424):

(714) 220-2297 • (562) 408-2715 • (877) 284-2320 • www.scufcwffunds.com

Union activism sends a friend of working people to Sacramento

Who knows what will happen with the new regime in Washington, D.C., but we have confidence that union members and all working people will have a strong voice in Sacramento.

The election of Eloise Reyes to the California State Assembly on Nov. 8 was a victory for UFCW Local 1167 and our allies in the Labor Movement. It is also an example of the good things that can happen when union members take action together.

With our help, Eloise triumphed in a hard-fought campaign in the 47th Assembly District, which includes Rialto, Fontana, Colton, Grand Terrace, parts of San Bernardino and unincorporated parts of Bloomington and Muscoy.

We believe we can count on Eloise Reyes to support the interests and aspirations of working people in her district.

I want to thank all the volunteers who worked on Eloise's campaign. This victory was a team effort by the UFCW and all of the other unions that came together to help get her elected.

Eloise worked as a teenager in the onion and grape fields near Colton. Eventually, she earned a law degree from Loyola Law School. After law school, she chose to represent working families and injured workers instead of joining a corporate law firm.

As an attorney representing workers, she has stood by our side for years. In turn, we stood with her — and won.

This election sends a message that our local union is going in a new di-

rection, with redoubled commitment to political activism. At the same time it sends a warning to those legislators who might be tempted to take our support for granted.

The message goes: "If you are not voting for legislation that supports unions and the working class, you will not work for us in Sacramento."



RICK BRUER
President

Eloise' incumbent opponent, Cheryl Brown, paid the consequences for blocking Gov. Jerry Brown's initiatives to cut air pollution in the Inland Empire, where working people and their children suffer the effects of some of the worst air quality in the United States.

Cheryl Brown also helped block a 2013 bill that would charge a tax penalty to employers like Walmart

that rely on Medi-Cal to pay for too much of their workers' health costs. In addition, she voted against a 2015 bill, now law, that requires grocery stores to wait 90 days before firing employees after ownership changes.

Politics is not always fun. At times it can be unpleasant. But we must always be involved. The rewards of suc-

This election sends a message that our local union is going in a new direction, with redoubled commitment to political activism.

cess and the consequences of failure are too great to stand by and let events happen as they will.

We will die as a union and die as a working class if we are not involved in politics. We as the middle class will face our demise if we are not involved in politics. Not only must we get on the phones and walk the precincts for candidates who support us, we need to monitor those we elect to make sure they stay on our agenda.

As Eloise's opponent learned the hard way, politicians will be held accountable or they will not remain in office.

What's Happening

Just Married

Herbert Verhagen, Ralphs, married Darlene on June 17 in Temecula. Herbert commented, "We come to love not by finding a perfect person, but by learning to see an imperfect person perfectly." The happy couple honeymooned in Laguna Beach ... **Jeff Mulcahy**, UFCW Local 1167, married Melissa on Sept. 17 in Yucaipa. The newlyweds honeymooned in Hawaii. Congratulations to all of our newlyweds!

Just Retired

The months of September through November brought us several new retirees. **Rachel Rose** worked for Stater Bros. for 19 years. **Richard Pena** worked for Food 4 Less for 24 years. **Stephen Young** worked for Ralphs for 38 years. **Bruce Whittemore** worked for Alpha Beta and Food Giant for 26 years. **Jeff Westerman** worked for Albertsons, Lucky and Ralphs for 39 years. **William Scala** worked for Lucky for 21 years. **Arun Patel** worked for Ralphs for 18 years. **James Nickels, Jr.** worked for Safeway and Stater Bros. for 36 years. **Tina Lardeur** worked for Lucky and Stater Bros. for 36 years. **Ronie Johnson** worked for Ralphs for 39 years. **Stephanie Anderson** worked for Market Basket and Ralphs for 33 years. **Rick Dietz** worked for Ralphs for 45 years. **Barbara Sauser** worked for Albertsons for 26½ years. **Magaly Austin** worked for Vons for 23 years. **Tina Moshier** worked for Alpha Beta, Food 4 Less and Ralphs for 34 years. **Gary Butler** worked for Stater Bros. for 40 years. **Teri Kenyon** worked for Albertsons and Lucky for 42 years. **Lisa Carpenter** worked for Stater Bros. for 38 years. **Cathy Nicholas** worked for Albertsons for 37 years. **Peggy Lopez** worked for Stater Bros. for 26 years. **Gary Taylor** worked for Ralphs for 39 years. **Rebecca Ross** worked for Stater Bros. for 31 years. **Juli Hood** worked for Food 4 Less for 27 years. **Raymond Lopez** worked for Stater Bros. for 34 years. **Jorge Vargas** worked for Ralphs for 36 years. **Shirley Painter** worked for Albertsons and Stater Bros. for 30 years. **Greg Lee** worked for Stater Bros. for 36 years. **Tomas Haverstick**

worked for Ralphs for 21 years. **Misty Gannaway** worked for Stater Bros. for 36 years.

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

Just Born



Sharon Amaya, Food 4 Less, "loves her baby" daughter, Avrey Amaya Emily Mendoza, who was born on Oct. 17, weighing 6 lbs. 10 oz. and was 19" long. ... **Juan Sarabia**, Ralphs, is pleased to announce the birth of Sebastian Emiliano on Nov. 2. Sebastian weighed 9 lbs. 1 oz. and was 20" long. ... **Meggan Woods**, Rite Aid, has a new baby boy, Nathan Lee Woods. Nathan was born Oct. 15, weighing 7 lbs. 4 oz. and was 21" long. ... **Rosalinda Nunez**, Rite Aid, has a new daughter, Alueannie Marie Anguiano, born Sept. 22 weighing 6 lbs. 11.5 oz. ... **Christy Hernandez**, Rite Aid, is proud to announce the birth of Cayden Joseph, born Aug. 5. Cayden weighed 7 lbs. 1 oz. and was 19½" long. Mom says, "Blessed beyond measure for our bundle of joy!" ... **Julie Seng**, Food 4 Less, has a new daughter, Kylee Han Bankston was born Sept. 2, weighed 6 lbs. 12 oz. and was 19½" long. ... **Monique Bailey**, Stater Bros., gave birth to Maverick Mark on Aug. 21. Maverick weighed 6 lbs. and was 18" long. ... **Anselmo Rodriguez** is pleased to announce the birth of Evolett Naiah on Sept. 9. Evolett weighed 6 lbs. 3 oz. ... **PeeWee Cruz**, Rite Aid, has a new daughter, Celine, born Aug. 19. Celine weighed 4 lbs. 8 oz. and was 17" long.

Congratulations to all the new mommies and daddies!

IN MEMORIAM

Joan Block, a retired clerk's helper formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on July 7 at the age of 82. She had been a continuous member since December 1990.

Diana Brock, an affiliated member employed by Albertsons, died on Oct. 7 at the age of 55. She had been a member since December 2006.

Thomas Domschot, a general merchandise clerk employed by Stater Bros., died on Sept. 28 at the age of 63. He had been a continuous member since December 2008.

Ricardo Eustis, an affiliated member employed by Ralphs, died on Nov. 15 at the age of 55. He had been a continuous member since November 2007.

Dontay Harper, a meat wrapper employed by Stater Bros., died on Sept. 15 at the age of 20. He had been a continuous member since August 2015.

Robert Heling, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Alpha Beta, died on Oct. 24 at the age of 80. He had been a member since August 1951.

Robert Huntley, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Stater Bros., died on Oct. 9 at the age of 85. He had been a member since July 1949.

Laura Noonan, a retired food clerk formerly employed by Vons, died on Sept. 15 at the age of 93. She had been a member since July 1952.

Betty Omelia, a retired general merchandise clerk formerly employed by Market Basket and Vons, died on Aug. 20 at the age of 91. She had been a continuous member since January 1972.

Elba Rosales, a general merchandise clerk employed by Albertsons, died on Oct. 15 at the age of 26. She had been a continuous member since October 2014.

Omar Ross, a courtesy clerk employed by Vons, died on Sept. 14 at the age of 22. He had been a continuous member since February 2016.

Margarite Torres, an affiliated member employed by Food 4 Less, died on Oct. 2 at the age of 51. She had been a continuous member since June 2003.

Charles Vincent Jr., a retired meat cutter formerly employed by Alpha Beta, Market Basket, Peoples Market and Ralphs, died on July 31 at the age of 98. He had been a continuous member since June 1939.

UFCW Local 1167 mourns Stater Bros. chairman Jack H. Brown

Union members, civic leaders and grocery executives across Southern California are lamenting the passing of Jack H. Brown Jr., executive chairman of Stater Bros. Markets, on Nov. 13. He was 78.

“Jack was more than a brilliant executive who grew his company to ever greater levels of strength,” observed Rick Bruer, president of UFCW Local 1167.

“He was an amazing human being whose kindness and generosity were warmly felt by all who knew him, including the union members who worked under his enlightened leadership.”

President Bruer said Brown “truly loved his employees and considered them members of his family.”

“Jack began his career as a box boy and he never let go of his roots,” Bruer said. “He always carried his box cutter to remind him of where he came from.”



“He did more than tolerate the union presence in his stores,” Bruer continued. “He understood that a union was critically important in giving his workers a voice on the job.”

‘Jack began his career as a box boy and he never let go of his roots. He always carried his box cutter to remind him of where he came from.’

— Rick Bruer

“When other companies made unfair demands on their employees, even locking them out or forcing them to go on strike in 2003-2004, Jack refused to join them or support their tactics,” Bruer said. “Many of our members found refuge in those dark days by finding jobs at Stater Bros. Markets.”

Bruer concluded: “The United Food and Commercial Workers join the rest of the Stater Bros. family — including its management, customers and everyone else who cares about higher standards in the grocery industry — in mourning the loss of Jack Brown.”

“We also send our deepest condolences to his immediate family, including his beloved wife, Debbie, as well as his three daughters and seven grandchildren.”

UFCW Local 1167 welcomes workers at JBS USA to union family

More than 400 hourly workers at JBS USA's Riverside plant have ratified their first contract with their employer and Local 1167.

“We are proud to represent the skilled and hard-working employees of JBS Riverside,” Local 1167 President Rick Bruer said following the workers' ratification vote on Nov. 9.

“We thank all of our new members at JBS Riverside for their patience and strength during the lengthy process of negotiating this agreement,” President Bruer said. “Without

their strength, none of this would be possible.”

“We also congratulate Local 1167's Organizing Department for all of their efforts,” he added.

The new four-year contract provides significant wage increases for all employees over the life of the agreement, as well as a much faster progression for new hires. Workers also are now allowed to form committees and have a say in resolving issues at the facility.

“We all know the crucial role our union members perform in making all of our employers successful and profitable,” said UFCW Local 1167 Secretary-Treasurer Joe Duffle, who led the negotiations for the union.

“This contract continues the high-performance, team-based work environment structure that has created a highly skilled and flexible work force.”

“In addition to a strong base pay, workers have the opportunity to continue gaining more skills and higher pay,” Duffle said.

Making a Difference in Politics: Congratulations, Eloise!

Please see President's Column
on page 3.



Above: Kenny Parada, Maria Perez, Secretary-Treasurer Joe Duffle, Eloise Reyes, President Rick Bruer, Yesenia Gonzalez, Ana Cabral and Aron Velarde.

Below: Eloise Reyes thanks volunteers who helped her on her campaign.



Buy American and shop union. Here's why

Why is buying American products important?

Using products made by American manufacturers creates and saves jobs here at home. Every manufacturing job in America results in five more jobs in the local community. American businesses contribute to the tax base many times more than foreign companies. Buying American stimulates the local economy as American union workers pay taxes on wages earned in America and buy locally.

Are foreign products really cheaper overseas?

There is more to buying from American manufacturers than just price. When you buy from American companies you are helping to protect human rights and the environment. Cheap foreign labor is often linked to poor working conditions that are unregulated and unsafe. Cheap foreign labor often means employing children to work long hours in harsh conditions. Because of lax foreign environmental laws, goods are manufactured with little or no regard to the environment, which eventually affects America.

First for everything

These union members from Ralphs 113 in Fontana all voted for the first time in November. Here are their stories.



Sheila Gill

1 month union
Deli clerk, Ralphs 113, Fontana

"I used to think my vote didn't matter and that's why I chose not to vote. But this year felt different to me. After I met Eloise Reyes, I registered right there and then. With everything that has been going on, I needed to do something to help make a difference. There's so much negativity in the world and if I can help reduce some of it for my grandchildren, then that's what I'm going to do."



Judy Smith with Union Representative Bill Collard, who registered Judy to vote.

Judy Smith

37 years union and union steward
Ralphs 113, Fontana

"It is my civic duty to vote, and I took a big step this year in registering and voting. When I met Eloise Reyes, I realized how much she cared for all of us. I was a bit embarrassed I had never voted before. I know I should have taken part in our political process a long time ago, but it's never too late to start and make a difference in the world."



Pedro Aguilar

Three years union
Meat Department Seafood Manager,
Ralphs 113, Fontana

"This is my first election. I felt bad I had never done this before. I had to do my part and step up to the plate and vote. As I have gotten more involved, I hope to get others more involved."

Pharmacists Ratify Contract

Congratulations to pharmacists at Albertsons, Ralphs and Vons, where union members ratified a new three-year contract on Nov. 7.



Desert Edge wins ILCA Awards!

UFCW Local 1167's magazine, *Desert Edge*, won three awards in the International Labor Communications Association Awards competition. The publication won awards for Best Design, Best Labor History (the story about 106-year old Roland Kelley) and overall General Excellence.

Union Representative's Report

Alan Kontra

Follow company policy when you shop where you work!

All too often we hear about members who are suspended or even terminated for failing to follow company policy when purchasing items at the stores where they work.

As Union Representatives, we are prepared to defend these members through the grievance process, but the facts cannot be denied when an employee has clearly violated his or her rules of employment.

Don't let this happen to you!

Here are a few things to remember that may save your job:

- Review and understand your company's policies regarding purchasing items.
- Always purchase items prior to consuming them. Do not consume your items while waiting in line!
- Use your club card for your purchases only.
- If you purchase something during working hours, make sure you are on your break or at lunch. Do not shop on company time.

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.

IT PAYS TO BE UNION			
	SEPT-NOV	2016	TOTAL
BACK PAY AND BENEFITS RESTORED TO MEMBERS	\$198,792.80	\$258,860.32	
MEMBERS REINSTATED	81	245	
GRIEVANCES SETTLED	215	687	
UNEMPLOYMENT BENEFITS RESTORED TO MEMBERS	\$15,000	\$23,380.80	

- Do not hide items or put them aside to purchase later.
- You may purchase markdowns when they are on the sales floor and available to the public, but don't "shop" from the back room.

• If you purchase anything to take home, regardless if you are on a break, at lunch or off the clock, save the receipt and take your purchase out of the store.

While we're at it, here are some other ways to protect your job:

• Punch in on time and record your time correctly. It doesn't matter if you copied your schedule down wrong, your alarm clock didn't go off or you missed the bus. While some of these excuses may be true on occasion, they cannot relieve anyone of his or her responsibility to arrive on time. There is no grace period!

• Be ready for work when you punch in. Don't run into the bathroom to put on makeup, comb or brush your hair, put on a tie or change into work clothes before starting work.

• Complete your shift as scheduled unless the person in charge tells you it is OK to leave early.

This is not a complete list of do's and don'ts, of course. Every company has its own set of rules. Local and state laws also apply, as does your union contract, which includes obligations for you and your employer.

If you have any questions, consult with your Union Representative. We're here to help you keep your good union job for as long as you follow the rules.



Alan Kontra
Union Representative

Beware of ABC stings

Checkers and Cashiers beware: The State of California Department of Alcoholic Beverage Control (ABC) is hitting the Coachella Valley hard with sting operations. Other areas most likely to be targeted too. Keep your jobs safe by following company policy when selling alcohol and tobacco products.



To the rescue!

Daniel Loomis helps his community as a steward and volunteer firefighter

Working at Stater Bros. means a lot to Daniel Loomis. He has had a fulfilling career with the company for nearly 30 years. It's also where he met his wife, Debbie.

Had he not taken a gamble in the late 1980s to leave a small non-union grocery store, he might not be where he is today.

"I was working at a store called Canned Foods, which is now Grocery Outlet," Loomis recalled.

"I was just out of high school and I was training new hires as well as performing my normal job duties."

He asked his boss about getting a raise and the response wasn't what he expected.

"I asked him, 'How is it fair that I'm training these new employees and I'm making less money than them?'" Loomis said.

"He made me an offer of 25 cents more an hour, which equaled the state's minimum wage at the time."

Disappointed about earning \$4.25 an hour, Loomis applied for a job at Lucky and was hired on the spot.

"They asked me to change my clothes and come back to work for \$5.50 an hour," he said. "I was so excited I accepted, but tried to give my

employer one more shot at keeping me."

His employer refused to match Lucky's wage offer and Loomis left. But shortly after working at Lucky his car broke down and he couldn't commute to work. He had to resign.

"I had a Stater Bros. within walking distance, so I applied there and got a job," Loomis said.

Since then, Loomis has worked as a nighttime grocery clerk at Stater Bros. 96 in Yucca.

Throughout his career, he has appreciated his union-negotiated wages and health benefits, as well as his pension and job security.

"I had many opportunities in my 28-year career to work for another company or in another industry," Loomis said. "But all of my friends who took those types of jobs either got laid off or their companies closed within months."

Helping any way he can

Two years ago, Loomis became a steward so he could increase his company's presence at Local 1167 general membership meetings.

"I read up on the contracts and became more informed so I could be more involved in the union," Loomis said. "I'm happy to help in any way I can."

In that helpful spirit, he is also a vol-

unteer firefighter for San Bernardino County.

In 1999, at the urging of a friend, Loomis took weekly training classes. He was hooked after his first one.

"I really enjoyed it so I joined a fire academy and took classes to earn my degree in fire science," Loomis said. "What's funny is the day I finished the academy is the day I met my wife, so it's special to me."

Debbie briefly trained at Stater Bros. 96, but she has since worked at Stater Bros. 120, which is also in Yucca.

They have been married 14 years and have a 7-year-old daughter, Bailey, in addition to Loomis' two grown sons, Dustin and Nathaniel, and Debbie's daughter, Taylor.

Loomis has a full plate being a dad, husband, steward and volunteer firefighter and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT).

As a volunteer firefighter, he has battled everything from brush fires to commercial building fires. He's also a first responder to traffic collisions.

When he isn't running around town putting out fires or rescuing people, Loomis likes to spend time with his daughter.

"We go camping every now and then," Loomis said. "She likes beach camping and I like camping in the woods."



Loomis responded to this building fire earlier this year.

Scholarships available

A wide range of grants available through the union

Each year, UFCW Local 1167 offers its members and their families opportunities to relieve the financial hardships of a higher education through scholarship programs offered by the union's benefits trust fund, the UFCW International Union and the AFL-CIO.

The scholarships are offered in addition to the union's own awards program, which will be announced in the spring issue of the *Desert Edge*.

UFCW Local 1167 believes everyone is entitled to a quality education, which is the key to success in life. That is why the union encourages members to consider participating in one of the following scholarship programs:

UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund

The Scholarship Award Program, sponsored by the Employer and Union Trustees of the UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund is one of the best offered to union members anywhere.

Members and their dependents are eligible to apply for an award if they have completed a year of service as of the prior October and are still actively employed in the Southern California Retail Food Industry when the awards are determined.

Dependent children are eligible to apply if they are unmarried and younger than 24 years of age and if the member has had at least three years of service. The member also must meet other Fund qualifications, including employment in the industry when the awards are determined.

The scholarship will cover tuition, but not housing expenses, books or other incidental expenses.

The deadline for Scholarship Award applications is Feb. 28, 2017. Applications must be postmarked by this date.

All members should have received an application in the mail. If you did not receive one, call your union or the Trust Fund office at (714) 220-2297 or (562) 408-2715, or visit www.scufcwfunfunds.com for details.



UFCW International Union Scholarship

Each year, the UFCW International Union awards several scholarships to UFCW members or their dependents. The UFCW usually begins accepting applications in January and continues to accept applications through the first quarter of 2017.

Visit www.ufcw.org/scholarship or email scholarship@ufcw.org for more information.

Union Plus Scholarship

The Union Plus Scholarship is a competitive program that evaluates applicants according to their academic ability, social awareness, financial need and appreciation of labor.

A mandatory essay will account for up to half of the score. A GPA of 3.0 or higher is recommended for applicants, who are required to complete their applications online at UnionPlus.org/Scholarships.

The Scholarship Committee will determine recipients of scholarship awards by Jan. 31, 2017.

During the first two weeks of June, award recipients are notified by mail and all applicants are sent an email with notification that the award list is posted at UnionPlus.org/Scholarships.



Look for news about UFCW Local 1167's own Scholarship Program in the spring issue of *Desert Edge*!

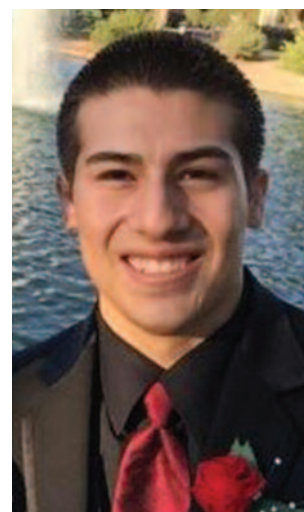
Investing in her future

Diana Cisneros
wants to manage
your money



One, two, three times a winner

Johnny Bates, Jr., wins
top scholarship for
third year in a row



Diana Cisneros, winner of a \$10,000 grant from the UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund Scholarship Award Program, wants to manage investments and become a leader in the financial world.

To get there, she is double-majoring in math and economics and minoring in business at UC San Diego.

Her father inspired her to seek a future in finances through his work as a manager and salesman at an automotive shop.

“My dad would take me to his work often,” Cisneros said. “Watching how he worked and how much he enjoyed it made me want to dive into the business world.”

Too good to be true?

Cisneros is the only child of Moises and Francia Cisneros, so it was an especially emotional moment when they heard she won such a significant scholarship award.

“My mom thought it was too good to be true,” Cisneros said. “I had to reassure her that the union wouldn’t send a fake email.”

Francia Cisneros, a UFCW Local 1167 member who works at Stater Bros., was accustomed to hearing about her co-workers’ children winning \$2,500 scholarships from the union, but not the amount her daughter won.

“It blows my mind that someone can pay that much money for my education,” Cisneros said. “I’m so grateful to the union for this opportunity.”

Cisneros chose UC San Diego over other UC campuses in Irvine, Santa Barbara and Riverside because of its academic programs — and the locale.

“I’m right next to the beach and there are great people there,” Cisneros said. “What’s not to love?”

When Cisneros isn’t crunching numbers, she enjoys volunteering. She participated in her high school’s Key Club and visited retirement homes. She also volunteered at her local hospital and her high school’s Parent-Teacher-Student Committee and organized clothing and food drives.

Johnny Bates, Jr., winner of a \$10,000 grant from the UFCW and Food Employers Benefit Fund Scholarship Award Program, majors in chemical engineering at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh.

He has reached his junior year at the university with help from the scholarship money he has received so far. Thanks to the Trust Fund’s grant, he will be able to benefit from a new meal plan at school and pay his dues at his Kappa Sigma fraternity for room and board.

“I’ve been so fortunate to win this award three times now,” Bates said. “I thought it was so unlikely to win it the second and third times, but I’m grateful because my college expenses have increased.”

Bates has hopes of working in the petroleum industry as a consultant, but he will have a better idea once he starts his internship next year.

“I usually come home for the summer, but next year I plan on spending more time at school and taking extra classes so I can finish the program earlier,” he said.

Choosing a major

For two years, Bates couldn’t decide between pursuing majors in mechanical engineering and chemical engineering.

“My high school chemistry teacher, Ms. Harvey, gave me great advice and it’s because of her that I chose chemical engineering,” he said. “It’s such a broad discipline that I’ll be happy whenever I end up working.”

Bates and his mother, Elizabeth, a UFCW Local 1167 member at Gelson’s in Palm Desert, have struggled with paying his college tuition.

“My mom works hard for me and my four siblings, so to win this award, it really lessens the burden on her to provide for us,” Bates said. “We’re so thankful to the Trust Fund for this honor.”

Local 1167 Scholarship Recipients

BILL SAURIOL AWARD WINNERS



Melissa Angulo

Melissa, daughter of Maria Angulo, a drug clerk at Rite Aid in Riverside, is a freshman at Moreno Valley Community College, where she is deciding between majoring mathematics and minoring in biology. She wants to become a pediatrician or math teacher at the high school or college level calculus. The advanced-place-

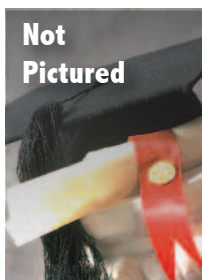
ment scholar has won awards at Rancho Verde High School and is flute section leader in her marching band. She also won a Superintendent's Award. Her most rewarding experience was tutoring her high school peers in math and biology. Her hobbies include playing music, reading, running and baking.



Nissa Inzunza

Nissa, daughter of Maria Sierra, a warehouse clerk at Food 4 Less in Colton, is a sophomore at Kansas Wesleyan University in Salina, Kan., where she majors in business marketing and minors in accounting. She wants to earn a juris doctor degree and work at a law firm. Last year, she moved to Kansas and she says the ex-

perience has enabled her to meet new people who inspire her to be a better person. She plays for the university's soccer team and served as freshman class president last year. Nissa enjoys volunteering and umpiring T-ball games at her local baseball field.



Tiffany Owensby

Tiffany, stepdaughter of Lynda Owensby, a food clerk at Stater Bros. in Rancho Cucamonga, is a junior at Norco College, where she is wrapping up an associate's degree in communications and public relations. She previously earned associate's degrees in humanities, philosophy and arts, social and behavioral studies, com-

munication studies, media and languages. Tiffany plans to earn her bachelor's degree in communications. She wants to work as a public relations liaison at a corporation someday. In addition to being a full-time student, Tiffany has a full-time job as a receptionist at a local design company, so she doesn't have much spare time. The multitasking nature of her job has shown her the value of time management and responsibility.



Mylissa Inzunza

Mylissa, daughter of Maria Sierra, a warehouse clerk at Food 4 Less in Colton, is a freshman at San Bernardino Valley College, where she majors in web and multimedia design. She wants to pursue a career in animation and graphic design. Mylissa is an avid reader of fantasy novels like *Game of Thrones*, which has

inspired her creativity. She has earned awards for her athleticism, including junior varsity soccer's most valuable player, has won championships on her cross country and soccer teams, and had varsity letters all four years of high school.



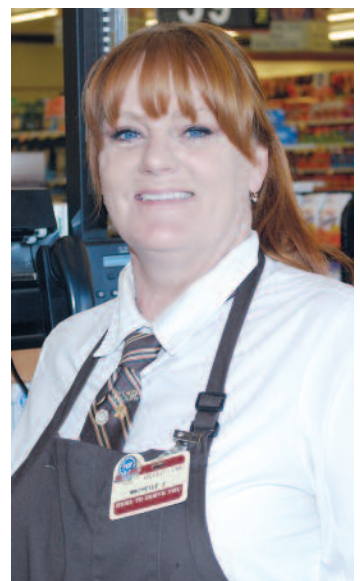
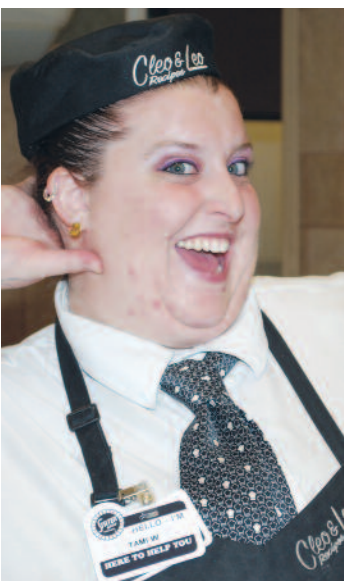
Alyssa Dowalter

Alyssa is a part-time general merchandise clerk at Stater Bros. in San Jacinto. She is a freshman at California State University San Marcos, where she majors in nursing. She wants to work as a physician or paramedic. She graduated with honors from Hemet High School with three presidential awards for academics

and scholar athlete awards, including most valuable player on her softball team. In her spare time, she enjoys volunteering at United Way.



Members at Work: Stater Bros. 96, Yucca



Rosie's Corner



Always on the go Ways to deal with stress

We live in a society that demands action. We're always on the go — getting the kids ready for school, getting to work, getting home, getting dinner — and then we do it all over again the next day.

Sometimes we feel as if we're running on a hamster wheel. The stress of it all can affect our moods, our relationships and our physical health.

How about slowing down for a minute?

Do you have a window in front of you? Take a moment to look outside and enjoy the light coming in or the stars shining bright.

Maybe you're drinking a cup of coffee. Here's an opportunity to enjoy the smell of your favorite holiday creamer and feel the warm steam on your face.

This is especially important as we begin the holiday season, which amplifies our everyday stressors and complicates our lives with new ones.

At this time of year, we become even more obsessed with making everyone else happy. We buy budget-busting gifts, put up decorations, send out greeting cards, host holiday parties and put up with relatives we'd rather not deal with during the rest of the year.

And sometimes we feel stress about being denied the happiness we see in others. Maybe we are alone or miss the presence of a loved one.

Aside from taking some valuable "me time," we can keep in mind that it is perfectly fine to not be perfect. And don't be shy about asking for a hug when you need one!

Here is a stress-free recipe for an easy dough that can be transformed into four different cookies:

4-in-1 Cookie Dough

1 pkg. cream cheese, softened
¾ cup (1 ½ sticks) butter, softened
1 cup granulated sugar
2 tsp. vanilla
2 ¼ cups flour
½ tsp. baking soda

Beat cream cheese, butter, granulated sugar and vanilla in a large bowl with electric mixer on medium speed until well blended. Add flour and baking soda; mix well. Cover.

Proceed to make your favorite cookie:

Pinwheel Cookies

(Makes about 5 dozen cookies, 1 cookie per serving)

Divide dough in half. Add 2 sq. melted semi-sweet baking chocolate to one half of dough; mix until well blended. Divide each half into 2 equal parts. (You should have 2 white & 2 chocolate pieces). Roll 1 of the white and 1 of the chocolate dough pieces each into 10X8-in. rectangle on floured surface. Place rolled-out chocolate dough onto rolled-out white dough and press gently to form even layer. Starting from the short side, roll up dough tightly to form a log; wrap with plastic wrap. Repeat with remaining dough. Refrigerate 1 hr.

Preheat oven to 350° F. Cut dough into ¼-in. thick slices; place on ungreased baking sheets. Bake 10 to 12 min. or until lightly browned.

Sugar Cookie Cut-outs

(Makes about 3 ½ dozen cookies, 1 cookie per serving)

Preheat oven to 350° F. Roll dough to 1/8-in. thickness on lightly floured surface. Cut into assorted shapes using 3-in. cookie cutters. Place on greased baking sheets.

Bake 10 to 12 min. or until edges begin to brown. Transfer cookies to wire rack; immediately press about ½ tsp. crushed Life Saver candies onto each hot cookie. Cool completely on rack.

Pecan Bars (Makes about 5 dozen bars, 1 bar per serving)

Preheat oven to 350° F. Press dough firmly onto bottom of ungreased 15x 10x1-inch baking pan. Bake for 20 min. or until lightly browned.

Meanwhile, combine 2 eggs, 1 cup firmly packed brown sugar, 1/3 cup light corn syrup, ¼ cup (1/2 stick) melted butter and 1 tsp. vanilla until well blended. Stir 3 cups chopped pecans. Spread evenly onto warm crust. Bake an additional 20-25 min. or until topping is firm around the edges and slightly soft in the center. Cool completely. Cut into 60 bars.

Thumbprint Cookies

(Makes about 5 dozen cookies, 1 cookie per serving)

Add 1 cup finely chopped pecans. Refrigerate 30 min.

Preheat oven to 350° F. Shape dough into 1-in. balls. Place on ungreased baking sheets. Indent centers. Bake 10 min. Fill each cookie with about 1 tsp. of your favorite preserves. Continue baking 8 to 10 min. or until golden brown.

Fun Fact about Rosie the Riveter:

Rosie symbolized women's contribution to the war effort. Real-life Rosies filled factory positions while men were away (the number of American working women grew by 50 percent in four years), proving that we could excel at a "man's job."

Union News

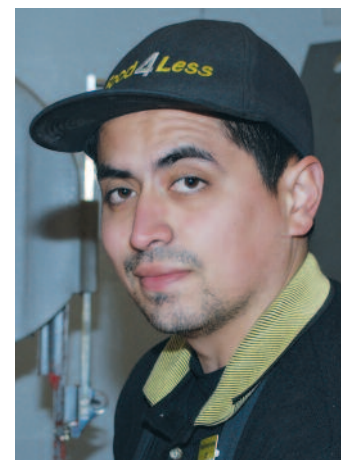


Dave MacKewen receives his 50-year certificate and pin from President Rick Bruer at the Bloomington Membership meeting on Sept. 28.



Nancy Simpson received her 40-year certificate and pin on Sept. 28. She started working in the industry in 1976 at the age of 20. She is a general merchandise clerk at Vons 1734.

Members at work: Food 4 Less 386, Beaumont



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“Merry Christmas, My Friend” is a well-known poem written by James M. Schmidt, a Marine lance corporal stationed in Washington, D.C., in 1986. It’s a tradition to re-print this poem at this time each year as a reminder of all of the sacrifices our troops make abroad so that we can celebrate the holidays. We hope our troops are able to return home safely to their families and loved ones so they too can enjoy the holidays.
— **Rick Bruer, President**

*’Twas the night
before Christmas,
he lived all alone,
In a one-bedroom house
made of plaster & stone.
I had come down
the chimney,
with presents to give
and to see just who in
this home did live.
∞
As I looked all about,
a strange sight I did see,
no tinsel, no presents,
not even a tree.
No stocking by the fire, just boots
filled with sand.
On the wall hung pictures of a far
distant land.
∞
With medals and badges,
awards of all kind,
a sobering thought soon
came to my mind.
For this house was
different, unlike any
I’d seen. This was the home
of a U.S. Marine.
I’d heard stories about them,
I had to see more,*

*so I walked down the hall
and pushed open the door.
And there he lay sleeping, silent,
alone, curled up on the floor in his
one-bedroom home.
∞
He seemed so gentle,
his face so serene.
Not how I pictured
a U.S. Marine.
Was this the hero,
of whom I’d just read?
Curled up in his poncho,
a floor for his bed?
∞
His head was
clean-shaven,
his weathered face tan.
I soon understood,
this was more than a man.
For I realized the families
that I saw that night,
owed their lives
to these men,
who were willing to fight.
∞
Soon around the Nation,
the children would play,
and grown-ups would
celebrate on a bright Christmas day.*

*They all enjoyed freedom,
each month and all year,
because of Marines
like this one lying here.
∞
I couldn’t help wonder
how many lay alone,
on a cold Christmas Eve,
in a land far from home.
Just the very thought
brought a tear to my eye.
I dropped to my knees
and I started to cry.
∞
He must have awoken,
for I heard a rough voice,
“Santa, don’t cry,
this life is my choice.
I fight for freedom,
I don’t ask for more.
My life is my God,
my country, my Corps.”
∞
With that he rolled over,
drifted off into sleep.
I couldn’t control it,
I continued to weep.
I watched him for hours,
so silent and still.
I noticed he shivered*

*from the cold night’s chill.
∞
So I took off my jacket,
the one made of red,
and covered this Marine
from his toes to his head.
Then I put on his T-shirt
of scarlet and gold,
with an eagle,
globe and anchor
emblazoned so bold.
∞
And although it barely fit me, I began
to swell with pride, and for one
shining moment,
I was Marine Corps deep inside.
I didn’t want to leave him
so quiet in the night,
this guardian of honor
so willing to fight.
∞
But half asleep he rolled over,
and in a voice
clean and pure, said “Carry on,
Santa, it’s Christmas Day,
all secure.”
One look at my watch
and I knew he was right.
Merry Christmas my friend,
Semper Fi and goodnight.*