



Mott's Workers Strike!

News from the RWDSU/UFCW Local 220 labor dispute in Williamson, New York

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On May 23, over 300 full-time manufacturing workers at the Mott's plant in Williamson, New York, were forced to strike after company executives demanded painful wage cuts while the company enjoyed a record year of \$555 million in profits. The members of RWDSU Local 220 remain committed to winning a strike and holding the line for all middle class jobs in the U.S.

The picket lines are only part of the fight. Mott's workers are spreading the word about their fight throughout North America, and this newsletter tells their story.

CANADIAN MPS SUPPORT MOTT'S WORKERS, QUESTION PRODUCT SAFETY (6/14/10)

Canadian MPs Jack Layton and Malcolm Allen have written letters to Dr. Pepper Snapple CEO Larry Young and the Canadian Food Inspection Agency respectively, expressing concern about Dr. Pepper Snapple's attempts to slash pay and benefits for Mott's workers, and even questioning the safety of Mott's products now that replacement

workers are producing them in Williamson, New York. "As such, our NDP Deputy Critic for Food Safety and Agriculture, Mr. Malcolm Allen, is in the process of asking the Canadian Food Inspection Agency to pay particular attention to imports from your Williamson Facility during the course of the strike," states Layton, leader of the New Democratic Party.



MOTT'S WORKERS HIT THE ROAD TO LEAFLET IN ST. LOUIS, PICKET DR. PEPPER SNAPPLE IN ASPERS, PA (6/11/10)

Members of RWDSU Local 220 on strike against Mott's took their picket line and leafleting campaign on the road this week to spread the word about the workers' fight beyond New York, and to increase the pressure on executives to rescind drastic wage and benefit cuts imposed at



their Williamson Plant. In Aspers, PA, Mott's strikers set up new picket lines in front of the Dr. Pepper Snapple plant, and in St. Louis, MO, a group of Local 220 members set up shop to leaflet in front of a Dr. Pepper Snapple plant. RWDSU Local 220 members were joined by supporters from the UFCW, SEIU and UNITE HERE.

WORKING FAMILIES PARTY CONVENTION "PASSES THE HAT" TO SUPPORT THE STRIKE (6/5/10)

Mott's workers Shelly Snyder, Kent Knox, Randy Selly, and Linda Van De Viver addressed the Working Families Party Convention in Buffalo. They put a human face on the theme of the day: corporate greed, the assault on workers' rights, and the widening wage gap between the rich and the middle class in North America. The attendees, who included elected officials, community groups, union members, activists, and other players in the New York political arena, heard all about the Mott's assault on the workers in Williamson. The convention's participants were so inspired that they committed to support the strike and 'passed the hat' spontaneously collecting over \$1100 for the strike fund!

MOTT'S LAUNCHES MAGICAL TASTE TOUR, AND RWDSU MEMBERS ARE THERE TO SHARE THE TRUTH ABOUT MOTT'S AND DPS (6/5/10)

In Galveston, Texas, it was the start of the Mott's Magical Taste Tour, where Mott's representatives were launching a new product line and handing out samples of many products, including single-serve applesauce products, which happen to be made by the striking Local 220 members in New York. Workers from the Mott's plant in Williamson also

attended to spread the word about the rotten anti-worker tactics of Dr. Pepper Snapple. Mott's workers and supporters from the UFCW told their story to the participants at the AIA Sandcastle Competition, and reminded Mott's/DPS that Local 220 members will be everywhere they go-until we have a fair contract in Williamson.



SENATOR GILLIBRAND URGES MOTT'S TO BARGAIN IN GOOD FAITH (5/27/10)

NYC-CLC GATHERING ATTENDEES PLEDGE SUPPORT (6/1/10)



Sen. Kirsten Gillibrand (above, center with Mott's workers) has reached out to Dr Pepper Snapple to share her concerns about the strike and its impact on upstate New York's economy. In her letter to Dr. Pepper/Snapple CEO Larry Young, New York Senator Kirsten E. Gillibrand reminds the executive of the costs being incurred by the strike at the Mott's facility in Williamson, New York, and urges the company to return to the bargaining table and negotiate a contract with the RWDSU Local 220 members there in good faith.

"I ask you and Dr. Pepper Snapple group to do whatever possible to protect good paying jobs and help support the local economy here in New York State," Gillibrand writes.

Local 220 member Jerome Camp, who is on strike against Mott's in Williamson, New York, met with New York labor leaders on June 1st to talk about the Mott's workers and their fight for a fair contract. Pictured (left to right) are National AFL-CIO President Richard Trumka, Camp, and RWDSU President Stuart Appelbaum.



HOW CAN YOU HELP?

- Join our picket line on Rt. 104 in Williamson, NY on June 26th.
- Publicize this struggle within your own union or organization.
- Check out our website at: mottsworkers.org and download our leaflet.
- Write or fax a letter to DPS President & CEO Larry Young at: 5301 Legacy Drive, Plano, TX 75024 or fax it to (972) 673-7976 (Please also fax a copy of your letter to the RWDSU at (212) 779-2809)
- Contribute to the "RWDSU Mott's Hardship Fund" by sending your contribution to:
RWDSU/UFCW, 30 East 29th Street, New York, NY 10016
- For more information on these stories and more, please visit our website www.mottsworkers.org

