



The RETIREE RECORD

A NEWS BULLETIN FOR MEMBERS
AFFILIATED WITH APWU POSTAL PRESS ASSOCIATION

PITTSBURGH AREA RETIREE CHAPTER
OF THE AMERICAN POSTAL WORKERS UNION, AFL-CIO

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JOHN P. RICHARDS, *President and Editor*

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CHAPTER SPRING ACTIVITY

The Chapter is affiliated with the Greater Westmoreland County Labor Council. Throughout the Spring the Council has been involved with and/or participated directly in a number of important labor union issues throughout the Western Pennsylvania area:

The WABTEC COMPANY conducts operations at facilities in Wilmerding and Greensburg to named a couple. UE Local Union 610 represents workers in some of these operations that were on strike. The Local struck the company over heated contract negotiations in which the company wanted to turn back the clock by eliminating or reducing benefits earned over many years of dedicated service. (Sound all too familiar?) Management put the plant closing threat tactic on the table as a major part of their take-back agenda.

The Local conducted mass picket actions in support of the bargaining team. Our Chapter joined the picket lines, led by Vice President/Treasurer Joe Radovich and long time activist Joe Anthony. Other UE Locals in the state, some from the Erie area where a bitter strike against the former GE operation there which was recently resolved, joined in. The effort came to a conclusion with the announcement that a new contract was negotiated and approved by the membership!

BREAKFAST WITH THE CANDIDATES

On April 24 the Labor Council held a Breakfast With The Candidates at the Lakeview Restaurant in Greensburg. The purpose was to invite candidates for the election to be given a forum to express their views, and to be quizzed by those in attendance. The Chapter supported that event and had representatives, Vice President/Treasurer Joe Radovich and activist Joe Anthony, in attendance.

Political candidates and the offices they were seeking are set forth here: For Pennsylvania Lt. Governor - Ray Sosa and Austin Davis; For U.S. Senate - Lt. Governor John Fetterman and Cong. Conor Lamb; For U.S. Congressional District 12 - Jerry Dickinson, Steve Irwin, and Summer Lee; and For the Pennsylvania House Of Representatives - Ken Bach.

Kudos to Labor Council President Walter Geiger and the Executive Board for sponsoring this important event.

NURSING HOMES DEMONSTRATION

The Council also supported a demonstration at the Grove At Irwin on May 4, to join with Sisters and Brothers of the SEIU. The Chapter has actively been involved here as well as the Beaver County struggle seeking improved wages and working conditions for those workers. In the Beaver demonstration, the Chapter had several officers and members 'on the line'!

THIS IS A REPRINT OF THE BEAVER-LAWRENCE COUNTIES CENTRAL LABOR COUNCIL LOCAL NEWSLETTER. IT HIGHLIGHTS OUR CHAPTER ACTIVITY IN THE STAPLE'S BOYCOTT. (THE PICTURE DID NOT COPY WELL IN OUR MACHINE.) IT IS PRESENTED HERE FOR YOUR INFORMATION.

BUG



UNION

A Newsletter of the Beaver-Lawrence Counties Central Labor Council

VOLUME 8 ISSUE 7

MARCH 2022

APWU: VICTORY THROUGH SOLIDARITY

March 8th Statement Issued by American Postal Workers Union

[Editor's Note: The Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council has participated in the long and continuing campaign to stop the privatization of the United States Postal Service. The Labor-Council adopted a resolution at its July 2014 meeting opposing the privatization of postal services and calling on its members to support the postal workers unions, "US Mail Is Not for Sale" and "Stop Staples" campaigns. Labor Council members walked the Sunday morning informational picket lines set up by members of the Pittsburgh Metro APWU and NALC Branch 84 at Staples stores in western

Pennsylvania, including the Monaca and Cranberry stores. The Labor Council also presented a recognition plaque to postal worker union representatives after the USPS agreed to stop offering postal services in Staples stores. The plaque was presented at the Labor Council's May 2017 Hu-

ago, after nearly two decades of collective union struggle, the U.S. Senate met our demands and passed the Postal Service Reform Act.

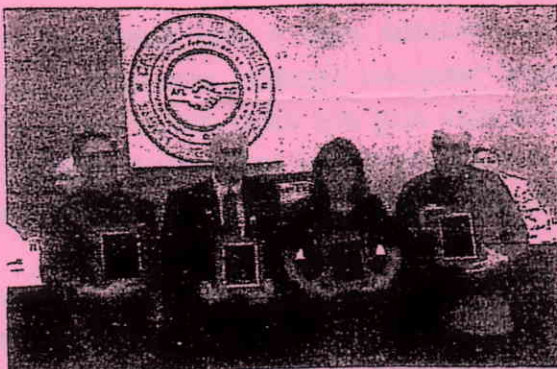
This is the greatest legislative victory for postal workers in a generation – and it's all because of you.

Together, over the last three weeks, APWU members & public supporters made more than 12,000 calls into the U.S. Senate, bringing the full weight of our union to bear on this historic effort.

While private carriers spent months pressuring key Senators to vote against the bill, their lobbyists' money was no match for the power of 200,000 postal workers standing together in solidarity.

This victory is

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Postal Worker Unions representatives with plaques presented by Labor Council at 2017 Human Rights Banquet in recognition of their successful Stop Staples Campaign. (L-R) Beaver-Lawrence Central Labor Council delegate Josh Luther, Pittsburgh Metro Area Postal Workers Union (APWU); Randy Ball, NALC Branch 84 vice president; Kelly Dickey, National Postal Mailhandlers Union Local 322 president; John F. Richards, APWU Pittsburgh Retirees Chapter President.

man Rights Banquet.]

We won!

Just moments

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truly a testament to the power of union solidarity and collective action.

Now, thanks to each and every one of you doing your part to contribute to this fight, this bill will now make its way to President Biden's desk, where he is expected to sign it into law without delay.

With the passage of this historic act, the USPS will finally be placed on a path towards financial stability with the repeal of the onerous and financially debilitating pre-funding mandate.

There will be other victories to celebrate as well. The guarantee of six-day delivery, Medicare integration, adding much-needed transparency to postal operations – all of these reforms will ultimately save the post office billions of dollars each year, and make our jobs as postal workers more secure as a result.

This is a truly historic moment.

Let us remember today the lesson at the heart of our union's founding.

Everything we have, everything we've worn, and everything we hope to win, depends upon one thing: **Solidarity.**

Acting alone, we are powerless in the face of our opponents – the privatizers with their mountains of cash and their armies of lobbyists and lawyers are frighteningly powerful. No single one of us can defeat them alone.

But when we stand together - when thousands upon thousands of us each do our small part and take collective action – that is a force which can achieve anything.

Today's historic victory belongs to you, brothers and sisters.

Thank you for all that you do, and solidarity forever.