

# UFCW 951 BULLETIN

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United Food and Commercial Workers Union 951

The *UFCW 951 Bulletin* is a regular publication of UFCW 951 designed to give members a quick update of union news and events. It is distributed at the workplace by union representatives and is available online at [www.ufcw951.org](http://www.ufcw951.org). To receive email copies of the *Bulletin* during the first week of publication, call the UFCW 951 Communications Department at 1.800.999.0951.

## Be Sure to Submit Your 2015 Vacation Requests

Most UFCW 951 contracts contain a procedure for securing guaranteed vacation time during the year. Be sure to consult your contract for details on how to request vacations and the deadlines for submitting these requests.

The Meijer contract, for example, includes the following procedure for requesting vacations.

*Requests for vacation week(s) must be made on the blank vacation schedule by March 1, 2015. Vacation requests for 2015 will be approved or denied by April 1, 2015. Vacations will be awarded by seniority within department and classification. Vacation time will be granted separately for full time and part time employees.*

Your employer cannot “black-out” vacation weeks on the calendar. However, they may “grey-out” weeks where a limited number of vacations will be granted.

If you have any questions on how to request a vacation, or believe your vacation request has been improperly denied, contact your union representative at 1.800.999.0951.



## Quarterly Membership Meetings

Thursday, January 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Membership meetings are your opportunity to ask questions, get involved and hear what's going on with your employer, your industry, and your union!

Kalkaska	Sterling Heights	East Lansing	Grand Rapids
All Seasons Resort 760 S. Cedar St.	UAW Local 228 39209 Mound Rd.	MEA Hall 1216 Kendale Blvd.	UFCW 951 Office 3270 Evergreen Dr. NE

(Over)

## Tax Preparation Program

MEMBERS ONLY

UFCW 951 members can receive reduced-rate tax preparation services and free answers to their tax questions from tax professionals at Kushner, Kippelman & Taub, the firm that completes UFCW 951's tax filings.

### Free Answers to Tax Filing Questions

Members completing their own taxes – including those using a web application or software such as Turbo Tax or Tax Cut – can receive free answers to their tax filing questions by calling 1.855.951.1040.

### Exclusive Discounted Rates

Members can have their taxes completed by tax professionals at the following reduced rates:

- 1040 EZ – \$50 (including city & state)
- 1040 A – \$100 (including city & state)
- 1040 with additional schedules – \$150 (including city & state)



### Individual Appointments

Members in the Farmington Hills area can schedule an appointment directly with Kushner, Kippelman & Taub by calling 1.855.951.1040. Members in other areas should call Karin Hopman at 1.800.999.0951 ext. 110 to see if an appointment can be arranged closer to their home.

### New Mail-In Option

The Tax Preparation Discount Program is now offering a convenient mail-in option available for members looking to have their taxes completed by tax professionals without having to meet in person. For more information, visit [www.ufcw951.org](http://www.ufcw951.org) or contact the UFCW 951 office at 1.800.999.0951.

## Hours Cut? You May be Eligible for Unemployment Benefits as an “Underemployed” Worker

The beginning of the year is traditionally a slow time for several of the companies employing UFCW 951 members, resulting in an unwanted reduction of hours for some members. While still employed, these members may qualify for unemployment benefits as an “underemployed” worker.

Workers file for “underemployment” benefits the same way they do unemployment benefits -- with the Unemployment Insurance Agency at [www.michigan.gov/uia](http://www.michigan.gov/uia) or 1.866.500.0017. To protect yourself from having your Underemployment Benefit claim denied, it is recommended that you inform management that you are available for any work they may have. Keep in mind that any week you receive a benefit as an “underemployed” worker is one less week you can receive benefits if you become unemployed.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION...



UFCW 951

John Cakmakci, President  
Dave Way, Secretary-Treasurer  
Karin Hopman, Recorder

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