

CCFT  
Special Edition!



# Unionews

**SPECIAL EDITION!!!!**

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Local 4909

**Strength**

## **The Cuesta College Federation of Teachers Council of Representatives Resolution in Support of Striking/Locked Out UFCW Workers**

At its November 7th, 2003 meeting, the CCFT Council of Representatives unanimously approved (one abstention) the following resolution in support of the striking grocery workers of the UFCW. The Executive Board commends the Council for taking a stand on this vital issue.

Whereas Albertsons and Ralphs locked out UFCW workers after union members at Vons walked out on strike, putting over 70,000 workers on the picket line in California;

Whereas the employers are demanding workers accept a 50% reduction in health insurance and reduced pension benefits;

Whereas these companies' operating profits are 91% higher than four years ago and have risen 10 times faster than employer contributions to worker health plans ;

Whereas employer health care contributions for Southern California supermarket workers are far below the national average;

Whereas a prolonged strike/lockout or forced concession will lead to economic hardship and unnecessary suffering to many people throughout California and other states;

Whereas the issue of health care crisis affects all working people in the U.S. and union members throughout the country are fighting attacks on their health care coverage;

Therefore be it resolved that The Cuesta College Federation of Teachers Council of Representatives firmly and enthusiastically supports the members of the UFCW in their struggle against these companies and urges the union leadership to take whatever actions are necessary to help the struggling brothers and sisters in the UFCW;

Be it further resolved that The Cuesta College Federation of Teachers Council of Representatives will also call upon elected officials, community leaders and others to respect the picket lines in Southern California and not to shop at Safeway stores in Northern California;

Be it finally resolved that The Cuesta College Federation of Teachers Council of Representatives calls on all unions around the country to join in honoring the strike, and lending what financial support they can to the striking UFCW workers until they are allowed to return to their jobs with an acceptable contract.

*Postscript: On November 18, The CCFT Executive Board voted unanimously to donate \$500 from its COPE account to the local UFCW strike fund.*

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## **Their Fight is Our Fight**

In Southern California, UFCW members walked out at Vons grocery stores on October 11. The Albertsons and Ralphs grocery chains then locked out workers, putting nearly 70,000 workers on the picket line. Grocery workers in four other states are also on strike.

At the heart of this struggle is the same issue unions are facing across all sectors -- defending health care coverage for working families. These grocery workers are not striking over \$5 to \$15 a week in health insurance premiums, as the supermarkets claim. They are striking to hold on to a decent health care plan for their families against threats of massive rollbacks.

This is not only a UFCW fight -- this is our fight. Employer-based health care is under attack everywhere. Companies are cutting hard-won health care packages and forcing workers to pay more for less. In contract negotiations across the state our benefits are the number one employer target. The UFCW strike/lockout is a "line in the sand." It will set the tone for all of our negotiations in the future. Our benefits are at risk every time another employer cuts health care. We are facing this battle on all sides. Powerful business interests are lining up to repeal SB 2, labor's landmark legislative victory that says all employers should provide health care coverage. Join the fight to save health care. By defending the workers of the UFCW, we are defending health care for all of us. Please respect all pickets. Northern California residents should not shop at Safeway stores.

Contact the Central Labor Council for a list of local alternative union stores to do your shopping. The Central Labor Council is also urging all affiliates to contribute as much as possible to local UFCW strike funds. This may be a long, drawn-out battle, and the strike fund needs to hold out so workers and their families can continue to put food on the table.

For information on how the UFCW strike/lockout visit [www.saveourhealthcare.org](http://www.saveourhealthcare.org). To find out how you can help or to make a donation to the strike fund, please contact Mark Tomes, DSPS.

### **Respect the Picket Line – Shop at Alternative Union Stores**

Southern California – Please respect all pickets.

Northern California – Please do not shop at Safeway stores.

\*Not all of the stores below are unionized in all locations.

For a full list of stores by city, visit [www.saveourhealthcare.org/altshop.html](http://www.saveourhealthcare.org/altshop.html) or check with your local UFCW.

Cooke's Family Market  
Costco  
Food 4 Less  
Food Maxx  
Foodsco  
Four Seasons  
Gelsons  
Gigante  
Green Frog  
How's Market  
Keils

Max Foods  
Mayfair Market  
Pioneer Super Market  
Ralph's Santa Cruz  
Scolari's Food Co  
Starr Market  
Stater Bros.  
Super A Foods  
Super Saver  
Vicente Foods



# RAOUL TEILHET SCHOLARSHIPS

FOR HIGH SCHOOL SENIORS & CONTINUING COLLEGE STUDENTS

## About the CFT scholarships

The scholarships were established in honor of former CFT President Raoul Teilhet, the charismatic leader of the union during the 1970s when California education employees won collective bargaining.

## Who is eligible to apply

Graduating high school seniors and continuing college students who are children or dependents of CFT members in good standing are eligible to apply. Scholarships of \$3000 are awarded to students entering or attending a four-year university; \$1000 scholarships are awarded to students entering or attending a two-year school. The awards are based on academic achievement, financial need, special talents and skills, participation in extra-curricular activities, community service, and a 500-word essay on an issue or social problem the applicant feels strongly about.

## Two application deadlines

Applications from high school seniors are due January 31. Applications from continuing college students are due July 1.

## HOW TO OBTAIN AN APPLICATION

1. Go to [www.cft.org](http://www.cft.org) to download an application.
2. Contact your local union to obtain a photocopied application.
3. Complete this form and fax to (818)843-4662, or mail to CFT, 2550 North Hollywood Way, Suite 400, Burbank, CA 91505. Questions? Phone (818)843-8226.

California  
Federation  
of Teachers

AFT, AFL-CIO



Please send me an application for  high school seniors  continuing college students.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Member's local union name \_\_\_\_\_



## Payroll Deduction Authorization For Committee on Political Education

(Type or print neatly!)

Name: (last) \_\_\_\_\_ (first) \_\_\_\_\_ (m.i.) \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # \_\_\_\_\_

I hereby authorize payroll deduction from my salary for the monthly payment (excluding June and July) in the amount of \$\_\_\_\_\_ to the Cuesta College Federation of Teachers Committee on Political Education (COPE). This authorization shall remain in effect until I revoke it in writing to the CCFT Secretary-Treasurer and the Cuesta College Payroll Office and shall be effective as of my next pay warrant following its submission to the employer.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

(Note: Payroll deductions to the Committee on Political Education paid to AFT/CFT locals are not deductible for federal income tax purposes.)

Return to CCFT, c/o Mark Tomes, DSPS, Cuesta College, P.O. Box 8106, SLO, CA 93403-8106

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