

UFCW looks to membership in the presidential endorsement process

The UFCW International's presidential endorsement process is not being taken lightly. This process is aimed at identifying the critical issues of workers, where the candidates stand on the issues and whether they can win the election. Prior to any endorsement being made the International Union will involve the UFCW Executive Board, our locals and our members.

As reported at Local 655 monthly business meetings, the UFCW is engaging in a four-step process to make an informed decision regarding an endorsement: Nationwide Membership Polls; Local Legislative and Political Representative Interviews; Campaign Interviews, Strategy, Campaign Plan, and Governing and Objectives; and an International Executive Board recommendation.

The UFCW once again contracted with The Wilson Group to conduct a nationwide polling of UFCW members across the country. If you are called, we hope you will take a moment

to address their few questions and share your views. In addition, Local 655 Legislative Representatives Judy Davidson and Dave Politte are asking members to complete a brief two-page questionnaire. The response has been good. At a recent 655 Executive Board meeting a straw poll was also taken and showed the many differences in opinion and selection.

Lastly, our strategy is to build power for the UFCW by keeping all of the candidates engaged in the issues that impact UFCW, Local 655 and our members. The decision to endorse a candidate will mirror the information that we gather. It will reflect the decision to support the candidate who is most closely aligned with our policy, goals and objectives and whom we believe has the best opportunity to succeed.

We hope you will join in our grassroots process of endorsing a candidate for the President of the United States.

Dougherty questions Edwards

Local 655 President Jim Dougherty had the opportunity to speak with presidential hopeful, former Sen. John Edwards, during last week's National Urban League convention at the America's Center in downtown St. Louis. Dougherty was invited to question Edwards' position on labor issues in an effort to determine which candidate would be best for our local members and organized labor overall. Sen. Hillary Clinton, Sen. Barack Obama and Rep. Dennis Kucinich also addressed the Urban League. Dougherty will take the opportunity to speak with other candidates in the future.



Putting a little muscle into it

Union Organizer, Eric Davis and Recorder, Bryan Wynn show their strength at the First Labor Picnic held in Forest Park. The event was sponsored by the Rockwood and Tri-County Labor Clubs and was a huge success. The picnic was great for young and old.

The event featured games with prizes, a dunking booth, hamburgers, hotdogs, refreshments and good conversation with our friends in the labor movement.

An old-fashioned "Tug of War" was part of the festivities and we want to thank this year's tug of war team. However, we are looking for some serious muscle next year. Anyone interested?

Take The Pledge!

Join us in sending Wal-Mart back to school.

- I will not discriminate against women.
- I will not take advantage of child labor.
- I will stop paying poverty-level wages to workers.
- It's wrong to refuse to provide affordable health care for all workers.

This school year, make sure Wal-Mart learns its lessons.

To receive your pledge cards and get on board contact your Union Representative at 636-394-6500.

Check the facts at www.wakeupwalmart.com

An Exclusive Twice Monthly Report For UFCW Local 655 Members & Their Families

LOCAL 655 REPORT

Your Neighborhood Union www.ufcw655.com

Affiliated with United Food & Commercial Workers International Union

655's 18th Annual Softball Tournament Coming Soon!

The annual softball tournament is fast approaching! Join us for some high flying good times. The fields are ready and the teams are eager to play. All 655 members are invited to come out and have a hotdog and beverage, see some old and new friends and cheer on

your favorite team.

When: August 14th, 15th 16th, 20th, 21st and 22nd
Where: Ellisville Ball Park
Time: 6 to 10 p.m.

2007 SOFTBALL TOURNAMENT TEAMS

- | | |
|-----------------------------|----------------------------|
| Mid-Town IGA | Schnucks - O'Fallon |
| Straubs - Clayton | Schnucks - Harvester |
| Straubs - Kingshighway | Schnucks - Woodsmill |
| Shop 'n Save - Lemay | Schnucks - Mid Rivers |
| Shop 'n Save - Arnold | Schnucks - Creve Coeur |
| Shop 'n Save - O'Fallon | Schnucks - Festus |
| Shop 'n Save - Harvester | Schnucks - Arnold |
| Dierbergs - Telegraph | Schnucks - Dardenne |
| Dierbergs - Fenton | Schnucks - Westfall Plaza |
| Dierbergs - Clarkson | Schnucks - Butler Hill |
| Dierbergs - Florissant | Schnucks - Eureka |
| Dierbergs - Wentzville | Schnucks - Cottleville |
| Dierbergs - Bogey Hills | Schnucks - Grandview |
| Dierbergs - Wildwood | Schnucks - Twin Oaks |
| Dierbergs - Lafayette | Schnucks - Florissant |
| Dierbergs - Brentwood | Schnucks - Overland |
| Dierbergs - Deer Creek | Schnucks - Concord |
| Dierbergs - 79 Crossing | Schnucks - Bridgeton |
| Dierbergs - West Oaks | Schnucks - Richmond Center |
| Dierbergs - Warson Woods | Schnucks - Mason |
| Dierbergs - Mackenzie Point | Schnucks - Arsenal |
| Dierbergs - 94 Crossing | Schnucks - Lake St. Louis |
| Dierbergs - Four Seasons | Schnucks - Hampton Village |
| Dierbergs - Heritage | Schnucks - Zumbehl |
| Dierbergs - Market Place | Schnucks - Wentzville |



While your at the ball game make sure to stop by the Young Workers United booth to find out how you can win an Ipod Nano! Register to be an active member in the Young Workers United program and learn more about your Union. See you there.

Local 655 Kroger co-workers support mother after son's tragic death

When Beverly Erwin's 21-year-old son, David, died suddenly on June 17, Union members and co-workers from the Kroger-Warrenton store not only enveloped her in support, they jumped into action to help defray the costs of her son's funeral.

Employees received permission from Kroger-Warrenton store manager Windy Koch to hold a storefront barbecue. Co-worker Sherry Norwald made a few calls, and Kroger agreed to furnish the hot dogs, buns, soda and chips.

The barbecue was on, and the kindness of Bev's coworkers came together on Saturday, June 23.

Peggy Ebbesmeyer did the grilling; Mr. and Mrs. Darrel Smith, Kathy Roe, Teresa Gibson, Mr. and Mrs. Wiley and many others

gave of their time to see that the barbecue was well planned.

Everyone in the Kroger crew worked hard, and when it came time for them to eat, everyone paid their way, contributing to a fundraiser that was a huge success.

Many of Bev's friends and Kroger customers paid with \$10s and \$20s, and said, "Keep the change."

Tammy Spurgeon, another fellow employee, held a yard sale and donated the proceeds to help Bev with her son's funeral expenses.

Most of all, these close-knit co-workers continue their support as Bev mourns the loss of her son.

Bev thanks all who helped by donating time and money.



Members of Local 655 joined to help raise funds to defray funeral expenses for the 21-year-old son of Kroger-Warrenton co-worker Bev Erwin. Manning the barbecue table are Ronnie Beck (left), Sherry Nordwald, Barbie Rainwater, Teresa Gibson, Alicia McClelland and Darrell Smith (right).

After reading this page take it to your break room.