**Presidents letter**

Brothers and Sisters there has been a lot of questions about the Covid-19 rules and regulations. We have been in continuous talks with the company about how the orders from CC Health affect UPI. As of last Friday, 4/17 the county released another order concerning face coverings.

Since the order was released, we have been trying to get a good understanding of how we are going to make this happen and where and how employees are going to get the face coverings as needed. Another issue is training and how people are supposed to complete training. Once I can get a definite answer, we will send out what we will be doing on the Union email blast.

Things with the Covid-19 are constantly changing by the day and we are working with the company to make sure all of the employees are as safe as we can make them and have the proper equipment to achieve this and still perform their jobs safely.

There will be more information to come shortly so keep a lookout for the emails. USW has been sending out emails about Covid-19 that we have been posting on the Locals web page please visit and see what the International has to say about essential and non-essential employees during this time. As they continue to come, we will keep posting them up.

Have a safe day, continue your social distancing, hand washing and covering up during the crazy times we are living in. 

In Solidarity,

Ben Salazar

USW Local 1440

President / Rapid Response Coordinator





If You have not already! And Would like to be up to date on a

Ever changing data of information on local union items

Our Local email Blast can be signed up for by

* Go to: **uswlocals.org/local-1440**
* Click on the link “stay updated”
* Fill out the form and Submit.

Union Meetings Are Held the 2nd Thursday Of Every Month. Our Next Meeting Will Be

**May 14th unless postponed**

5:30PM At the Union Hall

677 Cumberland Street

Pittsburg, CA 94565

Phone: 925-432-7396

**Your USW**

**Covid-19 Life**

The coronavirus pandemic has created an existential crisis for America’s small, locally owned businesses, which are the backbone of the nation’s economy. They create the bulk of the nation’s jobs, cultivate new innovation, and shape our communities’ personalities. Unlike most national retail chains, they adapt their products and services to meet their communities’ needs. And a much higher percentage of the dollars spent in locally owned businesses — versus chain retailers — remain in the community, generating economic activity that supports schools, parks, first responders, and other vital community services.

Most small businesses don’t have the credit and capital to weather the coronavirus pandemic. And **the average small business has** [**only enough cash**](https://institute.jpmorganchase.com/institute/research/small-business/small-business-dashboard) **in reserve to remain open for 27 days. For restaurants, it’s only 16 days; for retail shops, only 19.** Being closed for weeks — or months — because of the COVID-19 pandemic will be devastating for hundreds of thousands of small businesses. Governments, foundations, and nonprofits everywhere are scrambling to help small businesses stay afloat during this crisis, but everyone can help. Here are some things you can do.

## **Buy from Local, Independently Owned Businesses.** You can help the small businesses you love stay in business by buying their products and services. In fact, many small businesses are operating online and by phone now. And buying local means you’re not only supporting community businesses, but you will get your products faster than if you ordered them from an online megastore. So give them a call!

**Buy Gift Cards.** You can use them once the business reopens. In the meantime, you’re providing the business with income it desperately needs to stay afloat.

**Buy Something Extra.** While you’re buying a gift card, maybe get one as a birthday gift for a friend as well.

**Order Carry-Out.** Restaurants throughout the nation have moved quickly to make it easier for customers to order carry-out food and either pick it up curbside or have it delivered. Lots of other small businesses are also offering curbside pickup.

**Be Flexible.** Many small businesses are trying out new ways to meet their customers’ needs and keep themselves solvent. Whether it’s an online class offered by your favorite yoga studio or phone video concierge shopping in your favorite bookshop, give them a try.

**Donate Your Ticket.** If you have a ticket for a performance that has been canceled because of the pandemic, donate it to the arts organization rather than asking for a refund.

**Leave a Review.** This is a great time to leave positive reviews of your favorite local businesses on Yelp, Google, Facebook, and other social media. Not only can it help drive traffic to these businesses, but the business owners and workers would probably appreciate the emotional support right now.

**Don’t Forget the Farmers.** Farmers’ markets throughout the country are closed because of the pandemic — but farmers still have crops and food products available. Check the website of your local farmers’ market for information about how to support farmers and buy their produce until the market reopens.

## Support Workers: Many retail and restaurant workers live paycheck to paycheck. Being out of work for even just a week or two can put them in grave financial danger.

**Tip Better Than You Usually Do.** If you are patronizing a service-sector business whose workers rely on tips, leave a bigger tip than usual.

**Contribute to Charities and Community Foundations that Support Workers.** Industry associations have quickly rallied to help workers struggling to make ends meet during this crisis. For example, the [Restaurant Workers Community Foundation](https://secure.restaurantworkerscf.org/np/clients/restaurantworkerscf/donation.jsp?forwardedFromSecureDomain=1&campaign=2&&test=true) has created a relief fund for restaurant workers, most of whom depend on tips and are particularly hard-hit by the coronavirus pandemic. In addition, a quickly growing number of local and state organizations are putting together emergency relief funds for specific types of workers, such as the [Boston Center for the Arts’](https://bcaonline.secure.force.com/donate/?dfId=a0n41000002K88WAAS) COVID-19 Artist Relief Fund.

**Encourage Your Local or Regional Community Foundation or a Community Service Organization to Provide Emergency Assistance to Displaced Workers.** If your town or city has a community foundation, give them a call or send an email. Community service organizations such as the Rotary Club, Lion’s Club, or Kiwanis and faith-based organizations might also be able to help.

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is consistently studying the spread and effects of the novel coronavirus across the United States.  We now know from recent studies that a significant portion of individuals with coronavirus lack symptoms (“asymptomatic”) and that even those who eventually develop symptoms (“pre-symptomatic”) can transmit the virus to others **before showing symptoms**.  This means that the virus can spread between people interacting in close proximity—for example, speaking, coughing, or sneezing—even if those people are not exhibiting symptoms. The CDC now recommends wearing cloth face coverings in settings where other social distancing measures, like staying six feet apart, are difficult to maintain.

 Understand, however, that cloth face coverings don’t do much to protect the wearer. The virus is sometimes carried by tiny particles that easily pass through cloth. But a cloth face covering does help protect other people if the wearer has the virus and doesn’t know it. A cloth face mask can catch the big droplets from coughs and sneezes. It also slows down the tiny particles, so they don’t project as far.

Cloth face coverings are only one part of a comprehensive plan for protecting people who have to be at work. For more information on such programs, visit usw.org/covid19.

### **How to Wear a Cloth Face Covering:** Coverage area should include both your mouth and nose area. Ensure it fits snugly but comfortably against the side of the face. Secure covering with ties or ear loops. Coverings should be designed to include multiple layers of fabric. Once you have secured the mask to your face, make sure it allows for breathing without restriction.

The CDC website, linked below, shows several ways to make a cloth face covering.

### **Sterilizing/Cleaning a Cloth Face Covering :** Make sure the face coverings are able to be laundered and machine dried without damage or change to the shape. There has been a lot of false information released about cleaning cloth face coverings; including microwaving and sealing in a Ziplock bag. This could cause damage to the covering and might not even work. A washing machine or hand-washing with soap and hot water works well.

**Retirements:**

**Koza, Richard**

**MTE-Sheet Division**

**1/14/1974 - - 04/22/2020**

**46 Years**

**We Want to Wish our Union Brother A prosper and Healthy Retirement**

unity****strength****respect****united****steelworkers