



The

Union Mail

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

Postal cuts in clerk jobs delay customer service



Tremont Station, Bronx

Stories on pages 3 & 7

YOU can protect Maintenance jobs



Jonathan Smith

Maintenance is very dear to my heart. I myself am a Maintenance Craft employee with a bid as an MPE on Tour 2 at the NJI&NDC. So it hurts and frustrates me personally when I see maintenance workers helping management to cut our staffing. Unlike other crafts, our fate is in our hands. We can make sure that there is credit for the actual work we perform – and that is how staffing is calculated broken down to the simplest terms.

I have made a video (see YouTube/Facebook) that explains the proper way to fill out your daily time sheets. If you just sign the sheet blindly or let the supervisor fill it out for you, you're giving management the ammunition to cut jobs. You are not getting credit for the actual time needed to do the work.

Pay close attention! When you get a daily time sheet for the day's route, you should also be given a task sheet that has the estimated time needed to perform each task (this only applies to TL-5 custodians) This is only an estimated time! The actual time you must spend may be longer than the estimated time allotted. Often, the time allotted is not a reasonable time to get the job done. Remember the goal of these times is not to get the work done but to cut the maintenance staffing. All maintenance custodians should have route sheets (4776's) outlining the work that has to be done and outline the estimated time it should take the employees to do the job.

This is what you do: Do the tasks **ONE AT A TIME**. Then see if the time conforms to the estimated time. This is based on a calculation at the national level. It doesn't take into account the particular conditions where you work. Only you can do that. Say, for example, a task is estimated to take two hours but it actually takes four. On your time sheet, you write C (complete) for the two hours allocated for the task. But that's not the end! Since it took four hours, not two, you tell your SMO that you need a Work Order (W/O) for the other two hours. The Maintenance Support Clerks enter the W/O number and the increased time needed for the task into the system. This way there is full credit for the task, the actual work performed.

The union has received reports that some custodians have been threatened with disciplinary action if they are unable to complete the task within the estimated time. This is a false impression given by management to intimidate workers into signing that something was done that wasn't. In fact, the TL-5 Agreement that covers custodial work in the Postal Service prohibits management from disciplining custodians on this basis (Time Standards).

Some supervisors are changing the information on time sheets. This is fraud. Control this by requesting a copy of your sheet each day. Under the Federal Privacy Act, you have the right to a copy of anything that contains your signature or identifies you by a name or number. If the copies of what you signed later show different figures, we can catch management altering time sheets and

report it to the OIG.

Except for ETs, all Maintenance employees have task sheets. Anything that goes over the estimated time requires a Work Order! (This applies to PM --Preventive Maintenance. CM --Corrective maintenance -- is recorded in the actual time it takes to do the job.)

The estimated time is only a guide. The actual time a task takes is determined by the worker. There should be W/Os for anything over the estimated time or any additional tasks. Work Orders protect maintenance jobs!

If management is not providing work orders, not allowing you to fill out your sheets honestly, refusing to give copies--get a shop steward! The union will enforce the rules that allow us to get credit for our work and protect our jobs. ☒

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Reversions. Reversions. Reversions.

By Tiffany Foster, Executive Vice-President



Tiffany Foster

That has been postal management's game in the Bronx and Manhattan since January 2017. As soon as a clerk job is vacated, the position is reverted—meaning management makes the determination to reduce the number of clerk positions in that installation.

They are not supposed to take this serious step without notifying the union and getting input. But this has become a farce, since they don't provide the information requested and then tell us after considering the union's input, they have decided to revert the job because the station is "over the earned complement" or "the workload is sufficiently staffed."

By arbitrarily reverting each and every vacated position, there can be no residual vacancies. This closes the door on PSE conversions and is aimed at blocking the process of PSEs getting converted to career.

Because New York Metro's leadership saw this as a dangerous attack on the clerk craft, President Smith and I made a special trip to APWU Headquarters in Washington, DC, and met with national President Mark Dimondstein, Director of Industrial Relations Vance Zimmerman, Assistant Clerk Craft Director Lamont Brooks and Northeast Regional Coordinator John Dirzius. Our local has taken the lead in fighting these wrongful reversions.

In two National Step 4 settlements about Article 37.3A1, the post office recognizes its obligation to

consider all available work hours in creating jobs. "All available work hours" means adding up OT hours, PSE hours, and those hours of supervisors or other crafts who are performing clerk duties. The MDAT program designed by Brother Lamont Brooks uses management's own records of the work hours to show where 40-hour jobs should be created.

I have been working closely with our national clerk craft officers to make sure everyone presents the proper arguments and evidence. Lamont has outlined the information for stewards to request, as well as the contractual points and remedy to include in the grievances. I've been regularly emailing our stewards so they will know what to do and what is needed for the MDAT program, which both Kevin Walsh and I will run to put the reports in the grievance.

The Postal Service has designed a tracking program called "Dashboard" to look at the different aspects of the work performed. They are trying to say that staffing is determined by the "earned hours" shown by this program. Or they refer to the Function 1 Scheduler as if these are legitimate tools to determine staffing. This is all smoke and mirrors to confuse the fact that they are violating the Collective Bargaining Agreement, Article 37.3A1. That's why every grievance on a reversion must have a companion grievance under 37.3A1 showing the need for a job based on all available work hours.

The good news is that the APWU just won a good national arbitration decision about clerk jobs. On April 21, Arbitrator Goldberg mandated

the Postal Service to award the 362 jobs that we have been owed since 2012. He ordered that the people who now get these jobs have to be "made whole" with pay and benefits back to August 2013. Best of all, he established that those people who would have gotten the jobs vacated by those who bid into the 362 positions were also adversely affected and entitled to back pay. This "ripple effect" is something we can demand as a remedy for the wrongful reversions, so we don't just want the position restored; we want the clerks who were denied the rightful opportunity to bid to be paid and the PSEs who were blocked from career opportunities to be converted.

The fight back

1. We are grieving every reversion with a companion grievance showing the need for additional jobs under Article 37.3.A.1. We are flooding management with grievances to the point that in the Bronx and Manhattan, Labor Relations has had to assign one District Management person to work full time on Article 37.3.A.1 grievances and one to work full time on reversion grievances.

2. We are grieving every Reversion Request for Information that is denied or ignored. There are so many of these Article 17 and 31.3 cases that we are charging management with an Unfair Labor Practice (Article 5). The whole package of 20 (so far) denial of information grievances is being taken to the National Labor Relations Board.

Look out for Union Flashes, NY Metro Facebook and Youtube videos and the Members Only Email Blast for up to date information about the reversions and how you can help. ☒

LEGISLATIVE REPORT:

Trump's 2018 budget gets it wrong on Postal Service

By Nora Taggart, Legislative and Political Director

President Donald Trump's 2018 budget plan was released on May 23. It delivers huge tax breaks to CEOs and the wealthy on the backs of the 99%, and that includes postal workers. Although the US Postal Service is off-budget, meaning it is not taxpayer funded, that didn't stop Trump from following President Obama's tactic of submitting postal reform details through his budget. And just like his predecessor, proposing unnecessary cuts to the agency based on a manufactured crisis.

Details on these cuts are included in a separate publication titled: Major Savings and Reforms, Budget of the U.S. Government Fiscal Year 2018, by the Office of Management and Budget. On page 157 Trump's Budget proposes "to reform the USPS to allow the agency to meet its financial and service obligations with business revenue, as intended, rather than a taxpayer-financed bailout."

The Budget reforms include changes to how rates are set and calls for a reduction in mail delivery frequency and door-to-door delivery.

Trump's administration also targets postal workers and retirees by increasing employees' contributions toward their retirement benefits, health and life insurance, while arbitrarily decreasing benefits. It also wants the US Postal Service to resume the statutory payments to the Retiree Health Benefits Fund.

***Taxpayer-financed bailout?
Resume statutory payments to the***

retiree health benefits fund?

Trump's budget proposals for the USPS eerily resembles the Heritage Foundation's "Blueprint for Balance." The Heritage Foundation conservative think tank (which receives funding from United Parcel Service) has claimed postal workers are paid too much, and their pensions and retirement provisions too costly to taxpayers.

By Heritage's own account, "several dozen" of its staff members now work for Trump. White House director of budget policy Paul Winfree is the former director at Heritage.

Trump attacks all federal workers

Trump's 2018 budget proposals:

- COLAs for current and future Federal Employees Retirement System (FERS) retirees would be eliminated altogether.
- COLAs for Civil Service Retirement System (CSRS) retirees would be reduced by 0.5 percent each year from what it would have been otherwise.
- Federal employees covered under FERS would see employee contributions to their annuities increased by 1 percent each year for the next six years, without any corresponding benefit increase. This will cost FERS employees \$71.2 billion over the next 10 years, and more thereafter.
- The FERS Annuity Supplement would be eliminated for new retirees starting in 2018.
- Federal pensions would be based on the average of the highest five

years of salary instead of the highest three.

Dead on Arrival

President Trump is hoping lawmakers will approve his 2018 Budget, which is nothing more than a policy wish list. It includes \$3.6 trillion in cuts in government spending over the next decade, taking aim at healthcare and food assistance programs for the poor in an austere budget that also boosts the military. However, even fiscally hawkish conservatives are baulking at some of the proposals.

Rep. Hal Rogers, the Republican chairman of the House Appropriations Committee, told The Washington Post that the proposed \$610 billion cut to Medicaid spending, which is on top of a proposed \$880 billion cut in the GOP healthcare bill, would be a problem for his district.

"I've got one of the poorest districts in the country, with lots of Medicaid recipients as well as other programs," Rogers said. "The cuts are draconian."

Drastic cuts to agricultural and healthcare programs have drawn blowback from lawmakers in districts whose constituents would be affected by the slashes.

As in previous years, the Senate and House of Representatives will most likely pass their own versions, which will then go to a joint congressional committee for reconciliation before the final spending plan is cemented. ☐

“THE GAME IS OVER”

Post Office forced to pay \$28,000

By Flo Summergrad

Congratulations to Shop Steward Daisy DeGout for an outstanding win!

The steward's thorough preparation resulted in a pre-arbitration settlement of \$28,000—\$14,000 to each grievant!

No matter how often Shop Steward Daisy DeGout brought to management's attention that they were violating the Contract by repeatedly using 204Bs while preventing LSSAs (Lead Sales and Service Associates) from performing their bid duties as Lead Clerks, she was ignored. Management intentionally stonewalled every step of the way. They denied her union time; ignored her requests for information; and refused to give her the quarterly ODL listing.

After a series of patient and professional emails to no avail, Shop Steward DeGout got disgusted. She sent an email calling out management's lies about not receiving her requests for information and telling them, “The game is over!”

In her Step 2 grievance, Ms. DeGout wrote, “Although it has been brought to management's attention a number of times, the acting Supervisors have been instructed by Supervisors Ms. McKoy and Mr. Robinson to continue violating the CBA, the LSSA Q&A, and the Northeast Directive on 204B usage, preventing the bid LSSAs from performing the duties and responsibilities of their bid assignments on a daily basis.”

Daisy documented, documented, documented. She kept records of every request for information and

every day that the 204Bs performed the duties and responsibilities of the lead clerks' bid jobs. She showed that the two acting supervisors were “further preventing and interfering with LSSA Vincent Ali and Akenya Washington's overtime,” going so far as to ignore repeated requests to post the ODL and provide it to the union as required.

Daisy began working on this grievance in early 2016, shortly after becoming a NY Metro Area Postal Union steward. She used every weapon in the union's arsenal: the Collective Bargaining Agreement, the JCIM, The Northeast Area MOU on Article 17.3 Steward time, The Northeast Area MOU on the Use of 204Bs, the 204B Tracking Form, and the Clerk Craft Lead Clerk Q&As.

Clerk National Business Agent

Bernie Timmerman, who handled the pre-arbitration settlement agreement, gives the main credit to the excellent work of Shop Steward Daisy DeGout. As a new steward, she took the ball and ran with it to a big win. ☑

As always and no surprise, New York Region Rocks!—John Dirzius, NE Regional Coordinator

Thanks to the hard work of NBA Bernie Timmerman and our stewards and officers, NY Metro is in receipt of some settlements regarding 204-B violations.

\$28,000 Daisy Degout Tremont
\$10,000 Diane Erlanger Radio City
\$ 8,000 Jackie Owens Morgan P&DC

And another **\$12,500.00** for Uptown stations.

Total \$58,500 amazing!!!

INTERNATIONAL DAY OF WORKERS SOLIDARITY LIVES ON!

May 1, 2017—The AFL-CIO called for “Justice and Dignity for All Workers” on this international holiday of workers' solidarity. In Washington, DC, some APWU members, including those from NY Metro there for the BMC Conference, joined other unions and those demanding immigrant rights in a spirited rally and march to the White House. ☑



"Awesome" Motor Vehicle Agreement!

By Flo Summergrad

In the words of Joe LaCapria, APWU National Business Agent for our Northeast Area, the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) worked out between union and management on the implementation of the Das arbitration award is "awesome." The award returns work to our drivers, Postal Vehicle Service (PVS), that had been subcontracted to Highway Contract Routes (HCR). Often postal management resists and obstructs implementation of an award favorable to union workers. But in this case, on May 17, 2017, Mike Foster, APWU Motor Vehicle

Director, and Rickey Dean, USPS Contract Administration, have signed a formal agreement on implementing the remedy to the national grievance. The parties "confirm their commitment to full implementation of the Arbitration Award in Case No. Q06C-4Q-C 11182451."

The MOU states that: "The Postal Service will convert 110 routes from HCR to PVS service no later than September 1, 2017." Wow! As NBA LaCapria points out, this award is "awesome." It is "awesome that we are targeted to receive work back that HCR contractors are currently performing. I cannot stress

enough how difficult it is to win and get back an HCR route. To see this happen is clearly a major victory for our members, our union and our craft."

Since this is a national award, the 110 routes are spread around the country. We will be notified which ones affect our Local and how the resultant duty assignments will be created, posted, and awarded. This is an epic award and a great tool for protecting our postal drivers against subcontracting.

Congratulations and thanks to Mike Foster and the APWU leadership! ☺

NY Metro Stewards add zip to BMC Conference

As part of the APWU Constitution, the 21 BMCs from around the country have regular meetings to discuss common issues. Although the Postal Service arbitrarily renamed us "Network Distribution Centers" (NDCs), we are still the Bulk Mail Centers (BMCs). This year's conference, April 29 - May 2, was hosted by the Nation's Capital Local, which represents the Washington BMC. The NJI&NDC was represented by NY Metro officers and stewards: Tiffany Foster, Dan Zachman, Flo Summergrad, Cassandra Black, Jennifer St. Vil, and Sherell Taite-Pridgen.

Cassandra Black, Motor Vehicle Steward: Mike Foster, Director of the Motor Vehicle Craft, and Javier Pineres, Assistant Director, answered questions from the dele-

gates. We at the NJI&NDC will be getting more work back for our PVS (Postal Vehicle Service) drivers. That's always good news!

Cassandra Black Sherell Taite-Pridgen, Maintenance Steward: Attending the BMC Conference this month was a professionally rewarding experience. In addition to socializing with the stewards from other BMCs (NDCs), I learned a lot. The two main reasons for the BMC conference are to hear presentations and questions from union people in other BMCs facing the same things we are and to get answers from the national

officers. Maintenance Craft Director Steve Raymer was very informative. He gave a report to the body and also spoke with me and gave guidance on some of my issues.

Jennifer St. Vil, Clerk Steward: Attending the BMC Conference made me aware that our BMC (NDC) is not the only place going through the struggle with the Postal Service. What we are coping with is happening all over the country. I enjoyed my experience and am looking forward to future conferences. ☺



Jennifer St. Vil (l) with Sherell Taite-Pridgen (r)

Reversions killing needed jobs

By Flo Summergrad

By mid May, 173 clerk positions in our Local have already been **lost** through **improper reversions**.

Morgan: 65 LOST!

Manhattan Stations: 73 LOST!

Bronx: 25 LOST!

DVD: 10 LOST!

And the attack is not over.

Postal management is carrying out a scorched earth policy against the Clerk Craft. Clerk jobs that should have been added after the Staples contract was cancelled are not being created. Existing clerk positions are being killed as soon as they are vacated.

This is WAR.

The Union is fighting this on every level. Grievances have been filed on ALL reversions.

(And this is only the beginning! More reversions are coming—in NY and NJ.)

In Manhattan, Bronx and DVD, management has begun arbitrary reversions of any and all vacant clerk positions.

Bid out? POSITION REVERTED!

Retire? POSITION REVERTED!

Transfer? POSITION REVERTED!

After changing hours and forcing overtime to keep up with the mail, management now claims stations are "overstaffed" and "plant workload doesn't support the need for the position." This is a national attack on the

Clerk Craft.

Who gets harmed?

PSEs—denied the opportunity for career jobs

Career Clerks—shrinking bid choices

Customers—Delayed mail. Reduced service.

We need YOU to show the work exists.

- You must make a move to every operation.
- You must always hit the non-revenue transaction key for all transactions even when interacting with a customer about postal services.

No one can afford to sit back.

To support the grievances the Union needs:

- Your 3971s denied for "Needs of the Service"
- Statements showing:
 - ✓ supervisors doing clerk work
 - ✓ other crafts doing clerk work
 - ✓ delayed mail
 - ✓ Function Four and PO Box Operation not up on time
 - ✓ non window qualified PSEs working the Inquiry and Lobby
 - ✓ management swiping your badge to other operations

**NO REVERSIONS!
NO REVERSIONS!
NO REVERSIONS!**

The Union keeps working all summer!

Keep up with what's happening by watching our short videos on Facebook and YouTube (you can link to them from the NY Metro Area Postal Union website: www.nymetro.org)

Videos already out on:

- ☐ **Clerk Reversions**
- ☐ **Maintenance—How to fill out timesheets**

More to come over the next few months.



The spirit of May Day

By Flo Summergrad

Over 130 years ago, May 1 was designated the international workers' holiday in honor of the Chicago labor leaders framed for



Four Haymarket activists sentenced to hang

murder and executed by the state in 1887. The “Haymarket case” was later acknowledged as one of the worst miscarriages of justice in U.S. history.

The real “crime” of the Haymarket martyrs was that they inspired the U.S. working class to take to the streets to call for the 8-hour work day. On May 1, 1886, Albert Parsons, head of the Chicago Knights of Labor (Union), led thousands of working families on a march through the city behind this demand. The effort was joined all over the United States. 350,000 workers went on strike for the “8-hour day, with no cut in pay,” including 70,00 in Chicago alone.

On May 3, August Spies, editor of a popular workers' newspaper, spoke at a mass rally which moved to a protest of the scabs at a striking factory. The police attacked, killing

four workers and injuring many more.

This outrage fueled the growing labor movement in Chicago. On May 4, a peaceful rally was held at Haymarket Square to protest the murders. When armed police dispersed the crowd, a bomb was thrown (source never known) and an officer was killed. Eleven people were shot and scores were injured.

Eight labor activists were charged with murder and conspiracy. It was a blatant political frame-up, aimed at quelling the rising tide of the labor movement. Three prosecutors made eloquent closing statements depicting the danger of workers' power. Ingham told the jurors that voting for acquittal would unleash anarchy, saying, “the very question itself is whether organized government shall perish from the earth.” Grinnell warned that freeing the defendants would cause militant workers to flow into the streets “like a lot of rats and vermin.”

All were convicted; seven sentenced to death.

There was a rush to execute the key leaders before justice could prevail—by 1893, they had been pardoned. But in 1887, four, including Parsons and Spies, were hanged. August Spies made the speech that still resonates: “If you think that by hanging us, you can stamp out the labor movement . . . then hang us! Here you will tread upon a spark, but there, and there, and behind you

and in front of you, and everywhere, flames will blaze up. It is a subterranean fire. You cannot put it out.”

May Day, 2017: India

The fire that blazed in the U.S. still burns wherever the working class is oppressed. Today's struggle in India is an example. The auto industry accounts for more than 7% of India's GNP, while the workers (mostly from poor rural villages) get poverty wages. Permanent workers are kept intimidated by the employment of casual labor.

In opposition to unsafe conditions and the mass casualization of jobs, workers of the Manesar Maruti Suzuki plant began organizing an independent union in 2011. The company flatly refused to recognize the union, causing escalating



Workers at the Manesar Maruti Suzuki plant organize

labor/management tensions. On July 18, 2012, the workers were attacked by police and company security guards, injuring over 100 workers.

At the same time, an accidental fire caused the death of a manager. Similar to the frame-up at Haymarket, the state pursued bogus charges of conspiracy and murder

continued on page 9

Good news for Mumia and 142,000 others

By Bill Bachmann, NY Metro Area Postal Union retiree

In a triple-feature space of six weeks: first, Mumia Abu-Jamal finally began receiving the standard life-saving cure for hepatitis C on 7 April. Second, on 16 May, the state of Pennsylvania announced that similar treatments would be offered to all 142,000 residents who suffer from the disease and are covered by Medicaid. Third, in late April, Philadelphia Judge Leon Tucker ruled that the district attorney's office for the first time must open its files to Mumia's legal team. As members of New York Metro, we can proudly claim we played a role in all these victories.

Mumia Abu-Jamal is a former Black Panther, journalist and author who has now been in prison for 35 years, 30 of them in solitary, for his political views. He was convicted in a farce of a trial for shooting a

Philadelphia cop, an action he has always denied doing. Because NY Metro takes the slogan "An Injury to One is an Injury to All" seriously, we passed a resolution in 1998 calling for a new trial; this was endorsed by the APWU national convention in 2000. Similarly, after learning three years ago that Mumia had nearly died from hepatitis C and that the Pennsylvania prison system was refusing him standard curative treatment, our local passed two resolutions demanding that the state provide him with the cure and release him.

The background to Judge Tucker's ruling is last year's Williams decision of the U.S. Supreme Court that found that it was a violation of due process rights for a judge to rule on a case in which s/he previously had a personal interest as prosecutor. In Mumia's case, Castille was DA

and oversaw the state's opposition to Mumia's first set of appeals to the Pennsylvania Supreme Court in the late '80's. Later, when Mumia's lawyers made a second set of appeals in 1998, Castille was sitting on the court and, as in Williams, refused to recuse himself. The court then denied Mumia's petition.

Judge Tucker ruled that the DA has until 30 May to turn over all relevant files to Mumia's lawyers. Depending on what's in them and further court decisions, Mumia's conviction could conceivably be overturned.

Keep the pressure on! If you are interested in working on NY Metro's Mumia Oversight Committee, get your information to the union office. In the words of Fannie Lou Hamer, "Nobody's free until everybody's free." ☐

The spirit of May Day *continued from page 8*

against the union activists to stifle the movement. The government's concern is to assure foreign investors that their profits will not be threatened by unions agitating for better wages, hours, and working conditions.

148 workers were arrested and jailed in 2012. At a court hearing on March 18, 2017, most were acquitted, but with no recompense for the years in jail. Thirteen men—twelve of them Maruti union officials—were sentenced to life imprisonment.

There have been work stoppages across India protesting this injustice

—with an all-India and international protest on April 4 and 5.

Vinrjesh Upadhayay, general secretary of the largest trade union center in India, the BMS, said, "The state government, eyeing foreign investments, were in full support of the Maruti management and had shut their eyes to the violation of the fundamental rights of workers."

Tapan Sen, general secretary of CITU (the Centre of Indian Trade Unions) called the sentences an abuse of state power, with convictions based on "concocted evidence."

The spirit of workers' struggle for a better life still has meaning on May Day. On May 1, 2017, COSISTA, representing the large number of students in India's Science and Technical Institutes, declared that it "unreservedly supports the heroic struggle of Maruti-Suzuki workers of Manesar to defend their rights and liberties."

It is important that workers in the U.S., whose right to organize is under attack, ground ourselves in the proud history of May Day. Class struggle continues! ☐


POSTAL PRIDE

Stop Staples campaign honored

On June 13, 2017, in Washington, DC, the Eleanor Roosevelt Human Rights Awards will honor the men and women of the American Postal Workers Union for “their successful ‘Stop Staples’ campaign saving good middle-class jobs and the future of the public post office.” The award comes as part of the celebration of 30 Years of Jobs With Justice.

This honor is given in recognition of the importance of the Stop Staples campaign for working people around the nation. The APWU victory has garnered accolades from unions internationally, including the UNI Global Union. Rich Shelley, the campaign’s director, is a much sought after speaker, delivering a talk before the AFGE convention and participating in a panel at the People’s Summit in Chicago.

Shelley responded to the Eleanor Roosevelt award by saying: “The Stop Staples campaign is an example of how workers can fight back and win against corporate interests that would destroy what belongs to the people of this country to create profit. It was the members of the APWU, active and retired, who relentlessly pursued justice, day in and day out for three years, with dogged determination, that led the way to this great victory for the working class.”

The members of New York Metro and the Moe Biller Retiree Chapter played a major role in the work and subsequent victory of the Stop Staples Campaign. 

Postal News Briefs

APWU WINS ARBITRATION ON CLERK JOBS MOU

Arbitrator Goldberg ruled that the Postal Service failed to make a good faith effort to return 362 administrative and technical jobs to the Clerk Craft. The arbitration award was issued on April 21, 2017, and settles a long-standing dispute over the Clerk Craft Jobs Memorandum of Understanding in the 2010 Collective Bargaining Agreement.

The award directs the Postal Service to return the remaining jobs “as soon as reasonably possible,” with an emphasis on the need for prompt compliance. Goldberg also directed the Postal Service to make the adversely affected employees whole for any loss of pay or benefits because of the delay in providing these positions. Since after July 2013, there was no effort to return appropriate administrative and technical jobs, the make whole remedy will go back to August 2013.



TWO MILLION SIGN UP FOR POSTAL SERVICE’S INFORMED DELIVERY FEATURE

A new feature that lets customers see emailed images of their incoming physical mail has attracted more than 2 million users, Megan J. Brennan, USPS OMG/CEO, announced during the opening session of the National Postal Forum, the country’s premier mailing and shipping conference. Brennan added that with the offering available in nearly every ZIP Code in the United States, more than 10,000 new people are signing up every day.

Informed Delivery is a free feature that provides emailed images of incoming mail to registered residential customers. Brennan said that Informed Delivery brings mail into the daily digital and mobile lives of consumers, builds anticipation of the physical mail piece, and provides mail senders with a new mobile platform from which to attach digital messages. It rolled out nationwide in April, but had been available in different pilot areas prior to then.



TOTAL ECLIPSE OF SUN ON FOREVER STAMP

For the first time in 99 years a total solar eclipse will cross the entire United States on August 21st. Capitalizing on the public’s excitement, the U.S. Postal Service recently revealed a new stamp to mark the event, set for a June 20 release date. Place your finger or thumb on the stamp, which shows the eclipse, and it transforms into an image of the moon. The image reverts to the eclipse once it cools. This magic is made possible by the use of thermochromic ink—the first U.S. stamp application of the technology.

The eclipse stamp demonstrates how new technologies might change the face of stamps. 



CALENDAR

Wednesday, June 21

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)

No General Membership Meeting in July or August

Have a great summer!

Sunday, July 23

1:05 pm

NY Metro Day Out

Yankees vs. Brewers

\$59/ticket

NY Metro Picnic tickets available!

Sunday, July 30

\$30/per person plus \$5 bus

Children under 2 are FREE (2/member)

Quassy Amusement Park, Middlebury, CT

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of 02/01/2017	\$ 142,045.16
Total REVENUE February 2017	\$ 142,045.16
Total Operating Expenses February 2017	\$ 166,183.40
TOTAL NET INCOME/LOSS	\$ -24,138.24
Closing Balance as of 02/28/2017	\$ 337,185.66

Beginning Balance as of 03/01/2017	\$ 337,185.66
Total REVENUE March 2017	\$ 239,529.82
Total Operating Expenses March 2017	\$ 119,286.37
TOTAL NET INCOME	\$ 120,243.45
Closing Balance as of 03/31/2017	\$ 457,429.11

Beginning Balance as of 04/01/2017	\$ 457,429.11
Total REVENUE April 2017	\$ 84,513.27
Total Operating Expenses April 2017	\$ 114,088.77
TOTAL NET INCOME/LOSS	\$ -29,575.50
Closing Balance as of 04/30/2017	\$ 427,853.61

Member's son honored



Mussab-Ali, the 20-year-old son of NYMAPU member Muhammed Akhtar, has been chosen as a 2017 Truman Scholar. He is the only New Jersey winner of this prestigious national award, and is the first Rutgers student to be so honored.

His father, Muhammed Akhtar, joined NY Metro Area Postal Union in 2002, when he was hired as a mechanic at the NJI&NDC. In 2004, he was promoted to Electronic Technician. He and his wife have worked hard to put their three children into college.

As a first generation Muslim-American, Musssab Ali is concerned with making a better society for everyone. Last year, at age 19, he ran for a position on the Jersey City School Board – garnering 7,000 votes – in an effort to highlight the importance of bringing youthful insight to the problems of the school system.

From his parents, he has both a strong work ethic and a social conscience. He has been active in projects with youth homelessness, urban education, criminal justice reform, and fighting discrimination against minorities. He plans to use his Truman Fellowship to pursue an MD/MSHP to craft innovative policies for improving health care access and quality in NJ and the U.S. as a whole.

NYMAPU takes pride in Mussab-Ali as part of our union family. ☑



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

June 30th is the deadline for picnic tickets!
(see Pg. 11 for details)

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