

INSIDE TUCSON BUSINESS

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Strike called off against Fry's, Safeway

Inside Tucson Business

A potential strike against Fry's Food Stores and Safeway was averted less than 24 hours before it was scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. Friday (Nov. 13) when management reached a tentative settlement with the United Food and Commercial Workers Local 99 late Nov. 12.

According to a statement released by all parties, negotiators came to terms on a new collective bargaining agreement to be submitted to Fry's and Safeway employees with the recommendation from union leaders that it be approved.

As a result, there was to be no work stoppage.

Terms of the agreement were not released pending its presentation to union members. The major point of contention had been a management requirement that employees begin contributing between \$5 and \$15 per week toward their health care insurance premiums.

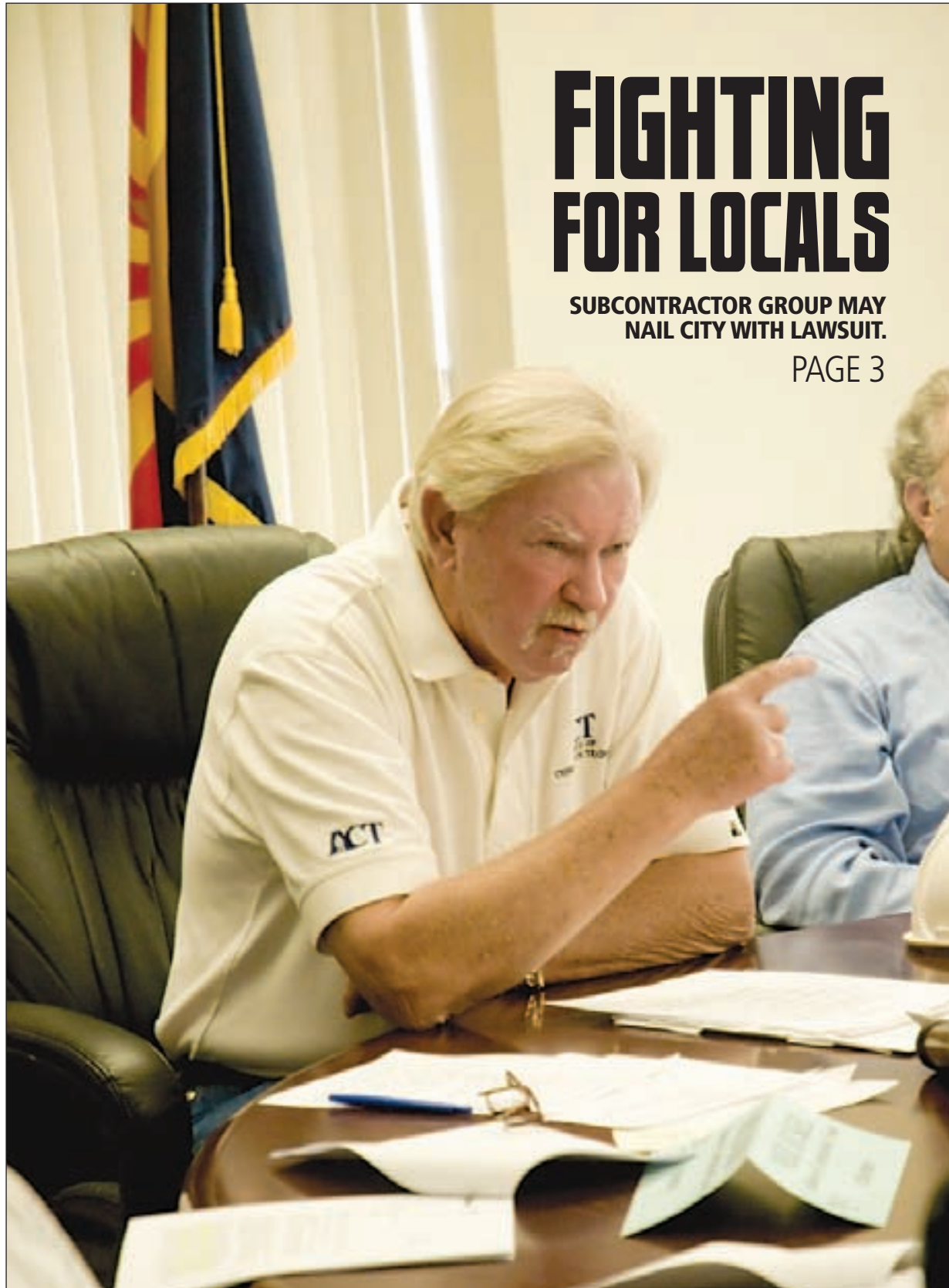
Leading up to the agreement both sides prepared for the possibility of a walkout.

The UFCW had been negotiating with the two chains since before their last contract expired in October 2008.

"Nothing is going to be accomplished by continuing to stall," Ellen Anreder a representative of the UFCW, said during the week.

Meanwhile, Fry's had hired 5,000 temporary replacement workers and Safeway said it had also hired replacements, but wouldn't disclose how many.

Fry's Food Stores, owned by Cincinnati-based Kroger Co., is Arizona's second largest chain grocer and Safeway, headquartered in Pleasanton, Calif., is the No. 3 chain.



FIGHTING FOR LOCALS

SUBCONTRACTOR GROUP MAY NAIL CITY WITH LAWSUIT.

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Have it your way

Clothing printer will make a T-shirt any way you want it.

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Downtown warehouses

ADOT is auctioning off its warehouses downtown and they aren't going to the arts communities.

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Search for TAR CEO

The Tucson Association of Realtors has narrowed the search for a new CEO.

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