

Actions in Support of Striking Shaw's Workers Go Coast-to-Coast with Local 21 and 81's Albertson's Petition



A Local 21 member and Supervalu employee at the Albertson's in Burien, Wash. signs a petition in support of striking Local 791 members at the Shaw's warehouse in Methuen, Mass.

Members of Locals 21 and 81 took to Albertson's stores across Northwest Washington on April 29 to ask their coworkers to sign petitions in support of striking Local 791 warehouse workers in Methuen, Massachusetts.

The UFCW locals and Teamsters Local 38 are currently in negotiations with Supervalu, the national grocery chain that is the parent company of Albertson's and the Shaw's warehouse in Massachusetts.

The group gathered more than 500 signatures in one afternoon of petitioning, and sent the petitions to Supervalu CEO Craig Herkert. In addition to the petitions collected, over a dozen locals from around the country have contributed financial support to the strikers and their families.

To date, International Vice Presidents and Presidents of Locals 21 and 324 David Schmitz and Greg Conger, as well as Local 81 President Michael J. Williams and Local 88 President Steven Straher, have sent letters to Supervalu demanding that Supervalu and Shaw's return to the table to bargain a fair contract with the Methuen workers. **OP**

In Bad Faith Bargaining Move, Shaw's Rejects Strike Settlement, Counters with Regressive Offer

On Monday, Shaw's rejected Local 791's offer to settle the two month-long strike in Methuen, countering with a package that drastically cuts jobs, health care and pension benefits. Local 791 has filed an unfair labor practice complaint against Shaw's with the National Labor Relations Board for bargaining in bad faith. UFCW brothers and sisters across the country continue to stand in solidarity with the striking workers. **OP**

UFCW Canada Wins Court Battle to Allow Migrant Farm Workers Unions

UFCW Canada has won an important court victory protecting the right of migrant farm workers to organize in Quebec. The ruling by the province's labor board threw out a rule that prevented farm workers from organizing unless a farm had at least three permanent, year-round employees. This is just the latest in a battle across Canada since the 1990s by the UFCW to protect the rights of migrant farm workers to organize. **OP**

CALL YOUR SENATOR TODAY FOR REAL IMMIGRATION REFORM!

UFCW members across the country are calling their Senators to voice support for the comprehensive immigration reform framework introduced by Senate Democratic leadership last week. Call your Senators today to tell them:

- Our immigration system is broken, and we must move forward for federal solution to the problem;
- The UFCW will work with Congress to move this priority issue, immigration reform, forward; and
- This framework is an important first step in that process.

For complete talking points, and more information on calling your Senators, visit the UFCW Political website at <http://voteufcw.org> today. **OP**

Local 1473 Signs Contract With Printer Cartridge Start-Up



Local 1473 President John Eiden signs a new contract with Rick Eitland of Union First Laser Technologies.

Local 1473 has signed a new contract with Union First Laser Technologies of La Crosse, Wisconsin. The company remanufactures and sells copier, laser printer and fax toner cartridges for

most major brands, with a special focus on serving the needs of organized labor.

“We’re excited to have Union First as part of the UFCW family,” said Local 1473 President John Eiden. “Every cartridge, every copier they sell will be another UFCW member earning a good wage and good benefits from a company that is proud to be union.”

For every cartridge sold the company will donate \$4 to charity on behalf of the UFCW. To contact Union First for union label cartridges, call (866) 203-8976. **OP**

Local 135 Members Feed the San Diego Homeless



Members of Local 135 John Reil, Anabel Arauz, and Ruvin Shore feed the homeless at the St. Vincent De Paul Village in San Diego, California. Local 135 President Mickey Kasparian said the local is “honored and humbled to give back to the community that has given us so much opportunity.” **OP**

UFCW CELEBRATES ASIAN-PACIFIC AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH IN MAY



APALA members march for worker's rights in Los Angeles in 1993.

May is Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month, a month in which we celebrate the contributions Asian Pacific Americans have made to this country for over 150 years.

Asian-Pacific American history also includes many labor struggles and victories. In the late 19th century, Asian Pacific American workers were vehemently excluded from the mainstream labor movement. Despite this exclusion, Asian Pacific American workers have had a rich history of organizing to demand better wages, working conditions and dignity. As early as 1857, 2,000 Chinese railroad workers staged a strike in California for the same pay and hours as white workers, in one of the largest-scale strikes of the century. It was not until the 1930s that Asian Pacific American workers began to become integrated into organized labor.

In 1992, Asian Pacific American labor activists from all over the country, representing a range of ethnic backgrounds and labor unions, formed the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA) to address the ever-increasing need for Asian Pacific Americans to organize. Asian Pacific Americans are now among the fastest growing groups in union ranks. **OP**