



## FROM YOUR LOCAL 555 OFFICIALS The Fight for Equity



**DAN CLAY**  
President



**JEFF ANDERSON**  
Secretary-Treasurer

As you know if you've been following the details on Unity Negotiations, the last thing that happened was an extremely heated session with the employers over the "economics" of

could ever expect: far more than was reasonable. (We consider a living wage to be an incredibly reasonable thing to insist upon, but you know how corporations feel about that.)

then blustered and threatened. And then they left the room and the team hasn't seen them since. See the Unity Update below for what followed.

So, here we are, taking the fight for equitable wages to the shop floor: one store at a time. The evidence of our collective determination and persistence is mounting...equity buttons will soon be everywhere and an inexorable flood of petitions demanding an equitable wage increase are making their way to management. (More pictures on 7A.)

The time is now. Stand together, demonstrate strength, unite to win.



the contract. That means wages. They complained that we were asking for far more than anyone

pennies to throw at our rising bills. After offering up that insufficient counter-proposal, they



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)

**STRONGER CONTRACT FOR A STRONGER COMMUNITY** *Update* **UFCW LOCAL 555**

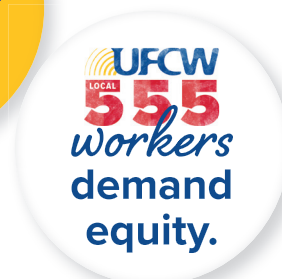
### ...waiting...waiting...

There isn't much of a unity update this month, because after whining that we were asking for too much in wage increases, threatening us, and leaving, the employers haven't accepted any of the dates we've offered. On the 21st of December our team sent 22 (that's right: 22) possible dates for the next session of negotiations.

And what have we heard back? As of our print deadline for this paper: nothing. That's more than a month passing with no response to agree upon a date.

We don't know why. Maybe they're not complaining? Maybe they haven't yet fully realized how powerful tens of thousands of workers are when we stand together? Maybe they haven't had to live on the wages they're offering?

While we wait, be sure you're participating in the fight for equity. See page 7A for some pictures of strong, determined fellow union members fighting this fight.



**UFCW LOCAL 555**

**Dan Clay**  
President

**Jeff Anderson**  
Secretary-Treasurer

# Affordable Dental Care

For UFCW Local 555 members and their families,  
*regardless of insurance coverage.*



A partnership between Bright Now! Dental, Access Dental, and UFCW Local 555 provides lowered prices just for members and their families on the dental care they need, **from the FIRST DAY of union membership.**

Once members reach level 2 coverage, insurance completely covers the cost of services at these offices, up to the maximum allowance of the plan.

Procedure (ADA Code)	Normal price	Member's pricing	with Level 2 Insurance
INITIAL ORAL EXAM (150) + FULL MOUTH X-RAY (210)	<del>\$214</del>	\$29	\$0
TEETH CLEANING (1110) (Adult)	<del>\$101</del>	\$56	\$0
TEETH CLEANING (1120) (Child)	<del>\$76</del>	\$40	\$0
2-SURFACE COMPOSITE FILLING (2392)	<del>\$240</del>	\$125	\$0
3330-ROOT CANAL (Molar)	<del>\$1,005</del>	\$645	\$0
2750-CROWN (Porcelain Fused to High Noble Metal)	<del>\$1,110</del>	\$760	\$0
5120-FULL LOWER DENTURE	<del>\$1,577</del>	\$780	\$0

## Clinic locations:

### Bright Now!-Grants Pass

1035 NE 6th St. Ste. B  
541.479.6696

### Bright Now!-Hillsboro

7206 NE Cornell Rd.  
503.640.9999

### Bright Now!-Salem

831 Lancaster Mall Dr. NE, Ste. 2  
503.362.8359

### Bright Now!-Vancouver

2101 NE 129th St., Ste. 101  
360.574.4574

### Soft Touch-Tualatin

18773 SW Martinazzi Ave.  
503.692.9280

### Bright Now!-Gresham

443 NW Burnside Rd.  
503.492.8487

### Bright Now!-Milwaukie

17186 SE McLoughlin Blvd.  
503.659.2525

### Bright Now!-Portland

3580 SE 82nd Ave.  
503.777.0761

### Soft Touch-Springfield

1403 F Street  
541.746.5555

### Soft Touch-Woodburn

967 N. Cascade Drive  
503.981.6133

### Bright Now!-Beaverton

4655 SW Griffith Dr., Ste. 105  
503.644.1400

### Bright Now!-Tualatin

7965 SW Nyberg St.  
503.404.0294

### Bright Now!-Wilsonville

25700 SW Argyle Ave. Unit F  
503.682.8552

### Soft Touch-Gresham

907 NE 2nd Street  
503.465.0005

### Soft Touch-Portland

1727 NE 13th Ave.  
503.249.1100

LOCAL



Join UFCW  
retirees at our  
monthly breakfast!

11:30 am

Tuesday, February 26th

Heidi's Restaurant

1230 NE Cleveland Ave.  
Gresham, OR

## UFCW Local 555 Years of Service\*

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

### 40 YEARS

Juanita Bair

### 35 Years

Raquel Berning

### 30 YEARS

David Forinash

### 25 YEARS

Jason Bentley  
Jerry Bruner  
Laura Carver  
Todd Dixon  
Gordon Lilly  
Vickie Nygard  
Damdouane Vongthong

### 20 YEARS

Heather Bischoff  
Cheryl Howe  
David Huston  
T. Dean Larson  
Jacob Lawrence  
Deborah Newcomb  
Richard Secord  
Lori Shaffer  
Brian Sturm  
Denise Zeleny

### 15 YEARS

Rebekah Bartel  
Jason Enyeart  
Jennifer Fitzgerald  
Barbara Giacherio  
Huong Le  
Van Ly  
Gene Ngan  
Suong Nguyen  
Paul Palmquist  
Linda Poore  
Alyssa Scott  
Heather Simpson

### 10 YEARS

Marichu Amnotte  
Cheryle Andrews  
Julie Bowman  
Lori Chadwick  
David Cook  
Lisa Crabill-houston  
Gabe Delang  
Kimberly Downham  
Alvaro Figueroa  
Derek Flannery  
Joanna Geier  
Patrick Hart  
Shasta Hyde  
John La Combe  
Thanh Dieu Le  
Melissa Le  
Stephanie Liggett  
Patty Mrvich  
Horacio Ontiveros  
Paul Osburn

Janette Rose  
Aura Shepherd  
Brigham Thompson  
Paula Wallsted  
Liliya Zabolotskaya

### 10 YEARS

Kushtrim Aliti  
Hector Corona Amaral  
Daniel Arredondo  
Ashley Babbs  
Alysia Baker  
Margaret Breems  
Ana Cecena  
Mindy Cochran  
Samantha Davisson  
Joshua Dion  
Ryan Geraghty  
David Goss  
Erik Green  
Willie Hall  
Claire ""nicole"" Hasse  
Bronson Herring  
Tami Kergil  
James Koski  
Darren Kunkel  
Stephanie Mays  
Jeremy Meacham  
Donna Mellen  
Cynthia Meyer  
Cortney Middleton  
Erika Mimler-prusak  
Emily Murphy  
Ternes Nauru  
Daniel Neurohr  
Jack Newman  
Traci Panzica  
Terri Pastore  
Gregorio Jimenez Pedro  
Tami Philbrick  
Pamela Reibach  
Lourdes Yanez Rosales  
Kimberlynn Rose

Shari Saenz  
Luke Sigler  
Christopher Slotte  
Carmen Spiering  
Robert Stewart  
Jason Stotler  
Jacob Stull  
Melvin Thomas  
Kenneth Walker  
Heather Wright  
Molly Zoesch

### Grievance update: 2018 Recap

FINAL GRIEVANCES FILED  
YTD 2018

**236**

FINAL MONEY RECOVERED  
YTD 2018

**\$125,959**

FINAL # MEMBERS RETURNED  
TO WORK YTD 2018

\* These milestones are derived based on your most recent affiliation date. (It's possible to affiliate several times within a career, due to moving in and out of retail, for example, or due to a leave of absence.) These milestones are just for fun and to cheer everyone on...they are NOT necessarily a match to the time you've logged with the Trust (your benefits) or the time you've logged at your store (your seniority).

## UFCW 555

## Member Spotlights



“ I love my union, I was born in the union family. Knowing that I have union representation every step of the way makes everyday life in retail so much better by creating a safe and hassle free environment. It frightens me to think what Safeway would be like without the union. GO UFCW Local 555!

**CAROL JO HIPPS, BEND SAFEWAY**



“ My name is Wanda Spencer and I have worked at Fred Meyer Newberg for 24 years. I really like my job and my co-workers; the day crew and the night crew are all great. I don't know what I would do without the union health insurance. The union health insurance has gotten me through some difficult times. Thank you UFCW Local 555.

**WANDA SPENCER, NEWBERG FRED MEYER**



“ It was an amazing experience to talk to fellow union members from all different unions in support of Kyrsten Sinema's bid for Senator. I really felt like I was supporting the right candidate, especially when I heard all the positive feedback at the doors. The power is in the numbers, and we need to show up to support candidates that are going to have union members' backs!

**ROBIN BENITEZ, WEST HILLS QFC**



“ I became a member of the union in a right to work state because I am powerless by myself working for anybody. The union is a brotherhood and sisterhood which made me a part of one big family of over 23,000 sisters and brothers. That makes me powerful up against giant corporations and we have expectations of these corporations in the form of a contract that protects us in many ways. That's why I'm a member, I am no longer weak. Being a union member has made me and all of us powerful in a right to work state.

**SANDRA MULDREW, PHOENIX FRY'S**



“ I have been employed at First Student since 2005 and I have been a long-standing member of UFCW Local 555.

**SHEIRLL EDWARDS  
COOS BAY STUDENT FIRST**



Robin, Sharon and Derek, Union members from Gresham Safeway 0430, participated in the Fred Meyer Division action on October 26th, which happened in the Portland Metro Area. They showed their support for Union members getting a livable wage to pay expenses. "Housing, utilities, and groceries are our biggest concerns." Get involved! It is your contract!

**ROBIN RAMAGE, SHARON RAMAGE, and DEREK A COUNCILMAN  
DIVISION FRED MEYER**



“ The security that our Union provides is great. I know that myself and my co-workers are protected and heard. Thanks for empowering me to represent my co-workers!

**SEAN ALLIE, KAISER WESTSIDE MEDICAL CENTER PHARMACY**



“ My name is John McLain. I work in the produce department at the Dallas Safeway. I have been here for 11 years. I really like the fact that the health care is quality care and affordable for me and my family. I hope that Local 555 will continue to fight to keep it that way. Thanks, Local 555.

**JOHN McLAIN, DALLAS SAFEWAY**



“ I chose to become a UFCW Steward to ensure that both our members and our patients benefit from a from a healthy, fair environment. Our KP members deserve us at our best, as do our co-workers. Patients should remain a top priority, and that starts with us.

**SARA WILSON, SKYLINE KAISER**



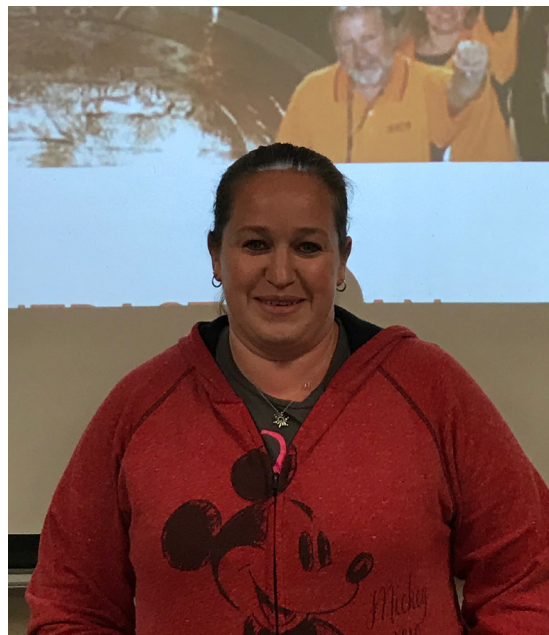
“ Knowing how little power I have on my own at my Interstate Fred Meyer, I feel that having the support of my Union is extremely beneficial. Working at the store level and seeing all of the miscommunication that happen on a daily basis, it is comforting to know that there is always a strong force willing to go to bat for me and my fellow members. And not only for UFCW members, but for all workers through the Active Ballot Club and other community activities. One activity I recently helped with was spreading democracy by campaigning for United States Senator Kyrsten Sinema, who strongly believes in the power of working families.

**JAMES WOOD, INTERSTATE FRED MEYER**



“ I am thankful that the Union was here to help me through a very difficult and trying time with my employer due to health issues. The Union helped guide me through that time including helping me file the correct paperwork, knowing who to talk to in the corporate structure with HR and bridging the divide between my health concerns and my employer’s awareness of my needs. Had the Union not been there to support me I would likely not still be working for the company, so I value their empathy and their willingness to look at both sides of the situation and help me reach reasonable accommodations for my issues.

**ALVIN TJ BECKER, EASTSIDE BEND SAFEWAY**



“ I’ve been with KPNW for about three years now. Prior to that time, I worked for an imaging facility that did not have a union. Since becoming a UFCW member, I’ve been very impressed with the protections and benefits afforded to me as a union member.

**LEAH PRUETT, KAISER INTERSTATE SOUTH**



“ I love being a part of the Union. I feel like my concerns are heard and answers are given. I have the support needed to do my job. Thank you!

**VANESSA FRANKLIN  
KAISER SALMON CREEK IMAGING**



Sherm's Food 4 Less experienced two crashes in December, but thanks to some nearby good Samaritans, all individuals survived. On the Saturday before Christmas, a car with an unconscious driver crashed into the store and Kaileb Grisham (Food 4 Less employee) Cliff Maris (shopper and postal worker), and Kevin Gray (front-end manager) were first on the scene after hearing the bang of the crash. Kaileb broke a window, crawled inside the car to disable it, and then opened the driver's side door. The driver was unconscious and not breathing, so Cliff and Kevin pulled the driver out and performed CPR until professional rescuers arrived.

Not even a week later, Kevin was notified that a customer was sleeping on a bench and that something just wasn't right. The customer wasn't breathing and had no pulse, so Kevin found himself yet again in the position to begin chest compressions while another employee called 911. Together, the two got the customer's shirt cut open and the AED set up before the Medford police, Mercy Flights, and Medford fire-rescue arrived.

These good Samaritans, including Medford police CPL Ernie Whiteman and store manager Jarred Mulhollen, were all honored by Medford fire-rescue.

Astounding job caring for your fellow community members, all!  
And UFCW 555 members: we're proud to have you in our family.

**KAILEB GRISHAM (FOOD 4 LESS EMPLOYEE) KEVIN GRAY (FRONT-END MANAGER),  
and CLIFF MARIS (SHOPPER AND POSTAL WORKER LOCAL 1143)**



“ My name is David Iarue. I have worked for Safeway for over 29 years. I moved from Southern California in 2004 and worked at the McMinnville Safeway for 10 years. I have been at Dallas for 6 years in the meat department. I love the Local 555 health insurance and my pension. I also love working for Safeway. Thanks UFCW 555 and Safeway. ”

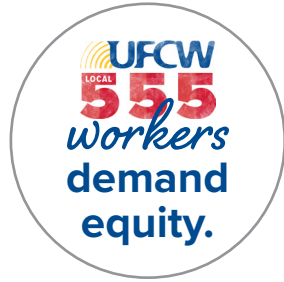
**DAVID IARUE, SAFEWAY DALLAS**

“ I appreciate the support for my workgroup in following the contract. I value the resource to discuss issues/ask questions with a steward/Union Rep. I am glad the Union seeks to create a partnership with my employer. ”

**LORI BELMORE  
KAISER PERMANENTE AIRPORT WAY CENTER**

“ UFCW Local 555 does an amazing job of representing, championing for, and going the extra mile for its union members. Michelle and the entire UFCW Staff have gone above and beyond in affecting the lives of both my co-workers and my own personal life in the workplace. Thank you for all the work that you all do to make our workplaces and lives better!! ”

**JACOB STERLETSKE, COOS BAY FRED MEYER**



Fred Meyer members have been signing petitions stating, "We, the undersigned, are prepared to do whatever it takes to get an equitable wage increase that makes it possible for us to live in our communities and buy groceries at our stores." Those petitions are being collected and hand-delivered by members to store management.

The response thus far has been amazing, with an impressive number of managers agreeing with our position. In fact, those managers are offering their complete support ... quietly, so as to avoid retribution. As this petition-gathering process continues, keep your eyes and ears open for the chance to do the same at your store.



LET'S MAKE 2019

THE YEAR OF THE UNION ACTIVIST!

# This Month in Labor History

What we now know as the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 555 represents an amalgam of associations, unions and locals who, for more than one hundred years, have organized and reorganized to build worker power in Oregon. Today, UFCW Local 555 is made up of over 25,000 workers in Oregon and SW Washington. In order to appreciate the strength of our union, we must acknowledge the many generations of workers who have paved the way for us through their labor and activism. We believe that understanding our history makes us better able to meet future challenges, and tomorrow's opportunities. We hope you do too!

## 1919: Child Labor Tax Law

In our nation's recent history (up through the early 1900s), there was a time when many children toiled in factories and mines for 70 hours a week. The industrial revolution heralded a time where power-driven industrial equipment no longer required adult strength. That, combined with a realization of the fact that children could be hired more cheaply than adults, made child labor look like an appealing option for business owners. Working conditions and quality of life, as we would define it today, were abysmal. Many children began working before age 7, and had no time to play, go to school, or rest — frequently falling ill.



Photograph of a young boy working in a factory, circa 1919.\*

Child labor was exploited in many of the world's industrialized nations at the time. The faith community, labor groups, and other advocates vehemently spoke out against it. Britain was the first to pass laws regulating child labor (between 1802 and 1878). Other European countries adopted similar laws soon after. However, in the United States, it took many years to outlaw child labor. By 1899, 28 states had passed laws regulating child

labor, and efforts were made to pass a national child labor law with limited success.

One of these efforts is known as the Child Labor Tax Law. As an exercise of its taxing powers, Congress enacted the Revenue Act of 1919, also called the Child Labor Tax Law. Under the law, companies employing children under fourteen years of age would be assessed ten percent of their annual profits. During the same year in which the act was passed, Drexel Furniture Company was found in violation of it and required to pay over \$6000 in taxes, which it did under protest.

Despite the intention of the legislation, conservative lawmakers of the time questioned whether Congress violated the Constitution by attempting to regulate the employment of children, a power reserved to the states under the Tenth Amendment. Ultimately, The Court found that the Child Labor Tax Law was in violation of the Constitution as it intruded on the jurisdiction of states to adopt and enforce child labor codes.

A national child labor law finally went into effect when Congress passed the Fair Labor Standards Act in 1938.

## 1937: Women's Strike at Woolworth



Seven women seated on top of a Woolworth lunch counter in Detroit, circa 1937.\*

On February 27, 1937, just days after the autoworkers' historic victory at General Motors, more than 100 women workers at one of forty Woolworth stores in Detroit begin a sit-down. The strikers gave the manager a list of demands: union recognition, a 10-cent per hour raise over their current 25 cents, an eight-hour workday, time-and-a-half after 48 hours per week, 50-cent lunches for the food counter workers, free uniforms and laundering, seniority rights, hiring of new workers only through a union hiring hall, and no retaliation.

Management's response left much to be desired. In turn, the strikers said they would occupy the store until their demands were met. Solidarity action in support of the workers was incredible, the strike spread, and on March 5 the workers won their demands, including the union shop. The union won a

contract applying to all forty stores in Detroit, which covered a grand total of 2,500 workers.

While it was a classic sit-down strike, it was nonetheless historic. For the first time in history the strikers were all women working in a variety store (rather than men in a factory). These young women were not only on strike, right in the depths of this nation's Great Depression, but they were also occupying the property of one of the largest multinational corporations in the United States and refusing to leave until they won.

Do we have  
your correct  
address?  
Phone number?  
Email address?

Make sure your  
Union has your  
contact informa-  
tion on file so you  
don't miss any  
mailings.

To update or confirm  
your contact informa-  
tion, call Local 555  
staff at 503-684-2822  
or visit us online at  
[ufcw555.org /](http://ufcw555.org/)  
[addressupdate](http://addressupdate).

Contacting  
UFCW LOCAL 555

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Please send any corre-  
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address: P.O. Box 23555  
Tigard, OR 97281.

The UFCW fax number is  
503-620-3816.

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

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