



## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

# Bringing the fight to New Seasons



**DAN CLAY**  
President, Local 555

Given that the Pacific Northwest is a relatively union-friendly environment, most of us probably haven't experienced the fear and exhilaration of fighting to start a union at work. It can be hard to remember the "why" behind collective organizing if you've never had to do it. Our fellow workers at New Seasons are in a different position, though, and their time is now.

Everyone in the Pacific Northwest knows and loves New Seasons, right? The "friendliest store in town?" Well, think again. The private equity firm Endeavour Capital bought New Seasons in 2009 and since then, workers have been seeing a steady decline in their treatment and benefits. The company continues to glide along on its local,

lovable branding, but we're now concerned that it's being done on the backs of their workers.

The National Labor Relations Act gives workers the right to organize a union in the workplace: to participate in meetings, openly show support for unionizing, circulate and sign peti-

them for attempting to unionize. Of course, employers try to find a way around those laws. In fact, two workers at the forefront of the New Seasons' Workers United movement were fired recently (and many more experienced other forms of retaliation) and I think some healthy skepticism is

# NEW SEASONS WORKERS United

tions, organize other employees, and join together in protest of unfair treatment or to demand improvements in the workplace. In other words, laws are in place to protect workers so that their employers can't legally penalize

called for when asking ourselves what could possibly have caused New Seasons' management to do such a thing!

And, when New Seasons Workers United (NSWU) sent their statement of principles to

CEO Wendy Collie and requested the chance to speak with her to discuss their demands, the company hired the same union-busting firm (Cruz & Associates) that Donald Trump used when fighting workers at his Las Vegas hotels. This firm, advertising a specialty in "union avoidance," has been holding "informational meetings" with workers. Let's utilize that healthy skepticism again when wondering whether these meetings are strictly informational or are possibly intended to intimidate and silence the more vocal workers.

Keep watching social media for actions you can take to help our fellow workers as they fight for better working conditions, representation, and collective bargaining. At Local 555 we will never stop fighting for workers' rights, including those not yet represented, but who are putting their careers on the line to get there. We're with you, NSWU!

I remain yours, in unity,

Dan Clay

## SECRETARY-TREASURER'S NOTE

# Making your voice matter in 2018 (and beyond)



**JEFF ANDERSON**  
Secretary-Treasurer

2018 is shaping up to be a mid-term election season like none we've seen before. Partisan emotions are running hot (no surprise there!) and the fights over the expectation for governance in this country has hit new

highs. UFCW Local 555's Active Ballot Club does not endorse political parties, but we do endorse candidates who fight for workers' rights (regardless of party) as well as laws that are designed to support our workers. And regardless of how and whether 2018 elections change anything about our day-to-day lives, the truth remains that we all win when we vote and make our voices heard.



For too long, too few of us have been participating in the process. Voter apathy has been extraordinarily high, making voter turnout extraordinarily low. If I want us to collectively accomplish one thing on the political front this year, it's to do what we can to

turn the tide on voter registration and turnout. We're going to be making a big push for voter registration because it doesn't matter how loud our voices can be if we don't use them.

If you're not registered to vote, DO SO!

If you are registered to vote, encourage someone else to register!

And once you and your friends are registered, be sure to put that

registration to good use and VOTE every chance you get. Our collective future depends on it.

In solidarity,

Jeff Anderson

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## Contacting UFCW

UFCW staff can be reached during business hours at **503-684-2822** or **800-452-8329**.

Please send any correspondence to our mailing address: **P.O. Box 23555 Tigard, OR 97281**.

The UFCW fax number is **503-620-3816**.

[www.ufcw555.org](http://www.ufcw555.org)



# UFCW Local 555 Years of Service

OUR MEMBERS ARE OUR GREATEST STRENGTH. CONGRATULATIONS ON THESE MILESTONES!

## 40 YEARS

Mark Campagna  
Ronald Garber

## 35 YEARS

Jeff Kaufman  
Roy Nasman

## 25 YEARS

Thomas Stringer  
Richard Swanson  
W. Barry Woodruff

## 20 YEARS

Cori Arey  
Pennie Bixler  
Kimberly Clark  
Patricia Freitas  
Patty Kuzma  
Sharon Micalizio  
Robbie Rodriguez  
Deborah Schmidt  
Bradley Shuell  
Roman Sommer

## 15 YEARS

Gregoria Avila  
Linda Baker  
Wendy Bolfik  
Deborah Colantuono  
Alan Crook  
Linda Dykeman  
Steven Gaines  
Genevieve Hartley

Maria Ana Hernandez  
Tamara Lallo  
Elizabeth Robbins  
Shannon Robirts  
Javier Solis  
Rene Spears  
Denise Truett  
Catherine Unruh  
Valentina Zhezhera

## 10 YEARS

Jennifer Austin  
Stephanie Babcock  
Jannette Bibian  
Tamilyn Bishop  
Steve Blood  
Dianne Brandle  
Jill Cannon  
Jennifer Cunningham  
Ashley DeBogart  
Sara Farr  
Leisa Flaherty  
Kristi Froescher  
Mark Goleman  
Dianna Hamel  
Stacey Henderson  
Douglas Heuer  
Jeremy Hidde  
Katie Hundemer  
Tami Jackson  
Rebecca Karlson  
Kathleen Kellogg  
Michael Laverdure  
Douglas Lemont  
Robert Liberty  
Michael (Francice) Litfin  
Ty Maher  
Michele Mihm  
Anstasia Mills  
Shelly Montecillo  
Nelson Lemus Monterroso  
Jessie Moon  
Jeremy Muldoon  
Carolina Munoz  
Brenden Patterson  
Celia Ann Reyes

Rosa Maria Rojas  
Maria Santana  
Gayle Standley  
Marcelina Tejada  
Vincent Udland  
Kari Wilson  
Yonney Yadao

## 5 YEARS

Williams Adams  
Amy Allen  
Donna Baker  
Mariah Batiste  
Maureen Beliditto  
Rose Bottaro  
Frank Bousley  
Dustin Boyd  
David Boyle  
Myla Caasi  
Matthew Cockrall  
Sheryl Cook  
Taryn Cooley  
Patrick Cronin  
Lori Davis  
Scott Dexter  
Brendan Donovan  
Parker Doyle  
Laura Farmer  
Ryan Francisco  
David Fuller  
Deborah Fulton  
Jesus Garcia-Martinez  
Kathleed Green  
Patricia Hancock  
Tiara Harding  
Shirley Harris  
Janet Henry  
John Hernandez  
Eric Hillard  
Duane Holston  
Leanne Howard  
Sen Huynh  
Alma Ingram  
Jeffery Janney  
Steve Kibbe  
Laura Kimmel  
Patricia Kinney  
Kimberly Kyelberg  
Steve Lambert  
Cindy Lane  
Scarlett Lewis  
Sandra Lee Love  
Sierra Lynn  
David Maeyaert  
Christos Mandalides  
Tiffany Maxwell

Eva McCracken  
Laimute Meurer  
William Miller  
Vu Nguyen  
Ed Nyman  
Matthew Ormsby  
Andrew Paris  
Skyler Parrish  
Nancy Pierce  
Marissa Pulido  
Jorge Rangel  
Cat Saponari  
Patrick Shanahan  
Jackie Sherwood  
Mark Simpson  
Erleen Sion  
Alicia Stinnett  
Joanne Stratton  
Akhenaton Stuart-Mitchell  
Matias Taisacan  
Matthew Tamalonis  
Victra Taylor  
Marija Thompson  
Casey Thornton  
Raul Vega  
Yue Yu

## Grievance update:

GRIEVANCES FILED 2017 FINAL

# 153

MONEY RECOVERED 2017 FINAL

# \$115,122

# MEMBERS RETURNED TO  
WORK 2017 FINAL

# 33

WATCH NEXT MONTH'S ISSUE FOR  
THE FIRST 2018 GRIEVANCE NUMBERS



# UFCW 555 Member Spotlights



Ivan has been a member of UFCW Local 555 for nine years. Working in the pharmacy Ivan says he gets to see firsthand how good the health benefits for UFCW members are. He also looks forward to attending the Labor Day Picnic at Oaks Park every year.

**IVAN NEEDHAM, CORNELIUS FRED MEYER**



*“I am glad to be a member of UFCW Local 555. On a personal level, I appreciate the fact that our union shows up and works closely with members. I know the union takes it’s members seriously and looks out for our best interests.”*

**NATHAN BOGUCKI, AINSWORTH SAFEWAY**



Meet Zee. She joined Local 555 in September of 2016. Zee once worked as a contract consultant in Saudi Arabia. She currently works in seafood at Glisan Fred Meyer and is considering becoming a steward for Local 555.

**ZEE PRIEST, GLISAN FRED MEYER**



*“I’ve been a proud union member for the last 42 years and now as I step into retirement I’m very thankful that I am a union member and I am very appreciative of all the people that I have worked with through the years. I know that I will miss many of you. I’ve been very proud for the last nine years to have represented my fellow union members and I know I will leave you in very good hands with the leadership of our local that we have at this time.”*

**STEVE WILLIAMSEN, UFCW LOCAL 555**



Valerie Spier is happy to be back to work after being suspended. She knew she did not do what the employer accused her of, and so she asked her union for help. An investigation proved that Valerie was, in fact, innocent and she was returned to work, with back pay!

**VALERIE SPIER**



*“Up until about 2 years ago, I was working a non-union job that didn’t provide health coverage. As I’ve gotten older—I recently turned 51—health coverage has become more and more important to me. It has been warming and comforting to know that my union has my back and has helped me get the care that I need—without destroying my wallet!”*

**SHANE ROZELL, BEAVERTON FRED MEYER**



*“My name is Chris Toquero and I’m a steward at Kaiser’s Skyline pharmacy. As a steward it’s my job to know the contract, answer questions, and spot problems. Having trained stewards who know what to do is the best way to defend our contract and protect our members.”*

**CHRIS TOQUERO, KP SKYLINE PHARMACY**



*“I am proud to be a part of the ABC, and grateful to my brothers and sisters of Local 555 that help support it. Over the past few years they have helped me and my co-workers pass laws to make our lives better! Thank you to Local 555 and for all you do!”*

**JONATHAN DEAN CAMERON, EUGENE ALBERTSONS**





“Hi, my name is Rebecca Cervantes. I'm a courtesy clerk at the Hood River Rosaurers. I have been there almost 2 years now. The union has helped me out in many ways—from problems at work to just questions and concerns. The union works hard and has your back like a family, which I'm happy to be a part of.”

**REBECCA CERVANTES,  
HOOD RIVER ROSAURERS**



“I am very happy and proud to be a member of the UFCW Local 555. I have been a member for well over a decade and feel we are headed in a great direction.”

**DINO FORTUNATI,  
BEND SAFEWAY**



“I work at the McMinnville Safeway. I'm excited for the Fair Work Week law to go into effect this year. We can finally have a private life! It's going to be a good new year.”

**WILL ROSS,  
MCMINNVILLE SAFEWAY**



“I've worked at Fred Meyer since 1998 and have been a shop steward almost as long. It has been a great honor to work as a shop steward for the crew at Newport Fred Meyer. It's great to hear the news of the Fair Work Week law. It's a great step for establishing a better work life balance for retail workers. A lot of times, especially during the holiday seasons, we're treated as salaried employees, on call and yet only compensated for hours worked. With the FWW law, we will be compensated for showing our employer hard work and dedication!”

**DAN CRAWFORD, NEWPORT FRED MEYER**



“Hi, my name is Nancy Dudgeon and I work at the Vancouver Safeway 1519 in the deli. I've worked at the Hazel Dell store and the Washougal store over my 22 year career with Safeway but had to take a year off for health reasons. I'm back now! I can say I come from a union family because my Dad spent 32 years with Safeway, and my husband spent 40 years as a union pipefitter. I spent a couple of years non-union and didn't like not having union representation. As union members we have affordable insurance, a pension, and help when I had a short term disability. I would like to say to the young people: you don't know how good you have it with our union here until it's gone!”

**NANCY DUDGEON, VANCOUVER SAFEWAY**



“I'm one of the steward council co-chairs at Kaiser's Sunnyside Medical Center, where I work as an EEG Technologist. Being able to solve problems in my workplace makes me feel great about my union! It's exciting to see so many members getting involved as we get ready for bargaining.”

**DEBORAH NEWCOMB,  
KAISER'S SUNNYSIDE MEDICAL CENTER**

## OFF INTO THE Sunset

We cannot possibly celebrate each and every Local 555 retiree to the degree that we would like! But, if you know a 555 member who is about to retire and would like a mention, please email their name, picture, start date and retirement date, and any other information you'd like to comms@ufcw555.org.

Harry (pictured here in his James Bond Halloween costume) started with Fred Meyer an impressive 52 years ago and will be retiring from the Clackamas Fred Meyer store on his 72nd birthday (January 29, 2018)! Beloved by customers and fellow employees alike, Harry lives to make people happy through music and drama. He emceed the Clackamas store's grand re-opening and has written several songs for Fred Meyer, including those used in their Christmas commercials. In addition to using his musical gifts at work, he has written, directed, and performed in many musical productions, works with children to impart his love of music, and also performs with the Pitchpipers and the New History Minstrels, spreading joy through four-part harmony. Harry has been involved in church pastoral ministry throughout his working career. He even performed a wedding in the Gateway Fred Meyer stock room because the couple had no place for the ceremony! He is currently interim pastor at Lents-Gilbert Church of God in SE Portland. He has no plans to stop performing after retirement; in fact, you can see him next at 3 pm on February 10th performing Oregon Trail Harmony at the Richard R. Brown Fine Arts Center in Canby. Congratulations on an amazing career, Harry, and best wishes in all your future musical endeavors!



*Harry Hermansen*