

UFCW Holds Groundbreaking All-Spanish Organizing Training



More than a dozen organizers attended the all-Spanish organizing training in Green Bay, Wisconsin, from July 19th to the 29th.

As demographics shift and Spanish is increasingly common in the workplace, growing numbers of organizers are reaching out to workers in Spanish. The training served as an opportunity for them to hone their skills in a way the not afforded by the traditional English-only training.

The training was very similar to the standard English-speaking training, but with more of an emphasis on hands-on experience. Workshops were held in the morning with the participants making home calls in the afternoon. **OP**

Mott's Strike Reaches 100-Days, Congress Members Urge Resolution

On August 30, workers at the Mott's plant in Williamson, N.Y., hit the 100-day mark of their strike. Doug Fuller, who works in the juice preparation lab at the plant, says workers are in good spirits.

"We really appreciate everybody's support," says Fuller. "Even business owners and people you wouldn't expect have for the most part been super supportive. Not even

just helping us out compensation-wise, but emotion-wise. Just being there for us."

Twenty-eight members of the New York Congressional Delegation joined in with their support by delivering a strong message to the leadership of Dr Pepper Snapple, the parent company of Mott's, in a letter last Thursday.

"Since Dr Pepper made approximately \$555 million in profits, we feel there is ample room to promptly negotiate a fair deal with the workers at the Williamson plant," the letter states. "We believe that Mott's needs to continue their proud history as a leader in providing fair wages and benefits for their workers."

You can read the full text of the letter by going to <http://tinyurl.com/2f8tdro>. **OP**

Women's Network Urges Candidates to Take on Walmart

As rallies and townhall meetings around the country kick off the election season, members of the UFCW Women's Network will be on the front lines holding candidates' feet to the fire with questions regarding Walmart and our communities.

With numerous political issues on the table this election season, it is critical that Walmart's impact on working families and communities not get lost in the shuffle. Women's Network members will be asking candidates how they plan to stand up to Walmart and other companies' unfair treatment of women, what they will do to ensure that the jobs in our communities pay a real living wage—not a "Walmart" wage, and how candidates plan to make sure companies like Walmart offer workers the benefits they deserve so that taxpayers aren't left footing the bill. If you would like to attend an event, remember these tips:

- Have your question ready in advance.
- Capture your question on video. Bring a helper along to hold the camera.
- Arrive early and get good seats.
- Be first to ask your question.
- Shake hands with the candidate afterwards.

- Try to get quoted by the press after the event.
- Report back on your activities.

If you have questions, would like additional materials, or want to learn how you can get involved, please contact Rhonda Nelson at rhondan@ufcw1500.org. **OP**

UFCW Welcomes New Members at Wisconsin Pick 'N Save

On Friday, August 27th, workers at a Pick 'N Save store in Menominee, Wisconsin, stood together for good jobs and a voice at work by choosing union representation with UFCW Local 1473. Workers joined by majority sign up of 168 out of 212 workers in the unit. The UFCW extends a warm welcome to our new members and looks forward to working together on a contract that will help provide a better future for Pick 'N Save workers and their families. **OP**

Members of Local 227 Ratify New Contract with JBS

Nearly 1,300 members of Local 227 who work at the hog slaughter plant in the Butchertown neighborhood of Louisville, Kentucky, have ratified a new contract with their employer, JBS. The four-year contract holds the line on health care costs, preserves member pensions and includes a raise of \$1.20 over the length of the deal.

Lead steward Kevin Diale, who has worked in the plant for 18 years, credited the committee for the win. "I'm proud of what we got," he said. "The committee stuck together no matter what."

In November, the plant's workers faced another fight for their jobs. Neighbors attempted to close the last Butchertown packing plant through zoning challenges and the workers at the plant rallied to save their jobs. Diale credits that struggle for preparing them for contract negotiations. "It helped us in two ways," he said. "We organized and marched and that kept all of us active and involved. It also showed the company what a force we were when we were organized and involved." **OP**

UFCW Members Make Workers' Voice Heard at Agriculture Consolidation Workshop



UFCW members pose with Secretary of Agriculture Tom Vilsack and U.S. Rep. Betsy Markey (D-Colorado).

Dozens of members from Locals 2, 7R, 22, 222, 227, and 540 attended the joint Department of Agriculture/Department of Justice workshop in Fort Collins, Colo., on consolidation in the beef industry.

The members brought a worker perspective to an important governmental hearing which would otherwise just focus on the relationship between farmers and packers.

International Vice President Mark Lauritsen appeared on a panel examining trends in the livestock industry and urged federal regulators to look at the damage caused to rural America by Walmart. He said, "We must step back and look at the whole food supply chain, and that means we must focus on the number one retailer, Walmart...Without consideration of Walmart, we can't honestly appraise or fix our problems."

In conjunction with the hearing, the UFCW released a paper examining the deleterious effects Walmart has had on America's agricultural markets. It is available for download at www.ufcw.org in the "Fact Sheets & Backgrounders" section. **OP**