

## Engage for the Future

By Matt Utecht, President

I had a great time meeting members at the Minnesota State Fair this year. This was the first time Local 653 was at the MN AFL-CIO Labor Pavilion. We talked with fairgoers about where we work and the value we bring to our communities by working union. Executive Board members and stewards overwhelmingly volunteered to work our kiosk and talk with fairgoers.

The Minnesota State Fair is another example of our members stepping up to the call for action. By engaging and educating members and the larger community, we build confidence in our members. These skills are necessary as we build support for upcoming bargaining. We need to be able to communicate and educate each other on what is going on. We also need this so we can dispel any fear or misinformation that might be spread. We need to stay focused on what is important--a contract that protects and builds a better life for our union members and families.

It's September now and we're analyzing all of the survey responses from thousands of members. You filled out surveys online and on paper from mid-June through the

end of August. We asked about your economic and non-economic priorities, ways you want to become involved, and the people you'd like to see on the bargaining committee. Thank you for taking time to complete your survey. As I've said before, your voice is important.

In early October, we'll be taking the Minneapolis Retail Grocery Survey results on the road. Attend the October 2nd membership meeting and we'll present the results there. We're also planning to take it on the road to a couple other parts of the metro on October 3rd and 4th. I want to see you at one of these meetings. Will you commit to attend? It's another chance to become involved in your union.

Our collective bargaining agreements are important. It's about good working conditions, fair wages and a better life for ourselves and our families. Let's work together to grow this.



Executive Board member Dave Maas, member Tom and Colleen Pitlick with President Matt Utecht



Micah Holt-Woehl, Local 653 member at Almsted's, with President Utecht



President Utecht with Senator Al Franken, Executive Board member Lorrie Wayman, and Union Representative Rick Milbrath

*See Page 14 for Harvest Festival information and registration form!*

# Crow Wing County Fair

## --Promoting Our Union Members and Employees--

By Paul Crandall, Secretary-Treasurer

The 2017 Crow Wing County Fair was once again a huge success as the team of pirates (Local 653 staff) sailed into Brainerd on the Black Pearl on Monday, July 31. Each year for one week at the fair, Local 653 staff members work to promote the unionized retail grocery stores in the Brainerd Lakes area. Those stores include Baxter and Brainerd Cub Foods, Baxter and Crosby Super One Foods and Pequot Lakes SuperValu. These stores employ close to 500 hardworking members of Local 653.

Fairgoers enjoy the fun atmosphere that surrounds the Black Pearl as the pirates give away all sorts of goodies, such as chips, granola bars, krispy bars, fruit snacks, lei necklaces, bead necklaces, and delicious fresh fruit after each drawing. The big draw to the pirate ship is the tickets we hand out for the five drawings each day starting at noon. These drawings gather large crowds as we give away gift cards to the union grocery stores. Before each drawing fairgoers listen to our message asking them to please support and shop at these union stores in the Brainerd Lakes area. These employers provide good jobs with good wages and benefits. The money spent by consumers at these union stores stays local and is reinvested into the community, including schools, churches, youth sports/activities and local food shelves just to name a few.

Each day fairgoers ask the pirates, "What is this all about?" This gives us the opportunity to educate that we are the local union that represents the workers in these union stores and it is an excellent opportunity to promote our members' successes and talents and ask for their

continued support in shopping at their unionized stores along with showing them what a local union does to support the local employers.

Each evening at the 8:00 p.m. drawing a gift card worth \$400.00 from one of the stores is given away, and on the last night of the fair two \$400.00 gift cards are given out to a very excited and loud crowd. Again this year it was nice to see all the members and their families stop by to say hello and receive a Local 653 T-shirt and a coffee mug.

I want to thank all the local Brainerd Lakes area retail grocery employers who help make the fair an enormous success with their kind and generous donations. Also, thanks to Captain Matt and the staff of Local 653 who put in long hours and a lot of hard work to make this event sail as smoothly as it does.

Please check out our Facebook page (**UFCW Local 653**) for more great photos.



653 member Erica Wilson, cake decorator at Cub in Brainerd, with her family and President Matt Utecht



653 member Kevin Tschida, of the dairy/frozen department at SuperValu in Pequot Lakes, with Local 653 Secretary-Treasurer Paul Crandall



Part of the swarthy Local 653 Crew with Cap'n Utecht



One of Friday's \$400 gift card winners, *Analyn Nobis of Brainerd*



*Ryan Winter, Local 653 member at Super One Foods in Baxter, with President Utecht*



*Kim and Shane Flores, both Local 653 members, with Alyssa Stapleton*



*Some of Local 653's pirate crew*

"To All the Pirates--  
I always love seeing all you guys. You're kind, nice and give good prizes and help others in need.  
Love--Jo"

## Power in Numbers

By Local 653 SPURs

We would like to introduce ourselves and tell you a little bit about our experiences being SPURs. We are Maddie, Jay and Shari. "SPUR" stands for Special Project Union Representative. Each of us has been assigned approximately 12 stores. Our mission was to reach "all" employees in each store to educate them about the union and try to get everyone to fill out retail contract surveys.

When we were approached with this idea, all of us were excited to be part of this and do our part to try and make an impact on others. We are very passionate about our union and strongly believe in it.

The retail contract surveys were a way of collecting information as to what each person would like to see in our contract that is coming up in March of 2018. This is one of the ways for your voice to be heard. Surveys could have been completed two ways, either on paper and turned in to the store steward, one of us, their store union representative, or they could be completed online.

This has been far from easy. Some people jumped on board right away filling out the surveys and were excited about this new idea. Some dragged their feet and it took them longer to commit. We have others that seemed to want to wait until the deadline to get the survey

completed. Then we have a few members that have refused to participate at all.

It has been our pleasure getting to know so many people. The stronger we are as a whole, the better our contract will be for all of us. There is power in numbers. This shows the employers that if you pick on one of us, you pick on all of us. We have witnessed this firsthand with three Minneapolis co-ops unionizing with Local 653 just this year! The power of numbers can make a huge impact. Get active to make us a stronger unit and win what we deserve as workers.



*UFCW Local 653 SPURs Jay Grygar, Shari Backlin and Maddie Flanagan*

# Annual Fishing Tournament

By Scott Larson, Union Representative

On Wednesday, July 19, UFCW Local 653 held its annual Family Fun Day. It was a fantastic day together with members and their family and friends. The day's events were held at Beebe Lake Regional Park in Wright County. The weather was beautiful; it was a perfect day for fishing. It is always fun to see members and their families having a wonderful time. Lunch was served at noon by Local 653 staff, and prizes and drawings followed. I want to thank President Matt Utecht and Secretary-Treasurer Paul Crandall for continuing to host this event for all the hardworking membership. Winners are as follows:

## Group 1 (ages 1-11)

- Largest fish: Gabby Rosecrans - Pair of Twins Tickets
- Smallest fish: Keith Stay's Granddaughter Katelya - Pair of Twins Tickets

## Group II (ages 12-17)

- Largest fish: Anthony Goodwin - 2-night stay at Ours Resort
- Most species: Gram Magnuson - Pair of Twins Tickets

## Group III (age 18+)

- Largest fish: Randy Sunder - 3-night stay at Ours Resort
- Most species: Tim Howard - Pair of Twins Tickets

We look forward to seeing you next year!!





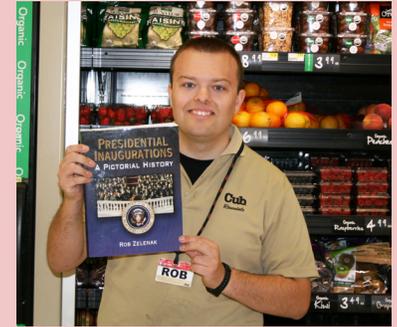
Randy Sunder - largest fish - 37" northern pike

# Is There an Author Among Us? You Bet There Is!

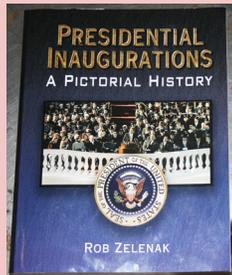
By Doug Rigert, Union Representative

Like most jobs, there are almost always positive and negative aspects to be found. Thankfully the most positive and rewarding part of my job is when I get to meet or learn a little more about the members I have the good fortune to represent.

One such member is a young man by the name of Rob Zelenak, who works in the produce department at the Williston Cub Foods store in Coon Rapids. Rob is 24 years old and has been at Cub for four years. Aside from being a hard worker and likable guy, I recently learned he is also a writer and published author of a book titled "Presidential Inaugurations A Pictorial History." The book covers 228 years of the Presidency of the United States, 58 inaugurations and nine Oath Ceremonies. The book measures 8.5" x 11" and weighs about 3.5 pounds, is 558 pages, and as you might expect, has numerous photographs and copies of paintings to accompany the written text. Also included are the inaugural addresses of all 45 Presidents.



In speaking with Rob about the book he shared some interesting details with me. The book came out this year in February and is the first book he has written. In May of 2016 his computer crashed and without any of his work on the book saved in a backup file he lost everything and had to start all over again--ouch!! He wrote the book because he has always been interested in American history, especially Presidential history. His favorite President is John F. Kennedy and Rob was lucky enough to be in Boston, Massachusetts, on May 29, 2017, at the JFK Presidential Library and Museum on what would have been JFK's 100<sup>th</sup> birthday.



GREAT BOOK, ROB!

When asked if he might write another book and if so what about, Rob said yes, he is interested in writing one on the Governors of Minnesota. He also shared with me that over the years he has collected authentic signatures of 10 Presidents. They are Lyndon B. Johnson, Richard M. Nixon, Gerald Ford, Jimmy Carter, Ronald Reagan, George H.W. Bush, Bill Clinton, George W Bush, Barack Obama and Donald Trump. The book is a serious and well put together piece of literature. If you or someone you know enjoys American history, especially political or Presidential history, look no further. This book will make a great gift for yourself or a friend. It can be purchased for \$25.00 through Amazon.com. If you would like to contact Rob online, he can be reached at [RobZelenak1993@gmail.com](mailto:RobZelenak1993@gmail.com).

## Professionalism on the Sales Floor

By Jim Schommer, Union Representative

How many times have you been out shopping at your local home improvement store, department store, or even your place of employment, and heard two or even more employees talking in the aisles about their personal life or complaining about work, etc.? This is very unprofessional and it does not promote a good shopping experience for the customers. Let's remember this as we work in our stores with our customers. The customer always comes first. They don't want to hear about your personal life or problems you might be having at work, and they shouldn't have to. Please keep your conversations on a professional level.

Another point to address is the question, "How are

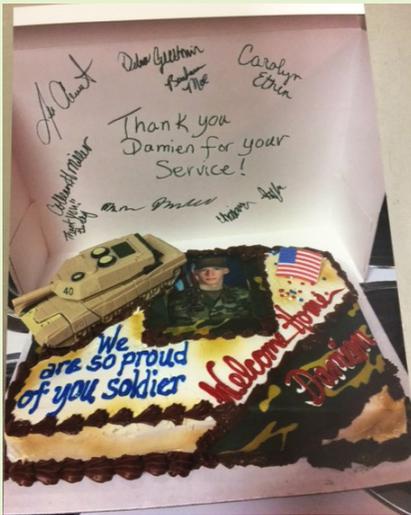
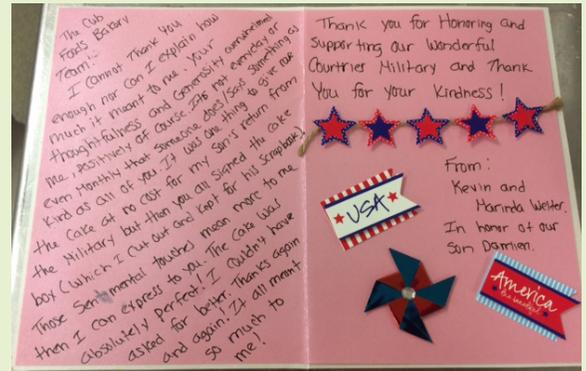
you doing today?" This is a bit tricky, because most customers will tell you about their day and then ask you how your day is going. They ask most times to be polite, but they really don't want to hear about your day. There are always exceptions to this, but most times they really don't want to hear about your personal issues. A simple, "I'm doing well, thank you," is a good reply.

These are a couple of little things in the retail business we all should try harder to do. It may not seem like a big deal, but with today's economy and the stores fighting for every dollar, it means a great deal. More business for your employer could mean more hours for you.

# Radermacher's Shakopee Cub Bakery Team is Amazing

By Amber Allen, Union Representative

**H**uge kudos to the Radermacher's Shakopee Cub bakery team! A special order came in from a mother celebrating her son's return from the military, and not only did the team at Shakopee step up, they went above and beyond! The cake was everything the customer hoped for, plus more. Upon opening the box, to their surprise, the bakery team had hand-written messages to the soldier thanking him for his service. It was such a special touch



and meant so much to the family. The kindness of the Radermacher's team

didn't stop there. On top of making this special cake and messages, they decided it would be fitting to do all of this at no charge to the customer. Their donation and kindness has earned them a customer for life! Paul Radermacher is so proud of his team and says, "It's a really good example of our associates caring about our customers and community."

***GREAT JOB--TEAM RADERMACHER'S!***

## Your Weingarten Rights

In 1975, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled, in the Weingarten decision, that an employee is entitled to have a union representative present during any interview which may result in his or her discipline. It is up to you to insist on union representation. If you fail to do so, you may waive your rights.

If you are called into a meeting with any management representative and have reason to believe that disciplinary action may result, read them your Weingarten rights:

"If this discussion could in any way lead to my being disciplined or terminated, I respectfully request that my union representative or steward be present at this meeting. Without representation, I choose not to answer any questions."

Do the following:

1. Ask your supervisor if you might be disciplined as a result of the interview. If he/she says "No," ask for a written statement to that effect. If he/she gives you such a statement, you must participate in the interview. If not, read him/her your Weingarten rights, remain for the meeting, take notes, and afterwards immediately contact your union representative.
2. If he/she says you might be disciplined but will not allow you to have a union representative present, read him your Weingarten rights, stay in the room, take notes, and do not respond to any questions. Afterwards, contact your union representative immediately. If the supervisor allows your union representative to be present, you should participate in the interview.

# *Wilson-McShane Corporation*



## **More Fruit and Veggies Month**

**W**ith the obesity rate tripling in American children over the last 30 years, it is important we all make a healthy diet part of our everyday lives. More than 90 percent of both adults and children do not consume enough fruits or vegetables on a daily basis. There are various ways to add healthier foods into your everyday diet:

- Fresh
- Frozen
- Canned
- Dried
- 100% juice

If you have picky eaters in your household, there is a solution for everyone; there are over 200 varieties of fruits and vegetables, giving an array of flavors and textures to entice even the pickiest of eaters.

### **Healthy Snack Ideas**

- Precut, raw fruits or vegetables with healthy dip (Greek yogurt or hummus)
- Fruit kabobs with yogurt
- Combine fruits and vegetables into a salad; raw unsalted nuts can be included for added protein and nutrition
- Add fresh cut or frozen vegetables to soup
- Sauté or roast vegetables with olive oil

- Blend fresh fruit and greens into a smoothie

## **Benefits of Increasing Fruit and Vegetable Intake**

- Low in calories
- Loaded with vitamins essential for your body
- Increased fiber, helping to keep you full
- Promotes a healthy digestive system
- Helps maintain a healthy weight
- Increased performance
- May decrease the risk of disease

## **Fresh Vegetables and Fruits Available During the Fall Season**

With access to many local farmers markets, there is an abundance of healthy fresh fruits and vegetables available for the fall season, some of which are:

- Squash (acorn, butternut and buttercup)
- Broccoli
- Cauliflower
- Sweet Potatoes
- Pumpkins
- Mushrooms
- Turnips
- Apples
- Cranberries
- Pears

## **Ways to Get Children to Enjoy Healthy Eating**

Getting children to eat healthy can be easier than you think. Here are some ideas to get kids involved in healthy eating:

- Help find fruits and vegetables on your shopping list
- Measure out and add fruit to a blender for a fresh fruit smoothie
- Pack their own lunches--they will be more likely to eat something they helped create
- Cut vegetables into fun shapes with cookie cutters
- Help mash up sweet or regular potatoes

For additional information on helpful menu ideas and how to eat healthier, visit the Fruits and Veggies – More Matters website: [www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org](http://www.fruitsandveggiesmorematters.org). Have a safe and healthy autumn!

# Reverend Dr. Addie L. Wyatt

By Ondrea Shallbetter, Union Representative/Organizer

Reverend Dr. Addie L. Wyatt--a name you most likely have not heard before. She was a leader in the United States Labor movement and a civil rights activist. Her upbringing was one of struggle and poverty. Addie was born in Brookhaven, Mississippi, on March 8, 1924. She was the second born and had a total of seven siblings. Addie and her family moved to Chicago in 1930 when she was the age of six. Her family relocated to the Midwest in hopes of finding better job opportunities during the Great Depression. However, obtainable jobs for African Americans in this time were hard to come by.

When Addie was 16 years old, she married postal finance clerk Claude Wyatt. She and her husband had two sons, Renaldo Wyatt and Claude S. Wyatt III. She also raised several of her younger siblings after her mother died at the age of 39 and her father was unable to care for them because of illness.

To help support her family Wyatt applied for a job as a typist for Armour and Company in 1941. On her first day of work, she found out African American women were not hired as typists in the office, but instead sent to the canning department to pack stew in cans for the army. In the 1950s, Wyatt joined the United Packinghouse Workers of America when discovering the union did not discriminate against its members.

In 1955, Addie started working full-time on staff for the UPWA--a successor of UFCW--representing workers across a five states. She recognized the importance and power of interracial organization. Among many other achievements, Wyatt and her union of black, white, and Latino laborers were able to win "equal pay for equal work" provisions in most of their contracts well before the Equal Pay Act of 1963.

In 1953, Addie was elected Vice President of her Local 56, becoming the first black woman to hold senior office in an American labor union. Also, she was the director of the Women's Affairs and Human Rights departments of the Amalgamated Meat Cutters. By 1956, Wyatt was the Program Coordinator for District One of the United Packinghouse Workers Union. This was also the year Addie and her husband Claude began their work with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.



In the 1960s, Eleanor Roosevelt recognized Addie as a leader for labor and appointed her to a position on the Labor Legislation Committee of the United States Commission on the Status of Women. African American women had the unparalleled experience of working on the floors of the meatpacking plants as well as being integral parts of building the unions.

During the 1970s she became a very powerful figure in the United Food and Commercial Workers International Union. During this time, she worked hard to create unions that were more inclusive of People of Color. In 1972, she became the founding member of the Coalition of Black Trade Unionists, which was formed to ensure that black workers could "share in the power of the labor movement at every level.

Addie Wyatt came from humble beginnings and became a great leader for women, minorities and our union. Reverend Dr. Addie Wyatt's story shows us, yet again, that it doesn't matter where you come from, but where you are going.

(Wikipedia, n.d.)

## Executive Board Members

Matthew P. Utecht, President	Nick Stute, Vice President 5
Paul Crandall, Secretary-Treasurer	Melissa Charles, Vice President 6
Judi Johnson, Recording Secretary	Michael Gaulrapp, Vice President 7
David Maas, Vice President 1	John Pignato, Vice President 8
Doug Dehmer, Vice President 2	Chris Erickson, Vice President 9
Theresa Kick, Vice President 3	Mark Husbyn, Vice President 10
Lorrie Wayman, Vice President 4	

# Is the Grass Greener?

By Rick Milbrath, Union Representative



This past year I heard about many part-timers who are working in our industry, and are considering moving to other companies because they thought it would be a better gig. There are a number of reasons why they might have picked up and left. They could have been mad at management, promised more hours, move to a new store closer to home, different departments and the list goes on. All too often they made this decision without checking everything out. They might have heard the old saying, "The grass is greener on the other side of the fence." So go for it, why not?

We are all aware of the shortage of help in the grocery industry and the cost of training new hires. That is why, when an employer can find experienced help that came from a union store, they feel they scored a great catch. In some cases, this move works out for our members. However, for most--the ones that didn't do the checking or research--they find it to be a real eye opener after the fact and then it's too late.

If you are contemplating changing employers, there are a few things you should know before jumping ship. The first thing that comes to mind could be your wage. Your new employer is not required to pay the wage you were making, although with the shortage of help they will likely pay it or even bump it up to influence you to make the jump. You should also realize that when you start with a new employer you are **severing** your seniority date. Remember, seniority for part-time employees is very important as it governs the number of hours each week you are scheduled and those hours are **guaranteed**. Seniority is one of the many values your union contract negotiates on your behalf as a part-timer. Being at the bottom could prevent you from having the same amount of hours you had with your old employer. This could be a big hit on your wallet weekly. Seniority also governs your vacation and personal holidays; therefore it would mean starting over qualifying for your vacation and holidays. If you are a Modified part-timer you should take an extra look because if you are not hired on as a Modified employee you could end up losing your insurance.

I'm not saying you cannot change employers or that it would be a big mistake to do so. I'm simply asking that you look at all the pros and cons before you take the leap. One thing to remember is the longer you are with an employer, the more you stand to lose as a part-timer. Also remember--and do not take this lightly--if you do move to a nonunion employer you will find out very soon what an "at will" employee means, which is that you are at the total mercy of your new employer. You will not have any say or guarantees in terms of hours, raises, paid time off or protections of your job that a union contract provides.

If you have any questions on this or anything regarding a move to another company in this industry, give your union representative a call first. They can guide you as to what questions to ask your new employer and what some of the pitfalls may be. So when you hear people say, "The grass is greener on the other side of the fence," my suggestion is to take a good look and make sure you're not looking in a mirror at a reflection of your own back yard.

*"Saving Jobs, Dreams, and Lives"* – John Sanchelli



Providing short term mental & chemical health assessment and daily living tools for union members and their families since 1987.

651-642-0182

Available 24 Hours a Day

800-634-7710

*Note that TEAM's office has moved to:*

*Roseville Office Plaza  
1970 Oakcrest Ave  
Roseville, MN 55113*

# Congratulations to Our 2017 Educational Grant Winners!

**Brent Johnson** (son of Gregory Johnson - Cub - Silver Lake Road)



I began my collegiate career attending the University of Minnesota-Duluth. I spent two years at that university and decided to transfer down to the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities to pursue getting into graduate school there. My dream career is to become a physical therapist and I am pursuing a degree in this respective field. I currently am working at the University of Minnesota Medical Center as a rehabilitation technician to gain hands-on experience and to become more knowledgeable in physical therapy. Outside of my academics, I enjoy socializing with friends and playing sports, specifically hockey. I also like to spend time at my cabin and being outside.

**Emily Crawford**  
(Lunds & Byerlys - Ridgedale)



Emily graduated from Minnetonka High School in 2017 and will be a freshman at the University of Minnesota Duluth. She is heavily involved in theatre, and hopes to continue to be so at Duluth. These next few years she plans to major in Environment and Sustainability.

**Brady Richards** (Cub - Lakeville South)



I started working at Cub in the Dairy and Frozen Food section in July, 2016. This has been my first real job. Following my parents' advice I have put aside 80% of my income towards my upcoming University costs, 10% for charitable giving and 10% for my fun money to use as I want. This has been frustrating at times since I would have liked to have bought some more fun things for myself, but it has helped me become more responsible with my money. Working at Cub has helped me learn responsibility, work ethic, commitment to showing up on time when scheduled, customer service and working as part of a team.

I choose to go to Southern Utah University because it is known as the "School of the National Parks" since there are 20 National Parks and National Monuments within a five-hour drive of the University. My dream job would be to work as a Park Ranger in the National Park Service. I am planning on earning a degree in "Outdoor Parks and Recreation." My love for the outdoors and the National Parks has grown from being a Boy Scout and many family vacations to visit National Parks in different parts of the country.

**Joniesha Hayes** (Oxendale's Market)



My name is Joniesha Hayes and I am 17 years old. I went to Southwest High School and excelled at everything I did. I got straight As constantly and that led me to get a rush of scholarships throughout the year. My college plans are to go to Winona State University and get a Bachelor's of Science degree to become an RN. From there I want to work possibly at Children's Hospital in the mother baby center or in the pediatric ward. I have very big aspirations for myself.

**Jasmine Anderson**  
(Cub Foods - Monticello)



I went to Becker for eight years after moving from Minneapolis. I have multiple awards that I am proud of from Becker. In August 2015 I was hired to work as a cashier for Cub. I am attending St. Cloud State University.



**Rachel Schwake** (daughter of Mary Schwake - Cub - Eagan East)

I graduated from Burnsville Senior High School in 2014. I went on to attend college at Winona State with the major of social work. I will be starting my second semester in the social work program. I plan on graduating with my Bachelor's Degree in December of 2018. My future plan is to attend grad school in hopes of getting my master's degree. As of right now, substance abuse and mental health are two specific categories I am interested in working with.



**Jared Lundberg** (Jerry's Cub - Rogers)

Hi, my name is Jared Lundberg and I just graduated from Rogers High School. I've gone to Rogers my whole life and in high school, I played golf and basketball. Next year I plan on attending Bethel University. At Bethel, I want to double major in Business Finance and Computer Science.

**Daniel Weid** (Cub - Maple Grove)

I graduated from Maple Grove Senior High June 2017. I especially enjoyed my time with the swim team which started as a 7th grader. I also enjoyed Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) and of course working at Cub in Maple Grove. My future interests include child development, culinary, and coaching.



**Sara Rogers** (County Market - Andover)

I am a Minnesota native and only child. I completed my kindergarten through high school education in Anoka-Hennepin District 11. I was an active member in the Andover High School branch of the National Honor Society, and took many advanced courses. I also enjoyed many science courses, which helped me realize my love for the sciences and my desire to be a forensic analyst. I ended my high school career with a 4.0 GPA, and worked at King's County Market in Andover as a proud UFCW Local 653 member throughout my junior and senior year. My future plans entail obtaining my Bachelor's Degree in Forensic Science from the University of North Dakota. I then hope to pursue specializations in branches of forensics to improve my education, and to help me reach my goal of working for the FBI as a forensic analyst.



**Sadman Islam** (son of Khandoker Islam - Lunds & Byerlys - Richfield)

Sadman was born in Bangladesh and moved to the US at a mere age of six months. He grew up around his seven older cousins that all excelled in academics. Being surrounded by them his whole life, Sadman was inspired and always had the motivation to be on the same level as his cousins, surpass them even. Sadman is currently set to attend the University of Minnesota Twin Cities in the fall of 2017 pursuing a premedical degree in physiology and genetics. He hopes to continue expanding his knowledge of the medical sector and growing as a human being, maturing throughout his undergraduate years at the U of M. His plans post-undergrad are to attend medical school in Maryland at Johns Hopkins University and ultimately become a licensed cardiologist.



**Local 653 invites you to join us for our  
7<sup>th</sup> annual Fall Harvest Festival**

**When: Sunday, October 8, 2017  
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.**

**Where: Veterans Memorial Park  
6335 Portland Avenue, Richfield, MN 55423**

**Cost: \$5.00/family, plus a nonperishable food item for donation to a local food shelf**

*Note new location!*

Join us for a fun-filled afternoon of hay rides, games, inflatables, treat bags, picture station, and pumpkin patch.

Brats, hot dogs, chips and apple cider will be served.

Children are encouraged to wear Halloween costumes.



**Fall Harvest Festival  
Registration Form**

Send payment and registration form to the Local 653 office by Monday, October 2, 2017.

UFCW Local 653  
Attn: Harvest Festival  
6160 Summit Dr N Ste 600  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430

<b>Member Name:</b>	
<b>Phone #:</b>	
<b>Store/Employer:</b>	
<b>Attendance:</b>	_____ # of adults _____ # of children 0-3 years of age _____ # of children 4-17 years of age
<b>Cost:</b>	<b>\$5.00 per family.</b> Make checks payable to UFCW Local 653. (Please bring nonperishable food item to Harvest Festival.)

Thank you for the Minnesota Zoo tickets. My family had a great day!  
--Tara

THANK YOU SO VERY MUCH FOR THE 4 MN STATE FAIR TICKETS. I AM SO EXCITED TO GO!! I GO MANY TIMES EVERY YEAR.  
--DIANE

Thank you so much for the Fair tickets! My husband, stepdaughter, her boyfriend and I will put them to good use. It's great to be a union member!  
--Carolyn

Thank you so much for the Twins tickets to the Sunday, July 9 game. My husband and I went. We had really good seats. The Twins played the Baltimore Orioles that day. They lost but we had a lot of fun.

--Anne & Jim

Thank you, so very much, for the wonderful tickets to the Twins game!! The seats were in a perfect location! We had a fantastic time and can't thank you enough!! We greatly appreciate it!!  
--Teresa

Thanks so much for the fair tickets. What a great surprise. We love going to the fair. Also what an honor and privilege it has been working and being a part of the Union for 28 years and to let you know I will be retiring on August 24. Thanks for everything.  
--Jane

I would like to thank you for the Twins tickets. They are great seats and rain or shine we are excited to see the game. Thank you again for this wonderful opportunity. What an appreciated perk to our union membership.  
--Jeannine



Did you know that there are many benefits available to you from Union Plus as a member of UFCW Local 653? Everything from the Union Plus Credit Card, to home mortgage programs, AT&T discounts, insurance (pet, homeowners, auto, renters), Goodyear and motor club discounts, travel and fun options, and more. Check it out at [www.unionplus.org](http://www.unionplus.org)!

**UFCW Local 653**  
6160 Summit Dr N, Suite 600  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
[www.ufcw653.org](http://www.ufcw653.org)  
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**Jess Alexander, Organizer** ([jessa@ufcw653.org](mailto:jessa@ufcw653.org), 612-567-1225)

**Amber Allen, Union Representative** ([amberra@ufcw653.org](mailto:amberra@ufcw653.org), 612-865-6755)

**CORPORATE CUB FOODS:** Apple Valley, Bloomington, Burnsville HOTC, Burnsville South, Chanhassen, Eagan East, Eagan North, Eagan West, Lakeville North, Lakeville South, Lakeville West, Rosemount, Savage, Shorewood  
Radermacher's Shakopee Cub  
Park Health & Rehab, Healthcare Services at Park H&R

**Scott Larson, Union Representative** ([scottl@ufcw653.org](mailto:scottl@ufcw653.org), 612-961-6305)

**LUNDS & BYERLYS:** Bloomington, Central, Edina, Hennepin, Lake Street, Minnetonka, Navarre, Plymouth, Prior Lake, Richfield, Wayzata, Lunds Manufacturing  
Almsted's - Bergan's - Cooper's - Driskill's - Everett's - Ingebretsen's - Jubilee - Oxendale's  
Villa at Bryn Mawr, Senova (Bryn Mawr), Healthcare Services (Bryn Mawr)

**Rick Milbrath, Union Representative** ([rmilbrath@ufcw653.org](mailto:rmilbrath@ufcw653.org), 612-965-4310)

**JERRY'S CUB FOODS:** Bloomington, Brookdale, Chaska, Eden Prairie, Elk River, Knollwood, Lake Street, Nicollet, Quarry, Richfield, Rogers, Southdale, West Broadway

**JERRY'S FOODS:** Eden Prairie, Edina

**KING'S COUNTY MARKET:** Andover, St. Francis

Hirshfield's  
Minnesota Meat Masters  
Brede Exposition Services  
Swanson's Meats  
Monarch Healthcare - Estates at Chateau, Estates at Bloomington  
Healthcare Services (Bloomington and Chateau)

**Doug Rigert, Union Representative** ([dougr@ufcw653.org](mailto:dougr@ufcw653.org), 612-889-9121)

**LUNDS & BYERLYS:** Burnsville, Chanhassen, Eagan, Eden Prairie, Edina, Glen Lake, Golden Valley, Maple Grove, Ridgedale, St. Louis Park, St. Cloud  
**HAUG'S** - Cub Coon Rapids (Williston), Cub Minnetonka (Haug), Cub Waterford  
**KNOWLAN'S FESTIVAL FOODS:** Andover, Bloomington, Brooklyn Park  
Benedictine @ Innsbruck Healthcare

**Jim Schommer, Union Representative** ([jims@ufcw653.org](mailto:jims@ufcw653.org), 612-965-4308)

**CORPORATE CUB FOODS:** Blaine North, Blaine South, Blaine West, Brooklyn Park North, Brooklyn Park South, Champlin, Coon Rapids South, Crystal, Fridley, Lagoon, Maple Grove, Monticello, New Brighton, Rockford Road, Silver Lake Road, Vicksburg

**KOWALSKI'S MARKETS:** Chicago (Parkview), Eagan, Eden Prairie, Excelsior, Hennepin, Lyndale  
Homestead at Anoka, Gold Cross, Monarch Healthcare - Oaklawn

**Ondrea Shallbetter, Union Representative/Organizing Dept.** ([ondreas@ufcw653.org](mailto:ondreas@ufcw653.org), 612-406-9419)

**CUB FOODS:** Plymouth Station, St. Louis Park

## UFCW Local 653

### Members:

Union Meetings are held the first Monday of each month (October through May) at 6:00 p.m.

**NOTE: The October 2 meeting ONLY will be held at Double-Tree by Hilton Hotel, 2200 Freeway Boulevard in Brooklyn Center.**

**Upcoming meetings:**  
Monday, October 2, 2017  
Monday, November 4, 2017



## Retirees' Club Meeting Notice

Knights of Columbus -  
Marian Hall

1114 American Blvd. W.  
Bloomington, MN 55420

Thursday, Sept. 21, 2017  
10:00 a.m. Cards  
12:00 p.m. Lunch  
1:00 p.m. Speaker

For more information:

Thea Gullekson:  
952-831-3143  
Char Hanson:  
612-869-9035  
or Marlen Wahl:  
952-888-3220

United Food & Commercial  
Workers Union Local 653  
6160 Summit Dr N Ste 600  
Brooklyn Center, MN 55430  
763-525-1500 or 1-800-292-4105

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## Get Involved

By Melissa Charles, UFCW Local 653 Executive Board Member

"You have not because you ask not." This is something my dad used to say to me when I was younger. He was trying to teach me that unless I spoke up, voiced my needs, desires and even my opinions, no one knew what they were.

The same is true for workers in today's world. We have opportunities to speak up in our union! Did you take the short minute to fill out the contract survey this summer? We had the opportunity to fill out a paper copy and turn it into our business representatives, in-store union stewards or the SPURS that have visited our stores. Even easier than that, we could complete it online.

Can you make it to a union meeting on Monday, October 2nd at 6:00 p.m.? Getting involved has never been easier and never so important. Minneapolis Retail Grocery workers will have a new contract we'll be negotiating soon and we need to know what your needs are. Take the time to speak up, be a voice! When we stand together, we stand stronger. It matters!

**IMPORTANT  
NOTE:**

The October 2, 2017, Member Meeting will be held at DoubleTree by Hilton Hotel, 2200 Freeway Boulevard in Brooklyn Center, **NOT** at the Embassy Suites. This is for the October meeting **ONLY**.