

# **NEWS AND NOTES**

From the desk of President David A. Cook

### **KEEPING YOU INFORMED**

DECEMBER, 2015

The UFCW family is committed to telling our story, and yours. For too long, we've allowed the enemies of hard-working people to set the narrative. No more. Every day, thousands of hard-working people here in Missouriget up and put on their uniforms and every day our staff fights for them. We negotiate better lives; we support our partners when they need to deal with management.

The UFCW family is going to be telling your story. For decades we've done incredible things for working people, but we've failed in delivering that message to you. While UFCW International intends to begin loudly and proudly talking about the good things that labor does, UFCW Local 655 is also working toward the same goal. As favorability for unions begins to trend upward, it's important that you talk about your story as well. If your shop steward or union rep secures a raise, better schedule, back pay, or resolves an issue, we want to hear from you. We plan on standing with our partners to tell their stories. We hope you'll do the same. — UFCW Local 655 President, David. A Cook.

## PARTNERS IN NEED

The UFCW Local 655 family **FIGHTS** for our partners. Just ask Mollie Owensby.

Mollie is a single parent, a mother of three, and she works at Holten Meat. Mollie called her local union rep when her bosses attempted to terminate her in violation of her contract. On Oct 2, Mollie was fired. By Oct 12, she was back at work with a week's worth of back pay.

"The union got me my back pay and my job back," Owensby said. "Without them, I would have just been fired even though I shouldn't have been. They made it easier to take care of my kids."

Mollie's story is just one of HUNDREDS that we'll be telling about how UFCW Local 655 fights for YOU.

### FIND US ONLINE AND ON SOCIAL MEDIA

Are you following us on Facebook and Twitter? We know you're busy, you work hard, and can't always read every flyer or attend every meeting. Give us a Like on Facebook/UFCW655. Follow us on Twitter@UFCW655 and check out our website ufcw655.org.

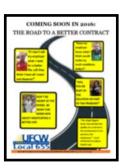
Or keep it simple: just **text 'Join' to 738674** for regular updates on contracts and much more. *Msg&Data rates may apply.* 

# A Better Contract

### Have you been keeping an eye

out for our flyers about the Road To A Better Contract?

We need YOU to be involved to negotiate a better life for everyone.



Look for these flyers to learn how just a little effort from you can make the contract for the next 3



years that much better. Ask your shop steward about

these flvers

and how YOU can help get a better deal for all.

### **CONTRACT UPDATES**

We do our best negotiating when we stand as a family. As contracts begin to expire, remember that **decisions are made by those who show up**. Attend meetings and help us ensure the best possible benefits for you and your family. Here are some contracts expiring in the next year.

- Save A Lot Otto
- Schnuck Markets Inc
- Dierbergs Markets
- Shop n' Save
- Kroger Outstate
- Kroger, Poplar Bluff
- Elsberry IGA
- Cowley Distributing Inc
- Rozier AG Market Perryville
- Ste. Genevieve Country Mart
- Fricks Market, Union
- Miller Ham Co
- Holten Meat Company
- Straubs Inc

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- Double G Brand Hams
- Schnucks, Farmington

We'll be posting meeting times long in advance and if you can't find one, ASK. Call our main office at 636-394-6500



# Shop Union this Holiday Season!

Remember to support your locally made shops and, most importantly, remember to buy union! UFCW Local 655 proudly represents Miller Ham Company and Double G

Brand Hams right here in Missouri. Help those hard-working families put food on their tables by putting a union-made ham on your table. It's not too late to support your fellow hard-working UFCW family member!

# Union-Made Holiday Shopping List:

- Brooks Brothers
- Red Wing Shoes
- Timex

- Revion
- Dove Beauty Products
- Old Spice
- Louisville Slugger
- Top Flite golf balls
- Miller High Life
- AB InBev Products
- Butterball Turkey
- Ocean Spray Cranberry Sauce
- Pillsbury Crescent rolls

Or visit GetItUnion.com for even more information.

Remember to support the hard-working families of organized labor and their employers when you do your shopping. Whether it's union-made food like Double G Hams or Miller Ham company, it's important to support other hard-working families during this time. Every time you spend your money on labor-made goods, you help another union member put a little extra food on his table or extra gifts under the tree. Companies like WalMart and Target use this time of year to try to exploit their workers.

These companies use bullying and intimidation to keep workers from organizing while sending misleading messages to the public about being community partners. Stand up to corporate greed and stand with labor and SHOP UNION this Holiday Season!



#### WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU!

Remember that UFCW Local 655 has monthly meetings for our new and existing partners. On the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of every month we open the meeting hall doors to you both in the morning and in the evening. This is YOUR CHANCE to talk face-to-face with the leaders of your UFCW family.

As 2016 approaches and we begin to negotiate with some of our biggest employers, these meetings are VITAL in getting the better wages and better benefits that you've earned.

Check out our meeting schedule below.

#### **DON'T LOSE YOUR VACATION DAYS!**

To all our partners covered by GSLFEC, Schnucks Columbia, Schnucks Farmington, Straubs and Culinaria according to the vacation portion of the Local 655 collective bargaining agreement:

Effective **January 1, 2016**, your unused vacation from the prior calendar year will only be paid out up to one week.

#### DON'T LOSE WHAT YOU'VE EARNED!

ALL OTHER VACATION MUST BE USED OR PAID OUT PRIOR TO JANUARY 1, 2016! (Check the vacation section in your contract)

#### UFCW LOCAL 655 UNION MEETINGS

Monthly Meetings:

## 4th Tuesday of each month 9:00 a.m. & 7:00 p.m. 4th Tuesday of each month 8:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.

New Member Meetings: 4th Tuesday of each n Union Hall: 300 Weidman Rd., Ballwin, MO 63011 636-394-6500 LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU!

#### HAPPY HOLIDAYS FROM THE STAFF OF UFCW LOCAL 655!

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