

BULLETIN

UFCW 951

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United Food and Commercial Workers Union Local 951

The *Local 951 Bulletin* is a regular publication of UFCW Local 951, designed to give members a quick update of union news and notice of upcoming events. The flyer is distributed at the workplace by union representatives and is also available on-line at www.ufcw951.com. If you would like to receive an e-mail copy of future *Bulletins* during the first week of publication, call the Local 951 Communications Department at 1.800.999.0951.

Kroger Members: Have a Voice in Your Contract Talks

"The best way for Kroger members to have input in their contract negotiations is to complete their Local 951 collective bargaining questionnaire," Marv Russow, Local 951's president, said. "The local uses the survey information to establish bargaining goals and make important decisions during negotiations."

A high survey response rate will also send a strong message to Kroger that UFCW 951 members are involved in their negotiations, strongly united, and determined to reach a fair and just contract.

"Managers will be monitoring the stores for any activity regarding contract negotiations and reporting their findings to corporate," Russow said. "By talking about the survey and having a high percentage of members return their surveys we can make sure Kroger knows Local 951 members are already focused on their negotiations and intent on achieving their bargaining goals."

Kroger contract questionnaires are available from stewards and union representatives.

Union Protects Members in Rite Aid Benefit Change

When Rite Aid proposed a mid-contract change in health benefit plan options, UFCW 951 agreed, on the condition that no member incur a greater cost as a result of the change.

Rite Aid was allowed to eliminate the low co-pay, high deductible plan, leaving members with one health plan option. This sole option had lower deductibles, but a higher employee contribution. At UFCW 951's insistence, Rite Aid reduced the weekly employee contribution for this plan to match the amount previously paid by members for the higher deductible plan.

"This is positive change for all Rite Aid members who receive insurance under the terms of their union contract," Marv Russow, UFCW 951's president, said. "Members switching to the lower deductible plan will receive an improved benefit for the same about they paid for a lesser plan. Members who were already enrolled in the lower deductible plan will pay less for their benefits."

(OVER)

Congratulations 2011 Foundation Scholarship Winners

Members' donations to the UFCW 951 Foundation helped fund the \$40,000 in recently awarded scholarships to UFCW 951 members or their dependent children.

A complete listing of the winners on the 19 \$2,000 college scholarships, and the five \$400 textbook scholarships appears in the Summer Edition of *The Voice of 951*, on union bulletin boards, and on the Local 951 website -- www.ufcw951.com.

<p>\$2,000 Scholarship Winners Include Nicole Pfeifer, Kroger #852 Megan Poolman, Daughter of Lori Poolman, Harding's #400</p> <p>\$400 Textbook Scholarship Winners Include John "J.D." Pieron, Polly's #6 & Steven Strachn, Kroger #681</p>

Help Fellow Members -- Support the UFCW 951 Foundation

Helping Working Families



Building Strong Communities

the Foundation through payroll deductions.

To maintain and possibly expand the work of the Foundation, UFCW 951 has kicked off a membership sign-up drive, with the goal of increasing Foundation membership by 15 percent to 4,400 members by Fall. Union representatives and stewards will be asking members to consider a 40 cent weekly donation to the Foundation.

"We know times are tough and every penny counts, so we are asking members to make a small weekly contribution that, when added to the small weekly donations of other members, adds up to a significant amount of funding for the Foundation," Marv Russow, Local 951's president and Foundation Board member, said.

To create some friendly competition, Local 951 will hold a recognition luncheon at the retail unit (excluding Meijer) in each of the local's three regions that has the highest sign-up. The most improved unit in each region will also be recognized with a luncheon.

Top Rate Increases for Polly's Members

UFCW 951 members working at Polly's who qualified for a top rate adjustment at ratification should have received a wage increase on May 2, 1011. Members are encouraged to check their paycheck to insure they received the union-negotiated wage increase. Contact your union representative with questions regarding your pay rate.



Marv Russow, President
John Cakmakci, Secretary/Treasurer

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