



## WHAT'S AHEAD?

**Veteran's Day:**  
**November 11, 2021**  
**Thank a Vet For**  
**their service!**



**Children's**  
**Christmas**  
**Party**  
**December**  
**11, 2021**



**Christmas for Kids**  
**776's Community**  
**Services Project**  
**December 18, 2021**



**Due to the pandemic many**  
**events are subject to change.**  
**Any updates will be posted**  
**on Union bulletin boards,**  
**the Local website, and future**  
**newsletters.**

## York County Prison Update

All members have been impacted on the job by the coronavirus, some more than others. In the case of York County Prison members, the FFCRA (Families first Coronavirus Relief Act) did not apply to first responders and health care professionals. Most Counties chose to cover their County prison guards because they are not covered under the Heart and Lung Act. York County chose to do nothing for their personnel working behind the prison walls. The Local Union has been aggressively pushing York County to do the right thing for over a year. York County chose to do nothing for the prison while the rest of the State was given benefits through the FFCRA and other prisons got similar relief. The County chose to layoff hard working employees and lied to everyone by saying that they would shrink the size of the prison to have fewer positions to fill. The County chose to violate the Collective Bargaining Agreement and force members to work within the 48 hr. no-force window. The County chose to discipline mem-

bers that refused to work within the 48 hr. window. The County chose to deny everyone the use of earned sick time depending on the weather forecast. Because of the choices of the County, the Union has been fighting back to insure fair labor practices for our members. The Local Union insisted that something needed be done for our brothers and sisters that walked into York County Prison with HUNDREDS of COVID-19 positive inmates freely traveling the halls. Hundreds of grievances were filed on the treatment of employees at the prison and violations of the contract. The County heard our demands and began to negotiate with the Local Union to settle the majority of the outstanding grievances and issues. After consulting with our Attorney on the settlement, he advised it was a good offer rather than fighting the County through arbitration that could take many years to handle this number of grievances; the decision was made to move forward with the settlement. The settlement is a huge accomplishment to get more money in members' pockets and earned time returned to the members. We forced the hand of the County to settle grievances that were not contract violations. We got the County's attention; and are continuing to fight for more benefits that our members deserve for coming face-to-face with COVID on a daily basis. The fight is not over. In the end, we will continue to fight for fair work hours and appropriate compensation for additional work that we are required to do. We know that members value time with their families and we are striving to insure that everyone has the opportunity to have time with them outside the walls of the prison.



*Courtesy photo*



## A Message From Local Union 776 President Ed Thompson



"The IBT election will be later this year. I urge you to get involved, study the issues, and participate in the election process."

Hello, I hope everyone enjoyed his or her summer season despite the difficulties posed by the pandemic. When I was reminded that my message to you was due for the next newsletter it seemed like only yesterday I was talking to you in the previous newsletter. Experts say that as we age our perception of time seems to speed up. An hour is still an hour, a day is still a day yet they seem to go by so quickly!

2021 is our first full year dealing with the pandemic. We have been able to follow the protocols and methods developed last year to safely, effectively serve the membership. We were able to strengthen them the second time around, and devise new protocols and methods as new problems arose. I am happy to report to you we will negotiate over 20 contracts this year; all of them on schedule and will be settled in a timely manner.

One of our Local's strengths comes from our diversity. Our large membership is composed of various employer groups encompassing everything from airline workers, construction/rigging, correctional officers, county courts, freight, healthcare, mass transit, borough, city and township municipalities, police, UPS, and warehousing/distribution. Each of these groups shares basic language in their respective contracts that are standard in all Teamster contracts, and also contains language that is unique to their industry/workplace. This diversity is what helps make us strong. Our Business Agents have a wealth of knowledge in the contracts they serve. If one Agent has a particular circumstance he is not sure how to handle because of being unfamiliar with it, more than likely one of the other Agents has experience dealing with that issue and can provide input as to how to handle it under a different contract. It is this sharing of information that helps provide the best representation possible to the membership.

Organizing is a tough job. Workers who want a say in the workplace but are intimidated and threatened by their employer once they hear the word "Union" mentioned in the workplace. An employer will employ every tactic imaginable to maintain a stranglehold on their workers. The hours an organizer must work are varied and erratic, to say the least. Often the organizer must meet with prospective members after their shifts are over, in some cases with multiple shifts this could mean meeting around the clock on a particular day. So is the life of a Teamster Organizer. Until this year, the Local employed Mark Cicak as our organizer. With the start of a new term in office, Mark took over a Business Agent position which left us in a quandary; how best to continue to organize. The organizing duties were split between Mark Cicak and Mark Andreozzi in an attempt to meet the need of a full-time organizer. Now a Business Agent position is also a tough job. Dealing with members who work various shifts, negotiating contracts with employers, and staying on top of everything daily constitutes a full schedule. Both Marks have done a commendable job, going far beyond what is expected of them daily to serve as both a BA and

an organizer. The Local Union Executive Board debated long and hard on how to best handle the situation. Was it fair to the members to have their respective BA also handling organizing? Was it fair to prospective members that their organizer was handling other duties as well? Moreover, was it fair to the "Marks" to ask them to continue to fill two important, vital positions? Taking all of this into account the Executive Board authorized the hiring of a full-time staff position to assume the role of organizer for Local 776. After reviewing recommendations from BA's and staff I'm proud to announce that Ashley Cerzullo assumed her position on October 5, 2021. Ashley comes to Local 776 as no stranger; she was an employee of Hershey Medical Center. I'll let Ashley introduce herself to you and provide some background on herself later in the newsletter.

Many of you have inquired about this holiday season; specifically will the Local be having our annual Children's Christmas Party? The Executive Board has debated on various scenarios for safely holding the party but unfortunately again this year it will not be the joyful event we are accustomed to with the Union Hall filled with our kids and the Christmas Spirit. Details are being finalized and will be announced through bulletin board posts and on the Local Union website.

As we anticipate this Holiday Season Local 776 will again be sponsoring our "Christmas for Kids" community services project for needy families in the York area. Please find a place in your heart to remember those less fortunate than us so they can enjoy the Holiday Season.

Our Local Union is strong; our Members are united, they are proud to be Teamsters. When asked by others why a Union? They smile with pride and mention their contract, their wages, benefits, and working conditions, and the security their contract provides. This strength allows the Local Union to provide activities both for education and betterment of your lives in addition to providing activities of a social nature such as the family picnic and the Christmas time events. When you hear from someone saying Unions are no longer needed speak up and tell them exactly what your Union provides to you: A middle-class living wage, health and welfare benefits, a grievance procedure, vacation time, and sick leave to name a few. Then add in what educational and social activities your Union provides and they will begin to understand what this "Union Thing" is.

In closing, I would like to wish everyone a Happy, Joyous, Merry, and Safe Holiday Season!

Faternally,

Ed Thompson,

President, Teamsters Local 776

## Business Agent's Reports



**Mark Andreozzi:** Recently Local 776 successfully negotiated and ratified a four (4) year contract for the Borough of Penbrook Police Officers. This agreement was the product of both the Employer and the Union collaborating in the negotiating process and arriving at an agreement that was beneficial to both parties. Local 776 and the Borough of Steelton are very close to reaching an agreement for the Police Department. The Borough of Gettysburg remains committed in their attempt to foster and promote discord within the ranks of the Police Department. The latest instance is an attempt to improperly pay overtime to Officers who have come to rely on a past practice of paying the overtime correctly and in accordance with the operative contract. That matter is listed for arbitration.. The Dauphin County Court Related unit remains at impasse with the Employer and is scheduled for Interest Arbitration on February 10, 2022, to resolve their contract. Recently, some of the "Row Officers" have taken their plea public

regarding the abysmal conditions and pay our members, their employees, currently endure. Unfortunately, while services to the citizens diminish and departments crucial to the workings of the Courts atrophy, it appears that Dauphin County remains committed to a one-dimensional approach to governance that involves simply not raising taxes.



**Mark Cicak:** I am currently in negotiations on six of our contracts: Lower Swatara Non-Uniformed, Juniata County Court Appointed Unit, Juniata County Residual Unit, Lewistown Police Department, Piedmont Mechanics and Related Employees, and Piedmont Stores Clerk. The Piedmont negotiating committee consists of myself, along with BA's from two additional Locals. Bob Luciano of Teamsters Local 210 is the lead negotiator. Lower Swatara Non-Uniformed, Juniata Court Appointed, Juniata County Residual and Lewistown PD all expire December 31, 2021. The Juniata Court Appointed contract is scheduled for arbitration, along with Lewistown Police Dept. for interest arbitration, but we are still negotiating and progressing. In August 2021, the members at Ryder Integrated Logistics, who drive for Metals USA, ratified their second contract. The Ryder contract is a 3-year agreement that includes general wage increases, while healthcare remains the same. Earlier in March 2021, the Marysville Borough members ratified their new contract. Marysville Borough is a 4-year contract, which included general wage increases. I am also negotiating the Marysville Borough Administrative Assistants first contract. Marysville Admin assistants is progressing, as is the case in most negotiations, we are at odds on wages and healthcare issues.



**Spencer Dearth: TForce Freight Mechanicsburg and York:** The transition of UPS Freight to T-Force Freight continues with several logistical issues being worked out, including establishing a payroll, HR, and Labor departments as these departments were not included in the sale. At the National Panel in San Diego in August, we had two cases docketed. The Company settled one case, and the case of the Union was upheld in the other case. There was an opportunity to meet with the new corporate heads, which I took advantage of by meeting with them on several issues, including road drivers' starting rates. I am happy to report that we have the highest hourly starting rate for a road driver in the TForce system in Mechanicsburg. At the Eastern Region Panel, we had several cases on the docket, including a discharge. The Company asked if I was available to meet before the hearing. As expected, they wanted to settle a few of the cases. We were successful in the discharge case in returning the member to work, and the

remaining cases were found to have enough merit to be deadlocked to the next level of the grievance procedure. At the TForce Freight York building, all issues have been resolved.

**Navistar:** We arbitrated a discharge case in August, and we are waiting on the decision. Last November, the contract that the members ratified included language that an employee would not be disciplined if they could not come to work due to restricted truck travel. We have notified the Company that because it was their language and it was not specific, our position is if any truck traffic is restricted, the language is now triggered.

**York City:** The city sold the WWTP earlier this year, and the sale has pending approval by the PUC. We have met for impact bargaining with the City of York and scheduled an initial meeting with PA American Water. We have an overtime case from the highway department scheduled for arbitration in November. Additionally, we have a case from the WWTP on subcontracting filed for arbitration.

**Arsenal Road Logistics:** Over the summer, there were two discharges in the building, which is unusual because there is hardly any discipline issued. The issues related to those cases have been resolved. It is my understanding there are a few job openings there. Otherwise, the building is generally quiet.

**Dover Township:** We continue to negotiate with the Township for a successor contract as the current contract expires on December 31st. Overall, negotiations are on schedule and going well. Other than a few minor issues, the unit is quiet.

I appreciate and would like to thank all the Stewards for their dedication and hard work.





## Local 776 Golf Tournament

Some of Local 776's finest teed it up on Sunday August 1, 2021, at Eagles Crossing Golf Course in Carlisle. Members were out to enjoy a day of friendship, food, prizes, and good-natured head-to-head competition.. There was plenty of friendly competition on the course but bragging rights were on the line as members vied for first place in their respective flights, close to the pin competition, and longest drive. While the scores were tallied, the members enjoyed a steak dinner while they talked about the errant shot, the putt that would not drop, and all things golf.

The winners in their respective categories and their scores were:

### Championship Flight:

**1st Place with a score of 61:** Robert Ingersoll (DCP), Jason Hammer (DCP), Robert Fry (DCP) and Stephen Reidlinger (DCP-Retired)

**2nd Place with a score of 63:** Douglas Porter (YRC), Lawrence Dynarski (YRC), Tony Robinson (YRC Retired) and Doug Bechtold (YRC)

**3rd Place with a score of 64:** Jim Handley (New Penn), Robert Rife (Retired), Lynn Witsel (Retired) and Mike Baten (Retired)

### Second Flight:

**1st Place with a score of 68:** Tim Osbourne (ABF), Juo Ro (ABF), Denny Wilson (ABF Retired) and Mike Kennedy (ABF)

**2nd Place with a score of 69:** Steve Brudowsky (YRC), Paul Niswonger (YRC Retired), Al Swope (YRC Retired) and Bob Karbowski (YRC Retired)

As is the custom at Local 776 events, a 50/50 drawing was held in support of the 776 Scholarship Fund. This year's winner was Robert Rife (Retired New Penn). The 50/50 drawing Consolation Prize of an Eagles Crossing Golf Club Gift Card was won by Alfred Cuneo (Retired Red Star). If you missed the tournament this year we'll be doing it again next year; keep working on your swing, get your group lined up, and come on out and play! To view additional photos from the tournament please visit the Photo Gallery at [teamsterslocal776.org](http://teamsterslocal776.org)



*Lined up and ready to go!*

*Because of a tie score, this team was awarded second place based on their score on the highest handicapped hole.*

**3rd Place with a score of 69:** Chris Yinger (T- Force Freight), Kevin Weagle (T- Force Freight), Brian Buckley (T- Force Freight) and Brian Sullivan (T- Force Freight)

### Third Flight:

**First Place with a score of 73:** Kevin Smith (YRC Retired), Keith Nilson (YRC), Ron Robinson (YRC) and John Hubbs (YRC Retired)

**Second Place with a score of 74:** Jason Myers (Metals USA), Mackenzie Miller (Metals USA), Ryan Potts (Metals USA) and Jared Bryant (Metals USA)

**Third Place with a score of 75:** Duane Arnold (UPS), Nathaniel Paulus (UPS), Dave Bloss (UPS) and Scott Wynegar (UPS)

**Closest to the Pin Hole #3:** Tony Robinson (YRC Retired)

**Closest to the Pin Hole #7:** Doug Bechtold (YRC)

**Closest to the Pin Hole #13:** Travis Diller (ABF)

**Closest to the Pin Hole #16:** Tony Robinson (YRC Retired)

**Longest Drive Ladies Tees:** Hilary Coldwell (Perry County)

**Longest Drive Men's Tees:** Douglas Porter (YRC)

**Longest Drive Senior Tees:** John Hubbs (YRC Retired)

**50/50 Winner:** Robert Rife (Retired)

**Eagles Crossing Gift Card:** Alfred Cuneo (Retired)

**Round of Golf at Eagles Crossing:** Kevin Weagle (T- Force Freight), Nathaniel Paulus (UPS), Ken Geesey (UPS), Will Christian (New Penn)



*There's always plenty of smiling faces during the tournament!*

## Vaccine Mandates - Legal Issues

### **Q: Can an employer require vaccines as a condition of employment?**

**A:** Yes Federal law does not prohibit employers from mandating vaccines as a condition of employment. The Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) has stated that mandates do not violate either the Americans with Disabilities Act or Title VII of the Civil Rights Act, although both of those laws require employers to provide certain exceptions.

A few states bar vaccine mandates, so check your state law. However, with respect to federal contractors, those laws may be preempted by the President's Executive Orders discussed below.

### **Q: What are the exceptions?**

**A:** Employees who cannot get the vaccine for medical reasons or who have sincerely held religious objections to the vaccine may seek an accommodation from the mandate. Employers are to evaluate each request for an exemption and, working with the employee, determine whether there is an accommodation that would permit the employee to continue to perform the job in a manner that does not impose an undue hardship on the employer or pose a "direct threat" to the health of the employee or others in the workplace.

### **Q: Doesn't the employer have to bargain with the union?**

**A:** As a general matter, requiring vaccines as a condition of employment is a mandatory subject of bargaining. However, whether your employer can implement a mandate without bargaining depends on the language in your collective bargaining agreement and whether the mandate is required by law (for example, under the Executive Orders described below).

Even if the union cannot bargain over the decision to require vaccines, it can bargain over the effects of that decision – that is, how the mandate will be implemented.

### **Q: If the union can't bargain over the mandate, what can it bargain over?**

**A:** There are many issues about how the mandate will be implemented, including:

- How the exceptions will be determined
- The status of employees who refuse the vaccine

- Compensation for time spent getting the vaccine
- Paid leave for employees who react to the vaccine
- How the employer will verify vaccination
- Testing as an alternative (and if so, who pays for time/expense)

Even the Executive Orders requiring vaccines leave many implementation issues unanswered and therefore open to bargaining.

### **Q: What is in President Biden's Executive Orders?**

**A:** The President issued three Executive Orders regarding workplace vaccinations:

- All Federal employees must be fully vaccinated by November 22, 2021.
- There are medical/religious exceptions for employees who can be accommodated.
- Federal contractors and their subcontractors:
- Applies to contracts entered into, extended, or revised after November 14, 2021.
- All employees working on or in connection with a covered contract must be vaccinated by December 8, 2021. ("In connection" with a contract means performing work necessary for the performance of the contract.)
- With some exceptions, the Executive Order also applies to a covered contractor's employees who are not working on the covered contract but are in the contractor's workplace.
- There are medical/religious exceptions for employees who can be accommodated.
- OSHA Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) o Directed OSHA to issue an ETS covering employers with 100 or more employees, requiring vaccines or testing for employers.

### **Q: Isn't it unconstitutional for the government to mandate vaccines?**

**A:** No, as early as 1905, the Supreme Court held in *Jacobson v. Massachusetts* that the government may mandate vaccines. In that case, the Court rejected a challenge to a law requiring all residents to be vaccinated against smallpox. The Court held that although individuals have a constitutionally-protected liberty

(over)

## Vaccine Mandates – Legal Issues (continued)

interest in personal autonomy, that right is outweighed by the state's interest protecting the public.

**Q: Doesn't it violate HIPAA to ask me about my vaccination status?**

**A:** No. First, HIPAA does not apply to how your employer handles medical information. It only prevents medical providers from disclosing patient information. The ADA does, however, limit and impose confidentiality requirements on the medical information your employer can obtain. According to the EEOC, the ADA permits your employer to ask your vaccine status. However, the employer cannot ask why you are not vaccinated, and the employer must treat any documentation confidentially.

Some states, however, have prohibited inquiring about vaccine status, so check your state law.

**Q: Is it legal to require employees to get vaccines that only have Emergency Use Authorization (EUA)?**

**A:** Yes. The vaccines' EUA status does not bar public or private entities from requiring vaccines as a condition of employment. Language in the statute authorizing EUA suggested that the people getting the vaccines must be told it is optional, but the courts have made clear this refers to information the healthcare providers must give when administering the vaccines. And, the courts have said, even under a mandate, the vaccines are optional since employees always have the choice to decline the vaccine and seek employment elsewhere.

In any event, one of the three vaccines available in the United States is now fully licensed, and it is expected the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will soon fully license the other two as well.

**Q: Don't I get greater legal protections with the fully-licensed vaccines?**

**A:** No. In announcing its approval of the Pfizer vaccine, the FDA stated that the vaccine with EUA and the full-licensed vaccine were identical in their composition, safety and effectiveness, but that they were "legally distinct." The FDA has since made clear this meant that the EUA was approved for individuals ages 12 and up, while the licensed vaccine had been approved for indi-

viduals 16 and older, and that the vaccines may have been manufactured in different approved facilities.

**Q: If I am terminated for refusing to get vaccinated, can I collect unemployment insurance?**

**A: That's a question of state law. Many states either deny or delay benefits to employees terminated "for cause."**

**Q: If I have an adverse reaction to the vaccine, can I collect workers comp?**

**A:** Again, this is a question of state law. However, if you suffer an injury as a result of an employer-mandated vaccination, this would be covered as a work-related injury. Some states have issued guidelines addressing covid-related coverage. Additionally, as stated above, compensation for time off for anyone who suffers an adverse reaction to the vaccine is something the union can negotiate through effects bargaining.

**Q: What can the union do about all this?**

**A:** So far, every court that has considered employer mandates has found them lawful, although in a few cases, individuals have successfully pursued their rights to exceptions. However, as explained above, the union can demand bargaining. If the employer is not legally required to mandate vaccines, it may be possible to bargain over the decision to require them, depending on the language of your collective bargaining agreement. But if the agreement, for example, allows the employer to implement reasonable safety rules or otherwise grants the employer the right to implement new rules, current NLRB law makes it unlikely that the union will be able to bargain over the decision to require the vaccine. Even if it cannot bargain over the decision, the union can bargain over its effects, i.e., its implementation.

Fraternally,



Ed Thompson

President, Teamsters Local 776



## Local 776 Retirements



*ABOVE: Danny Crawford, (L) and Local 776 BA Dave Licht admire Danny's retirement watch*

**Danny Crawford:** Danny retired from UPS on October 1, 2021, after putting in 44 years with the company. As with most long-term members at UPS, Danny started as a part-time employee in the Harrisburg Hub. As his seniority grew he moved through the ranks of full-time hub, package car, and lastly feeders, where he spent the last 25 years running up and down the road. Danny and his wife Judy have two children and five grandchildren to keep them busy in retirement. Retirement will allow him more time to pursue his hobbies of hunting and fishing, he might be able to take a few more trips to Lake Erie to enjoy walleye fishing. Danny and Judy had plans to do some traveling once retirement arrived, due to COVID they'll be cautious, taking a wait and see attitude before venturing out. Danny is happily settling into life as a retiree, and would like to wish all his Union Brothers and Sisters good luck as they work toward their retirement. Congratulations from everyone at Local 776 Dan, 44 years is a long time in the work force, may you enjoy 44 years of retirement!



him. Bob is proud to be a Teamster and has many friends at Local 776. In settling into retirement, Bob commented "My Watch Has Ended". From everyone at Local 776 congratulations Bob, enjoy retirement!

*Above: Local 776 BA Dave Licht (L) presents Bob with his Local 776-retirement watch*

**Bob Diehl:** Bob Retired on October 1, 2021 after a 39-year career as a Teamster. In that time, Bob worked for Victory Leasing, Transcon Lines, USF Red Star, USF Holland and UPS. Bob began working at UPS in 2004 as a casual feeder driver in Harrisburg, eventually becoming a full-time driver, where he worked until his retirement. Bob has a cabin in Perry County where he enjoys the peacefulness of the mountains. He dabbles in die-cast trucks of various companies and has had trucks made for some of them. With retirement bringing more free time he hopes to devote some of that time to flea markets and auctions looking for that special something. Additionally he has two motorcycles and enjoys riding the open road. One thing Bob is proud of is in his time with the Teamsters he always self-paid his Union dues on time rather than rely on an employer paying it for



**Scott Martin:** Scott retired on October 1, 2021, after spending 44 years at UPS in Harrisburg. Like most long-term UPS employees, Scott started his career as a part-time employee working in the Hub, eventually becoming full time. Next up was a move to package cars, and in 2000, he made the switch to become a feeder driver, where he remained until his retirement. Scott and his wife Elaine have three sons and three grandsons who will make sure he has plenty to do now that he's not running up and down the road. The pandemic has put a temporary hold on any traveling they would like to do, but for now, Scott plans to sit back, enjoy life, and stay active.

*Left: Local 776 BA Dave Licht (L) presents Scott with his retirement watch*

**Rodney Maus:** Rod retired Sept. 1, 2021, after 43 years as a Teamster. Rod started his Teamster Journey as a dockworker at Preston Trucking in 1979 where he remained until there closing. In November 1999, he started work at ABF Freight, working mainly in the yard until his retirement. Over the years, Rod has seen many changes in the industry pertaining to how freight is moved on the dock. Rod has been married to his wife Jill for 45 years; they had 2 kids, and now have 4 grandkids to keep them busy. One of the grandsons is a second generation Teamster, also working at ABF Freight. Rod likes to hunt and fish, spend time with his family and grandkids, and is a big help at home to Jill as they care for her 91-year-old mother who lives with them. Rod would like to thank the Teamsters for the great contracts, pay, and benefits

he received over the years, which allowed Jill to be a stay at home mom to take care of the kids.

**Keith McPherson:** Keith retired Sept. 1, 2021 after 43 plus years as a Teamster. Keith also started his Teamster career at Preston Trucking in 1978 before moving to ABF Freight after the Preston closing. Keith has 2 kids and 1 grandson. Now that he's



retired it will give him more time to devote to hunting and fishing, also to his hobby of performing from the ground up vehicle restorations of antique and muscle cars. Keith currently has in his stable a 1949 Chevy pick-up truck 3100 street rod and a 1984 Mustang GT. Keith would like to thank the Teamsters for the great pay and medical insurance he received, and God for helping him get through to retirement.

*Rodney Maus (L) and Keith McPherson (Center) receive congratulations and watches from Local 776 BA Dave Wolf*



## Local 776 Member Enhancements

**Website Registration:** Recently Local 776 made it easier and quicker to sign up for the Local's E-mail alerts. If you are not signed up to receive Local 776 E-mail alerts you are probably missing important opportunities and vital information. When articles are posted on our website concerning events, information, and news you receive an E-mail and a link directing you to the information on the website. Additionally, Business Agents routinely use the service to pass information along to their members who signed up. The process is simple: Scan the QR (Quick Response) code (right), enter your first name, last name, E-mail address and your employer and you're all set. This information is for Local 776 use only and will not be shared or sold to any outside entity.



Website registration



D.R.I.V.E. registration.

**D.R.I.V.E. Registration:** Members who wish to sign up for DRIVE, (Democrat, Republican, Independent, Voter Education) may now do so by scanning the QR (Quick Response) code (left) and entering the requested information. DRIVE is the Teamsters Political Action Committee, supporting politicians who share our views on legislation concerning working people. Membership in DRIVE is voluntary; no Union dues are used in support of DRIVE activities. Additional information concerning DRIVE may be found under "Member Resources" on the Local Union website.

## Organizing Update Please Welcome Ashley Cerzullo

On October 4, 2021, Ashley Cerzullo assumed the position of Organizer for Local 776. Ashley comes to Local 776 from the Hershey Medical Center where she was a Surgical Technologist for the past nine years. Ashley lives in the Harrisburg area, is married, and has two kids to keep her busy! The Surgical Technologists are a newer group under contract at Hershey Medical, having organized in 2018. Ashley was instrumental in the organizing campaign for the Technologists. She worked closely with then Local 776 organizer Mark Cicak to help build the employee list, set up employee meetings, and keep information flowing both from and to Mark leading up to the vote. Ashley is currently "shadowing" both Mark Cicak and Mark Andreozzi as she becomes



involved with organizing campaigns that were underway before she came on board. With both Marks having organizing experience at the Local level and with the IBT, she has two experienced teachers to help her succeed. In addition to her organizing duties, Ashley is handling the recently instituted online new hire application process along with the accompanying new-hire orientations. When asked about her new position Ashley remarked, "I'm glad for the opportunity to serve Local 776 members, I'm excited to be a part of this group and look forward to growing Local 776." If you happen to spot Ashley at the Union Hall or at a Local 776 function introduce yourself and make her feel welcome!

## PMTA Driver of the Month

ABF Road Driver Troy Mohny was named Driver of the Month for September 2020, by the Pennsylvania Motor Truck Association. Due to the COVID Pandemic, all PMTA awards



Local 776 Secretary/Treasurer Ron Hicks (L) congratulates Troy on his Driver of the Month recognition

had been postponed for the 2020 year, the association is now playing catch up. Troy has been employed by ABF for 20 years, was recently recognized by the company for twenty years of safe driving, and currently had driven 1.9 million accident-free miles. Troy was

nominated for the award by ABF Safety Director Mike Hogan.

The PMTA Driver of the Month program recognizes professional drivers for outstanding work. Each month, PMTA's Safety Management Council selects a driver among the nominees. They consider driving record, customer service, and commitment. At the end of the calendar year, all twelve Drivers of the Month are evaluated, and one is named the Driver of the Year at an annual awards dinner.

PMTA member companies are filled with drivers who go above and beyond every day to ensure safety, efficiency and excellence in the industry. The Drivers of the Month go well above and beyond, making them the "cream of the crop" of professional drivers.

From everyone at Local 776, congratulations on your selection as Driver of the Month Troy, it is an accomplishment to be proud of!



## In Memoriam

### This past summer two Pennsylvania Labor Leaders, one with ties to Central PA, passed away.

**Richard L. Trumka:** President of the 12.5-million-member AFL-CIO passed away at the age of 72. Trumka, of Nemacolin, Pennsylvania, was a third-generation coal miner, who left for a law degree and came back to fight for his community. In 1982, at the age 33, President Trumka ran on a reform ticket and was elected the youngest president of the United Mine Workers of America (UMWA). President Trumka was elected AFL-CIO Secretary-Treasurer in 1995, and held that post until 2009, when he was elected president. He headed the labor movement's efforts to create an economy based on broadly shared prosperity and to hold elected officials and employers accountable to working families.



**Richard "Dick" Boyd:** Passed away in July, 2021. Dick, of Glen Rock, PA, was a World War II combat veteran and longtime labor leader in Central Pennsylvania. Dick spent more than 50 years tirelessly fighting for the rights of working people. He served several terms as president of United Steelworkers Local 4407, representing employees of Cole Steel in York. For 20 years, from 1987 to 2007, he was president of the York-Adams County Central Labor Council. York's Labor Day Parade and Workers Memorial Day observances were started under his leadership.

He spearheaded the development and creation of the "Workers of York" statue that stands at the entrance to York's Agricultural and Industrial Museum. In 2004, he was awarded the Joseph A. Beirne Community Service Award from the United Way of America and was named Labor Leader of the Year by the United Way of Pennsylvania that same year. He was also involved in many other community organizations, including the South Central PA Workforce Investment Board, the York/Adams Drug and Alcohol Advisory Committee, the York Area Labor-Management Council, and in activities of the area's Democratic Party. Both leaders left a void in the Labor movement that will be hard to fill. May they rest in peace.

## Mass Transit Rally

Mass transit can be transformational for Pennsylvania. Essential workers and the goods and services they provide like healthcare and groceries are reliant on fully-funded transit. PA's economy is contingent on quality affordable and abundant transit. However, the clock is running out for PA's transit riders, workers, and systems. The state's major transit funding bill, Act 89, is set to expire in 2022. Without decisive action, PA will lose the transit systems that fuel our economy and connect us to life's essentials. The clock is ticking for legislators to find a replacement-funding source to provide hundreds of millions of dollars in annual dedicated



Local 776 BA's Officers, and Members stand in solidarity with the ATU

payments to public transit agencies across the state. Spearheaded by the Amalgamated Transit Union (ATU), over a Hundred PA transit riders and workers rallied in Harrisburg on June 29, 2021, to launch the "Transit for All PA!" platform. In a show of solidarity with the ATU, and support for our Transit members at Rabbit Transit, Local 776 attended the rally. Local 776 was represented by BA's Mark Cicak, Bill Olmeda, and Dave Vrona, along with Local 776 Trustee Patrick Hollingshead. Also attending were members Rick Smith and John Brownawell, a Steward from YRC.

### Teamsters Local 776

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## IBT Local 776 2018 Membership Meeting Dates

Sunday November 14, 2021	Sunday February 13, 2022
Sunday December 12, 2021	Sunday March 16, 2022
Sunday January 9, 2022	Sunday April 10, 2022

Local 776 Membership meetings are held the second Sunday of each month. Meetings are held at the Harrisburg Union Hall unless noted and begin at 10 AM.

## IBT Steward's Meeting Dates

Saturday November 13, 2022	Saturday March 15, 2022
Saturday January 8, 2022	

## People Helping People

Mother Nature reared her ugly head in September as Hurricane Ida devastated the Louisiana Coast. As the Har-



ABF members Chalmer Edgin (L) and Darryl Sprague ready to head back home.

risburg area Red Cross mobilized to aid with relief supplies the call came to Local 776; are you available to move supplies to the affected area? Shortly after the call came in Local 776 members Chalmer Edgin and Darryl Sprague, both ABF road drivers, were off to Utz Foods in Hanover, PA to pick up a load destined for Baton Rouge, LA. Not wasting any time, Chalmer and Darryl left on September 17th and returned on the 19th. The supplies went to a Red Cross building in Baton Rouge that was utilized as a receiving and distribution point for the area. Chalmer, who is also a Local 776 Union Steward, commented that at Utz foods, and when stopping for fuel, the drivers received compliments about how the truck looked going down the road, carrying the Local's message of "People Helping People".

Commented Local 776 President Ed Thompson "I would like to thank Chalmer and Darryl for a job well done. They are great examples of our members stepping up when it counts, and got the job done quickly and safely".

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