



## Laundry Workers Join UFCW Local 951 for A Voice on the Job

On May 12, 106 workers at Valley City Linen in Grand Rapids, Mich., voted for UFCW representation in an effort to improve working conditions at the commercial laundry. The vote followed workers' three-month campaign to organize. Lack of proper safety equipment and procedures was a top issue leading to the workers' campaign. Workers said they sorted through contaminated hospital linens without proper gloves or aprons and, in one part of the plant, the company provided one hard hat for 20 workers to share. Helping the workers to organize was UFCW Statewide Community Development - a joint project of UFCW Locals 951 and 876 devoted to community activism and worker organizing.

Negotiations for a first contract should begin in the next few weeks. **OP**

## Members of UFCW Local 1445 Participate in May Day Rally for Worker and Immigrant Rights

On May 1, members and staff of UFCW Local 1445 joined their brothers and sisters from other labor unions and immigrant rights groups from the greater Boston area to commemorate International Workers Day (May Day).

Two simultaneous marches began at East Boston's Central Square and the Everett City Hall and converged at the Chelsea City Hall for a massive rally for worker and immigrant rights. They joined tens of thousands of workers marching in cities across the U.S.

International Workers' Day commemorates the 1886 Haymarket Massacre in Chicago when Chicago police fired on workers who were on strike for the eight hour workday. The theme this year was "From Cairo



to Wisconsin, Defending Workers Rights." Protesters demanded the end to attacks on working people, and an end to the detention and deportation of migrant workers and their families. **OP**

## UFCW Members in Ohio Collecting Signatures for Repeal of SB5

### UFCW Members Produce UFCW Logo Items at Office Solutions

American Unions Embroidery and Screenprinting, Inc., a division of Office Solutions-USA, is officially producing UFCW logo apparel and products effective May 16, 2011. If you would like to order UFCW items, please order through [www.ufcw.org](http://www.ufcw.org) or [www.shopufcw.com](http://www.shopufcw.com). Payment can be made by check, money order, or major credit card.

The staff of Office Solutions-USA and their divisions are all UFCW members. Please wear these UFCW-made products to show your support of our Union: "A VOICE for Working America." **OP**



## UFCW Members in Ohio Collecting Signatures for Repeal of SB5

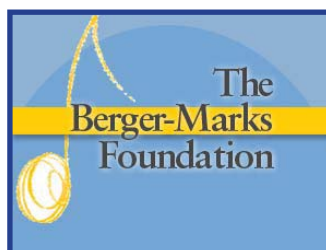
UFCW members in Ohio are working with We Are Ohio to collect enough signatures for a citizens' veto of SB5, the unfair attack on employee rights and worker safety. There are 26 UFCW lost timers from UFCW Locals 75, 1059 and the RWDSU canvassing neighborhoods and public events with petitions. In addition, UFCW stewards, staff, volunteers and retirees from Locals 17A, 880, and the Chemical Workers are also circulating petitions in their workplaces and neighborhoods.



More than 10,000 people in Ohio have stepped forward to circulate petitions, and gather the 231,149 valid signatures needed by June 30, 2011. For more information, visit [www.weareohio.org](http://www.weareohio.org). **OP**

## New Award Will Honor a Young Woman Active in Social Justice

A new \$10,000 award from the Berger-Marks Foundation will recognize a young woman who has made extraordinary contributions to social justice early in her career. The mission of the Berger-Marks Foundation is to help organize women into unions, and it provides both financial support and camaraderie to people and organizations doing that work.



Women up to 35 years old can be nominated or nomi-

nate themselves for the award, which will be presented this fall. Applications, with a short essay, resume and two letters of recommendation, must be submitted online by July 15, 2011.

"Women are organizing unions; women are leading campaigns for universal health care; and women are demonstrating to young people what social justice means," said Linda Foley, foundation president and former TNG-CWA president.

Visit [www.bergermarks.org](http://www.bergermarks.org) for an application and more information. **OP**

## Stand with GPC Workers Locked Out in Iowa For Nearly Three Years

On August 22, 2008, Grain Processing Corporation (GPC) in Muscatine, Iowa, locked its doors to over 300 employees rather than allow them to continue to work while negotiating a new contract. The workers, members of UFCW Local 86D, stood up against the company's desire to outsource at any time for any reason at all. Now, almost three years later, these workers continue their fight for good jobs in Muscatine.

"We want to work," said Local 86D President William Poggemiller. "We wanted to work while settling our contract differences, but GPC locked us out – and now more than 300 families have been without a steady paycheck for almost three years."

Meanwhile, company officials have used their private jets for jaunts to Florida or just flying around the state. Local and statewide papers have repeatedly written about the continuing pollution problems that the company has had while its most experienced workers aren't allowed to do their jobs.

Please visit [www.muscatinefirst.com](http://www.muscatinefirst.com) and sign our letter telling Gage Kent, CEO of GPC to give workers the respect they deserve. **OP**