



The

Union Mail

Vol. 62 No. 7 | October 2019

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.

New York Metro at the 2019 New York Labor Day Parade



Story on pages 6 & 7

Preserve our history to build the future



Jonathan Smith

If there is any failure of the APWU, it is a failure to preserve our history and the history of the labor movement in a way that newer workers can be educated and inspired by it. In

its early days, the APWU members were involved in social movements – the women’s movement, the civil rights movement, the anti-war movement.

Some of the spark that energized the 1970 postal strike was a product of the times. But it was our obligation to keep the spirit alive. But as time went on, postal workers, including union leaders, became complacent. We have stopped educating new workers on the struggles that gave us our rights – rights which are now under attack.

We senior workers have dropped the ball and can’t put blame on the PSEs or the young workers for not stepping up. We didn’t take our knowledge, our history to them, but are frustrated that they don’t spontaneously understand what unions are about, what solidarity means.

There is the labor/management fight – us and them – which teaches people what side they are on. Without education on this, we see new workers jump at the chance to be Acting Supervisors instead of Shop Stewards. We see people afraid to write statements, afraid to file 1767s, afraid to ask for union representation.

Cover photo by Bernadette Evangelist

At the same time, there is the political and legislative struggle. It is hard to get people to register and vote, to call their Congressional representatives, to go to meetings. In fighting to save the people’s Postal Service, this has to be linked with the union fight against management.

These two distinct elements have to be put together for us to fight for the future. Understand that the future is now. It is the responsibility of the older and more experienced workers to prepare the younger people to take the reins of leadership. It is not enough to put people into positions of power just because they are young.

The APWU needs to do training on every level – national, regional, and local. Preserve our rich history through educating the next generations. This is the way to bring strength back to the union and pride to the workforce.

Our leadership has become too territorial, fearful of losing positions of power if we train people to replace us. This is why we don’t have a deep bench to lead our unions.

Experienced leaders don’t have an unfettered right to hold office. We forget what it takes to expand and progress into the future. This weakness of labor is the first brick in management’s toolbox to destroy organized labor.

We have to be bringing in and developing new blood, new strength. We have to share the knowledge and power with new workers. This means learning to have pride in our work. Postal work

is not just about earning money. It needs to be about giving the American people the best service possible.

It means commitment to working together – both in processing and delivering the mail, but also in union solidarity to fight for our rights together. It means respecting one another – regardless of nationality, color, or gender. These are working class values that make us strong.

We are part of the American work force and part of the world’s labor force. The blame is not on Trump, on Congress, or on co-workers. It is time to look in the mirror. Change for progress has to start with us. It has to start with how we think so that we can turn things around. ☰

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.

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Senseless reversions continue

By Tiffany Foster, Executive Vice-President



Tiffany Foster

Article 37.1.F defines a reversion as “a management decision to reduce the number of vacant duty assignments in the Installation.”

This is the action management has taken up again without rhyme, reason and, most importantly, justification.

Management continues hiring PSEs and mandating employees to work overtime at the same time as they revert duty assignments. The insult is the PSEs being hired are assigned to work in the same areas where the reversions are taking place. Management’s reason for reverting these career duty assignments is either the workload doesn’t justify the need for the position or the station is over its authorized complement. Both reasons are not contractually sound. Arbitrators have destroyed this argument in their arbitration awards all across the country. Arbitrators have even called this rationale “legal fiction” because it not found in the contract, in any Step 4 Settlements, in any National Arbitration awards or case law. Arbitrators have awarded heavy monetary penalties for these type of violations, but management continues. I know you have heard the saying, “management has the right to mismanage,”

Clearly, the work is there. You see it. The areas are understaffed. You know it, because you work 10 to 12 hours a day. Why else would management authorize exorbitant amounts of

overtime daily, deny requests for annual leave due to the needs of the service and mandate those not on the overtime desired list to work?

I know it doesn’t make sense. So, what is this really about? I’m of the opinion that management’s ultimate goal is to have a postal service comprised of non career employees (PSEs). A non career workforce where there is no obligation to invest in the employees’ future or in the Postal Service, for that matter. Non career employees may have some of the protections and rights of the career employees, but without career status they have no future. This is not a career. This is just a job for them until they can find something better. Wouldn’t you think the same way? Why invest in something or someone that doesn’t want to invest in you? It’s a no brainer.

Is this sabotage from within? We see it all the time. The lines are long. The carriers are delivering mail late into the night. Safety for the employees and our commitment to provide service to the customers are a thing of the past. Long gone are the days when management cared about both.

I know it sounds doom and gloom, but don’t be discouraged. Your union is not. Everyday, we fight for your future and your safety and in fighting for these things, we fight to provide the much needed service to our communities. This fight takes a collective effort. Are you willing to join the battle? If so, contact me at Tiffany.foster@nymetro.org so we can talk.

Peak Season

The Christmas season is around the corner and management is preparing. They have begun hiring holiday

employees to work the influx of parcels that always come during this time of year. The union met with management on Friday, September 20, 2019, to discuss the beginning stages of their plans.

Management will be opening the Bronx Annex on East 138th Street again. They have also notified the union that they will be opening another annex on 12th Avenue in Manhattan. Management has assured the union that the safety and health issues that were of great concern to the union last year in the Bronx Annex will be not an issue this year. They stated they have taken the necessary precautions to alleviate those problems. The union requested to have a walk through of both facilities to ensure that the safety and health of the employees are met prior to the Annex opening. Management agreed. The tentative date these annexes will open is the second week in November. In addition to the openings, the hours of operation in the retail stations will be expanded in some stations. The union is waiting for more information regarding how the holiday peak season and the Annex operations will impact and/or alter the work conditions of the employees in the MVS and maintenance crafts.

As more information becomes available, we will disseminate it via your stewards to you. If you see, hear and/or know of any information that affects the work conditions, let us know. Never assume the union is aware of everything that is going on in your work area.

“The Struggle Continues”—Moe Biller. ☐

Legislative and Political Report

By Chuck Zlatlin, Director of Communications

The American Postal Workers Union is at a crossroads legislatively. It is good that a majority of members of the House are now in support of HR 2382, the USPS Fairness Act, the bill introduced by Peter DeFazio (D-OR) to free the USPS from the onerous pre-funding mandate. As co-sponsors of this legislation, we now must determine the best way to proceed to get it passed. Passing HR 2382 will remove the financial burdens that were placed on the USPS by Congress in 2006, under the Postal Accountability and Fairness Act (PAEA). With the Democrats in the majority, it should seem like a slam dunk to get this bill moved before the entire House for a vote. Even if the Senate might be a problem, bringing the bill to a vote in the House can only help our cause. With the growing consciousness about the importance of a public Postal Service surfacing in rural areas as well as in inner cities, we can count on growing support in red, blue and purple states. But we may need to put pressure on the Democrat leadership to get them to move on this legislation. We can't assume that it will take care of itself.

Remember, when the PAEA was passed in 2006, many people who voted for it had no idea of the negative implications for the Postal Service that were hidden deep in its pages. After the financial collapse in the US in 2007 and 2008, it became clear that the PAEA held severe pitfalls for the financial health of the Postal Service. With the Democrats in control of the White House and both Houses of Congress in 2009, it might have appeared that Congress

would correct the errors of the PAEA. It wasn't corrected. That was the last time that the Democrats had control of the White House and Congress. Now, ten years later, the Postal Service and the postal unions are still trying to get the Congressional financial attack on the USPS repealed.

HR 2382 is too important for the APWU and the other postal unions to allow the leadership of the House to put off bringing this bill to the floor for a vote. Speaker Pelosi and the chairs of the relevant committees must take a public stance in favor of this legislation and move the bill!

We will be watching, and if action is not forthcoming, we will act!

The Postal Board of Governors (BOG)

In last issue of *The Union Mail*, the importance of getting pro-public postal people on the Postal Board of Governors (BOG) was mentioned, as was the long period where Board vacancies meant no quorum and left the BOG dysfunctional. With three new Governors appointed by President Trump and approved by the Senate, the BOG now has seven members, enough for a quorum. [A full BOG is 11 -- 9 Governors, the Postmaster General (PMG), and the Deputy PMG.]

The current members of the Postal BOG are: Robert M. Duncan, Chair of the BOG; David C.

Williams, Vice Chair of the BOG; Ron A. Bloom, Governor; Roman Martinez IV, Governor; John McLeod Burger, Governor and Megan J. Brennan, Postmaster General and CEO; and Ronald A. Stroman, Deputy Postmaster General and Chief Government Relations Officer.

It is important to assess how well the Board's duties are being carried out by this current Board of Governors. To do this, we must understand exactly what the Postal BOG is empowered to do. From postal literature: "The board directs the exercise of the powers of the Postal Service, directs and controls its expenditures, reviews its practices, conducts long-range planning and sets policies on all postal matters. The board takes up matters such as service standards, capital investments and facilities projects exceeding \$25 million. It also approves officer compensation." Like the Board of Governors of any corporation, the Postal BOG has a lot of power. Since it is governing a public service, the public must make sure that power is not abused.

It is helpful to know what perspective each board member holds, and what we should expect from their service on the Board of Governors. As mentioned last month, David C. Williams has a track record from his days as the Inspector General of the Postal Service. It was under his tenure that the first reports came out encouraging expanded postal financial services. Future editions of *The Union Mail* will look deeper at David Williams and the other Governors. ☐



Interest Arbitration underway

By Flo Summergrad

On September 4, 2019, the APWU and the USPS began the interest arbitration hearings which will determine our contract. This lengthy process is required under the 1971 Postal Reorganization Act which denies postal workers the right to strike but forces management to abide by the existing contract until the arbitration is concluded.

Three arbitrators form a panel—one picked by the Union, one by management, and the third arbitrator who is agreed by both. The APWU appointed Phil Tabbita, who has been in every contract negotiation since 1981 and all interest arbitrations since 1984. The Postal Service appointee is Robert Dufek, who worked for Morgan Lewis, a notoriously anti-union law firm. Arbitrator Steven Goldberg is therefore the one who will make the final ruling on our future contract. He is someone who has past experience with the Postal Service contracts, so the hope is he will have a more balanced view of the demands. It is the task of the APWU leaders in all crafts to prepare convincing arguments that expose the USPS false claims of poverty and desperation.

Unlike a negotiated contract, workers do not get to vote on its terms. The interest arbitrator's conclusions are final and binding. For this reason, the union has to put a lot of effort into convincing the arbitrator that our demands and goals outweigh the Postal Service proposals to cut out wages and benefits, institute a lower tier of PSEs, and



Members “Stick with the Union!” showing solidarity with APWU sisters and brothers by wearing “Good Contract NOW” stickers on the workroom floor.

allow greater excessing and postal closings.

The USPS is demanding the right to contract out more of our work in all crafts – Clerk, Maintenance, and Motor Vehicle. Their proposals are regressive and will move us toward the demise of the public Postal Service. We argue that it is in the best interests of the USPS to utilize the dedicated and hard-working postal workers to receive, sort, move, and deliver the mail to the American people. Subcontracting our work—including cleaning, building, repairing, and maintaining—has been shown over and over again to be less efficient and less cost effective.

Having secure union jobs with living



wages gives the Postal Service a stable work force without the high turnover and problems of contract employees.

Clerk craft wages are expected to be a major issue. Management is seeking to show Arbitrator Goldberg that postal clerks are “over-paid” compared to workers in the private sector. Our team will show that trained and dedicated USPS clerks keep the mail secure by following federal regulations.

Problems in window service come from chronic understaffing which will not be corrected by lowering standards or pay. The APWU is demanding proper staffing for clerks and all crafts; we are demonstrating how the postal policy of cutting jobs hurts service.

In the opening day remarks, President Dimondstein stressed that our demand for better wages is tied to hard work, productivity, and conscientious service to the American public. For all three crafts, APWU members will be testifying as work floor witnesses to what we do. These people were identified by surveys and interviews among the rank and file over the past month.

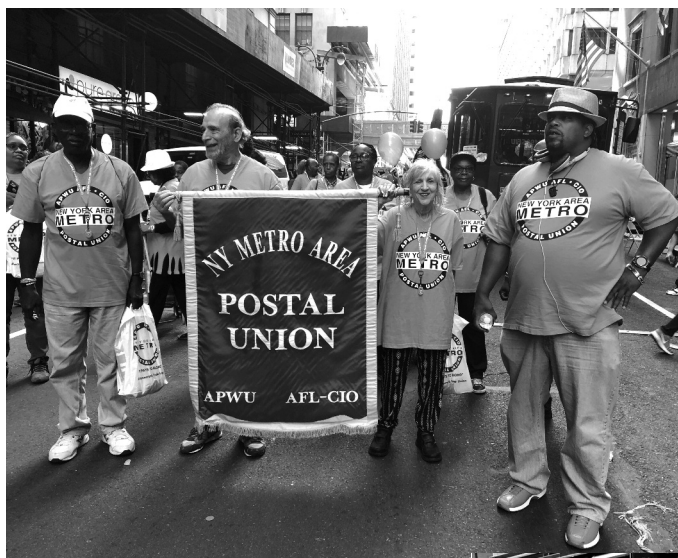
This is scheduled from September 24– 26th before the arbitration panel. The men and women called on to appear will augment the testimony of economists and attorneys. President Dimondstein calls them “the real experts,” the people who will “put a human face on the cold numbers the Arbitrator looks at. Their experiences carry a lot of weight in the hearings.”

Good Contract NOW! 

NY Metro members join NYC Labor

September 7, 2019—Under the slogan: “BUILDING WORKERS POWER TOGETHER,” NY Metro Area Postal Union joined thousands of other union members marching up Fifth Avenue in New York City. There was music, food, balloons, bubble wands, and a trolley decorated with the banner of our Local.

It was a beautiful, sunny day, so the crowds were out to see us in bright orange NY Metro shirts, chanting: “The U.S. Mail is Not for Sale!” And: “Whose Post Office? The People’s Post Office!” The few hours of fun and pride took many hours of work and organization from Director of Organization Diane Erlanger with her committee of Debbie Bethea, Penny Guzman, and Secretary-Treasurer Joe Martir. As the Central Labor Council website reported: We marched; We danced; We showed the world that We are BUILDING WORKERS POWER TOGETHER! 🇺🇸



Photos contributed by Bill Bachmann, Bernadette Evangelist, Regina Wilson, and the NYCCLC

Day Parade



Postal banking gains support nationally and locally



By Chuck Zlatkin, Director of Communications

Postal banking is getting more and more accepted as a rational alternative to big corporate banking. This respect didn't happen by accident. It was the result of a multi-faceted campaign, in which New York Metro Area Postal Union played a major role. The first objective was to educate ourselves on how the expansion of financial services in the U.S. Postal Service would solve a major need in the communities we serve, and how that would benefit a public Postal Service

Next, it was important for us to share what we learned with the public, that the community would benefit from the Postal Service meeting its needs for affordable financial services. Postal banking would bring relief from the predatory lenders, check-cashing rip-offs, title loans scams and pawn shops that have been exploiting their needs to make usurious profits. Expanded financial services in the Postal Service would also have a great impact on securing and expanding postal jobs, which add to the health of the community economy.

A large part of New York Metro's education of the public took place on the streets of the Bronx. This was accomplished through the day-to-day collection of signatures on petitions calling for postal banking in the Bronx. To our Local and the APWU national, postal banking was more than just an issue-- with the birth of the Campaign for Postal Banking, we were now part of a full-fledged movement.

With our work in the Bronx

Postal Banking Petition campaign, NY Metro Area Postal Union has been an important part of the success of the Campaign for Postal Banking. On October 16, 2018, a press briefing and petition presentation were held at the Hunts Point Post Office, where the Bronx Postmaster's office is located. Over 5,300 signatures of Bronx residents and workers were collected and ready for presentation. On that same day, a letter from the then four Bronx Congressional representatives, Serrano, Espaillat, Crowley and Engel, was presented to Megan Brennan, the Postmaster General (PMG) of the United States. The letter called on the PMG to move on the question of expanded financial services in the Bronx.

In the year following the 2018 event, the Bronx Campaign, mostly made up of NYMAPU's Moe Biller/Eleanor Bailey Retiree Chapter members, doubled the number of petition signers to over 11,000, and distributed tens of thousands of pieces of literature describing the positive impact of postal banking on the Bronx. Based on last year's letter, current Reps Jose Serrano, Adriano Espaillat, and Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez added their signatures to a new national postal banking letter to the PMG, created by Rep. Serrano. This new letter contains the signatures of 60 current bi-partisan Congressional Reps from every section of the country. The pressure on PMG Brennan is now coming from legislators with constituents who are demanding expanded financial services, eventually leading to the imple-

mentation of postal banking.

In the letter, the Congressmen and Congresswomen convey their support for the "renewal and expansion of financial services at United States Postal Service locations." They detail how 8.4 million households are unbanked and how another 24.2 million households are underbanked. They call upon the Postmaster General to take immediate action to begin pilot programs offering affordable financial services in post offices, including ATMs, pay-check cashing, bill payment and electronic money transfers.

The 60 signatories include many from this area. In addition to Reps. Serrano, Ocasio Cortez and Espaillat, there are Representatives: Yvette Clarke, Grace Meng, Max Rose and Nydia Velazquez from New York and Bill Pascrell, Donald Payne, Jr. and Albio Sires from New Jersey. These members of Congress are committed to working with the public Postal Service. They have stated that they want to "ensure our constituents continue to enjoy the affordable, reliable and universal postal services the USPS provides and we look forward to adding postal financial services to that in the near future. We would welcome an opportunity to meet and discuss our support for postal banking in our districts."

Postal Banking is gaining momentum and popularity with people all across the nation. We can take pride that much of what was accomplished was started by NY Metro right here in the Bronx. ☐

Global movement against climate change: “Yes, I will defend the Amazon! *”

By Flo Summergrad

In September, 2019, literally millions of young people from all over the world began a “Climate Strike” by protesting in the streets, speaking to the media, and even going to the United Nations. With signs like: There is no PLANet B, the youth are demanding action to save our earth from man-made climate change that is threatening their future.

The fires that are destroying the Amazon Rainforest are a visible symbol of the destruction of life on earth—so severe that world political leaders have put pressure on Brazil’s President Jair Bolsonaro to take action. Initially, Bolsonaro had trivialized the fires and defended Brazil’s sovereignty to do whatever he wants. Like the U.S. President, Brazil’s President denies the science of global warming, calling it left-wing propaganda and “lies.” However, as the European Union has threatened to end a trade deal with Brazil, he has finally sent in troops to battle the blazes.

The Amazon Rainforest, 60% of which is in Brazil, is called “The Lungs of the Planet” because it produces 20% of the earth’s oxygen. It is tied to climate change because as the world’s largest tropical forest, it recycles carbon dioxide – a greenhouse gas that is considered the biggest factor in global warming. Trees store carbon absorbed from the atmosphere; the Amazon rainforest takes in two billion tons of carbon dioxide a year!

Just as Trump has been deregulating the environmental protections



in the U.S. enacted by previous administrations, Bolsonaro has been dismantling the laws that protect the rain forest from wanton deforestation. Since his election in January, there has been a sharp increase in forest fires. While a certain amount of fire is a normal part of the Brazilian winter, the rainforest is burning at an unprecedented rate. To date, there have been over 77,000 fires – an 84% increase over the same period last year. Unlike other ecosystems, these fires burning in the Amazon are not natural.

Human activities – farming, mining, and drilling – are what is exacerbating the situation. In Brazil, cattle farmers start forest fires to make way for ranching, in spite of laws against this purposeful deforestation. Loggers are illegally cutting down trees; drilling into the earth has increased.

This will not only damage the oxygen supply, but the Amazon system is almost at the tipping point where deforestation will cause the natural rain cycle to collapse. This will lead to a “dieback” – severe drought in parts of Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, and Argentina that could

devastate agriculture, reaching as far as our own Midwest.

Already, polluted air has caused illness and suffering among the indigenous peoples who inhabit the rainforest. The invasion of the area also endangers the many species of plants and animals which are unique to the Amazon and which provide the source for much medical research.

The arson is controlled by organized criminal networks which threaten and kill those who try to protect the forest: residents, environmental agents, and indigenous peoples. A Human Rights Watch report documents 28 such murders this year while the government turns a blind eye.

The “Dirty Dozen” driving deforestation in the Amazon have ties to big banks and companies in the U.S., including Blackrock, Morgan Chase, Santander, Costco, Walmart, and Stop and Shop. An international appeal has been sent out to these profiteers: “The Amazon is on fire. Corporations share the blame. They need to become part of the solution.”

On September 24 in New York City, protestors at Black Rock HQs presented a petition with 20,000 signatures. Similar protests are happening around the world. Scientists, environmentalists, unions, and thousands of (ironically) Amazon workers who have no union, have joined this youth movement. It is time for a change – NOT climate change!

**slogan of Amazon Watch* 📧

**POSTAL PRIDE:
Mary Granados**

Postal workers are heroes too

Mary Granados was in her postal uniform on August 31st, when she was shot and her postal vehicle hijacked. Union Presidents Frederic Rolando (NALC) and Mark Dimondstien (APWU) issued statements mourning the senseless murder of the 29-year-old Odessa, Texas, Letter Carrier. Postmaster General Megan Brennan expressed shock and sadness for “the loss of our postal family member.”

Mary Granados was not a random victim. She was murdered in order to hijack a postal truck to commit a crime. Since 9/11/2001, there have been warnings about the importance of security for USPS vehicles since they can be a cover for terrorists or madmen.

Postal workers are in the public eye. They are visible at post office windows, on the streets as letter carriers, on the roads as truck drivers. Postal uniforms and vehicles symbolize the United States Postal Service. While those uniforms and trucks are a source of pride, they also make postal workers an identifiable target.

Mary Granados was “a beautiful person,” about to celebrate her 30th birthday with her twin. Neighborhood security cameras show her as a cheerful and industrious Letter Carrier, delivering the mail on her route. To customers, she was “the mail lady” who always had a big smile.

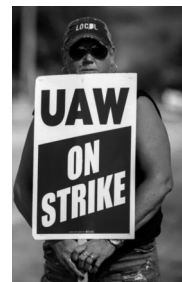
Comments from postal people reflect that they identify with Mary Granados as part of our nationwide Postal Service. At her funeral, USPS trucks lined the street. 40 of her co-workers came to say good-bye. We salute her as someone who died while serving the public. Postal workers are heroes, too. ☐

Postal News Briefs

UAW ON STRIKE

On September 16, 2019, early 50,000 UAW workers went on strike against General Motors. In spite of a profit of over \$12 billion last year, paying no federal taxes, and paying CEO Mary Barre \$22 million, GM had the audacity to demand contract concessions. The company wants workers to pay more for health benefits and refuses to even discuss changing the brutal two-tier pay and work system that allows for hundreds of contractors and temps. On September 17, the second day of the strike, GM cancelled all health benefits for the 50,000 workers and their families!

APWU President Mark Dimondstein calls on all APWU organizations and members to support our brother and sister GM workers in their strike for job security and equal pay. Where we can't join picket lines, messages of solidarity can be sent on the social media to hashtag: #standwithUS.



UNITED PARCEL SERVICE PAYS \$8.4 MILLION TO U.S. FOR OVERPAYMENT CHARGE



The Department of Justice announced that UPS will pay \$8.4 million to resolve the charge that it overcharged federal agencies for package delivery services. The allegation was that from 2007 to 2014 UPS failed to follow the General Services Administration (GSA) contract requiring it to provide certain discounts to government agencies. This resulted in a large overcharge.

Assistant Attorney General Jody Hunt said that “This settlement demonstrates that the government will hold accountable contractors that overcharge federal agencies.” It is not clear why government agencies are using UPS as a contractor for package delivery instead of the Postal Service.

AMAZON ACCUSED OF VIOLATIONS FOR “LAST MILE” CONTRACTORS’

A year-long investigation into Amazon's use of last-mile delivery companies showed that at least 12 that have been sued or cited for allegedly failing to pay overtime, denying breaks, and sexual harassment. Furthermore, Amazon bought 20,000 vehicles for its “Delivery Service partner program,” with weights just below the standards requiring Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration oversight, thus escaping regulations imposed on other delivery companies like UPS and FedEx.



On September 12, three Senators—Elizabeth Warren (D-Massachusetts), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), and Richard Blumenthal (D-Connecticut)—wrote a letter to Jeff Bezos, President and CEO of Amazon—claiming that Amazon's delivery standards are “imposing unfair and dangerous conditions” on its contractor companies and their drivers who make final-mile deliveries. They want Amazon's “last-mile” program terminated. ☐

CALENDAR

Wednesday, October 16

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 20

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)

WINNERS! September 18, 2019

1. 50/50 winner was **Yancy Thomas** (Cooper Station)—\$47 (COPA contribution \$47)

2. \$100 gift card winner was **Terry Huggins** (Ft. George Station)

Come be a WINNER at the next meeting!

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of 07/01/2019	\$ 1,407,765.09
Total Revenue July 2019	\$ 159,725.93
Operating Expenses July 2019	\$ 134,060.69
Total Net Income July 2019	\$ 25,665.24
Ending Balance as of 07/31/2019	\$1,433,430.33

APWU LOCAL 10 BLDG. CORP

Beginning Balance as of 08/01/2019	\$1,433,430.33
Total Revenue August 2019	\$ 156,836.23
Operating Expenses August 2019	\$ 130,791.28
Total Net Income August 2019	\$ 26,044.95
Ending Balance as of 08/31/2019	\$1,459,475.28

SISTERS! Come to NY Metro P.O.W.E.R. meetings! (As an APWU woman, you are already a member of P.O.W.E.R.)

Where: Union Office, 350 W. 31st Street, 3rd Floor

When: (1:00 pm, the 4th Wednesday of every month)
October 23 • November 27



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Movement advances toward Mumia's freedom

By Bill Bachmann

In a significant move, on September 17, Philadelphia DA Larry Krasner said his office won't oppose a hearing on newly discovered evidence of prosecutorial misconduct during Mumia Abu-Jamal's 1982 trial. The evidence, found inside six previously unknown boxes of case files, shows the prosecution's secret attempts to manufacture testimony from two key witnesses and plans to

keep Black people off the jury. Both moves flagrantly violate U.S. Supreme Court decisions.

Mumia Abu-Jamal is a former Black Panther and well-known revolutionary journalist ("The Voice of the Voiceless") who was convicted of killing a Philadelphia police officer in a trial widely condemned as lacking even the most basic elements of due process. After spending 28 years

in solitary on Death Row, a worldwide movement succeeded in 2011 in overturning his sentence.

Now, with a hearing possible on the newly discovered evidence, there is a real chance that Mumia will be able to walk out of prison.

New York Metro has proudly supported Mumia's defense for the last 20 years. An Injury to One is an Injury to All! ☐



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COMMENTS/SUGGESTIONS: _____
