

Mott's Workers Win

UFCW Local 220* ratified a new contract on September 13, 2010, ending a three-and-a-half-month strike at the Dr Pepper Snapple Group owned Mott's Plant in Williamson, N.Y. The new agreement restores wage levels, maintains affordable health care, and continues the pension plan.

The strike became a national symbol for working people struggling to maintain middle class jobs and strong communities, after Dr Pepper Snapple Group imposed a \$1.50 per hour wage decrease and other cuts on the workers.



UFCW members, along with community and other allies, engaged in nearly 600 actions, including hand-billing shoppers at grocery stores across the country in support of Local 220* members. Driven by blogs and social networks, tens of thousands of people joined the cause of the Mott's strikers, advocating for good jobs with paychecks that pay the bills.

Local 220* members will be back on the job September 20, eager once again to make applesauce and other great products for American families. **OP**

"The members at Mott's have a message for working people everywhere: Stand up for what you believe in, and stay united."

Election Season Heats Up

The UFCW, in coordination with the AFL-CIO Labor 2010 program, has deployed members into our key state-wide, Congressional and state legislative districts in early September. UFCW members will be handbilling worksites, canvassing and phone banking to help get out the vote to elect pro-worker candidates. You can follow the action online at www.voteufcw.org. **OP**



UFCW Local 5 members Myron Naylor (Safeway - Santa Clara, Calif.), John Rowe (Safeway - Dublin, Calif.) and Sylvia Pino (Safeway - Pleasanton, Calif.) kick off the 2010 election season with U.S. Senator Barbara Boxer who they are working to re-elect.

UFCW Local 1564 Members Rally Against Corporate Greed

Over 500 members of UFCW Local 1564 gathered in front of the Smith's corporate office in Albuquerque, N.M., to send a strong message to management that the company's proposed cuts are an unacceptable attack on the good jobs the workers and the community depend on.



New Mexico Attorney General Gary King was among the speakers who addressed the crowd. Supporters filled the air with chants of "Human need over corporate greed" and "Cuts aren't needed when sales and profits have exceeded."

Smith's offer contains reductions in benefits, small wage increases limited to only about 25 percent of the employees, and language that will affect the quality of service workers are able to provide the customers.

Smith's offer comes on the heels of parent company Kroger announcing their sales were two billion dollars higher than the same quarter last year. UFCW Local 1564 represents approximately 2,000 employees in New Mexico. **OP**

UFCW Local 540 Members Pray for Fairness at Labor Day Interfaith Mass

UFCW Local 540 members who work at Albertson's in El Paso, Tex., prayed together for strength and unity this Labor Day during a special Labor Day Interfaith Blue Mass. These members have been struggling to get a fair contract since April of 2002.



Reverend Carmen B. Mele (from the Fort Worth, TX Diocese), The Most Reverend Armando X. Ochoa (Bishop of Diocese of El Paso) and Reverend John Stowe (Vicar General of the Diocese of El Paso) stand with UFCW Local 540 members.

Bishop Ochoa expressed solidarity with the workers, proudly sharing that his father had been a member of the Amalgamated Meatcutters and had a dignified retirement thanks to his UFCW pension. Father Stowe honored the memory of his father, who was a barber and member of the UFCW. Stowe recalled that it was the good benefits won by the UFCW that ensured his family was able to get health care benefits when he was growing up. **OP**

UFCW Wins Health and Safety Grant

The Department of Labor through OSHA has awarded the UFCW Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Department a \$220,000 grant to grow safety programs and develop capacity in the union. Training and education under the grant, available in both Spanish and English, will target rank and file members, safety and ergonomic committees and local union staff and stewards.

Call the OSH Department if you are interested in learning more about this important training grant and how your local can take advantage of this training opportunity. **OP**