

## **JBS Zoning Battle**

Local 227 continued the fight to preserve the 1300 jobs of our members employed at JBS (formerly Swift) plant in Louisville. For the last several years the Butchertown Neighborhood Association has relentlessly worked to force JBS out of its' Butchertown location. As professionals move into the area they have aggressively worked to eliminate the jobs of our members by a coordinated campaign to shut the plant down. Despite the 100+ year history of Butchertown as a meat packing area (hence the name Butchertown), and the presence of 1300 good paying jobs with a workforce from the inner city, a selfish few have attempted to shutter the operation to increase their property values.

Last year JBS began construction designed to reduce noise and odor at the plant. Unfortunately the contractor did not secure the proper permits before construction began. At a recent hearing of the Louisville Zoning Board packed with Local 227 members and staff, the Company was allowed to move forward with the project over the protests of the Neighborhood Association.

Local 227 also worked with Louisville Mayor Jerry Abramson and members of the Louisville Metro Council to pass a resolution supporting JBS and our members by a 23 to 2 margin.

Our activities were highlighted by a Sunday November 15th rally attended by over 700 Local 227 members just prior to the Zoning Board meeting. The rally included a march around the neighborhood that stretched for over three blocks.