



Talks Continue in Southern California

UFCW Locals in southern California (8GS, 135, 324, 770, 1167, 1428 & 1442) continue to actively engage in negotiations with employers Albertsons, Ralphs/Kroger & Safeway. The contract expired on March 6th the parties agreed to an extension which expired on March 31st. Currently, the contract continues to extend day to day with 72 hours notice of cancellation required by either party.

Workers Speak Out: Walmart Truth Tour

Hundreds gathered in five cities across the country to listen to workers from across three areas of Walmart's operations talk as part of the *Sweatshop, Warehouse, Walmart: A Worker Truth Tour*, which concluded last week.



The workers were Robert Hines, who recently worked in a third-party Chicago-area warehouse that supplies Walmart; Cynthia Murray, a worker at a Walmart store in Laurel, Maryland; Aleya Akter, a young woman from Bangladesh who has worked in garment factories since she was nine years old sewing the clothes sold in U.S. Walmart stores; and Kalpona Akter, a former garment worker and director of the Bangladesh Worker Solidarity Center who was imprisoned after a Walmart subcontractor brought falsified complaints against her.

The workers described what it is like to work under the influence of Walmart and how Walmart fosters a global system that keeps workers in poverty, dangerous working conditions and leaves workers without a voice on the job. The stop in Washington marked the end of a five-city tour which included Chicago, Boston, New York City, and Philadelphia.

Tour sponsors included Making Change at Walmart (a campaign of the United Food and Commercial Workers), Jobs with Justice, International Labor Rights Forum, United Students Against Sweatshops, and SweatFree Communities. UFCW locals played key roles in making sure the events were a success: Local 881 in Chicago, Local 1445 in Boston, Locals 1500, RWDSU, and Region 1 in New York City, Local 1776 in Philadelphia, and Local 400 in Washington, D.C. **OP**

Royal Ahold U.S. Workers Take Fight To Amsterdam

On April 20, 2011, three Ahold workers from the Virginia area will travel to Amsterdam to attend the company's annual general shareholders' meeting in the Netherlands. Workers will speak to the assembly about the unfair treatment that employees at Ahold-owned Martin's stores in Richmond, Va., are subjected to, and call on management to stop the attacks on workers and afford its Martin's employees the same organizing and bargaining rights granted to Ahold workers elsewhere in the U.S. and Europe.

Also known as Royal Ahold, the Netherlands-based company expanded into the Richmond area a little over a year ago with the purchase of 25 stores from the local Ukrop's chain, which it now operates under the Martin's banner. **OP**

UFCW Scholarship

The International is accepting scholarship applications for the 2011 UFCW International Scholarship. To learn more, go to www.ufcw.org/scholarship. If you would like materials to help promote the scholarship, please contact the Communications Department. **OP**

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UFCW MEMBERS STAND TOGETHER ON APRIL 4th

To see more photos from events around the country, go to UFCW.org and click on "Recent Photos"



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