

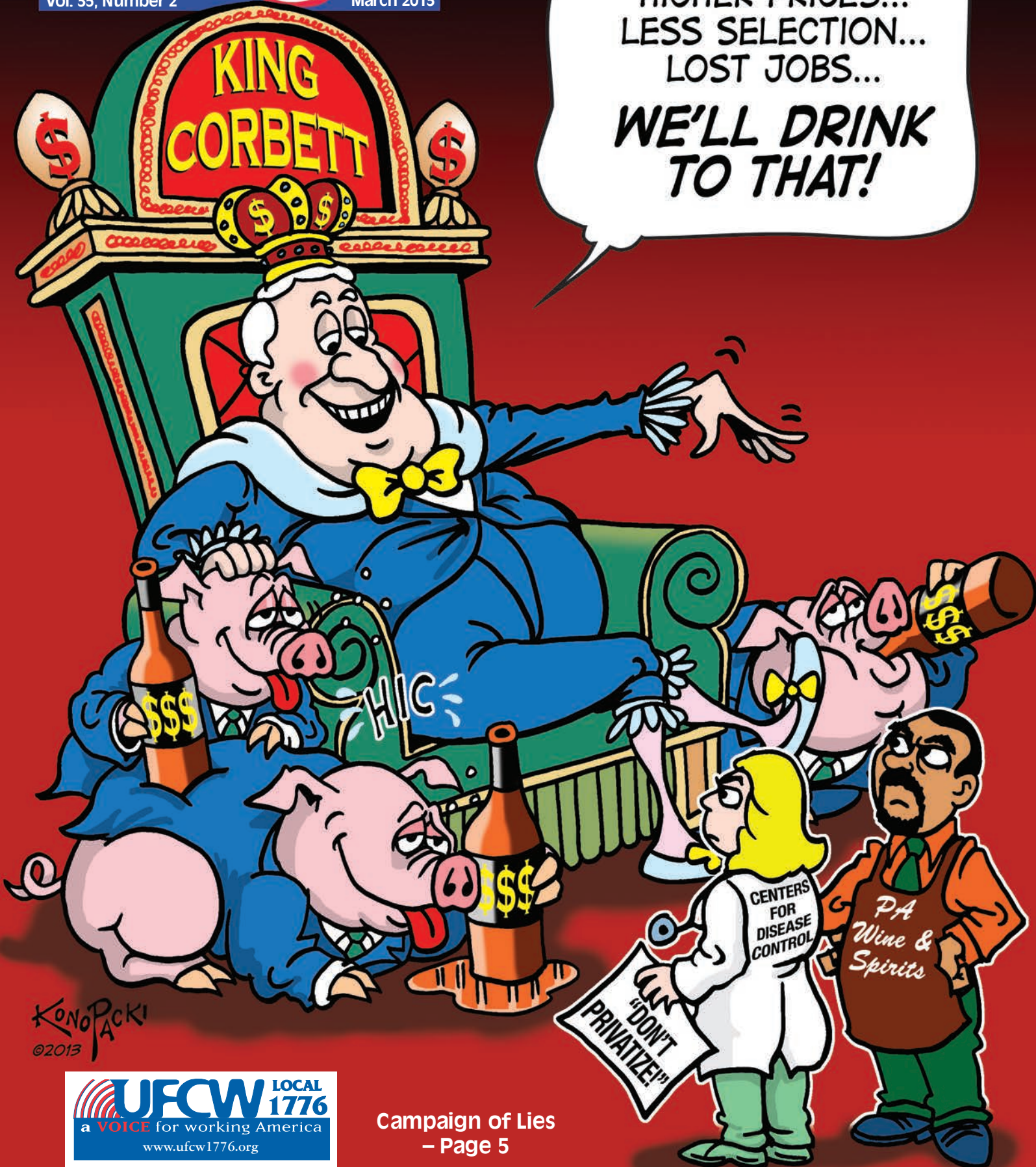
dialogue

Vol. 35, Number 2

March 2013

HIGHER PRICES...
LESS SELECTION...
LOST JOBS...

**WE'LL DRINK
TO THAT!**



KONOPACKI
©2013

Notice of Delegate and Alternate Delegate Nominations and Elections To the UFCW International Convention

Nominations for the UFCW International Convention Delegates and Alternate Delegates Election will be held on Monday, April 1, 2013 at 7 pm at the following locations:

1. UFCW Local 1776
Meeting Hall / Walton Campus
3031-A Walton road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
2. AFSCME Conference Center
150 South 43rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17111
3. Super 8 Motel, State College
1663 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
4. UFCW Local 1776
Northeast Division Office
2007 Highway 315
Pittston, PA 18640

THE ELECTION WILL BE HELD ON THURSDAY, APRIL 18, 2013.

A separate notice will be sent within the next few weeks to all UFCW Local 1776 members specifying polling locations and times for the

election. Positions for election are:

23 Delegates and
23 Alternate Delegates

Candidates may be nominated for only one (1) position.

**All questions should be referred to the
General Chairperson of the Delegate Election,
Marie Giorgio**



Notificación de Delegado y Delegado Alterno Nominaciones y Elecciones En la Convención Internacional de la UFCW

Las nominaciones para los delegados de la convención Internacional de la UFCW y elecciones de los delegados alternos se llevará a cabo el Lunes, 01 de abril 2013 a las 7 pm en los siguientes lugares:

1. UFCW Local 1776
Meeting Hall / Walton Campus
3031-A Walton road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
2. AFSCME Conference Center
150 South 43rd Street
Harrisburg, PA 17111
3. Super 8 Motel, State College
1663 South Atherton Street
State College, PA 16801
4. UFCW Local 1776
Northeast Division Office
2007 Highway 315
Pittston, PA 18640

La elección se llevará a cabo el jueves 18 de abril 2013

Un aviso separado será enviado dentro de las próximas semanas a todos los miembros de la UFCW Local 1776 especificando los lugares de votación y

horas para la elección. Posiciones para la elección son:

23 delegados y
23 delegados alternos

Los candidatos pueden ser nominados solo para una (1) posición.

**Todas las preguntas deben ser referidos a la
Presidenta General de la elección de los delegados,
Marie Giorgio**



Remembering Wendell W. Young, III, 1938-2013

On behalf of my family and everyone here at Local 1776 who worked with my father, Wendell W. Young, III, I want to express my thanks for the outpouring of support from so many members and friends on Dad's passing on New Year's Day at age 74.

Wendell III, as we called him for years, was one of the most progressive leaders in our state and nation. He never stopped working on behalf of the men and women he was proud to represent, and never stopped enjoying meeting and talking with you.

My dad had a hard time fitting a day into 24 hours, rarely went on vacation, and lived like a firefighter responding to multiple alarms at once all day, every day. I often thought that if I didn't work with him I wouldn't see him much or know him very well. I am so happy to have had that experience.

His accomplishments are amazing and too many to discuss here, but a few stand out.

In the early 1960's he was elected business agent at age 22, and was elected President of the union at age 23. He fought for civil rights and woman's rights, opposed the war in Vietnam, took on powerful companies and politicians and challenged the international union leadership, all before age 30.

I plan to carry my Dad's lessons into the efforts the Local continues to make for all of our members. My father's wife, Kathy, my brothers and I thank you for standing with us as we recognize Dad's life work.



– Wendell W. Young, IV

Coming in next Dialogue: A full tribute

dialogue

United Food and Commercial Workers
Local 1776

3031-A Walton Rd., Suite 201
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Visit us on the web: www.ufcw1776.org

President
Wendell W. Young, IV
Secretary-Treasurer
Michele Kessler

Recorder
Barbara Johnson

Main Office:
3031-A Walton Rd., Suite 201
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462
610-940-1776 (toll-free: 1-866-329-1776)

Northeast PA Office:
2007 Highway 315
Pittston, PA 18640
570-655-6886 (toll-free 1-800-635-6994)

Central PA Office:
3161 Chambersburg Rd.
Biglerville, PA 17307
717-334-0064 (toll-free 1-800-332-9421)

Harrisburg Office
150 S. 43rd St., Suite 214
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-558-3510 (toll-free: 1-800-332-9421)

Communications Office:
William Epstein, Director
610-940-1812 (toll-free: 1-866-329-1776, x-812)

UFCW Local 1776 and Participating Employers
Health & Welfare Fund:
3031-B Walton Rd.
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-2344
610-941-9400 (toll-free: 1-800-458-8618)

UFCW Local 1776 and Participating Employers Pension Fund:
3031-B Walton Rd.
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-2344
610-941-9400 (toll-free: 1-800-458-8618)

UFCW Union and Participating Food Industry Employers Tri-State Pension Fund:
3031-B Walton Rd.
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462-2344

March 2013



Printed on recycled paper.

A message from the front line:

*The following letter was sent to Governor Corbett
by Steve Murren, PA Wine & Spirits member from New Berlin, PA:*

Dear Governor Corbett:

As a clerk at Wine and Spirits Store #6712 on White Street in York, I strongly urge you to reconsider your proposal to privatize my store.

My customers like my store and the people who staff it. They are not in your “studies” that suggest the majority of Pennsylvanians want privatization. They enjoy a clean, well lit, well stocked store. They do not want to stand in line at a Giant, Costco, or Walmart for their wine and spirits purchases. They know when they come into my store that we will do whatever it takes to make sure they leave with the product for which they are looking. They rely on our knowledge and expertise and we take great pride in knowing all aspects of our job.

Keep these stores intact, Governor Corbett. 3,500 people are counting on it. These jobs are family sustaining. The benefits package I receive as a full-time employee afford me the “luxury” of taking my seven year-old daughter, Abigail, to the doctor’s office and paying a \$15 co-pay instead of \$115 out of my pocket. In this economy, my benefits are a great asset to me and my family. I will not receive these “luxuries” if your proposal goes through and I am forced to take a job with a big-box store that wants to pay me minimum wage with no benefits. This is a fact, sir, and you cannot dispute it, no matter what your advisors tell you about the “myriad of possibilities” for “potentially displaced state workers”.

Your argument that the State should not be in the business of liquor sales does not hold water with me. I strongly believe it is the responsibility of our elected officials to do what is best for their constituents. Regulating the sale of a volatile substance falls within that responsibility. My fellow co-workers and I are very adamant about the proper sale of wine and spirits to those who wish to purchase them. We are constantly requiring proof of age before serving anyone who appears to be under the age of 30. While I would like to think everyone in the private sector would be that responsible, the fact is that the small mom and pop stores may just look at a 20 year old kid who wants a \$50 bottle of liquor as a potential way to pay the electric bill and not give a second thought to the ramifications. This does not happen with the current system. I have nothing to gain and everything to lose by knowingly serving someone underage or visibly intoxicated.

I hope this letter finds you before it is sent to a junk email folder. I hope you realize what a potential impact your proposal may have on a lot of families in Pennsylvania. Please reconsider your proposal and listen to some people who have been asking for years to modernize the current system, not privatize it. I hope I have my current job for many years to come.

Feel free to contact me with any questions you may have of this “working man”. I’m always up for the conversation.

Sincerely,

Steven P. Murren
East Berlin, PA

Report from the President: Taking on King Corbett's Campaign of Lies

By Wendell W. Young, IV,
President, UFCW Local 1776



How many times have you heard that we're at a critical point in our battle to save the PA Wine & Spirits stores and the jobs of 3,500 UFCW members statewide?

I know. Your answer probably is more times than you can count.

After all, we waged and won this fight when Milton Shapp was Governor. When Dick Thornburg was Governor. And when Tom Ridge was Governor.

For the past two years, we've turned back House Majority Leader Mike Turzai and his philosophical zealot partners.

Now, Governor Tom Corbett has woken up to

his sagging reelection poll numbers. He needs to light his fundraising fires, and he's using his plan to privatize the Wine & Spirits stores to do it. He's desperate,

and he's coming after us with everything he has.

Corbett has launched a cynical, lie-filled campaign linking the sale of the stores to more funds for schools. Never mind that the \$1 billion he alleges he'll get from privatization in four years – even though his own study says he won't – doesn't begin to replace the money he's cut from public education in the past two years. Never mind that the stores and schools have nothing to do with each other. Never mind that his scheme would

(Continued on page 6)





(Continued from page 5)

throw 3,500 members of Local 1776 and Local 23 out of work, and devastate another nearly 11,000 jobs in the beer industry, creating huge unemployment costs. Never mind that his plan would open the way to alcohol sales on every corner in our neighborhoods, or that it would ship more than \$100 million a year in profits out of state, risk additional tens of millions of dollars in tax revenues, and leave all taxpayers holding the bag, whether they drink or not.

This Governor is playing political “let’s make a deal” with our members’ jobs, our kids and our communities. He should be ashamed to use students as bargaining chips.

It was one thing for us to counter Mike Turzai. But the Governor and the potential tens of millions of advertising dollars he can raise from his cronies who stand to profit from privatization are a far greater threat to our members. It happened in Washington State less than one year ago. Costco alone spent \$22 million in advertising to influence a public referendum, and as a result nearly 1,000 UFCW members lost their jobs. Prices are up; service and selection are down; and Washington customers are flocking to Oregon and Idaho to buy their wine and liquor.

We don’t want to see that here. If we are to win, our weapon in the PA House and Senate is our collective voice. Corbett and his privateers have the money. But we have the people – only if we are mobilized.





That's why I have no hesitation in saying, yes, this is as critical point as we have reached. We need to get thousands of members, their families and their friends to write, email and call their State Representative and State Senator to say that privatization is wrong for their families, wrong for their communities and wrong for all Pennsylvania taxpayers. It takes just a minute or two write and or call with a brief message: Modernize, don't privatize.

As we headed to press, the Governor and Turzai introduced their privatization legislation. They were using heavy pressure in a full-court press to get it approved by the House of Representatives. If that happens, our only hope to stop it would be in the Senate.

You'd want other Local 1776 members to spend a few minutes to write and call to save your job, wouldn't you?

Please do it for your Wine & Spirits brothers and sisters. Visit www.ufcw1776.org to see how easy it is. Please do it today.

Tell your State Representative and State Senator that we want real leadership and good judgment from our leaders. Tell them to close tax loopholes, and to tax shale gas instead of giving it away to the oil companies. Tell them to pass the bipartisan supported, common sense modernization steps to create even more revenues from the Wine & Spirits stores instead of giving them away to the big box stores and convenience chains.

If you have any questions, please call your Union Representative toll-free at 866-329-1776, extension 1 or visit www.ufcw1776.org.

Thank you for your support as we wage this battle to protect our members' jobs.

Top left, PLCB Stewards meeting in Harrisburg; top right, 1776 President Wendell W. Young, IV discussing privatization on the Delaware County Daily Times live webcast; and below, Young on WFMZ-TV's Business Matters with, from left, Katrina Anderson, State Rep. Michael O'Brien and Harrisburg consultant Charles Gerow.





'Living Against the Current' – the fight for a higher minimum wage

By Seth Harris

Acting Secretary, U.S. Department of Labor

Acting U.S. Secretary of Labor Seth Harris visited Philadelphia in mid-February to meet with workers who struggle to provide for their families on full-time jobs at minimum wage. Local 1776 Director of Legislative and Political Action John Meyerson joined other labor leaders at the meeting. *The Secretary's report:*

They looked me directly in the eyes. They were forthright, bold and persuasive.

Until recently, Tracey Mulvehill has been holding down two jobs to make ends meet, one of which was for minimum wage at a casino. "It feels like I've been living against the current, trying to stay above water," she said.

Jessica Nunez currently works two minimum wage jobs at a warehouse packing chocolate and as a housekeeper. She has three children. She told me that every day she is forced to choose between feeding them, giving them school supplies or providing warm clothing.

Cheryl Henderson is a baggage handler at the airport and a high school graduate. She has worked for the minimum wage for two years and lives with her parents and son. She says an increase to her current wage "would be beneficial and will allow me and my son to finally have a place of our own."

Shedaya Ivy works at McDonald's at minimum wage and is attending community college. She lives at home with her grandmother and aunt. For her, a higher minimum wage would mean she "can make sure her grandmother and aunt are ok" and ensure they "have food in the house." "As long as my family is ok," she says "I'm ok."

These are just some of the workers with whom I sat down in Philadelphia to talk about the struggles that workers and families living on today's federal minimum wage go through to make ends meet. For them, being rewarded an honest day's wage for an honest day's work will help them climb into the middle class. These are

our hardworking neighbors and loved ones, exhibiting the tireless spirit that built the American Dream. They deserve a decent living that rewards them for their contributions and allows them to raise their families out of poverty.

President Obama is proposing an increase in the federal minimum wage to \$9 by 2015 and indexing the minimum wage to inflation thereafter. This increase would restore the real (adjusted for cost-of-living) value of the minimum wage to what it was in 1981, and indexing the minimum wage to inflation would ensure that working families can keep up with expenses in the future. There are about 15 million workers in the United States who would see a direct boost to their earnings if this proposal is enacted. But it's not only the workers currently earning the minimum wage who would benefit. The proposal makes excellent economic sense, with the most pronounced benefits coming from increased worker productivity and purchasing power.

Take the recent letter to our national leaders from a group of highly esteemed economists from the Economic Policy Institute. It states that raising the federal minimum wage would "serve to stimulate the economy as low-wage workers spend their additional earnings potentially raising demand and job growth."

President Obama, Tracey, Jessica, Cheryl, Shedaya and I are convinced we can do more to lift up our communities and help Americans achieve their dreams. Raising the minimum wage is a great place to start.

In Memorium

John Nicholson and Grant Rhodes

Local 1776 is saddened to report the deaths of two retired long-term and widely-respected Union Representatives – John Nicholson and Grant Rhodes.

JOHN NICHOLSON

Retired since July of 1993, John Nicholson joined the Local 1776 staff as a Service Representative in 1967 after having served in the U.S. Navy and working at EJ Korvettes.

He became a highly respected Lead Agent for the Union's Super Fresh members, and was beloved by the members he represented. He was known for his dedication to his work, his ready smile and generous sense of humor.

John was active in Democratic politics in Springfield, Delaware County, and served as a delegate to the Delaware County Central Labor Council.

He is survived by his wife, Barbara.

GRANT RHODES

Joining Local 1776 from mid-state Pennsylvania when Local 295 merged with Local 1776, Grant Rhodes retired as a Union Representative in 1993. He earned the respect of the members he represented in Central Pennsylvania, and was the beloved husband of Peg Rhodes, 1776 Union Representative.

Grant was 75 and lived in East Berlin, PA. He was a life member of the Elks, and was a member of the American Legion and the Loyal Order of Moose in Hanover, PA.

In addition to Peg, Grant is survived by three daughters, Gay Crouse and her husband, Steve of Owings, MD., Terri Jones and her husband, Danny of New Windsor, MD., and Penny Gamble and her husband Chuck of West River, MD.; a son, Stanley Chein and his wife Ashley of York; and five grandchildren: Holly, Garrett, Austin, Jason and Leo.



Kickoffs for Legislative Forums

Local 1776 kicked off its 2013 Legislative Education Forums at the Walton Road campus in January and the Pittston office in March. Members and legislators gathered at round tables to discuss issues that affect working men and women all across Pennsylvania. The relaxed, small group discussions allowed for open dialogues that will help the legislators better understand issues important to working men and women and help 1776 members better understand the legislative process.

Special thanks to the legislators and members that attended the Walton Road forum: Rep. Steve McCarter and Acme Shop Steward Eileen Fonseca; Rep. Kate Harper; Sen. Tina Tartaglione; Rep. John Galloway and PAC contributor Sean Wynn; Rep. Brendan Boyle; Rep. Tina Davis; Rep. Madeleine Dean; Staffer for Rep. Steve Santarsiero; Acme Shop Steward Patti Flynn; Acme Shop Steward Nicholas Stephano and Staffer for Sen. Anthony Williams; Shop Rite Shop Steward John Tynan; Acme Shop Steward and Executive Board Member Charles Young; PLCB Shop Steward Leslie Cooper; PLCB Shop Steward Sylvia Hovington; PLCB member Katrina Christian; and PLCB Shop Steward David Giordano.

Coming in Next Dialogue: Pittston Legislative Forum





Apply Now: Local 1776 Young Members' Summer Internship Program

By Leonard Purnell,
Director of Field Operations

For the past six years, the staff of Local 1776 has run a summer internship program designed to reach out to our younger members. The Local is now accepting applications for the 2013 UFCW Local 1776 Young Members' Internship Program.

The internship is an eight week, paid, educational program running from June 10, 2013 to August 2, 2013. It is designed to reach out to the younger members of Local 1776 and their family members between the ages of 18 to 30 in an effort to:

- Engage, involve, and develop participants' skills in the Local's effort to improve wages, health care benefits and conditions for working families; and,
- Help grow the labor movement.

In the first week, participants will take part in thorough orientation and training. Interns will be assigned to various areas of the Local for work activities, including the Field Services Department, the Legislative and Political Department, and Communications.

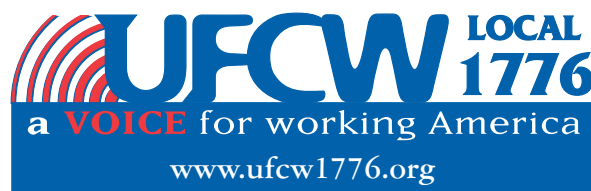
The activities in which the interns will be involved include:

1. Assisting in building coalitions between community organizations;
2. Educating the public and rallying support on workers' rights issues;
3. Canvassing neighborhoods about issues of importance to working people, including healthcare and the OUR Walmart campaign;
4. Working on organizing campaigns, including home visits with workers;
5. Lobbying elected officials to promote issues of importance to working families; and,
6. Political Action Committee sign-ups.

The Local's interns need to be people-orientated, energetic, flexible, and willing to work long hours on an unpredictable schedule. A college degree is not required.

Participants will need their own vehicle and a valid driver's license, and must be at least 18 years old. Spanish language skills are a plus. If selected, the interns will receive a weekly stipend plus expenses such as gas, tolls, and parking.

Candidates can apply online at www.ufcw1776.org/intern, or can contact their Union Representative. **This year's application deadline is May 1, 2013.** Still need more information? Feel free to contact me by email at lpurnell@ufcw1776.org, or toll free at 1-866-329-1776 ext. 822.



Internship

June 10 to August 2, 2013

The internship is an eight-week **paid** program for young members of UFCW Local 1776 or family members. Participants will work in each key area of the Union.



Requirements:

- 18 to 30 years of age
- Valid driver's license and a vehicle
- You do not need to be a college student
- Spanish language skills are a plus



Application Deadline: May 1, 2013

Apply Online: www.ufcw1776.org/intern

More information: contact Len Purnell



lpurnell@ufcw1776.org

1-866-329-1776 ext. 822



Dutch Delegation Aids Giant Campaign

In December, union members who work for Ahold in Holland – parent company of Giant in Pennsylvania – visited the US and took part in actions to bring attention to the plight of workers in non-union stores operated by Giant Food Stores in Carlisle PA. During their stay, the representatives toured the R&R ShopRite in Philadelphia. They were impressed with the clean store, friendly staff and wide selection. Special thanks to the Dutch Delegation for their time and help and thanks to the employees of R&R ShopRite for their hospitality and service.



Shop Steward and PAC contributor Pat Casee (left) and Front-End Manager Steve Thompson spoke with the Dutch representatives about how they manage the front end operations.



The Dutch Representatives (left) were impressed with the large bakery department something they say is not seen in their country's stores.

Pictured from left (below) are Dutch Delegation representatives Thea Werhoeven and Hans Mense; ShopRite associate Ken Butler; Dutch private sector union negotiator Joosje de Lang; and UFCW International Representative Aarti Patel.





2013 *calendar* for Local 1776

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS

Tuesday, March 26, 2013, 1 pm
UFCW Local 1776 Walton Rd. Campus
3031-A Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

Tuesday, May 21, 2013, 1 pm
UFCW Local 1776 NE PA office
2007 Highway 315
Pittston, PA 18640

NORTHEAST DIVISION AREA MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 2, 2013, 6pm
Days Inn of Liberty
25 Sullivan Ave.
Liberty, NY 12754

Tuesday, May 7, 2013, 6pm
Comfort Inn
58 State Route 93
West Hazleton, PA 18201

Tuesday, June 4, 2013, 6pm
Microtel Inn & Suites
90 Dorsett Heights
Mansfield, PA 16933

SOUTHEAST DIVISION AREA MEETINGS

Tuesday, April 9, 2013, 6 pm
Berks County Agricultural Center
1238 County Welfare Road
Leesport, PA 19533

Thursday, May 16, 2013, 6 pm
Seafarer's International Union
2604 South 4th Street
Philadelphia, PA 19148

Tuesday, June 11, 2013, 6 pm
UFCW Local 1776 Walton Rd. Campus
3031-A Walton Road
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

CENTRAL DIVISION AREA MEETINGS

Monday, April 8, 2013, 6pm
AFSCME Conference Center
150 South 43rd St.
Harrisburg, PA 17111

UFCW Local 1776
3031-A Walton Road
Suite 201
Plymouth Meeting, PA 19462

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

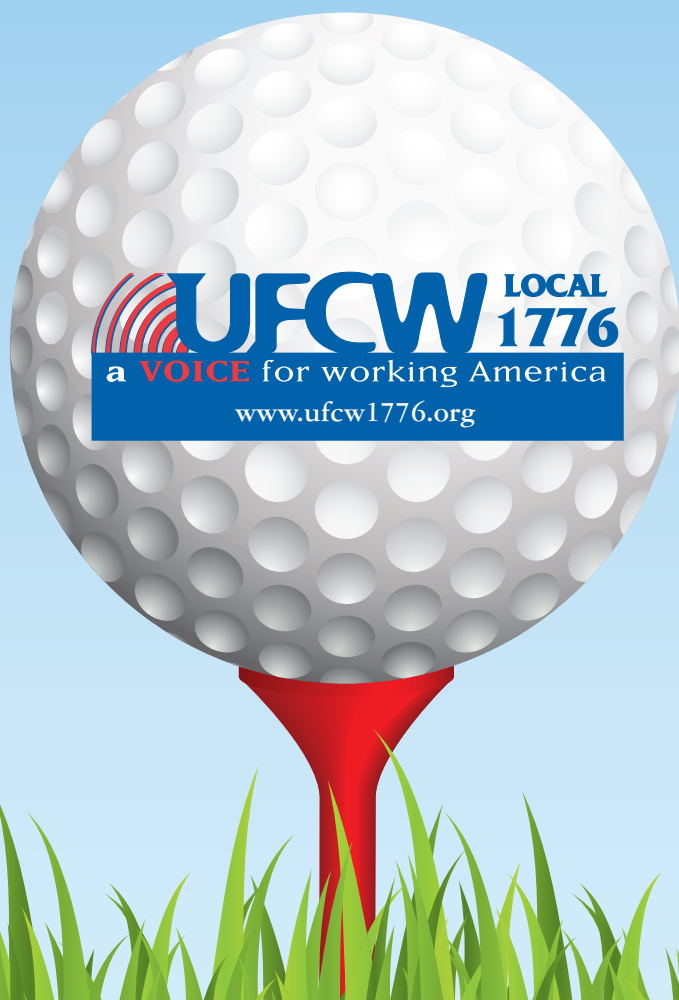
Non-Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage Paid
Phila., PA
Permit No. 3088



UFCW Local 1776 11th Annual Members Golf Outing

Monday, June 3, 2013

Mainland Golf Course, Lansdale, PA



Registration: 11 AM
Lunch: Noon
Shotgun Start: 1 PM

\$85 per person

*Includes green fees, cart, full
lunch and dinner and draft beers*

To purchase tickets or
for more info contact:

Kevin Drew

Toll free: 1-866-329-1776 ext. 810

Fax: 610-941-9525

Email: kdrew@ufcw1776.org

FULL PAYMENT DUE MAY 17