



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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UFCW Local 653 members at Jerry's Enterprises approve new three-year contract  
*Contract builds better lives for thousands of hard-working families*

**BROOKLYN CENTER--** Today, UFCW Local 653 members of Jerry's Enterprises' grocery stores ratified a three-year collective bargaining agreement that builds better lives for more than 1600 families in the Twin Cities. Grocery industry retail workers in Minneapolis and western suburbs will enjoy better wages and benefits. Jerry's Enterprises operates 13 Cub Foods, 2 Jerry's Foods, and Richfield Rainbow Foods.

Melanie Millner, Deli Manager at Minneapolis Lake Street Jerry's Cub noted, "I'm proud of the working relationship we have as a union with Jerry's. I'm excited to see the results of higher wages with my coworkers. I know it will bring better morale and retention in our stores and it is going to make a difference in families' wallets."

Both part-time and full-time workers at Jerry's will receive raises each year of the contract.

Additional economic highlights of the contract include improved wages and quality of part-time positions. The new contract with Jerry's moves all "Group 3" workers up to part-time regular positions. This move guarantees workers will see increased take home pay as well as: three weeks paid vacation, six paid national holidays, paid bereavement and Jury Duty leave, and ancillary benefits that include dental, vision, life, accidental death and dismemberment insurance. In total, 723 workers will now be receiving these benefits.

Workers will also enjoy a secured employer commitment to pay the increase true cost of the Health & Welfare plan.

"The Health & Welfare we negotiated is a substantial savings to our families, especially the way health insurance costs are rising nowadays," said Bill Jensen, a meat cutter at Elk River Cub Foods.

Employers will contribute a union negotiated rate into a 401(k) for eligible employees. These include full-time contributions from \$2-\$4 and part-time is \$1.35 an hour. UFCW Local 653 has also secured two plan trustees.

On March 4, Jerry's Enterprises withdraws from the multi-employer pension for the 2018 plan year.

Workers will enjoy improved treatment and worker protections in the workplace with new and improved language. Respect and dignity in the workplace, bereavement leave for domestic partners, Victim, Witness, and Domestic Abuse leave, student seniority, and automation language that gives notice to employees and training opportunities if any technology will be implemented in the store.

"I'm really happy that language around respect and dignity is now a part of our agreement. Hard working families come first, and I'm glad that language reflects our shared values," said Nate McClerin, part-time Deli worker at West Broadway Cub Foods.

"Years ago, my daughter and I fled from a domestic violence situation. I was working at a non-union job. The only security that you have is money from your job, and when you don't even have that, it makes it even more harrowing. I'm happy that my co-workers and others in the future will have Domestic Abuse leave in our contract. It's another support for those who find themselves in a very vulnerable situation," said Anne, a cashier at Minneapolis Lake Street Cub Foods.

This win follows on the heels of the new contract UFCW Local 653 members ratified at Lunds & Byerlys on February 11.

"I'm proud our members with Jerry's voted yes to building better lives for themselves and their families. A sincere thank you to our union bargaining committee who worked together with Jerry's. Together with the recent Lunds & Byerlys contract, we continue to improve the quality of life for working families in Minnesota," said Matt Utecht, UFCW Local 653 President.

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UFCW Local 653 is a private sector union over 10,100 Minnesota workers strong in the grocery, food processing, healthcare, retail, and other industries.