Sysco offers to sell 11 facilities to win merger approval *

Feb. 2, 2015 | Sysco said on Monday that it had agreed to divest 11 distribution centers in a bid to obtain the blessing of regulators including the Federal Trade Commission. Sysco will sell the centers for an undisclosed sum to Performance Food Group, which will be its nearest rival after the deal for US Foods closes. Full story here.
*Update: Sysco reaches agreement to sell 11 US Foods distribution centers – none in Maryland – contingent on consummation of merger.

Boston GCC Teamsters halts deportation of Salvadoran refugee

Feb. 3, 2015 | Demonstrating the importance of community outreach, Graphics Communications Conference/IBT Local 3-N in Boston has worked successfully with the local Jobs With Justice branch, elected officials and faith-based organizations to halt the threatened deportation of a Salvadoran GCC/IBT press operator. Full story here.

Black history is the story of every Teamster

Feb. 3, 2015 | [Editor's note: February is Black History Month.]... From the inception of the union, many Teamsters understand that racial divisions play into the bosses’ ploy to divide and weaken the working class. Black unionists were at the center of the Teamsters since our founding in 1903. At a time when Jim Crow held sway in the south and discrimination against African Americans was commonplace nationwide, the Teamsters called for "no color line" in the union as early as 1906. Learn more here.

US regulators skeptical of huge food merger ahead of vote

Feb. 11, 2015 | There's a huge food fight expected in Washington on Wednesday. Regulators are set to vote in the afternoon on the controversial $35 billion merger of the top two distributors of food to schools, restaurants and hospitals that critics charge will lead to higher foods costs across the country, The New York Post has learned. Continue reading... Related: Sysco-US Foods merger faces skepticism, doubts about remedies.

Remembering a leader who changed the future for working men, women

Feb. 16, 2015 | Each year in February, Teamsters take a moment to reflect upon and remember James R. Hoffa, born February 14, 1913. Hoffa served as General President of the Teamsters Union from 1957 to 1971. In that time, he inspired thousands to stand up and let their voices be heard. His words, spoken more than 50 years ago, resonate just as profoundly today as they did then: "While working men and women have long known the value of a dollar – it is a lesson well taught to one who labors for a living – it has taken a long, long time to teach employers the value of a human being, and in many cases has not yet been successfully taught. Few give thought to what happens to displaced workers, but they can analyze to the penny what the profits will be.” Learn more...

Local 570, US Foods mutually agree to 90-day contract extension

Feb. 18, 2015 | In memo dated Feb. 13, 2015, Principle Officer Sean Cedenio informed US Foods members of the Company's request for an extension of the collective bargaining agreement, set to expire March 15, 2015. "Due to the ongoing merger talks with Sysco and the uncertainty of that arrangement, the Company needs time in order to assess their overall view for the future." The extension will include any negotiated wage increases retroactive back to the contract’s expiration date. US Foods members will be updated as information becomes available to the Union.

Sysco not in talks to settle U.S. lawsuit to stop merger

Feb. 24, 2015 | Sysco said it would fight the Federal Trade Commission in court and that no settlement talks were
underway... The federal court hearing will likely be set in 60 to 90 days. Full story...