



The

Union Mail

Vol. 60 No. 7 | October 2017

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.

Saving our postal service: The battle for Manhattan!



College Station Post Office 1937

See stories on page 6 and 8



PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Union proves management can't ignore the rules



Jonathan Smith

NY and Bronx custodians, you've been hearing about a huge arbitration win for a grievance the Union filed against wrongful re-staffing of your jobs. This case came directly from my desk as Local President, and was well advocated by Dave Sarnacki, our NE Region National Business Agent.

Last March, without required procedures or information to the Union, the Postal Service improperly changed the hours and rest days of the Bronx and Manhattan labor custodians. The Union filed two class action grievances to challenge these moves: 1. These changes were not done through the MS-47 procedures; 2. The Local Memo of Understanding (LMOU) Item 2 states that in all carrier delivery stations, custodians shall have Sunday as one of the rest days.

These grievances were combined into one case, which the Union expedited so it would be heard quickly. Arbitrator Irene Donna Thomas sustained the grievance in its entirety. She instructed the employer to take the following steps to pay for the contract violation for those adversely affected: Return staffing package to the original format, pay out of schedule premium to those whose schedules were changed, and make employees "whole" for any loss of entitlements.

It's great to win an arbitration that will get money into the pockets of most Manhattan and Bronx custodians. But as the President of our

Local Union and the mover of this grievance, I would much rather have management bargain with us in good faith so that issues can get resolved at the lowest possible level. The disruption to your work lives did not have to happen.

Management refused to comply with the contract language in Article 38.4.A.4. They never established why it was necessary to change the rest days and hours of 95% of the custodial duty assignments. The contract reads that such changes must be "necessary," meaning "absolutely needed, logically unavoidable." But no matter how many times I asked Manager Steve Wojtaszek, ("Wojo") to show the necessity of the changes, he just parroted: "operational needs, operational needs." Information we requested like Forms 4851 (a quarterly maintenance requirement) were never given to us. The Union filed at least three grievances for denial of information to no avail.

I sat down with "Wojo" personally in an effort to resolve this fairly. APWU Maintenance NBA Dave Sarnacki and the leadership team of the local attended a Labor/Management meeting on 11/29/16. We showed the same evidence that we brought to arbitration in July 2017. But they absolutely refused to hear us or respond. They preferred to play an arrogant power game with the Union and disrupt workers' lives.

In direct violation of Item 2A of the LMOUs in Manhattan and the Bronx, management forced custodians in carrier delivery stations to work Sunday as a regular day. Item 2A states: "Sunday shall be one of the fixed days off." On page 16 of

the decision, Arbitrator Thomas ruled that "Therefore, maintenance employees in the Bronx and Manhattan cannot be scheduled to perform work on Sunday at customer service (carrier delivery) stations. All newly developed schedules requiring such work must be changed." She says the LMOU language is clear: "SHALL as defined in the legal dictionary means imperative or mandatory." Certainly, Wojo and his management cronies can read as well as the arbitrator. So their violation was intentional—just showing off that they're the boss and don't have to follow the rules.

Well, now they lost big in arbitration and it will cost the USPS money and involve more disruption. This should be a wake-up call for NYC management that we won't be pushed around. ☒

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Cover image from the National Archives, courtesy the Evan Kalish collection.



Step up! Speak out!

By Tiffany Foster, Executive Vice-President



Everyone who works at the post office knows that bad things are happening. You are reading this column because you want to know what

your union is doing to fight for your job and what you can do to help.

But lots of your co-workers aren't doing that. You hear them griping about the union and buying into whatever rumors their bosses are spreading. You hear them putting the blame on the union for what postal management is doing to disrupt their jobs.

You can change this if you step up and talk to people. Get involved with those negative conversations and tell them the truth.

Here are some talking points that you can use. Ask yourself the questions first and then ask other workers. Make it a dialogue.

1. Do you want the Post Office to be destroyed? NO! This is your job and your future.

2. Do you want to provide good service to the public? YES! That's what pays for our work.

3. Who's delaying the mail? Not us! Management's short staffing and wrong job cuts.

4. Do you want a good contract that protects your rights? YES! Contract negotiations are coming up and management is laying the groundwork to take away what we have.

5. Do you who know who is contractu-

ally responsible for changing your duty assignment and making staffing changes? Management—not the union!

6. When management says “the union agreed to this,” do you believe it? It's a lie! Why would the union agree to give up jobs that we fought for?

Get your information from good sources.

Don't believe management or non-members, they don't have your best interest at heart.

Go to the APWU.org and nymetro.org websites on a regular basis to get the latest information about what impacts your future.

Take the time to read *The Union Mail*, *The American Postal Worker* and *Union Flashes*.

Watch YouTube videos from New York Metro and APWU. These are produced by people who work for you. Not the same point of view as watching a video produced by someone you work for.

Attend union meetings. A good place to find out what is going on. A good place to ask questions.

Talking points about what we can do to help your steward help you:

- Let the union know when management lies.
- Write a statement when asked by your union to fight the lies and violations.
- Ask your manager why they are cutting jobs or changing days.
- Write statements to protect our jobs! Speak up /get a steward when:

☛ Management is working in our lobbys selling stamps and other products under a clerk retail number.

☛ Management is scanning the Uptimes as if the work is completed.

☛ Other crafts and/or the supervisor are doing clerk work.

■ Write statements to defend co-workers, not against them.

The bottom line to all of this, is that management is waging war on us. We might try to deny it, or find excuses as to why we shouldn't participate, but the reality of this war is that an injury to one is an injury to all.

For us to succeed, everyone must join the fight. Management watches what we do every step of the way. What we do or don't do matters.

The workers unity is our strength. Management does everything in their power to divide and conquer, diminishing our power.

Educate yourself. Talk to your co-workers. Watch management function. See the big picture.

I'm out here with our sisters and brothers doing what we can to protect our futures, to protect our jobs. You have value to contribute to this cause. Do what you can. YOUR help is needed all the time to fight for jobs and good service.

We are in this together. Join this struggle. Let's fight. Let's win! ☑



LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Dying on the altar of profits — the case for Single Payer

By Nora Taggart, Legislative and Political Director

For the umpteenth time, Republicans tried to repeal the Affordable Healthcare Act. The bill, known as Graham-Cassidy for its lead Senate co-sponsors, would have the same harmful consequences as prior repeal bills. According to The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, the Graham-Cassidy bill would cause 32 million people to lose coverage, radically restructure and deeply cut Medicaid, eliminate or weaken protections for people with pre-existing conditions, and increase out-of-pocket costs for individual market consumers.

The bill would allow insurers to deny people coverage for a series of basic medical treatments, including pregnancy and maternity care; prescription drugs; mental health services; reproductive health services, including birth control; and substance abuse treatment.

The legislation would also impose an “age tax” on older Americans by eliminating two sources of financial assistance that help make health coverage affordable and accessible.

Why should I care? I have health insurance.

Medical debt is the single largest factor in personal bankruptcy. Three out of four middle-class homeowners who file for bankruptcy have health insurance. A 2008 Harvard Study, “Get Sick, Get Out: The

Medical Causes of Home Mortgage Foreclosures,” found that half of all foreclosures had a medical cause, and that medical crises put millions of Americans in jeopardy of losing their homes every year.

It's killing our children

Of the 35 countries that are members of The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), only Turkey, Mexico, Argentina, and Slovakia have a higher child mortality rate than the U.S. Of the ten healthiest countries in the world, eight have public universal healthcare. The U.S. stands almost entirely alone among developed nations that lack universal health care.

The connection between the profit motive and quality of health care is strikingly depicted in a recent study by the Commonwealth Fund, which placed the U.S. last among major nations in access and health care outcomes, and concluded that “The U.S. performs poorly in administrative efficiency mainly because of doctors and patients reporting wasting time on billing and insurance claims.” It's very clear that administrative costs are substantially lower in a single-payer system, less than one-sixth the percentage for many private insurers. A public system also has no need to spend money on advertising, which can make up over 15 percent of private insurance costs.

Single Payer is endorsed by NY Metro

The New York Metro Area Postal Union endorsed HR 676, Expanded and Improved Medicare for All, national single payer legislation back in 2016. “Every year the cost of insurance is going up, and a lot of things are not covered or not covered thoroughly,” said Kevin Walsh, Director of Organization. “Our members will do much better with HR 676. But I want it to be better, not just for our members, but for everyone.”

And for those who don't know, the price of future health insurance is being used to choke the public Postal Service that is being demanded to put \$5 billion a year into a fund for future health benefits for workers that aren't even born yet.

And as APWU President Mark Dimondstein explained, every time postal unions go into contract negotiations, management always wants our health benefits to be less while we pay more.

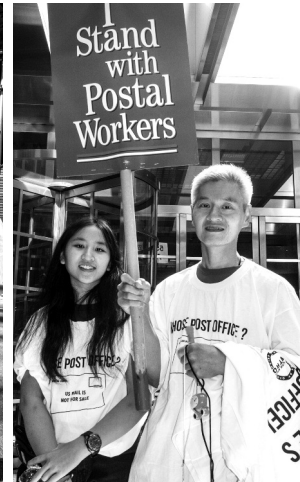
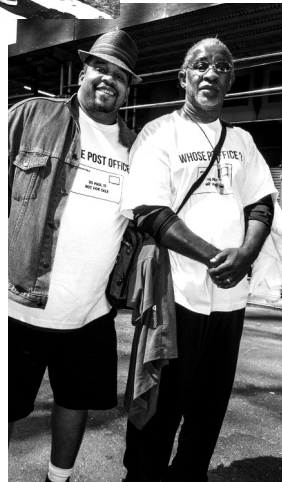
“We are sick of a criminal system based on profit that leaves people hanging without the health care they deserve,” said Mark Dimondstein.

Walsh expressed hope that unions can lead the way in winning universal, single payer health care for the nation. We would all benefit—all of us—from a system of single payer and Medicare for All. ☐



New York Metro joins the 2017 Labor Day Parade

Chanting, “Whose Post Office?” “The People’s Post Office!” NY Metro Area Postal Union and family members marched up 5th Avenue in the 2017 Labor Day Parade. Our contingent of Postal workers (including some letter carriers and mail handlers) gave out leaflets calling for saving and expanding postal services. A colorful parade of unions and union families—from nurses to janitors to firefighters and more – made a proud statement that workers are what keep our city going. 📧



The fight for our jobs and a public Postal Service comes to Manhattan

By Chuck Zlatkin, Communications Director

The mission of the Postal Service is not a mystery. It is clearly laid out in Section 101(a) of Title 39 of the U.S. Code, also known as the Postal Reorganization Act of 1971: “The Postal Service shall have as its basic function the obligation to provide postal services to bind the Nation together through the personal, educational, literary, and business correspondence of the people. It shall provide prompt, reliable, and efficient services to patrons in all areas and shall render postal services to all communities.”

All areas of the country includes Manhattan. Services to all communities includes Manhattan. Unfortunately, Postal Management has forgotten its mission and with it, is abandoning the people it is mandated to serve. With reversions and abolishments, the Postal Service is planning to deplete the work force in Manhattan and the impact on service will be dramatic.

We are talking about significant cuts in mail service that will have impact on everyone, especially those who depend upon the Postal Service the most. You would think that any business or organization, whose scope of responsibility was to provide service to the people of Manhattan, would do everything in its power to make sure that the service was first-class. Not postal management. It appears that they are doing their best to alienate the very public that they are mandated to serve, and in the process, wage war on their own workers by eliminating hundreds of jobs.

The public deserves consistent, timely, mail delivery, sufficient window service at post offices to eliminate unreasonable waiting time in line, and an adequate number of blue boxes in the street. Instead of less service, people deserve extended hours at post offices and expanded services like postal banking.

We need to rise up and fight back. But to do so, we can't fight this war alone. We need allies and we need resources. We need the people who depend upon the Postal Service to be educated, motivated, and mobilized to fight for the service that they are entitled to receive. To do this successfully, we need you to get involved. Yes, that's right! For us to win this fight, we need you!

New York Metro will reach out to our allies in the labor movement, contact elected officials and community groups. We will work with A Grand Alliance to Save Our Public Postal Service and Save Our Community Postal Service. But for this battle to be won, we need to reach every block association, church, PTA, little league, social club that we are a part of – everyone who uses the mail.

We need to carry the message that everyone has a right to first-class mail service, and there is no reason why they shouldn't have it. Suggest to your local groups they become signatories to A Grand Alliance to Save Our Postal Service, that they reach out to their elected officials to make sure that they are in this fight, and that they sign and pass petitions!

We will join with our neighbors

and allies and make sure that those who represent us apply pressure on the management of the USPS to provide the public with the service they need. Our jobs are directly tied in with the service that the public receives. The future health and viability of a public Postal Service is at stake.

Do what you can to fight for your jobs and the viability of the Postal Service into the future. It is up to you to make use of our weapons in this struggle.

Shortly, your shop stewards will be giving you materials to use in this fight. There will be petitions circulated by our allies. Get signatures on the petitions and get others to carry them. We need to join with them to turn this fight into a victory. We need you to be in this struggle, to be in this struggle to win! ☑

USPS to the Bronx: No blue boxes for you!

After a lot of pressure from Congress members José Serrano and Eliot Engel regarding the chronic problems plaguing post office branches in the Bronx, Deputy Post Master General Ron Stroman admitted the disproportionate number of complaints were signs of a systemic issue across the borough. The USPS then issued a statement promising to improve and expand postal services in the Bronx.

continued on next page

Historically, when the Postal Service implements cuts it always goes heavy in the Bronx. And with this round of reversions, abolishments and excessing, it appeared that it wouldn't be any different. Congressman José E. Serrano, long a staunch defender of a public Postal Service and postal workers, reached out to the other elected officials in the Bronx to see if they could stem the tide this time.


Congressman Serrano and Bronx Officials Applaud USPS Move to Cancel Service Cuts in the Bronx

September 12, 2017 | Press Release

Bronx Elected Officials, Community Residents, and Postal Employees Had Expressed Serious Concerns Over Proposed Staffing Cuts at Post Offices in the Bronx, Especially in Stations Where the USPS Inspector General Audit Found Serious Deficiencies

Washington, DC – Congressman José E. Serrano applauded the decision by the United States Postal Service, after pressure from elected officials that he led and the public, to cancel most planned service cuts to the Bronx. The cuts would have reduced staffing at post offices across the borough, and would have degraded service quality at a number of locations. Late last year, a report by the U.S. Postal Service Inspector General found that several post offices in the Bronx had serious service issues, including: long wait times of up to an hour, inefficient package pick-up and retail operation, and understaffing. The USPS was supposed to address the problems immediately following the audit but to this date, little appears to have been done to this effect. Further service cuts would have exacerbated these problems.

“The cancellation of planned staffing cuts is a victory for The Bronx,” said Congressman Serrano. “The Postal Service’s plans would have gutted services by removing more than 120 jobs from post offices across the borough, which would have made lines longer and increased frustration for many Bronxites who depend upon reliable post offices. I want to thank advocates, elected officials, postal employees and others for joining me in expressing dismay over these planned service cuts. Thanks to this pressure, we have been able to do what many other areas of the City and nation have not—turn back these terrible plans. The Post Office is experiencing revenue issues, but the way to fix those problems is not by reducing the very services that loyal clients depend upon.”

“The members of the New York Metro Area Postal Union are proud to stand with Congressman Serrano and the Bronx community in the fight for the people of the Bronx to receive first class postal services,” said New York Metro Area Postal Union President Jonathan Smith. 

USPS to the Bronx: No blue boxes for you!

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However, you can't improve and expand services when of the 223 collection boxes identified in the New York District for removal, 206 of them are located in the Bronx.


When New York Metro got wind of the Collection Box Removal list, we immediately contacted elected officials at the federal, state and local level. To say the Bronx officials were outraged is an understatement. Especially when a large part of their constituents have loved ones in hurricane devastated Puerto Rico and

the US Virgin Islands. With 95% of the islands without power, phones and internet, the main form of communication for many will be through the US Mail.

In a letter to Lilliam Rodriguez, the Bronx Postmaster, Assemblyman Jeffrey Dinowitz protested the removal of the boxes reminding her that less than a year ago, many mailboxes removed for retrofitting purposes (to prevent mail theft) were never returned.

“As I have mentioned in previous

correspondences, senior citizens are uniquely dependent on the traditional post to send mail, for both personal correspondences as well as to pay bills,” said Dinowitz. Losing even more mail boxes “...will not only inconvenience seniors, but will have a significant adverse effect on their quality of life.”

As *The Union Mail* went to press, USPS bowed to pressure from Congressman Serrano, Assemblyman Dinowitz and NY Metro, claiming “notices of removal were in error.” 

Fake news Part 3: Sneak attack on College Station Post Office

By Chuck Zlatkin, Director of Communications

When a supervisor or manager tells you, the union has agreed to reversions, abolishments, or excessing, they are spreading fake news. Management is knowingly feeding you fake news about your union because it works. The bosses want to take the heat off themselves and direct your anger toward your union. A unified workforce backing a fearless union leadership is management's worst nightmare! They will do whatever they can to divide us.

Postal management peddles its fake news to elected officials

A perfect example is the unfolding story of the proposed sale and "relocation" of the College Station post office. The Postal Service has been trying to sell off this historic post office building, located in Central Harlem, for several years. They were thwarted more than once by fierce resistance from the Harlem community with able assistance from our union.

Gregory Lackey is a Real Estate Specialist for the USPS, now handling sales and relocations in our area. Lackey created a series of fake news events. On August 29th, 2017, he sent a letter to Manhattan Borough President Gail Brewer, announcing that the Postal Service has decided on the site for the relocation of College Station. Lackey "informed" this public official that this was virtually a done deal and that the 30-day public comment period began on the date of the letter. More fake news!

Lackey cc-d Community Board 10 but failed to notify any other elected officials, including US Congressman Espaillat who represents Central Harlem. He then appeared at the September 6, 2017, meeting of Community Board 10, and announced that the deal to sell College Station Post Office was set; 273 W. 138th St. had been selected as the new location.

He was well aware that since this location was not mentioned during the 2014 public meeting, Title 39 section 241.4 of U.S Code required the Postal Service to redo the whole process. As the USPS representative, it was Lackey's obligation to plan a new public meeting, then notify elected officials and the public of the date, time and place at least 15 days in advance. Only then could the 30-day public comment period begin.

When representatives of Community Board 10 asked about the requirement to hold a public meeting on the relocation, Lackey told them this had been covered by the 2014 meeting. This distortion of the facts could have gotten Greg Lackey inducted into the Fake News Hall of Fame! But he got caught by the NY Metro Area Postal Union.

The Postal Service purposely hadn't copied the union on its letter to the Borough President nor did it tell NY Metro that Lackey was appearing at the Community Board meeting September 6th. Instead, it sent a copy of the August 29th letter to the union on September 8th -- two days after the meeting took

place and a day after an article appeared on the DNAinfo.com website detailing what Lackey had said.

Fighting back against postal fake news

Unfortunately for USPS management, the NY Metro union did its due diligence and spread the truth to community leaders and elected officials. They forced the Postal Service to hold the required public meeting in October.

We counter postal fake news by getting out the truth! Tell your co-workers, friends, and family the real story about what the USPS is doing. Inform the union any time you see a notice that management puts up at a post office.

The Postal Service does its best to hide the real news that it is required to post. They hide a notice of a public hearing in the most obscure part of the station. Keep your eyes open! When you see something, tell your shop steward. Call the union office. Don't assume that the union knows. Spread the word about the sneaky way the USPS operates.

Make a note when a supervisor or manager spreads fake news about the union approving job cuts. Jot down who, when and what was said. Get this to your steward or the union office.

And when the call goes out for a rally, demonstration, public meeting or press conference against the egregious actions against us by the Postal Service, be there! The best way to prove that their fake news is not working is by you showing up in the streets. ☑

Billions served at post office

By Flo Summergrad

For those who sneer at the post office as obsolete in the 21st century, the 28-page report released by the OIG on September 11, 2017, is an eye-opener. Titled, “Billions Served: Foot Traffic at the Post Office,” the report uses proven methods to record 2.7 billion visits to post offices in FY 2016 – a figure which triples the official statistics from the USPS.

The report opens with this: “The U.S. Postal Service has more than 30,000 post offices – about as many nationwide outlets as McDonald’s, Starbucks, and Walmart combined. How many people visit those locations each year? The Postal Service officially lists 877 million customer

visits in fiscal year (FY) 2016.” But this figure is limited to the volume of transactions. “Instead, customers may check a PO Box, pick up shipping materials, or deposit a letter in the slot. **These actions are key elements of the Postal Service’s value chain, and omitting them dramatically underestimates customers’ use of post offices.**” [OIG Report, p.1 - *Emphasis added.*]

Even more interesting is the data on who uses the post office. The report concludes that “Younger Americans visit post offices more frequently than older ones.” The type of use is different. Older people are more likely to have a counter transaction; millennials come in to use a

kiosk, check a PO box, or get shipping materials. Self-employed Americans, business owners, and USPS Mobile app users are key post office customers. These groups “visit post offices almost twice as much as the population overall,” which makes them “key retail customers for the Postal Service.”

The report stresses the importance of the post office in the economy: “The U.S. Postal Service has the largest brick-and-mortar retail network in the country.” [p.4] Even e-commerce depends on the USPS for delivery and returns. The report concludes that “you cannot measure the value of post offices through their walk-in revenue alone.”

NO to CON CON

Statement by NY Metro Area Postal Union Executive Board

The Executive Board of the NY Metro Area Postal Union, APWU, AFL-CIO, is proud to stand with our sister labor unions throughout New York State in opposition to Proposition 1, the State Constitutional Convention ballot question, and to call for our members, friends, families, neighbors, and allies to vote NO on Proposition 1 on Election Day, Tuesday, November 7, 2017.

There is no question that organized labor has been under attack by anti-worker ideologues like the billionaire Koch brothers, other corporate forces and the elected officials who serve them, rather than the working men and women of NYS.

A constitutional convention would be controlled by those very forces that have working people in their cross-hairs. They will stop at nothing to rewrite the state constitution to benefit themselves and their cronies.

A constitutional convention would put at risk all the gains that working men and women have gained. This would be a disaster for hardworking New Yorkers, jeopardizing critical labor rights including public pensions, collective bargaining, and care and benefits for injured and ill workers.

A constitutional convention would be a financial boondoggle that could cost taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars and invite corruption by

enabling entrenched Albany politicians to make up to \$80,000 on top of the taxpayer-funded salaries they already receive.

People may ask why would postal workers care about what happens at the state level? NY Metro Area Postal Union understands that we must stand together with our sisters and brothers in the labor movement, because an injury to one is an injury to all.

If you live in New York State, the call is a direct one: **Vote NO to a State Constitutional Convention! Vote NO on Proposition 1 on Election Day, November 7, 2017.**





POSTAL PRIDE


Postal network aids disaster victims

In addition to the impact of hurricanes on life and property, disaster victims suffer from being cut off from the rest of the world. That's why postal workers make every effort to restore mail service to people whose lives have been disrupted by the storm.

In Houston, days after Harvey hit, letter carriers climbed around piles of debris to get to their customers. Stacks of broken drywall, furniture, and trash made walking hazardous. Carriers were issued face masks to protect against particles of mold and fiberglass insulation blowing in the air.

The sight of mail delivery helps raise hopes that life will go on. An Oak Forest, TX, resident commended his carrier: "For him to come here on a Sunday? That's really nice. That's totally legit."

Postal workers of all crafts have given up their weekends and holidays to get the mail out. In Florida and other states hit by Hurricane Irma, the USPS has set up Mobile Retail Units where street delivery is unsafe. It has posted messages on social media for displaced customers to get a temporary change of address. The Postal Service is also contacting shelters to help reconnect storm victims with their mail. After Maria, there is a huge task of restoring mail service in Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands

The postal network is the most reliable connection to everyone in the U.S. In 2005, when Hurricane Katrina literally washed away people and their homes in Louisiana and Mississippi, it was postal workers who knew who was missing. They helped rescue workers and families locate loved ones; they delivered medicine and supplies. Postal workers are a stable, trained, and dependable work force who care about serving the public. 

Postal News Briefs

HELP POSTAL EMPLOYEES DEVASTATED BY HURRICANES

You can help postal employees hurt by the recent hurricanes right now by making an immediate donation to the Postal Employees' Relief Fund (PERF). Visit postalrelief.com to make an immediate donation with your credit card. You can also mail a donation check to:



Postal Employees' Relief Fund, P.O. Box 7630, Woodbridge, VA 22195

PERF helps postal employees and retirees whose homes were significantly damaged by natural disasters or house fires. PERF is not an emergency relief or immediate needs replacement agency such as the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) or the Red Cross or insurance companies that are paid to replace property. Rather, PERF (Combined Federal Campaign #10268) provides relief grants to help qualifying individuals get re-established after a loss, based on an application process.

COLORADO POSTAL MANAGER SENTENCED FOR LYING

Caroline Zarate Boyle, of Colorado, was sentenced to serve 5 years' probation with the first 6 months in home confinement including wearing an electronic monitor. She was also ordered to pay a \$10,000 fine and spend 652 hours doing community service to be served at a cancer treatment center, cancer research center or hospice. Finally, she was ordered to pay \$20,798.38 in restitution to the U.S. Postal Service.




In 2015, Boyle decided to take time off work by pretending to have cancer.

Additional evidence at sentencing showed that, prior to faking cancer herself, Boyle had falsely accused a subordinate of faking cancer and denied her certain accommodations which that employee had requested due to her sickness. According to USPS records Boyle was a Purchasing and Supply Management employee with an estimated annual salary of \$126,381. This case was investigated by the U.S. Postal Service Office of the Inspector General.

INVESTMENT FRAUD WARNING FOR FEDERAL EMPLOYEES

The Security and Exchange Commission's Office of Investor Education and Advocacy (OIEA) and Broker-Dealer Task Force are warning the more than 5 million Thrift Savings Plan (TSP) participants, and investors in other federal government employee retirement plans, that investment scam artists may pretend to be affiliated with a government agency. Federal government agencies, including the SEC, do not endorse or sponsor any particular securities, issuers, products, services, professional credentials, firms, or individuals.



The TSP is a retirement savings plan administered by the Federal Retirement Thrift Investment Board, an independent government agency. *The TSP will not contact federal employees about investment opportunities and does not authorize third parties to provide counseling or investment.* 





CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 18

5:30 pm
 General Membership Meeting
 Hotel Pennsylvania
 401 Seventh Ave (between 32 and 33 Streets)
 Paris/Zurich Room, 6th Floor
(check calendar in lobby for room change)

Wednesday, November 15

5:30 pm
 General Membership Meeting
Annual Turkey Raffle
 Hotel Pennsylvania
 401 Seventh Ave (between 32 and 33 Streets)
 Paris/Zurich Room, 6th Floor
(check calendar in lobby for room change)

The APWU LOCAL 10 Building Corp for August 2017 will be in the November/December UM

PROBLEMS WITH ON-THE-JOB INJURY? WHO YOU GONNA CALL?



Participation in the August 2017 training course (taught by APWU Human Relations Director Sue Carney) has enhanced the skills of some of our union representatives. NYMAPU has added to the "go-to" people knowledgeable about the rights of injured workers.

BRONX: Joe Martir (Bronx union office) 718-239-5740 / **NYC:** Renee Bost (NY Metro office) 212-563-7553 ext.103

NEW JERSEY: Diana Benders (DVD Tour 2 union office) 201-991-0493

For information on Office of Workers Compensation (OWCP) procedures, go to www.nymetro.org for rules and rights.



DVD Clerk Jacquelyn Legree-Lee, a 34½ -year NY Metro Area Postal Union member, with her son Darius Jordan Lee. Darius, a 2017 graduate of Montclair State University, with a degree in Musical Theater, is currently co-starring in a production of Dreamgirls, in Fayetteville, NC.

NY Metro in solidarity with Spectrum strikers

On September 18, AFL-CIO President Trumka and thousands of union members marched over the Brooklyn Bridge and held a rally in support of the IBEW Local 3 strikers. NY Metro Area Postal Union was there in solidarity with their struggle.

Over 1800 Charter/Spectrum cable workers have been on strike in NY and NJ for six months. They are fighting for a livable contract and against corporate greed, unfair labor practices, and union-busting. While Charter/Spectrum wants the workers to take a cut in benefits with no raise in pensions, the Charter Communications CEO received a total compensation of \$98 million in 2016. ☒





New York Metro Area Local, APWU
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Periodicals class
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Help postal employees hurt by hurricanes



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