



The

Union Mail

Vol. 63 No. 4 | May/June 2020

Published by the NY Metro Area Postal Union

"The Labor Movement was the principal force that transformed misery and despair into hope and progress."—Martin Luther King, Jr.

Postal-worker heroes on the front lines of COVID-19 pandemic



See pages 6 & 7

Postal workers are heroes



Jonathan Smith

What is a hero? A hero is the person who stays strong even when facing a serious problem (COVID-19). Heroes help other people even at great risk to themselves. Anyone is

a hero when saving someone else's life or way of life. Heroes can be afraid, but their actions show that they can overcome their fears because what they do is important.

During this crisis, we recognize and respect the bravery of nurses, doctors, EMTs, police, firefighters, who are out there every day. This article is about the invisible heroes, like the national network of postal workers. The postal worker is often forgotten. And that makes me really angry.

The Post Office motto is "Neither snow nor rain nor heat nor gloom of night stays these couriers from the swift completion of their appointed rounds." The Postal Service's mission statement says it is to provide the nation with reliable, affordable, universal mail service. The basic functions of the Postal Service were established in 39 U.S.C. § 101(a): ". . . to bind the Nation together through the personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people."

The Post Office is a public service, not a business. Postal workers have been exposed to hazardous work conditions due to the COVID-19 outbreak, yet we still deliver to every business and household in America. That's 212 billion pieces of mail to 157 million addresses. We delivered 1.2 billion prescriptions

last year alone. We handle almost half the world's mail (about 47%) and the USPS employs more veterans-- especially disabled veterans-- than any other company.

I can remember events like 9/11, anthrax in the mail, letter bombs, Hurricanes Sandy and Katrina and Maria. Through all these uncertainties, one thing was constant: the mail always got through.

Instead, when I put on my TV, everyone is being called a hero but the postal worker. What do we get for our hard work and dedication? Federal or local recognition? Hazard pay? No, we get kicked in the back by the same government which these essential workers are keeping afloat.

The Postal Service is the most popular government agency with a 91% approval rating. So it enrages me when President Trump was asked why he would not supply the Postal Service with much needed stimulus relief--like he has for these private for-profit businesses -- and his answer was, "The Postal Service is a Joke." His assertion that USPS "should raise package prices 4 to 5 times current levels" is no laughing matter to the American people!

His answer in the middle of record unemployment and tremendous fear and anxiety is to raise prices on the American public. This is directly counter to the Postal Service's constitutional mission to provide the public with a reliable and affordable universal mail service.

Trump obviously does not realize that the post office is a service not a business. A service that has been around since 1775. A service that has lost more than 60 employees to death because of COVID-19. A Service that is forced to pay health

benefits 75 years into the future. (No other company has this unreasonable mandate.) A service that delivers packages the last mile for FedEx, UPS, DHL and Amazon. And a service that is soon going to be needed even more since voting by mail will be imperative for our democracy and our health in the age of social distancing.

Heroes are people who help others face difficulties. With heads held high, they sacrifice their time, effort, and sometimes their lives to keep America moving. These heroes make a strong positive impact on our lives. So during this pandemic, do not forget that Postal Workers are heroes too! We are proud to serve America by continuing to deliver medicine, checks and hope, knowing with heavy hearts that America depends on us to keep it together even when everything else is falling apart. ☑

Official publication of the New York Metro Area Postal Union.

The Union Mail (ISSN 0049-5298) is published monthly except combined in March/April, May/June, July/August, November/December by the New York Metro Area Postal Union at 350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Periodical postage paid at New York, NY.
POSTMASTER: Send address changes to:
The Union Mail, New York Metro Area Postal Union,
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor, New York, NY 10001.

Flo Summergrad, editor

Chuck Zlatkin, acting managing editor
Bernadette Evangelist, graphic designer
To contact your officers, call 212.563.7553.

www.nymetro.org

- President**
Jonathan Smith Ext. 108
- Executive Vice President**
Kevin Walsh Ext. 110
- Dir. Ind Relations**
Edward Dalton Ext. 106
- Secretary-Treasurer**
Joseph Martir Ext. 107
- Dir. Organization**
Diane Erlanger Ext. 105



We have a new Union Contract!

✓ General Wage Increases! ✓ No Lay-Off Protections!
✓ Cost-Of-Living Raises! ✓ Narrowing the Gap in the
Two-Tiered Wage Structure! ✓ Improvements for PSEs!
✓ 50 Mile Limit on Excessing! ✓ Back Pay!

From APWU web news March 11, 2020

200,000 postal workers represented by the APWU have a new union contract!

Neutral Arbitrator and Interest Arbitration Panel Chair Stephen Goldberg issued his binding decision on the terms of the new union contract between the American Postal Workers Union and the United States Postal Service.

The Award was the product of 20 months of preparation, member and local union input, negotiations, mediation, a strong contract campaign and a well-prepared and presented arbitration case. Thirty-two workers testified about their work. Officers and subject matter experts testified for the union. A team of economists presented our case and rebutted management's presentations for union concessions.

"No interest arbitration is ever totally in favor of one side or the other," said APWU President Mark Dimondstein. "But we have achieved a number of our major goals including retroactive annual pay raises, maintaining of full (and retroactive) COLA, narrowing the gap between the lower and higher career pay scales, the career conversions of thousands of PSEs and maintaining tremendous job security.

We should all be proud to be union!"

"We also succeeded in stopping management's deeply concessionary demands to end no-lay protections, increase percentages of non-career employees and create a new lower third tier of career employees," shared Industrial Relations Director Vance Zimmerman. "I want to thank the many officers, witnesses, staff, attorneys, specialists and the members for their many efforts in this long battle that helped bring it to a strong conclusion."

Unless specifically changed by this Award, all rights and benefits in the previous contract carry forward into the new one. These include seniority and bidding rights, protections against unjust discipline, the grievance procedure, annual and sick leave, holiday and overtime pay, health and safety protections and so many of the important rights and benefits won over many decades of struggle. *[See full Contract report on APWU website]*

Some highlights:

- Step increases added to lower tier workers (PS 5 – 8) to narrow the gap between tiers
- Pregnancy added to

Discrimination language

■ The Union and Management established a Joint Task Force to address hostile work environments.

APWU is now the only postal union to maintain full COLA and not increase non-career percentages.

Pay Increases started PP09/20

Contractual pay raises will appear on the USPS checks issued on May 1, 2020. We have been working at the higher rate since April 11, 2020, Pay Period 09/20. The new Pay scales are available on line. Due to the various pay categories connected to the COVID 19 pandemic, the date for the retroactive pay checks has not been set yet.

PSE Contract Conversion May 9, 2020

As per the new contract, those PSEs in large offices (125 workyear or more) for over 30 months, will be converted to career status as of May 9, 2020. Over 2500 PSEs will become career postal employees as of PP11/20. This was a key demand of the APWU at negotiations and throughout the arbitration presentations. ☰

Vote-by-mail: How the USPS can save democracy

By Nora Taggart

How do we exercise our right to vote in the midst of the Coronavirus pandemic? How do we keep voters and poll workers safe? Many voting advocates are demanding that federal and state lawmakers expand voting-by-mail. This issue has gained more traction after Wisconsin health officials reported nearly 20 new cases of coronavirus were linked to the April 7 primaries held in that state.

Vote-by-mail or absentee voting (generally considered synonymous) is nothing new. Five states currently conduct all elections entirely by mail: Colorado, Hawaii, Oregon, Washington and Utah. In 29 states and the District of Columbia, any citizen can cast an absentee ballot. This practice is referred to as “no-excuse absentee voting.” New Jersey and Pennsylvania are among these states.

In 16 states, including New York and Connecticut, a voter must give a valid excuse in order to vote absentee. Commonly accepted excuses for casting an absentee ballot include sickness or physical disability, religious observance, and prolonged absence from the voter's home country. Gov. Cuomo issued an executive order on April 9, 2020 that will allow all New Yorkers to cast absentee ballots in the state's June 23 primary elections due to the coronavirus crisis.

History

Absentee voting provisions were first added to the constitution in 1864 to allow Civil War soldiers to vote.

Both Union and Confederate soldiers were given the opportunity to cast ballots from their battlefield units and have them be counted back home. In the late 1800s States began passing absentee ballot laws for civilians. This was intended to accommodate voters who were away from home or seriously ill on Election Day. During World War II, The Soldier Voting Act of 1942 was passed guaranteeing military members a vote during wartime. At the time some 5 million U.S. troops were fighting overseas.

In 1955, Congress passed the Federal Voting Assistance Act to allow military members, federal employees overseas and other U.S. citizens associated with the military to vote when away from their voting residences. Two decades later the law was expanded to other U.S. citizens living overseas.

Americans support voting-by-mail

YouGov, a non-partisan global public opinion and data company, conducted a poll in late March 2020. They asked more than 34,000 Americans whether they support or oppose voting-by-mail. 65% of Americans said they support it. Of those, 80% identified as Democrats, 64% as Independents and 54% as Republicans.

USPS and democracy

The Founders Fathers established the post office before they had even signed the Declaration of Independence. They knew that for America's experiment with democ-

racy to succeed, a well-informed citizenry was critical. Newspapers were subsidized to encourage the free exchange of information and ideas.

Fast forward to the present, states and localities are increasingly using mail in the election process. According to the 2018 Election Administration and Voting Survey, a quarter of the 120 million Americans that cast a ballot in the 2018 general election voted by mail.

President Trump, however, has been very hostile towards both the US Postal Service and vote-by-mail. Trump, who himself votes by mail, wrote on Twitter that voting by mail is “a very bad thing” and urged Republicans to fight it. Trump has also refused to include relief funding for the USPS by threatening to veto any COVID-19 stimulus bill that included relief for the agency.

Elections are the lifeblood of our democracy. Although there are several bills in Congress to require all states to either permit no-excuse absentee voting, or mail ballots to every eligible voter, the reality is that time is running out. Americans shouldn't have to choose between saving our democracy or saving our lives. ☐



The time to defend the Postal Service is now

By Chuck Zlatkin, Legislative and Political Director

“You never want to let a serious crisis go to waste.” –Rahm Emanuel, Chief of Staff to President Obama, explaining that the way to get things done, that you normally wouldn’t be able to get done, is capitalizing on a crisis.

For postal privatizers, like Donald Trump and Steven Mnuchin, the pandemic of COVID-19 fits the bill. As demonstrated by the financial crisis of 2008, when the economy is impacted seriously, the Postal Service suffers. Most people don’t know that the Postal Service supports itself. It doesn’t receive taxpayer money. On April 9, 2020, Postmaster General Megan J. Brennan testified before the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform. She detailed how the pandemic is going to impact on the income of the Postal Service and if the Postal Service doesn’t receive relief from Congress it will run out of money and the financial problems will last a decade unless the Postal Service gets financial relief.

Donald Trump is an enemy of a public Postal Service. He made it clear that he would not approve the so-called stimulus package passed by Congress last month if there was any relief for the U.S. Postal Service.

Now, with the pandemic of 2020 stifling the economy, the Postal Service is suffering financially again. The original House stimulus bill called for \$31 billion in aid, much of it as a grant that wouldn’t have to be paid back. Trump only allowed a \$10 billion loan, putting the Postal Service further in debt.



Trump has no idea what the Postal Service means to everyday Americans. He has no idea how many people depend upon the Postal Service to get medications that keep them alive, keep them sane, or keep them from excruciating pain. The answer is that it delivers 1.2 billion prescriptions annually.

Trump doesn’t care that the Postal Service is providing essential services to people all over the nation, and he is unaware or doesn’t care that the Postal Service employs more veterans and disabled veterans than anyone else. We can be sure that part of Trump’s antipathy to the Postal Service is that it provides living-wage, union jobs for its workers.

Privatizing the Postal Service has been a goal of the far right for generations. Not surprisingly, the task force that Trump created to study the postal system, headed by Treasury Secretary Steven Mnuchin, came up with a report in December 2018 calling for the eventual sale of the Postal Service to private corporations. Six months earlier, the Federal Office of Management and Budget

came out with a plan to make it more attractive to potential buyers by eliminating collective bargaining for postal workers’ wages.

The push for privatization brings together two forces on the right: the anti-government ideologues who are at war with the Postal Service because it is consistently the nation’s most popular government agency, and the private corporations who want to get their piece of the \$80 billion in business the USPS does each year. Of course, those corporations have no intention of providing the same level of service. They would almost certainly raise prices and cut or eliminate delivery in rural areas.

Postal workers, people who believe in a public Postal Service and people who depend upon the Postal Service must come together to fight for the post office. It is time to call for support from legislators who understand the importance of a public Postal Service to their constituents. The USPS is essential to people all over this nation. The importance of the Postal Service in rural areas is well known to the legislators who represent the people who live there. That is why there is bi-partisan support for the Postal Service. Contact your representatives in Congress, sign the petitions in defense of a public post office (*see back cover*). It is time to act, there is no time to waste.

The post office, founded in 1775 by Benjamin Franklin, is older than this country. It is owned by the people and it should stay that way. ☐

Postal workers: Binding the nation together

By Flo Summergrad

Our daily lives have been turned upside down. Schools are closed. Sports and social events are cancelled. Religious services, funerals, weddings, graduations, conventions, are being conducted online if at all. “Shelter in place” rules, curfews, bans on restaurants, diners, and bars, and mandatory masks and “social distancing” are enforcing fear and isolation. COVID19 has changed our social world into individual loneliness.

This is a time when postal workers are truly fulfilling the mission of “binding the nation together.” This means bringing the mail to every American household and business. That doesn’t happen in a vacuum. Workers have to accept letters and packages from customers, sort them, process them, load them into trucks, transport them, and deliver them. This can’t happen from home or from a computer terminal. Real people – Clerks, Mail handlers, Truck Drivers, and Letter Carriers—are out

there every day. The post offices and plants where mail is handled are cleaned and machinery maintained by postal custodians and mechanics.

For many Americans, the only normalcy during this pandemic is mail delivery. Medicines, goods, electronic equipment – necessities for daily living – travel through the mail-stream. Masks, gloves, hospital equipment and protective gear come through the USPS – the only network that touches every single address, regardless of location or income.

Besides essential products; besides checks and money orders; besides information, the mail carries a connection to the world. In a time of intense loneliness and separation, letters and parcels bring love and comfort. When travel bans prohibit visits to family and friends, the mail keeps people in touch. The universal postal service was established to enable communication.

Even in our technologically advanced country, portions of the U.S. are off the grid. Many who live in rural areas, elderly people, poor people, are unable to communicate electronically. The Postal Service is their lifeline.

Postmaster General Megan Brennan points out this is “a time when America needs the Postal Service more than ever.” APWU President Mark Dimondstein says, “You’ve got postal workers on the front lines, doing essential work” despite the health risks. Postal workers have died of coronavirus. Many have been sick or quarantined. The places where NY Metro Area Postal Union works have been hit especially hard. Yet, those who can, soldier on, upholding the traditions of nearly two and a half centuries of serving the public during war, crises, and natural disasters. From the biggest cities to the smallest rural hamlet, postal workers are out there, working to bind the nation together. ☐

Dedicated postal workers at the plants and stations covered by NY METRO Area Postal Union are part of the effort to bind our nation together in this time of crisis.



Together during pandemic



MOU on use of Contract Custodians

On April 22, the APWU and the USPS signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) regarding “Temporary Resources for COVID-19 related Cleaning Requirements.” This MOU covers the period beginning March 3, 2020, when contract custodians were first hired, through May 17, 2020. Prior to the expiration date, the parties at HQs will revisit this issue to determine if circumstances warrant an extension.

The MOU was drafted to respond to the coronavirus pandemic “to accommodate those installations staffed by Maintenance Craft Custodians where supplemental cleaning resources are needed due to COVID-19 related absenteeism, or where postal custodians decline to do COVID-19 related required cleaning.” For our Local, this agreement affects only Manhattan and the Bronx where 65 contract custodians have been hired.

For stations where custodians are out due to illness, these contract workers will be used as a supplemental work force. If there is an area that needs to be cleaned due to a COVID19 positive employee and regular custodians decline that assignment, contractors will be used. This temporary addition of contract custodians is for health and safety, to make sure that all cleaning and sanitizing gets done “in accordance with the Center for Disease Control (CDC) guidelines and related Maintenance Management Orders (MMOs).”

To avoid the danger of these hires being used to the detriment of the regular postal workforce, the MOU explicitly states that “All

available custodians either Full-Time Regular, or Part-Time Regular, within the facility shall be utilized up to the maximum hours allowed by Article 8. Postal custodians may volunteer to be utilized outside the facility after completing their regularly assigned duties.” (Again, this language only applies to installations with contract custodians; in facilities using normal custodial staffing, custodians cannot work outside their principle assignment area.)

Once an area has been sanitized, “Postal custodians will be utilized in the facility for normal cleaning (MMO-031-20 and MS-47). “This temporary contract cleaning will not impact postal custodial staffing or reduce work hours of Maintenance Craft custodial employees that are available for work at the facility.” All contractual language of Article 38 (Maintenance) remains in effect.

President Smith has already written to local management to make sure that we have common understanding of these terms. Also, under MOU Item 5, he has requested the specific local information promised to the union to track the contract custodial work. Since the MOU is backdated to March 3, violations may have occurred. Contractors are to be used only when there is insufficient staffing of postal custodians.

The entire MOU has been sent to members in an email blast, on Facebook, and on the APWU website. If you have questions or concerns, contact your Local officers. Keep in mind that this MOU is scheduled to expire May 17 so unless it is extended due to continuing need at HQs, the contract custodians will end. ☑

In Memoriam

Curtis L. Robertson Maintenance Steward



NY Metro Area Postal Union steward, Curtis Robertson, a Building Equipment Mechanic (BEM) at the NJ NDC, succumbed to complications caused by the Coronavirus in early April.

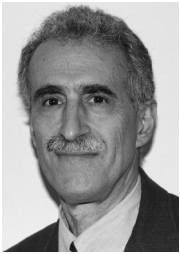
Curtis was a US Army veteran hired by USPS as a preference eligible. For over 20 years he served the members as both a Maintenance Craft shop steward and officer. He believed that our union was vital to protecting workers’ rights and jobs.

Retired NY Metro officer Danny Zachman says he will always cherish Curtis for his intelligent discussions. As a steward, Curtis was deeply concerned with violations of the legal rights to due process and went beyond the bare bones of the Contract in investigating ways to fight injustice. He was aware of the struggles that co-workers had endured and was determined to right wrongs when he could. He gave his children guides to living productive and moral lives that they now appreciate. A joy in his later years was his son who was born after his other three were grown.

His daughter wrote on Facebook: “Because of the circumstances we weren’t able to be with him physically but the ICU Dr. was kind enough to hold his phone up next to my dad so that we could say goodbye to him as a family.”

The rest of us at work did not have an opportunity to say goodbye, but we can say it here. Curtis, you will be deeply missed. 🌹

Statement by Mark Dimondstein President, American Postal Workers Union responding to President Trump's remarks on April 24 that he will block coronavirus aid for the U.S. Postal Service



President Trump's shameful comments today that the Postal Service "is a joke" and that USPS "should raise package prices four to five times" current levels is no laughing matter to the American people.

His comments are an insult to the forty-four postal workers who have died carrying out their vital public service in the midst of this pandemic. It's also disheartening to the 600,000 proud postal workers who continue to carry out our essential mission to the country at a time when the public needs reliable and afford-

able postal services more than ever.

Only the U. S. Postal Service reaches 160 million addresses every day to deliver life-saving medicines, vital supplies and important information, at universal, affordable rates.

There's no longer any doubt what President Trump's true intentions are for the country's highest-rated agency, approved by 91 percent of the public, equally among Republicans and Democrats, according to recent data from the Pew Research Center.

President Trump's clear intent is to raise prices and force a crisis at the Post Office so that his political benefactors at the corporate shippers can increase their

company profits at the expense of the people.

A President who boasts of his wealth need not worry about pricier mail and packages. He's clearly shown how out of touch he is with the concerns of businesses both large and small in the era of e-commerce and the millions of people who rely on affordable mail and package delivery, especially during this pandemic.

Trump's plan to increase package prices by four or five times would hasten the demise of the public U.S. Postal Service and end affordable, universal delivery to every address in the country. ☐

USPS needs financial relief now!

By Chuck Zlatkin, Legislative and Political Director

When the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) was signed into law on March 27, 2020 by President Trump it contained \$2.2 trillion dollars in "relief" for those supposedly impacted by the current pandemic. But the money that went to working people was a pittance compared to what will end up going to big business when you factor in that the legislation allows the Federal Reserve to give \$4 trillion in emergency bailouts to whatever businesses it chooses. While the House passed this by voice vote, and the Senate voted for it 96-0, there was not one penny designated

for grants to save the Postal Service in the final bill. The original draft had called for \$25 billion in grants, \$11 billion in debt forgiveness and \$15 billion in new borrowing but Congress quickly caved, when the Trump Administration said it would veto the bill if there was any money for the Postal Service included. A \$10 billion loan for the Postal Service was approved (which is now denied unless the Postal Service raises package prices)

Another stimulus package was signed into law by President Trump on April 24, 2020, after it passed both Houses of Congress overwhelmingly, for \$484 billion, but again, not

one cent for the Postal Service.

Chuck Schumer (D-NY) and Nancy Pelosi (D-CA), in a press conference, talked about getting started on the next stimulus package that among other issues, would include necessary money for the Postal Service.

The question is: Why will there be money for the Postal Service now, when there is virtually no leverage to force the issue? Legislators could have stood firm but didn't. Pressure must be put on legislators to stand firm and fight for the Postal Service and postal workers. There is no other choice. We can't let them cave again. ☐

Families First Coronavirus Response Act

By Kevin Walsh, Executive Vice President

I hope this finds you all safe and healthy during this very trying time of COVID 19.

I want to inform you of your rights under FFCRA (Families First Coronavirus Response Act)

There are six qualifying conditions:

1. Federal, State or Local quarantine or isolation order related to COVID 19
2. Advised by a health care provider to self-quarantine related to COVID 19
3. Experiencing COVID 19 symptoms and seeking a medical diagnosis
4. Caring for an individual subject to an order described in #1 or self-quarantined as described in # 2

5. Caring for a child whose school or place of care is closed due to COVID 19 related reasons

6. Experiencing any other substantially similar condition specified by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services.

The Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA) requires the Federal Government to provide all its employees with paid sick leave and, for employees covered under Title I of FMLA with expanded family and medical leave for specified reasons related to COVID 19. These provisions will apply from April 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020.

You are entitled up to two weeks (80 hours) of paid sick leave based on the higher of their regular rate

of pay.

100% for qualifying reasons #1-3 as stated above, up to \$511 daily and \$5,110 total and

2/3 for qualifying reasons #4 through #6, up to \$200 daily and \$2,000 total.

Under Title I of FMLA an employee can receive 10 additional weeks of expanded family and medical leave for reason #5 above. ☑

NOTE: It has come to the union's attention that some of the TACS codes being input for this leave are incorrect. Those codes are being deactivated. The codes that were supposed to be used and must be used are 066-18 for FFCRA Self and 066-19 FFCRA public health depending on each individual's situation.

April 21: USPS mandates masks for customers and employees

“Cloth face coverings or masks are mandatory in support of local or state face covering directives or orders. In addition, face coverings and masks are mandatory in all facilities where social distancing cannot be maintained.” Throughout the ongoing pandemic has been legally mandated in all states in our area: NJ, NY, PA, and CT. **Our union supports this.** ☑

National Convention postponed

APWU

Due to the current health crisis, on April 16, the APWU Executive Board voted to postpone the upcoming 2020 APWU National Convention. “After much thought and consideration for the safety of our Local and State delegates, national officers, families, guests and friends, and the ability to have a democratic and fully participatory convention, the National Executive Board has made the difficult decision to postpone the APWU 25th Biennial National Convention scheduled in Los Angeles, CA this coming August.”

The NEB will soon be discussing where to go from here. There will be no stones left unturned in attempting to reschedule the convention in late 2020, if possible, or sometime in 2021. ☑

CALENDAR

General Membership Meetings

Cancelled due to Coronavirus protocols

NY Metro Area Postal Union cancelled the normal March and April General Membership and P.O.W.E.R. meetings out of concern for the health and safety of our membership during the current bans on large gatherings and non-essential travel. We are currently considering ways to hold virtual meetings that would be secure and keep members in touch.

In the meantime, be advised that the NY Metro Executive Board has been meeting regularly through conference calls to conduct the business of our union. Our part-time and fulltime officers have been communicating members' concerns and problems and trying to address solutions.

For information call the NY Metro main office at 212-563-7553; Morgan at 212-330-4413; Bronx at 718-239-5740; DVD at 201-991-0493; NDC at 201-795-9126

For Updates

- Make sure the Local has your personal email address to receive Email Blasts. Send it to prezjon@nymetro.org and you will be added to the list.
- Go to the national APWU website to be part of the fight to save our lives, our union, and the public Postal Service.
- Follow the NY Metro Facebook page where you can get links to interviews and videos with union leaders.

Please **avoid** rumors! Check with dependable sources. Be sure that you are not spreading misinformation. Follow safety instructions and practices.

At every level, the union and postal management are meeting **daily** to address COVID-19 concerns and get the latest information on confirmed cases, quarantines, and deaths. ☒

APWU LOCAL 10BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of February 1, 2020	\$1,430,494.44
Total Revenue February 2020	\$ 120,641.35
Operating Expenses February 2020	\$ 141,671.97
Total Net Income February 2020	\$ 39,052.30
Ending Balance February 29, 2020	\$1,469,546.74

APWU LOCAL 10BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of March 1, 2020	\$1,469,546.74
Total Revenue March 2020	\$ 110,800.92
Operating Expenses March 2020	\$ 123,964.84
Total Net Income March 2020	\$ 13,163.92
Ending Balance March 31, 2020	\$1,456,382.82

Grass Roots Stamp Explosion!

“Support the Postal Service, Buy Stamps”

The grass roots call went out. It got tweeted, mentioned on Facebook and Instagram, broadcast on radio and TV: “Help save the Postal Service, buy a sheet of stamps.” And people responded. The Kansas City Fulfillment Center, which would normally handle 30,000 to 40,000 orders for stamps, envelopes and other items, was inundated, overwhelmed with orders. They found themselves with over 400,000 orders as Americans from all over were heeding the call and buying products to save the Postal Service. They are now having to run three shifts, working around the clock, bringing in help from the plant and the district office to get the work done. It was an amazing response, and it shows how important maintaining a public Postal Service is to the people we serve. ☒

You can join the “Grass Roots Stamp Explosion.” Go to the Postal Store at [USPS.com](https://usps.com) and stock up on stamps for yourself and your family and friends.



We extend our deepest condolences to the families, friends and co-workers of those lost to COVID19 during this terrible time. Our thoughts are with those who are ill with prayers for speedy and complete recovery. Please contact us if assistance is needed.

—The officers of NY Metro Area Postal Union



New York Metro Area Local, APWU
350 West 31st Street, 3rd Floor
New York, NY 10001
BUG

Periodicals class
POSTAGE PAID
at New York, NY

TELL CONGRESS MEMBERS TO SUPPORT OUR PUBLIC POSTAL SERVICE DURING THIS CRISIS

We are looking to our elected representatives in Washington to support our public Postal Service. The Coronavirus shutdown is plummeting postal revenues while increasing costs. Our public Postal Service needs all of our leaders – Democrats and Republicans alike – to provide urgent and ongoing financial support from the Federal Government during this public health and economic crisis.

TAKE ACTION NOW!

*Go to **APWU.org** and Tell Congress Members to Support Our Public Postal Service During this Crisis*