



News Release

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Former Penn Traffic Workers Ratify New Contract with Tops Markets

Troy, PA, Feb 11 – Workers at four former Penn Traffic supermarkets in Pennsylvania’s Northern Tier tonight ratified a new two-year wage and benefit contract between Tops Markets and the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 1776.

Wendell W. Young, IV, President of Local 1776, said the contract covers the union’s 150 members at the stores in Troy, Sayre, Wellsboro and Canton. The stores were part of Tops’ purchase in Penn Traffic’s bankruptcy proceedings. Tonight’s meeting took place at the Troy Fire Hall, where the members approved the contract by a two-to-one margin.

“These were challenging negotiations that took place in a difficult economy and under a short time frame dictated by Penn Traffic’s bankruptcy filing,” Young said. “We were able to preserve jobs, maintain health and welfare benefits and establish a framework that provides an opportunity to grow the business and give us a better chance of keeping the stores open.”

Michele Kessler, Secretary-Treasurer of Local 1776 and Director of the union’s Northeast Pennsylvania Division, said the contract runs through March 3, 2012.

(more)

Tops/1st add

“I know that this has been a stressful period for our members and the communities surrounding the stores,” Kessler said. “We appreciate everyone’s patience and we look forward to working to build a strong relationship between our members, Tops Markets and our customers.”

UFCW Local 1776 represents 23,000 members who work in southeast, northeast and central Pennsylvania, northeast Maryland and southern New York in supermarkets, drug stores, food processing plants, government services, manufacturing facilities, nursing homes, professional offices and Pennsylvania’s Wine and Spirits Shops.



Union Produced

United Food and Commercial Workers, Local 1776

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