

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. To receive email copies of the *Bulletin* during the first week of publication, call the UFCW 951 Communications Department at 1.800.999.0951.

Breaks are a Contractual Right – Not a Legal Right

There is no state or federal law requiring employers to give workers age 18 and over a break. The reason all UFCW 951 members receive breaks is because of their union contract. When members skip their breaks, they are putting this contractual right in jeopardy.

“Since breaks are a collective bargaining topic, not a legal requirement, they are up for negotiation every time a new contract is bargained,” John Cakmakci, UFCW 951 president, said. “Employers keep track of skipped breaks to support their contract proposal to cut or eliminate breaks. Their position is that workers must not really need breaks since they aren’t taking them.”

Protecting their contractual rights is one reason UFCW 951 urges members to take their breaks. When members skip breaks, they are also giving the company money, taking hours away from their coworkers and making it appear their workplace is fully staffed.

“When managers refuse to give members their breaks, they are violating the contract, and a grievance should be filed,” Cakmakci said. “UFCW 951 recently settled a grievance for 40 members at one store who were collectively denied 418 breaks. They shared a \$950 settlement.”

To file a grievance for a denied break, contact your union steward.

Local 951 Members Win International ABC Drawing

UFCW 951 member Patricia Twining from Meijer #180 was randomly selected by the UFCW International to receive a \$250 gift card for participating in the Active Ballot Club. Stephanie Meerman from Meijer #71 also won a \$250 gift card for signing Patricia up for ABC. To participate in the Active Ballot Club, contact your union steward or representative at 1.800.999.0951.



(Over)

Congratulations to the UFCW 951 Western Region ABC Winners!

The first quarter winners for the UFCW 951 Active Ballot Club Drawings have been announced! Each quarter, all UFCW 951 members who donate at least \$1 a week to the Active Ballot Club (ABC) are entered into a drawing to win one of 120 \$25 gift cards. Forty winners from each region are randomly selected. The winners for the Western Region are listed below.



Pasqual Tercero
JBS

Nicole Allen, Meijer #119	Kaylyn Galeno, Meijer #201	John Russell, Meijer #303
Jerome Aung, JBS	Misty Hass, Meijer #175	Nicole Sadler, Meijer #22
Cheryl Back, Meijer #179	Sang Heih, JBS	Lauren Salisbury, Meijer #221
Emily Bechtold, Meijer #20	Wai Heir, JBS	Ronda Schell, Meijer #158
Kristie Beech, Meijer #50	Anthony Hill, Meijer #226	Patricia Sheffield, Meijer #71
Julie Buckley, Meijer #201	Minnie Hopkins, Meijer #158	Crickett Sweet, Meijer #205
Virginia Bunker, Meijer #19	Steven Jimenez, Meijer #217	Kiflai Tekleab, Meijer #312
Gloria Carlson, Meijer #221	Alex Le, Meijer #217	Pasqual Tercero, JBS
Debra Coffran, Meijer #71	Robin Lingg, Meijer #119	Tun Thein, JBS
Torren Dunigan, JBS	Ah Marip, JBS	Hope Tindall, Meijer #50
Trey Fett, Meijer #19	Justin Pelfrey, Meijer #316	Elias Twisenge, JBS
Jack Fisher, Plumb's #676	Teonna Porter, Meijer #311	Nancy Weaver, Meijer #50
Barbara Frank, Meijer #119	Megan Potts, Rite Aid #4977	
Rebekah Funderburg, Meijer #19	Rodolfo Quesada, Meijer #248	

ABC provides members with protection against anti-union politicians by supporting pro-worker candidates: Democrats, Republicans and Independents. Contributions to ABC help workers level the political playing field by activating and amplifying their political voice. For more information about this and other ABC contests, contact your union representative.

Collective Bargaining Update

Harding's #356 – In April, members at Harding's #356 overwhelmingly ratified a new contract. The union was able to negotiate an increase in pension contributions and pay raises for all employees, and limit healthcare cost increases with a commitment from the company to review the cost every year. A special thanks goes to Chris Roush and Candice Roow for their assistance with the negotiation and ratification of the new contract.

Valley City Linen – UFCW 951 and the company have reached tentative agreement on much of the contract language. Negotiations continue on a few key areas including wages.

JBS – UFCW 951 and JBS have agreed to begin contract negotiations early because an opportunity exists for the union to secure additional wage increases for all current JBS members, along with greatly improved health benefits.

JOIN THE CONVERSATION ...



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

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