



MARK A. ESPINOSA
President

UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION

L O C A L 9 1 9

U.F.C.W.

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www.ufcw919.org



JASON DOKLA
Secretary-Treasurer

October 2020

For most of us, 2020 is a year that we want to quickly put behind us. We hope for you, your family, and your friends that you remain healthy in mind, body and spirit. Unfortunately, the pain and stress that you all have been feeling because of COVID-19 has been made worse by the current political turmoil. During all of this, our Membership has fought through and continued to work. Local 919 members show up every day. You serve your customers stocking and selling essential groceries, clothing, and furniture. You have unselfishly worked hard in your warehouse and you serve your communities by preparing, serving and delivering meals to school children, their families and those in need. Our Union has never been stronger. Working with our International Union and the CT State AFL-CIO, we continue to lobby state and national leaders for strong legislation to protect the health of all workers and find solutions to the significant challenges ahead. The UFCW has since launched the National Hazard Pay Campaign calling on the country's leading grocery companies just like yours to reinstate hazard pay. Our country, not to mention our entire world is being re-shaped by these tumultuous times. During this pandemic, we continued to file and process hundreds of grievances per month, handle necessary arbitrations and re-negotiate expiring contracts.

Earlier in the year, President Mark A. Espinosa decided to move our regularly scheduled Membership meetings to an online social media venue. Mark also felt the need to hold more online "live" meetings beyond the quarterly meetings to communicate quickly, important information, but also so that he can hear from you. Although we look forward to getting back to "in-person" meetings, this change has proven invaluable because so many more of you are able to be involved in your Union like never before.

If you have not had an opportunity to support your Local Union's efforts to raise money for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society by purchasing your Local 919 face mask, there is still time to do so. Even amid this pandemic, your Union still remains committed to our combined efforts to help fund continued research to find a cure. Contact your Business Agent or call the Union Office to donate to such an important cause and receive your Union Made mask with our Local's logo.

Under President Espinosa's experience and guidance, I am dedicated to the financial health of our Local Union, and it remains strong. Mark and myself have never felt more honor and pride to lead this Union and represent this membership. The Business Agents are always a phone call away, ready to quickly and efficiently handle any issues that may arise. When we stick together and work together, we can accomplish what we set our minds to. Let's take care of each other. We are each other's greatest strength. That is Solidarity!

Sincerely and Fraternally,

Jason Dokla
Secretary-Treasurer

Over 70 Years of Services To Its Members and The Community

UFCW LOCAL 919

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETINGS



DOUBLE TREE
by Hilton
42 Century Dr.,
Bristol, CT 06010
7:00 P.M.



MEETING NOTICE

Monday, March 23, 2020

Monday, June 22, 2020

JULY & AUGUST - NO MEETINGS

Monday, September 28, 2020

Monday, December 14, 2020

REGIONAL MEETINGS

Monday, April 20, 2020

TRUMBULL MARRIOTT
180 Hawley Lane
Trumbull, CT 06611
7:00 P.M.

Monday, October 19, 2020

Hampton Inn Groton
300 Long Hill Road
Groton, CT 06340
7:00 P.M.

ATTENTION Union Members

If you are a senior member at your job, lend a helping hand to new members.

Talk about Your Union Proudly and urge new members to attend Union meetings.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT



'Our Labor Unions are not narrow, self-serving groups. They have raised wages, shortened hours and provided supplemental benefits. Through collective bargaining and grievance procedures, they have brought justice and democracy to the shop floor.'

President John F. Kennedy



COVID-19 Supplies

When word spread that hospitals were low on supplies, several union companies stepped up to the plate to help. Some of the companies listed have converted their manufacturing facilities to make masks, face shields, ventilators and hand sanitizer.

We are grateful for their support of our front line employees and the work they do everyday. Be sure and support these union companies, now and in the future when they return to producing their regular products. Also listed are some union-made products for health and hygiene.

» American Roots

The United Steelworkers represented members at American Roots are making face shields and masks for frontline employees and have also begun making custom, branded masks. Those interested in custom orders can email info@americanrootswear.com or call 207-854-4098

» Ford

UAW represented members at Ford are making face shields, hospital gowns and respirators. The automaker has made more than one million face shields since converting its facility and is using the airbag material to make hospital gowns. The car maker has also joined forces with General Electric to help the medical device company produce more ventilators.

» General Motors

UAW members at GM in Kokomo, Ind., have joined forces with Ventec Life Systems to produce ventilators.

» Boeing

IAM members at Boeing in Everett, Seattle and Auburn are helping manufacture and assemble 3-D printed face shields. Everett, IAM members are also cutting material to produce cloth face masks for workers.

» Anheuser-Busch

IBT, IAM, IUOE and UFCW members at Anheuser-Busch are utilizing several of their breweries to make and distribute hand sanitizer.

» Wheatley Vodka

Union members are making sanitizer for some of the world's largest organizations in healthcare, government, military, retail, distribution, airline, pharmacy, and banking industries. Their parent company, Sazerac, has received requests for over five million bottles of sanitizer, which they are prepared to meet, across their distilling sites in North America.

» GEO Specialty Chemicals

Members of UFCW Local 354 who work at GEO Specialty Chemicals in Cedartown, Ga., in partnership with another local company, recently manufactured thousands of bottles of hand sanitizer and disinfectant in response to the recent coronavirus outbreak.

» SMART

Members of the Sheet Metal, Air, Rail and Transport Workers union across the country have joined with their signatory contractors to produce metal nose strips for an army of volunteers who are making homemade face masks for personal and professional use.

CLEANING SUPPLIES

» Ecolab Products

» Tide

» Watkins Household Products

» All

» Ajax

» Clorox Products

» Lysol

» Purex

» Soft Scrub

» Watkins Household Products

PAPER PRODUCTS

» Kleenex Tissues

» Puffs Facial Tissue

» Scott

» Cottonelle

» Angel Soft

» Brawny

» Sparkle

» Quilted Northern

» Viva

» Marcal

SOAP

» Caress

» Dove

» Irish Spring

» Lever 2000

» Ponds

UNION SCHOLARSHIPS PRESENTED

Announcing 2020 - 2021 Scholarship

EMMA GIBBONS - MEMBER STORE #675 - COASTAL CAROLINA UNIVERSITY

MADISON ADAMS- DAUGHTER OF DIANE ADAMS STORE #615 - BAY PATH UNIVERSITY

OWEN CORBETT- SON OF STEPHEN CORBETT STORE #616 – UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

MATTHEW VOLAND – SON OF JAMES VOLAND STORE #689 AND KATHLEEN VOLAND STORE #682
UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

ABIGAIL VARGA – DAUGHTER OF PAUL VARGA STORE #644 – UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

CLARITA BEDOYA – MEMBER STORE #685 - TEMPLE UNIVERSITY

ASHLEY MERRITT – DAUGHTER OF JOHN MERRITT STORE #653 – UNIVERSITY OF CONNECTICUT

JULIA ROBBINS – DAUGHTER OF JEFFREY ROBBINS STORE #624 – UNIVERSITY OF RHODE ISLAND

JOSEPH BALDINO – SON OF MICHELE MANZO STORE #648 – GEORGIA INSTITUTE & TECHNOLOGY

RICHARD GRACY – SON OF ALISON GRACY STORE #604 – POST UNIVERSITY

MANUEL GONZALEZ – SON OF MICHELE EDGEWORTH STORE #629 - SPRINGFIELD COLLEGE

ZACHARIAH KABUSK – MEMBER STORE #695 – NAUGATUCK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

CONGRATULATIONS

To Local 919's Scholarship Winners!

Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world. - Nelson Mandela



MARK A. ESPINOSA
President

All of our lives have dramatically changed since March of this year. In a matter of a few short months since the beginning of 2020 we went from carefree everyday life to a major pandemic with everyone feeling like our lives were in danger.

Prior to March we could go to movies, have dinner in a restaurant or get on an airplane and fly somewhere else, now suddenly that all feels like a distant memory.

We have also had a change in the way we work. We now have to wear masks, gloves and sanitize everything we touch and maintain social distance from everyone that we worked side by side with for years. It regrettably has become a strange new world.

Trying to meet with members during this time has been unusual to say the least. Doing meetings virtually has added a different twist to an already stressful process.

I am old school; I prefer to meet people face to face. I want to look across the table at the other side and argue my point while not dealing with technology glitches.

We had to do membership meetings via Facebook and from my perspective, I would rather be there with you in the room looking you in the eye and speaking with you directly.

Now none of us are sure how long this pandemic will last but if I could stress one thing to you it would be this, **STAND STRONG TOGETHER.**

It is times like these that employers try to pick us apart and create divisions within the ranks. In some situations, due to COVID, it has become more and more difficult for your Union Representatives to visit you in your worksite. Remember, your Union Representative is only a phone call away if you need them.

I have always been extremely proud to serve as your President, but at no time have I been more proud as I have been these past few months. The strength with which you all work and preserve only reinforces my belief that I represent the finest workers in their respective industries.

Stay Strong Together.

UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION

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“Dedicated to Serving Its Members and the Community for Over 70 Years”

Local 919

it doesn't cost - it pays to belong to

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Return Service Requested



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UNITED FOOD AND COMMERCIAL WORKERS UNION

WHEN YOU MOVE ...
Please Notify Your Local
Union Immediately

Nonprofit Org.
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT NO. 22
Farmington, CT