



Western PA. Postal Workers Solidarity Committee

October 25, 2016

It was an unexpected but a pleasant surprise that demonstrators at the McKnight Road Staples store on Sunday, October 16, were treated to an extraordinary mid summer-like day! Instead of being confronted with expected chilly temperatures and predicted showers, bright sunshine and cloudless blue skies were the order of the day. Several demonstrators who had dressed in layers because of the weather forecast quickly peeled them off down to the Stop Staples T-shirts. There was a good turn out of all APWU crafts, Letter Carriers, Mail Handlers, retirees, and activists that have supported us since the beginning.

For those of us that stationed ourselves on the sidewalk directly in front of the store, the hot sun beating down actually made it a little uncomfortable since there was no shade to provide a little relief from the sun and heat. We envied those that were able to get a little shade from the trees that grow along the driveway. But we endured along with the scores of colleagues and supporters who were scattered throughout the complex, including those that displayed the long banner along McKnight Road. Many distributed leaflets as customers entered the store. Others lined driveways that crisscross the approaches to the Staples store and other businesses in the complex. All in all leaflet distribution was extremely effective, with hundreds handed to motorists and foot traffic shoppers. Most that took the leaflets were very respectful and interested in the content. There were many conversations with them in which we "made our case" about the demonstration and our goals. We got a lot of good feed back.

The 2016 demonstration campaign is winding down. There are only two more scheduled to wind up the season. The full particulars are set forth on the reverse. The way the weather pattern has transpired this year, with any luck the bad weather will continue on the Sundays opposite the demonstrations.

For those that have not attended the demonstrations, the next one is almost your last chance to join in this year. We do not demonstrate after the Thanksgiving holiday and the entire month of December due to the holiday mailing season. We urge and invite in the strongest terms for your participation. If you access the APWU webpage you will observe the recent event. Take note of the children who were part of it. The three little ones that sat in front of the banner were especially sweet in the over sized T-shirts. If you examine the picture closely you can see that we also had a babe in arms. Having children participate with us in the demonstrations puts a fine point on the importance of the activity. You can and should be part of this effort. If you pass it by, you will regret missing the opportunity. May we look for you 'on the line'? We always have a pizza party after each demonstration at a restaurant in close proximity. We will be looking for you! Don't disappoint! Later regrets count for nothing!!!!

Chuck Pugar, President
Pittsburgh Metro Area Postal
Workers Union

Mike Plaskon, President
Branch 84 National Association
Of Letter Carriers

Kelly Dickey, President
Local 322, National Postal
Mail Handlers Union

John P. Richards, President
Pittsburgh Area Retiree
Chapter Of The American
Postal Workers Union

Frank Wozniak, Assistant
District Representative
National Rural Letter
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