

1262 **Banner**



RETIREMENT



DENTAL



LEGAL

SPECIAL ISSUE: **BENEFITS REVIEW & GUIDE**



LIFE



VISION



MEDICAL

Harvey Whille
PRESIDENT

John Colella
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Michael DeMartino
RECORDER

EXECUTIVE BOARD VICE PRESIDENTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| Ruby Boston, ShopRite | William McNeill, ShopRite |
| Robert Brozowski, Jr., ShopRite | Donald Merritt, Local 1262 |
| Gerald Callan, ShopRite | John Onacilla, Jr., Stop & Shop |
| Sal Colarieti, Local 1262 | Michael Piccicacco, Local 1262 |
| James Cullen, ShopRite | Joseph Riccio, ShopRite |
| Bonnie Evely, Stop & Shop | Carolanne Romeo-Grazul, ShopRite |
| Jeanette Galante, ShopRite | Beverley Ruddock, ShopRite |
| Richard Gatti, ShopRite | Raymond Rusay, Jr., ShopRite |
| Dolores Jackson, ShopRite | Toni Tenbroeck, Stop & Shop |
| Kathleen Kemble, Stop & Shop | Daniel Todd, ShopRite |
| Cynthia McCarthy, Local 1262 | Thomas Whille, Local 1262 |
| | Suzanne Zimmerman, ShopRite |

EXECUTIVE STAFF

- Michael Piccicacco, Field Director
 Sal Colarieti, Asst. Field Director
 Elizabeth Laughery, Asst. Field Director/Benefits
 Donald Merritt, Asst. Field Director
 Thomas Whille, Asst. Field Director

UNION REPRESENTATIVES

- | | |
|-------------------|----------------------|
| Steve Blaho | Ed Magierowski |
| Anthony Colarieti | Christopher Molinaro |
| Rich Ebbe | James Mulholland |
| Bonnie Flowers | Shelby Scott |
| Rick Madore | |

COMMUNICATIONS

Cynthia McCarthy

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIAL STAFF

Christine Connery Gladyz Feimster

IN THIS ISSUE

President's Message 3
 Shop Stewards Feature 4
 Secretary-Treasurers Message..... 5
 Charity Golf Outing 6
 Legal Insurance Feature 7
 Passaic ShopRite Purchase 8
 Child Care Grant Winners 9
 Officers Sworn Into Office..... 10
 Records Report 12
 Scholarships 14
 Members At Work..... 17
 Meet Your Union Reps 18
 Helpful QR Codes 20
 Snapshots 22



The 1262 Banner (ISSN-0190-4744) is published by United Food & Commercial Workers Local 1262 for its members.

President: Harvey Whille
Secretary-Treasurer: John Colella
Editor: Cynthia McCarthy

Volume 64, No. 1 – Spring 2026

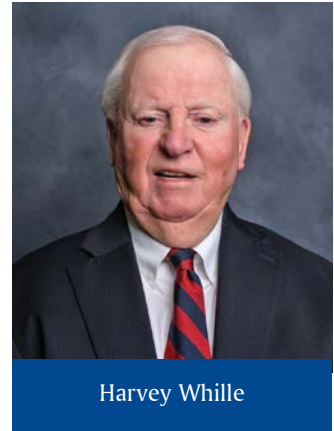
If you have comments, suggestions, information or news you would like us to consider for publication, please send to:

E-mail: cmccarthy@ufcwlocal1262.org
Fax: 973-777-3430
Mail: 1389 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Banner
1389 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Historic Contract Extensions Reached

At a time when most Americans are facing double digit increases in their health care costs, Local 1262 recently reached an agreement with ShopRite and Stop & Shop to continue to fully-fund our members health care benefits until Oct. 25, 2031 (Feb.7, 2032 for NY Stop & Shop members).



Harvey Whille

The contract extension also provides increased contributions to the Defined Benefit Pension Plan and to the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan for both full-time and part-time employees.

Additionally, wage increases were implemented Across-The-Board for all full-time and part-time workers as well as increased premiums for Department Managers, Classified Positions and Night Crews.

This opportunity to extend the ShopRite and Stop & Shop contracts presented itself after more than a year of negotiations with these employers regarding a grievance dispute over vendor pack-out in the stores. As a result, the employers presented us with these proposals that will greatly benefit our members. The contract extension and all of their benefits was the right thing to do, at the right time, for the right reason.

Other highlights of the contract extensions include increased vacation time for full-time and part-time members hired before April 10, 2013 and sick day pay for Service Clerks.

This historic Contract Extension cannot be emphasized enough and is proof of the power of your Labor Union and the protections we provide to our members.

It is pro-worker actions like this that are one reason the Labor Movement in general continues to grow across the USA. At a time when working families are

fighting against giant corporations for their fair share, America's unions are hungry to take back their power and balance the scales. And it is working. According to the AFL-CIO, nearly a half million new union members organized in 2025 – the biggest gain for organized labor in more than 16 years.

Health Care, Retirement and Wages Locked In Until 2031 For ShopRite and Stop & Shop Members

Local 1262 is proud to represent nearly 22,000 members in New Jersey and in New York State. Our union has been going strong since we were first chartered as the Retail Clerks International Association in 1941. And, we will only get stronger thanks to our members and their dedication to fighting for what is rightfully theirs – respect on the job and their hard-earned benefits.

You are the “face” of the supermarkets you work in, interacting with and serving customers each and every day. Likewise, YOUR union membership is what gives you your “voice” in making sure that you are treated with dignity and respect on the job and that your future is protected.

I consider it an honor and a privilege to represent such a hard-working and dedicated group of people.

Harvey Whille

DID YOU KNOW?

Nearly 300 Local 1262 members volunteer their time to serve as Shop Stewards?

These members help their co-workers with on-the job issues, questions about union membership and sit in on grievance meetings with management when requested.

“Our Shop Stewards are the Voice of Local 1262 when we can’t be in the store,” said President Harvey Whille. “They are the Go-To Person when members have questions or concerns and deserve a round of applause for the assistance they provide our members.”

Please take a minute to learn who your Shop Stewards are. Their names are located on the Break Room Posters in your break rooms where you can also find other useful union information.

Please join us in welcoming our newest Shop Stewards:

Matthew Bennett, East Brunswick ShopRite

Kate Buckley, West Milford ShopRite
(joins Nadine Ford)

Matthew Dohn, Old Bridge ShopRite
(joins Todd Hartman)

Michelle Elias, Edison Shop-Rite -- Route One
Charmaine Gumbs, Stop & Shop Berkeley Heights
(joins Assunta Berg & Richard Risko)

Tosha Hayes, South Plainfield ShopRite
Eric Jusino, West Milford ShopRite (joins Nadine Ford)

Caitlyn Kamisky, East Brunswick ShopRite
Lothar “Butch” Kramer,

Toms River Stop & Shop -- Route 9

Rosanny Lay, Clifton Stop & Shop --
Broad St. (joins Jessie Hull)

Janine Lortz, Sussex ShopRite
(joins Annamarie McCarthy)

Grace Murray, Mansfield ShopRite
Brian Petry, Fresh Grocer Ringwood
Richard Risko, Stop & Shop Berkeley Heights
(joins Assunta Berg)

Elena Rodriguez, Palisades Park ShopRite
(joins Darryl Rykowski)

Aaron Smith, Wanaque Stop & Shop (joins Donna Zuk)

Patrick Starega, Clark Shoprite (joins Carolanne

Romeo-Grazul, Amy Labonte, Peter Flint, Jr.,

Melinda Williams, Union ShopRite
(joins Mary Ellen Gawronski)

**List is current as of February 26, 2026.*



Michelle Elias,
Edison ShopRite



Tosha Hayes, South
Plainfield ShopRite



John Guy, a Shop Steward for
more than 20 years, with Union
Rep. Bonnie Flowers at the
Passaic ShopRite.

Have You Recently...

...Changed Your Address?

...Married or

Changed Your Name?

...Changed Beneficiaries?

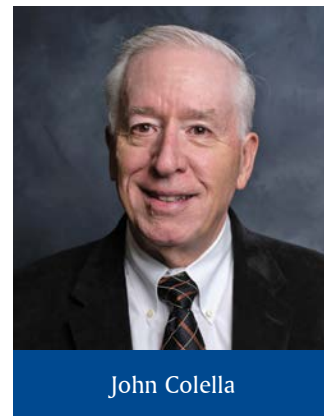
Let Us Know.

See Your Union Representative
or call Local 1262 and ask
for the appropriate form.

From NJ 1-800-562-6913

From Other States 1-800-526-7814

Protect Your Union Contract & Benefits By Shopping Union



John Colella

Never before in our nation's history have health care benefits for most Americans been more expensive. Typical costs for co-pays on monthly premiums continue to increase in the double digits taking a bigger and bigger bite of Americans monthly income.

With that said, Local 1262 is pleased to report that our members benefits – thanks to the contract extension (see President's Message) – are locked in for the next five years. That includes no co-pays on the monthly premium and no increased costs to you.

As you can see from the chart below, our Funds paid out more than \$218 million in benefits to our members in Calendar Year 2025 alone!

And, at a time when few part-time workers receive any type of health care or other benefits – especially those who do not belong to a union – we are proud to be able to provide our members who work part-time with what we call “The Tunnel Plan” of Benefits. These include Life Insurance after six months of employment, Vision Plan after 12 months of employment, Legal Insurance after 18 months of employment and Dental Plan after 24 months of employment.

Additionally, when it comes to planning for and securing your future when you are done working, Local 1262's contracts provide members – both those who work full-time and part-time -- with retirement benefits also funded by your employer at no cost to you. Very few workers today have any type of employer sponsored retirement plan – let alone plans that are fully paid for by their employer.

We are pleased to report that thanks to the sound financial decisions made by the Local and our Fund

Trustees, the Pension Plan is solid and will be a source of income for our members upon their retirement.

It is extremely important to remember that all of these benefits are negotiated by YOUR UNION as part of contract negotiations with your employers. With that said it is important for you to remind your friends and family to Shop Union Supermarkets so that they continue to thrive and provide good-paying jobs that secure your benefits and your future. Union Supermarkets in our area include ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Foodtown, Fresh Grocer, Food Bazaar, Acme, Tops Market, Morton Williams, PriceRite, Uncle Giuseppe's and our newly organized Food Emporium in Waldwick, NJ.

So, when all is said and done, this means that in addition to your weekly salary, you are also receiving hundreds or dollars in benefits at no cost to you – all because you are a member of Local 1262.

In summary, Local 1262's commitment to our credo -- to protect and ensure our members rights and their benefits – is stronger than ever and a shining example of what a union contract can provide for its members.

As always, if you have any questions about your union contract and its benefits, please speak to your Union Representative either when she/he is visiting your store or via telephone.

Respectfully submitted,
John Colella, Secretary-Treasurer

UFCW LOCAL 1262 BENEFITS PAID 2021 to 2025

Local 1262 Benefits	2025	2024	2023	2022	2021
Medical & Hospital	\$101,086,106.38	\$94,144,990.93	\$91,086,097.13	\$83,964,756.54	\$81,419,789.63
Prescription Benefits	\$34,148,445.13	\$31,412,678.83	\$31,908,674.97	\$29,313,341.49	\$30,280,917.15
Dental Benefits	\$4,362,217.87	\$4,183,685.21	\$2,700,462.86	\$3,041,112.28	\$3,477,936.36
Vision Benefits	\$643,396.58	\$639,554.82	\$651,638.58	\$634,134.38	\$705,161.41
Prepaid Legal	\$688,432.50	\$736,033.50	\$718,893.00	\$721,323.00	\$760,410.00
Pension Benefits	\$77,072,855.05	\$73,885,183.22	\$70,456,475.99	\$66,719,303.18	\$63,139,173.49
Death Benefits	\$584,411.31	\$537,598.75	\$492,091.38	\$466,132.63	\$518,416.19

LOCAL 1262 CHARITABLE FUND RAISES MORE THAN \$56,000 FOR CHARITIES

At our Annual Golf Outing held in October, The Local 1262 Charitable Fund raised more than \$56,000 to benefit four charities.

Local 1262 has been hosting the Golf Outing for more than 30 years. Funds raised come from Corporate Sponsorships and other sources. No member funds or General Fund monies are used for the Fundraiser.

“Local 1262 is pleased to be able to give back to the communities in which we live and work,” said President Harvey Whille. “Our Annual Fundraiser is just one of the many ways in which we support these communities throughout the year.

Recipients of \$14,000 each this year included:

- Big Hearts to Little Hearts
- Oasis – A Haven For Women & Children
- St. Jude’s Research & Children’s Hospital
- The Valerie Fund



Union Representative Bonnie Flowers presents a check at the Oasis – A Haven for Women & Children center located in Paterson. Oasis provides job training, educational programs, child care, before and after school programs and food assistance for families in transition or crisis.



Sister Doris DeLotto, an honorary lifetime member of Local 1262 and the UFCW International Union, delivers her annual opening prayer at golf outing attended by more than 150 golfers and corporate sponsors.

DID YOU KNOW?

... that most Local 1262 members have a free Life Insurance Policy?

That’s right. Local 1262 members who work full-time receive a Life Insurance Policy after three months of employment and members who work part-time receive the benefit after six months of employment.

Depending on where you work and if you are full-time or part-time the payout ranges from \$3,000 to \$30,000.

You filled out your Life Insurance Beneficiary when you completed your Union Membership Application. With that in mind, you might want to revisit who you named as your beneficiary. Life changes and you may have gotten married or divorced along the way, had children, etc. If you think you want to change your beneficiary please contact our Health & Welfare Office at 1-800-522-4161 and they will assist with the necessary forms.

Also please note that all Local 1262 members are covered by a \$4,000 Accidental Death Life Insurance Policy courtesy of American Income Life.



DID YOU KNOW?

... that three out of four people have faced legal troubles in the past three years? And did you know that after 18 months of employment, most Local 1262 members are eligible for free assistance with legal problems through our Legal Insurance benefit?

Provided through ARAG Legal Insurance, attorney services to our members include legal representation for everything from wills, to tax issues to traffic tickets.

ARAG also provides free Financial Education and Counseling Services to our members, including a Debt Management Plan that can help you consolidate bill payments and negotiate lower payments.

So with the New Year under way, why not make one of your resolutions to get your legal and financial matters under control and contact ARAG at 1-800-247-4184 or visit their website at www.araglegal.com.

You can also visit our website – www.ufcw1262.org – for direct links to ARAG and its services including an ARAG Legal Insurance Plan Member Video which shows you just how easy it is to get started. ARAG also has a mobile app which you can download on your phone through Google's App Store. Just enter ARAG in the search bar.

Legal Insurance Plan cards are automatically mailed to members

as you become eligible. This free benefit is just one of many provided to our members through the contracts we negotiate with your employer.

If you have questions regarding your health and welfare benefits – including your Legal Insurance – contact our Health & Welfare office at 1-800-522-4161, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or visit our website and click on the Health & Welfare link.

If you have questions regarding your contract contact your Union Representative.

Legal Troubles are More Common than You Think



3 out of 4

Did you know that **3 out of 4** individuals have faced legal troubles in the past three years?

Most people believe legal troubles are rare, once-in-a-lifetime events, but they're **far more common** than you think.



5 Limitations and exclusions apply. 1995 Stress Research Study, general consumers and members with written legal issues, October 2022. © 2025 F&G North America, Inc. | Proprietary and Confidential

SCAN THE QR CODE FOR MORE INFORMATION ABOUT THE UFCW 1262 ARAG LEGAL INSURANCE PLAN



PRE-RETIREMENT SEMINAR SET FOR MAY 13

Are you thinking about retiring soon? Then make sure to attend Local 1262's Pre-Retirement Seminar.

Wednesday, May 13, 2026
Marriott Saddle Brook, NJ

The free full-day seminar is open to members in the Local 1262 Defined Benefit Retirement Plan who are at least 55, have at least nine years of vesting service and are eligible to retire. The day begins with Breakfast & Registration at 8 a.m., followed by a luncheon at noon and closes out at 4 p.m. Per your contract it is a paid day for qualified members.

To register, call Gladys Feimster at 973-777-3700, extension 1933 or contact your Union Representative. If you are calling from New Jersey, dial 1-800-562-6913. If you are calling from other states dial 1-800-526-7814.

President
Harvey Whille



Inserra Supermarkets Purchases Passaic Shop-Rite

Local 1262 is proud to announce that upon the sale of the Passaic ShopRite, we have entered a Memorandum of Agreement with the new owners Inserra Supermarkets.

“The Memorandum of Agreement not only protects the 100 plus Local 1262 members employed at the Passaic store but will also provide for a seamless transition under the new ownership,” said President Whille in announcing the terms

of the Agreement. “Local 1262 stepped up to the plate to protect these members who work in these stores by ensuring that all their seniority, sick, vacation and personal time, as well as health and welfare and pension benefits, remained in place. We also successfully negotiated with Inserra to waive any probationary period for these employees, which is often a practice implemented during a corporate sale.”



Jordy Gonzalez



Leslie Deaza



Donna Breonte



Vonetta William & Maria Dokum



Asst. Field Director Betty Laughery explains benefits to Monica Butler

DID YOU KNOW?

.... Most Local 1262 Members Receive Vision Care Benefits?

Most Local 1262 members receive Vision Care Benefits after three months of employment if they work full-time and after 12 months of employment if they work part-time. Your Vision Plan Card is automatically mailed to you upon eligibility.

And you shouldn't wait until you are having problems to see your vision care specialist.

Comprehensive annual eye exams are essential for maintaining vision and overall health, detecting conditions like glaucoma, cataracts, and diabetes-related eye issues. Exams typically include a medical history, visual acuity tests (reading charts), refractive assessment for glasses, and pupil dilation to examine the retina. Adults should get checked every one to two years, with more frequent visits for seniors or those with risks.

Our Vision Care Benefits are provided to eligible Local 1262 members through Davis Vision Care (a Horizon Company). A list of providers can be found on their web site (www.davisvision.com).

If you have questions about your Vision Care Benefits, contact our Health & Welfare Office at 1-800-522-4161. You can also contact Horizon Vision at 1-800-278-7753 for more information.

Davis Vision also has a mobile app which you can download on your phone through Google's App Store. Just enter Davis Vision in the search bar.



CHILD CARE GRANT WINNERS ANNOUNCED DEADLINE FOR 2026 GRANT PROGRAM SEPTEMBER 30, 2026

We are pleased to announce that two Local 1262 members were among UFCW Region One members who received Child Care Grants for the 2025 UFCW Region One Women's Network Program.

The recipients were Lillian Davis of the Linden ShopRite and Rayon Brown of the Englewood ShopRite. Additionally, Rayon won the UFCW International Women's Network Child Care Grant.

The Grants, which are provided by the UFCW Region One Women's Network, are awarded to members of UFCW Region One Locals who have a

dependent child or children in daycare or in a before or aftercare program that is licensed by the state or on file with the IRS.

You also obtain a copy of the grant application from your Union Representative or by calling Gladysz Feimster at Local 1262's Headquarters at extension 1933. If you are calling from New Jersey please dial 1-800-562-6913. Calling from other states please dial 1-800-526-7814.

The deadline for applications is Wednesday, September 30, 2026.



Rayon Brown



Lillian Davis & Union Rep Rick Madore



The short application – available in English and Spanish -- takes only a few minutes to complete. Scan the QR Code at right to get started.

Has Management Asked You For A Meeting or Grievance?

Remember that as a Union Member you have certain rights under the law!

Know Your Rights!

- You have the right to request the presence of a Union Representative or Shop Steward during any investigatory interview you reasonably believe might result in disciplinary action.
- You have the right not to be interviewed until your Union Representative or Shop Steward is present.
- You have the right to have your Union Representative or Shop Steward assist you during the interview to organize and explain your facts.

These are your rights under the Weingarten Decision, a case heard in the US Supreme Court, which ruled that you have the right to have your Union Representative present when you are interviewed by your employer if you reasonably believe the interview may lead to disciplinary action.



Harvey Whille, President
John Colella, Secretary-Treasurer
Mike DeMartino, Recorder

Questions?

**Speak To Your Shop Steward
Or
Call Your Union Representative**

From NJ
1-800-562-6913

From Other States
1-800-526-7814

Officers & Executive Board Elected

Earlier this year, Local 1262's Officers and Executive Board were sworn in to a new three-year term expiring December 31, 2028. Officers sworn in to serve the new term were Local 1262 President Harvey Whille, Secretary-Treasurer John Colella and Recorder Michael DeMartino.

The Executive Board is comprised of rank-and-file Local 1262 members and Local 1262 staff. The Executive Board meets monthly to discuss union business and how to best serve our members. Please take a few minutes to familiarize yourself with this team of long-time dedicated members.

Rank-and-file members sworn in as Executive Board Vice Presidents were: Ruby Boston, ShopRite of Newark; Robert Brozowski, ShopRite of Middletown, NY; Gerald Callan, ShopRite of Elizabeth; James Cullen, ShopRite of Manchester; Bonnie Evely, Stop & Shop of Union; Tina Galante, ShopRite of So. Livingston; Richard Gatti, ShopRite of Oakland; Dolores Jackson, ShopRite of Rochelle Park; Kathy Kemble, Stop & Shop of Toms River; William McNeill, ShopRite of Lodi; John Onacilla, Stop & Shop of Union; Joseph Riccio, ShopRite of Kingston, NY; Carolanne Romeo-Grazul, ShopRite of Clark; Beverley Ruddock, ShopRite of Succasunna; Ray Rusay, ShopRite of Wall; Toni Tenbroeck, Stop & Shop of Somerset; Daniel Todd, ShopRite of Spotswood; and Suzanne Zimmerman, ShopRite of Garwood.

Local 1262 staff members sworn in as Executive Board Vice Presidents include Assistant Field Director Sal Colarieti, Communications Director Cynthia McCarthy, Assistant Field Director Don Merritt, Field Director Michael Piccicacco, and Assistant Field Director Tom Whille.



Harvey Whille,
President



John Colella,
Secretary-Treasurer



Mike DeMartino,
Recorder



Ruby Boston,
ShopRite of Newark



Robert Brozowski,
ShopRite of Middletown, NY



Gerald Callan,
ShopRite of Elizabeth



Sal Colarieti,
Assistant Field Director



James Cullen,
ShopRite of Manchester



Bonnie Evelyn,
Stop & Shop of Union



Tina Galante,
ShopRite of Elizabeth



Richard Gatti,
ShopRite of Oakland



Dolores Jackson,
ShopRite of Rochelle Park



Kathy Kemble,
Stop & Shop of Toms River



Cynthia McCarthy,
Communications Director



William McNeill,
ShopRite of Lodi



Don Merritt,
Assistant Field Director



John Onacilla,
Stop & Shop of Union



Michael Piccicacco,
Field Director



Joseph Riccio,
ShopRite of Kingston, NY



Carolanne Romeo-Grazul,
ShopRite of Clark



Beverley Ruddock,
ShopRite of Succasunna



Ray Rusay,
ShopRite of Wall



Toni Tenbroeck,
Stop & Shop of Somerset



Daniel Todd,
ShopRite of Spotswood



Tom Whille,
Assistant Field Director

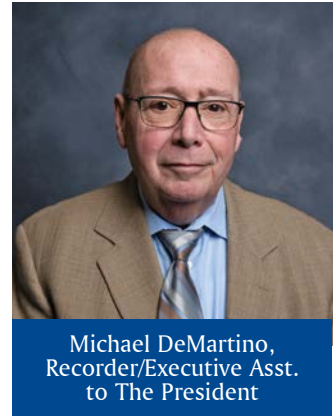


Suzanne Zimmerman,
ShopRite of Garwood



Contract Updates

In addition to the Contract Extensions for ShopRite and Stop & Shop, Local 1262 was also busy negotiating contracts for our members employed in the New Jersey Stop & Shop Maintenance Department, the East Orange ShopRite Maintenance Employees, Food Circus Foodtown members in the shore area and our members employed at the Dearborn Market & Fulfillment Center in Holmdel, NJ.



Michael DeMartino,
Recorder/Executive Asst.
to The President

In late July, Food Circus Foodtown members voted to approve a new four-year contract with their employer which expires January 27, 2029. The new contract provides continued health and welfare benefits with no co-pay by members on the monthly premium; continued contributions to the Defined Benefit and Defined Contribution Retirement Plans and wage increases for all full-time and part-time workers. We would like to thank the rank-and-file Food Circus Foodtown members who served on the Contract Negotiation Committee for their assistance in negotiating the new contract.

In late November, our members employed in the Maintenance Department at New Jersey Stop & Shop stores overwhelmingly voted to extend their contract with the company. The contract extension provides, among other things, continued health and welfare benefits -- with no co-pay by members on the monthly premium -- until October 25, 2031. It also provides increased contributions to the Defined Benefit Pension Plan and to the Defined Contribution Retirement Plan for both full-time and part-time employees. Wage increases will be implemented Across-The-Board for all full-time and part-time workers too.

In January, our members employed by Dearborn Market and Facility in Holmdel, NJ overwhelmingly voted to approve a new five-year contract which expires November 30, 2030. The new contract includes, among other things, Across-The-Board increases for full-time and part-time workers and increased weekly premiums for classified positions.

And finally, in February Local 1262 members employed in the Maintenance Department of the East Orange ShopRite voted overwhelmingly to accept their new contract which expires on March 27, 2027. The new contract calls for continued maintenance of health and welfare benefits and sustained retirement savings account contributions as well as across-the-board increases for both full-time and part-time workers.

Local 1262 would like to thank all of these members employed by these four companies for their input in the negotiation process and for attending the Ratification Meetings.

Members with questions about these contracts are urged to contact their Union Representative who will be happy to assist you.

In closing, we would like to remind our members



Local 1262 Staff with Members from Dearborn Market.

that if you are having issues with or questions about your Health & Welfare Benefits, that we have an Assistant Field Director/Benefits Liaison who can help you. Betty Laughery spends her days visiting stores to help members navigate the sometimes confusing benefits coverage process. While a call to our Health & Welfare Office (1-800-522-4161) can generally answer your questions or provide you with appropriate contact information, Betty is here to help you with more “complicated” issues, such as when a claim is denied or unpaid or you have pension or retirement fund issues.



Union Rep Rich Ebbe with East Orange ShopRite members.

Whenever a health and welfare issue arises that cannot be resolved through our Funds Office you can call your Union Rep or contact Betty directly at 973-777-3700, extension 1915.

Betty will either help you resolve the issue over the phone or visit your store to work out a solution.

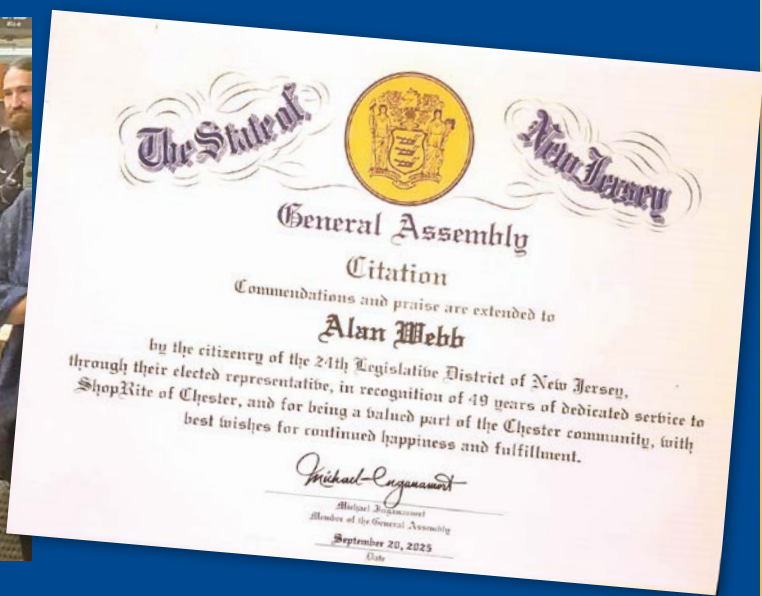
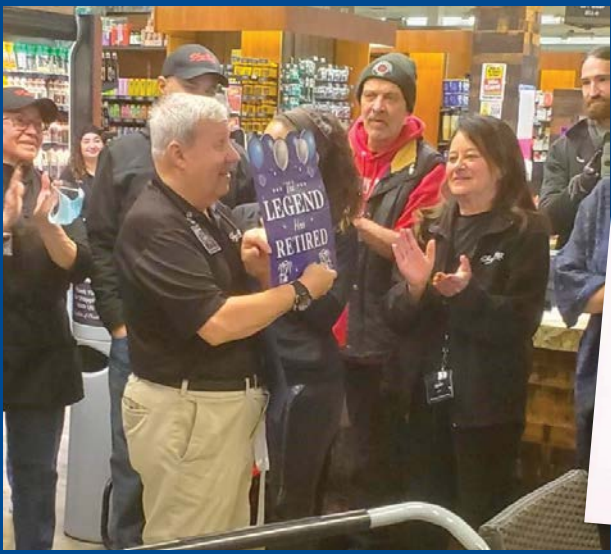
Our Benefits Liaison Program is just one more benefit of Local 1262 membership that goes beyond your Contract.



Asst. Field Director Betty Laughery assisting a member at work.

MEMBER RETIRING AFTER 49 YEARS HONORED BY GOVERNOR MURPHY

Allen Webb, a Local 1262 member who retired after 49 years as a porter at the Chester ShopRite, was recently honored by former Governor Phil Murphy and other elected officials at a celebration in the store. Governor Murphy sent a letter to mark the occasion and the Chester Mayor presented him with a Key to the City. He also received honors from the Chester Police and Fire Departments. We wish Brother Webb well in his retirement.



SCHOLARSHIPS FOR LOCAL 1262 MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

DID YOU KNOW ... Local 1262 values education and the role it plays in helping our young people improve their lives. With that in mind, we created the Annual Local 1262 Scholarship Program for students pursuing a college degree.

There are also Scholarship Programs available to our members and their dependents offered through the International UFCW and UnionPlus.org. Information on their programs is located at the bottom of this page.

UFCW LOCAL 1262'S SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

2026 Deadline Is May 15, 2026

Local 1262 awards one \$2,500 Memorial Award Scholarship and nine \$1,500 scholarships each year. Students can apply for every year they are eligible.

To be eligible for a scholarship you must be a Local 1262 member or a child of a Local 1262 member and a senior in high school or a freshman, sophomore or junior in college.

To get started, you will need to complete the Short-Form Application which you can find on page 15 of this Banner or by visiting our website (www.ufcw1262.org) or using this QR Code.

Our scholarship application process takes place in five steps:

1. Complete and return the one-page Short-Form Application.
2. The Short-Form Application is reviewed at our headquarters to determine if you are eligible to apply. If you are eligible, a Long-Form Application is mailed to you.
3. Complete the Long-Form Application and attach the necessary documents such as transcripts, etc. and mail to Local 1262 Scholarship Program, 1389 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013.

4. During May, all Long-Form applications are reviewed and ranked by an Independent Scholarship Review Committee consisting of professional educators and other academics who select the winners.
5. Scholarship winners are notified via mail in early summer.

If you have any questions about our Scholarship Program or completing the forms, please call Gladysz Feimster at 973-777-3700, extension 1933 (Monday – Friday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

SCHOLARSHIPS ARE ALSO OFFERED BY THE UFCW INTERNATIONAL AND UNIONPLUS.

We suggest you check their web sites for information and deadlines for their programs.

UFCW International Scholarship Program --

Applications are typically available in February and are done on-line. The application deadline is typically in mid-May. For more information about the International Scholarship visit our website or use this QR code.



UnionPlus Scholarship -- Applications are typically available starting in mid-June, and a complete application must be received on or before 12:00 p.m. (Noon) Eastern Standard Time on January 31st of the scholarship year. For more information about the UnionPlus Scholarship visit our website or use this QR Code.

OFFICIAL NOTICE

In accordance with the Bylaws of United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1262, Article XI (Initiation Fees & Dues) Section A:

“Except as otherwise provided in the International Constitution, reasonable dues, initiation and reinstatement fees, and general or special assessments shall be established, increased, or levied by the Local Union by a majority vote by secret ballot of the members. Not less than 15 days’ written notice of such proposed action shall be sent to the membership prior to voting.

Vote Meetings will be held as follows:
Tuesday, April 7, 2026 @ 7 p.m.

Local 1262 Headquarters,
1389 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013

Doubletree Hotel,
700 Hope Road, Tinton Falls, NJ 07724

Hampton Inn & Suites By Hilton,
1 Crossroads Court, Newburgh, NY 12550



2026 Scholarship Awards Preliminary Application

Please complete this form and return immediately to:
Local 1262 Scholarship Selection Committee
1389 Broad Street, Clifton, NJ 07013
Or fax to 973-777-3430

Please complete this preliminary application and return it to Local 1262 where it will be reviewed and processed. Once it is determined that you are eligible, a long-form application will be sent to your home.

THE DEADLINE FOR ALL MATERIALS (Long Form Application) IS MAY 15, 2026.

If you have questions regarding this form, please call Gladys Feimster at 973-777-3700, ext. 1933.

PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY

Student's information:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Street Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Email address: _____

Telephone: _____ Social Security #: _____

I am currently a high school student _____ college student _____ (please check one)

I will graduate from high school (month and year): _____

If you are a college student, please indicate highest academic level completed as of August 2025:
_____ Freshman _____ Sophomore _____ Junior

Are you a Local 1262 Member: _____ Yes _____ No

If you are a member name of store where you work: _____

Store Address: _____

If not a member My relationship to the member (son, daughter): _____

Member's information:

Last Name: _____ First Name: _____

Member's Social Security Number: _____

Member's Mailing Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Name of store: _____

Store Address: _____

I wish to apply for a Local 1262 Scholarship Award. I understand that the decision of the Local 1262 Scholarship Awards Committee will be final and agree to abide by this decision.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

SHOP UNION SUPERMARKETS

BUY UNION-MADE PRODUCTS

Local 1262 encourages our members to tell their friends and family to Shop Union Supermarkets and Buy Union-Made Products throughout the year.

When people Shop Union Supermarkets and Buy Union-Made products, they help create and sustain the good paying jobs with benefits and job protections only a Union Contract can provide.

Union Supermarkets in our area include ShopRite, Stop & Shop, Foodtown, Fresh Grocer, Food Bazaar, Acme, Tops Market, Morton Williams, PriceRite and Uncle Giuseppe's. For a list of Union Made products visit www.labor411.org.

DID YOU KNOW?

What "Union-Made" Actually Means? A Union-Made product comes from a workplace where workers have exercised their legal right to organize, bargain collectively, and enforce a contract. That contract is not voluntary or symbolic – it is legally binding.

Union status means:

- Workers negotiate wages, benefits, scheduling and safety.
- Workers can file grievances and enforce standards.
- Workers can strike, organize collectively and vote on their contract.
- Labor standards can't be quietly rolled back in a Boardroom.

DID YOU KNOW?

Why a "Union Shop" & "Union-Made" Still Matters For The Middle-Class?

Union-Made products don't just support better wages, they also help sustain:

- Employer-funded health care.
- Retirement/Pension benefits.
- Paid Family Leave.
- Strong local tax bases.
- Safer workplaces.

Entire Middle-Class communities are built on union density – especially in manufacturing, construction, transportation and public sectors.

SOURCE: LABEL LETTER – FEB. 2026

DID YOU KNOW?

... that the Shopping Cart was originally considered a failure?

The Shopping Cart we know today was introduced in an Oklahoma City supermarket in 1937, sparking backlash from the public. Men insisted they were strong enough to carry their own shopping baskets and women didn't want anything to do with what felt like pushing a baby stroller.

The 1930s were a decade of change ... including the shift from small Mom and Pop Grocers to what would eventually become the large-scale grocery stores we know today.

Shopping Cart inventor Sylvan Goldman noted that people tended to stop shopping when their hand-held baskets filled up. Sylvan realized that because supermarkets had grown so large there had to be an alternative way to "pile up" groceries and filed his patent for the "Combination Basket & Carriage" on May 4, 1937.

He debuted the cart in his stores by hiring "manly" actors to push the carts around which made other shoppers more inclined to use it.

Imagine what he would think about today's shopping carts and Smart-Carts?

SOURCE: www.history.com



MEMBERS AT WORK

There is no such thing as a “part-time” member at Local 1262. Even if you “work part-time” our staff of dedicated Union Reps is there full-time to represent you. And, of course, we are also there for our many long-time members who work full-time.

Here are just a few photos of our members at work serving customers in the communities in which they live and work.



1



2



3



4



5



6



7



8

1. Union Rep Ron Whille with 60-year Local 1262 Member Luis Fajardo of the Middletown Stop & Shop.
2. Local 1262 Staff Member Gladyz Feimster helps Local 1262 Member Michael Vialto with translation at the Fairlawn ShopRite.
3. Long-time Local 1262 Member Eileen Palermo, Bakery Manager at Cedar Knolls ShopRite.
4. Jerry Gold, a long-time member since the Mayfair Foodtown days, is now Dairy Manager with Stop & Shop.
5. Askale Ashagre Front End ShopRite Livingston with Union Rep Shelby Scott.
6. Pete Pisauro, started as a Local 1262 member with Grand Union and is now Grocery Mgr./Frozen Foods at Stop & Shop Berkley Heights.
7. Night Crew Chief Yvens Premier ShopRite Livingston
8. Erin Lockowitz (left) and Rita Vittoria at the Stop & Shop Franklin Lakes.

Get To Know Your Union

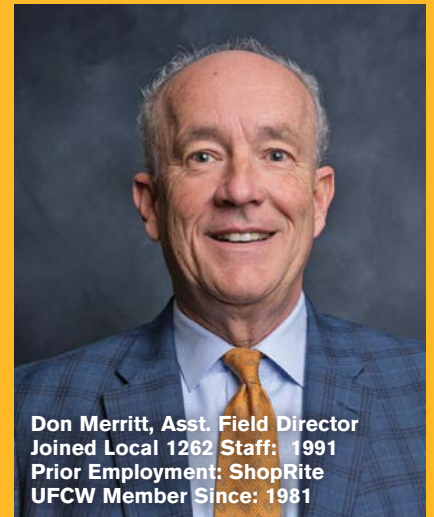
Local 1262's Union Representatives are your go-to person when you have questions about your contract or other work-related issues. They are also the person who can help you resolve differences and grievances on the job.

In summary, our Union Reps are there to "represent" you and to ensure that your employer is treating you fairly and following your contract.

In 2025, Local 1262's Union Reps:


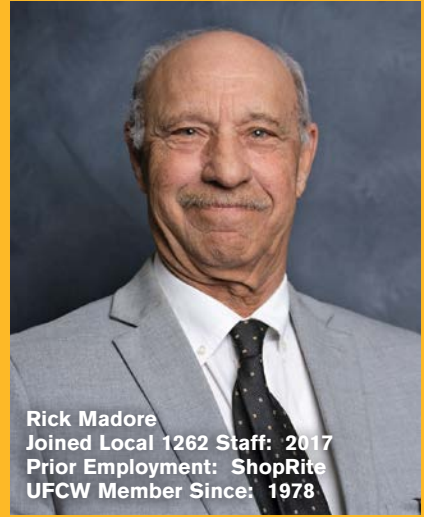
- Made 5061 store visits.
- Filed and resolved 1,553 grievances on behalf of our members
- Recovered \$85,630.54 in back-wage claims for our members.

All of our Union Reps (sometimes referred to as Business Agents) started their careers like you – on the front-lines in the stores. They have also been active in a range of union-related activities over the years with Local 1262 and/or the UFCW International Union.



Representative

By Michael Piccicacco, Field Director



UFCW
a VOICE for working America
Local 1262

1262 QR CODES

Your One-Stop QR Code Center for UFCW 1262 Programs & Benefits



**Local 1262 Home
Page, Hotline &
Latest News**
www.ufcw1262.org



**Health & Welfare
Benefits Info
Home Page**
www.1262funds.org



**UFCW 1262
Scholarship Program**
[https://ufcw1262.org/
programs-for-members/
our-scholarship-program/](https://ufcw1262.org/programs-for-members/our-scholarship-program/)



**Educational Programs
& Tuition Discounts**
[https://ufcw1262.org/programs-
for-members/free-educational-
programs/](https://ufcw1262.org/programs-for-members/free-educational-programs/)



**Child Care
Grants**
[https://ufcw1262.org/programs-
for-members/child-care-grants/](https://ufcw1262.org/programs-for-members/child-care-grants/)



**Request Your
Contract**
[https://ufcw1262.org/
contracts-forms/contracts/](https://ufcw1262.org/contracts-forms/contracts/)



**Member Discount
Programs**
[https://ufcw1262.org/programs-
for-members/ufcw-member-
discounts/](https://ufcw1262.org/programs-for-members/ufcw-member-discounts/)



**Join Our
Informational
Text Program**
www.ufcw1262.org



Looking For A Full-Time or Classified Position? Look For Bid Sheets in March & September

Members interested in obtaining full-time positions – or promotion to department manager or other classified positions – should look for the Bid Sheets posted in your store every March and September.

Full-Time positions come with great benefits for you and your family, all fully-paid for by your employer with no contribution from your pay-check.

These include:

- Employer funded retirement savings plan
- Health care & Hospitalization Coverage
- Prescriptions
- Vision Exams & Glasses
- Pre-Paid Legal Coverage
- Dental Care
- \$30,000 Life Insurance Policy
- Paid-vacation that increases with seniority

- Paid Sick Days
- Paid Holidays
- Paid Jury & Funeral Leave
- Paid Personal Days
- Holiday Pay/Premiums
- Contractually negotiated wage increases

All of these add up to thousands of dollars a month in benefits!

All benefits negotiated between Local 1262 and your Employers.

The Bid Sheets are typically posted by your employer near the time-clock or in the break rooms. If there are no Bid Sheets posted in your store, please contact your Union Representative immediately. Names can be placed



on the Bid Sheets until the last day of March and September.

Please note that many companies are currently seeking to fill full-time positions, so speak to your Local 1262 Union Rep about opportunities that may be available year-round.

Remember, the Bid Sheet Process is just one of the many job protections in your contract negotiated for you by Local 1262. The Bid Sheet process helps encourage our members to seek more full-time and classified positions.

Please check them out.



MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD! REGISTER TO VOTE!

General Election is Tuesday, November 3, 2026. This year's elections are extremely important to workers and their families. To make your voice heard you must vote. The Primary Elections in June are just as important as the General Election in November.

Start today by registering to vote.. For quick access to Voter Registration Forms, etc. scan this QR Code or visit our website (www.ufcw1262.org) and access the forms there.

NEW JERSEY

(Polls open 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

Tuesday, May 12

Deadline to register for
Primary Election

Tuesday, June 6

Primary Election Day

Tuesday, October 13

Deadline to register for
General Election

Tuesday, November 3

General Election Day

NEW YORK

(Polls open 6 a.m. to 9 p.m.)

– Primary hours vary by county –

Sat., June 13

Deadline to register for
Primary Election

Tuesday, June 23

State Primary Day

Sun., October 24

Deadline to register for
General Election

Tuesday, November 3

General Election Day

PENNSYLVANIA

(Polls open 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.)

Monday, May 4

Deadline to register for
Primary Election

Tuesday, May 19

Primary Election Day

Monday, October 19

Deadline to register for
General Election

Tuesday, November 3

General Election Day

SNAPSHOTS



Long-time Local 1262 Member Lillian DeAugustinis is still going strong at the Franklin Lakes Stop & Shop. Pictured are Lillian and Union Rep Shelby Scott on Lillian's 89th Birthday marked at the store.



Long-time Member and Shop Steward Assunta (Sue) Berg & Freddy Elliot at Stop & Shop Berkley Heights.



Members from Belmar ShopRite Get Into the Halloween Spirit.



Rich Risko (Full-Time Clerk and Shop Steward) & Paul Wolski (Produce Manager) are long-time members of Local 1262, hired with Mayfair Foodtown & now employed by Stop & Shop Berkeley Heights.



Shop Stewards Lothar Kramer (Stop & Shop Toms River) and Helen Gibney (Stop & Shop Lyndhurst) count ballots at Stop & Shop Contract Extension Vote.



Members crowd the Stop & Shop Extension Meeting in Woodbridge, NJ.



SCAN THE QR CODE OR VISIT WWW.UFCW1262.ORG

- Texts sent for important Union updates.
- No junk texts.
- You can opt out anytime.

DID YOU KNOW?

- Local 1262 members who work full-time are eligible for Dental Coverage after three months of employment.
- Members who work part-time are eligible for Dental Coverage after 24 months of employment.

Local 1262 members have dental coverage through the Horizon Blue Cross Blue Shield PPO Plan Network. The network has more than 329,000 providers nationwide.

Dental Insurance Cards are automatically mailed to you upon meeting the eligibility.

If you have questions about your Dental Insurance contact our Health & Welfare Office at 1-800-522-4161.

You can also visit <http://HorizonBlue.com/doctorfinder>

- Sign in or continue as a guest. If you need to search nationally, please note there is an option later to choose the location.
- Choose Dental in the “What type of care are you looking for?”
- Choose Horizon PPO in the “Choose A Plan” drop down menu.
- Add your location with either zip code or City & State
- You can search by a specific dentist, dental practice, or dental specialty. Once you select a provider option, the search will automatically generate options for you.



2026 MEMBERSHIP MEETING SCHEDULE

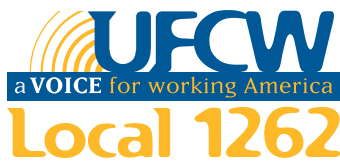
Local 1262 holds General Membership Meetings four times a year. The meetings, which are held via Teleconference, begin at 5:30 p.m. Membership Meetings for the remainder of 2026 will be held on:

Monday, April 27

Monday, July 27

Monday, October 26

You must register for the call and the call-in information changes for each meeting. We announce the registration period a few weeks prior to the meetings so please check our website (www.ufcw1262.org) or our Information Hotline 1-888-GET-1262. You can also receive the information by registering for our Text Messaging Program. Simply text Updates 1262 to 83071.



1389 Broad Street • Clifton, NJ 07013

Presort Standard
US Postage
PAID
Southern, MD
Permit #139

IMPORTANT NOTICE REGARDING AVAILABILITY OF PENSION BENEFIT STATEMENT PLEASE READ

Every participant who has a vested accrued benefit under the UFCW Local 1262 and Employers Pension Fund (“the Pension Fund”) and who is employed by an employer who contributes to the Pension Fund may request a statement of his or her accrued benefit from the Pension Fund. The benefit statement is an estimate of the monthly benefit you have earned, based on the latest information available to the Pension Fund. You may request such a benefit statement once in any 12-month period.

This notice does not apply to you if you have already retired from the Pension Fund, or are not currently employed by an employer who contributes to the Pension Fund, or are not yet vested under the Pension Fund.

**To request a benefit statement,
please write to:**

UFCW Local 1262 and Employers Pension Fund
1389 Broad Street
Clifton, NJ 07013
Attn: Pension Benefit Statement Request

If you need more information, you
may call the Pension Fund Office at
(973) 778-5800 or (800) 522-4161.

*REMINDER: Always keep the Fund Office
informed of any changes in your name,
address, or marital status. Benefits cannot
be paid if you cannot be located.*

- Board of Trustees