



## 2021 MSALC Convention Election Notice

This is an official notification to the membership of Jerome J. Keating Branch 9 NALC Minneapolis, Minnesota.

**Nominations for delegates to the 2021 MSALC State Convention will be held at the October General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, October 27, 2020 at 7:00PM.**

The General Membership Meeting will be held on Zoom.

Candidates must complete the appropriate Letters of Intent and return same to the Recording Secretary at the October General Membership Meeting in which they are nominated or within 10 days thereafter no later than 5:00PM.

Should an election of delegates to the MSALC Convention be necessary, it will be held at the November General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, November 24, 2020.

*\*Letter of Intent is on page 9*

**Branch 9 hosted a "Save the Post Office" rally** on Sunday September 13th at the Main Post Office downtown. We demanded an end to the recent destructive service cuts, and advocated for COVID related funding for the Postal Service.

Approximately 75 people were in attendance, and various members of the newsmedia covered the action. One point of strength of this event was that it was well attended by active letter

carriers. Speakers included Branch 9 president Samantha Hartwig, ATU President Ryan Timlin, the Business agent for the APWU Peggy Whitney and Br. 9 endorsed 6th Dist. Congressional candidate Tawnja Zahradka.

The rally comes after controversial changes from the new Postmaster General Louis Dejoy. Dejoy has instituted numerous operational changes that have resulted in poor service to our customers. These service cuts also threaten election the integrity of the upcoming elections in November. He says they are needed to reduce costs. As letter carriers, we oppose these shortsighted service cuts.

Although there has been much outrage directed squarely at Mr. Dejoy, we should all be cognizant of the fact that he is

not acting alone. He is merely a representative of the billionaire class that don't like the power that postal unions have in opposing their efforts to drive down wages and reorganize society to maximize the profits they reap off of our labor. Never forget that we workers produce all the wealth in the world!



Actions like this follow in the footsteps of the Great Postal Strike of 1970. They are a way to engage the public in our issues, get our message out to the media, and put pressure on reluctant politicians. The strike got the anti-worker

Nixon administration to sign off on a significant increase in our pay and also to ratify our right to collectively bargain.

Direct actions point the way forward for letter carriers, and also for workers more broadly. Few unions are able to win their battles with the bosses themselves. The frenzy of media attention over the summer spurred on by demonstrations have helped to shine a much needed spotlight on the Postal Service. The US House passed a \$25 billion appropriations bill for USPS in response to this outcry from the public, although more work is yet to be done as the Senate has yet to take it up.

The road to true postal reform will be paved by more and bigger protests.

Chris Pennock  
Diamond Lake

## RETIREMENTS



Last Punch for Lisa Tanner (St. Louis Park) with Steward Scott Bultena  
Congratulations!



Last Punch for Chuck Brand (St. Louis Park) with Steward Scott Bultena  
Best Wishes!



Last Punch for Dale Forde  
(St. Louis Park)  
Happy Retirement!

## NEW MEMBERS

Kalid Abdi  
 Biruk Ayichew  
 Katrina Baxter  
 Justin Bixeman  
 Daniel Braaten  
 Eric Burgard  
 Rochelle Burnett  
 Brian Dudley  
 Caleb Easler  
 Idiris Farah  
 Terry Farrell  
 Patty Giang  
 Nicole Goneau  
 Jeffrey Gonzalez  
 Cherry Hackney  
 Tiffany Kabes  
 Collin Lauber  
 Lucy Lira  
 Linda Maciel-Tirado  
 Bryson Medlock  
 Charles Mueller  
 Kyle Nordstrom  
 Bjorn Pedersen  
 Barbara Say  
 Allyssa Schroeder  
 Kevin Scott  
 Bobby Simmons  
 Gabriel Steinhauer  
 Xai Vang  
 Amanda Waldon  
 Juan White  
 Aaron Wolobah  
 Justin Wood  
 Shakia Wright

## IN MEMORIAM

Carl Sampson

Branch 9, NALC  
**4001 Stinson Blvd. Suite 304**  
**Columbia Heights MN 55421**  
**Voice: (612) 781-9858**  
**Fax: (612) 781-9849**  
**Website: [branch9nalc.com](http://branch9nalc.com)**

### Branch 9 Officers

#### President

Samantha Hartwig

#### Exec. Vice President

JoAnn Gilbaugh

#### Recording Secretary

Robb Petersburg

#### Treasurer

Lisa O'Neill

#### Financial Secretary

Stacey Ellingson

#### Editor

Jeremy Rothstein

[branch9news@branch9nalc.com](mailto:branch9news@branch9nalc.com)

#### Sergeant at Arms

Jim Nelson

#### Trustees

Christa Abraham

Johnna Lush

Chris Pennock

#### Director of Retirees

Melia Derrick

#### NALC Health Benefits Rep.

Ken Jambois

HBR: (763) 370-1392

### **Tell the Senate to provide USPS Covid Relief: Call Your Senator Now**

The House of Representatives recently passed a bill that would provide \$25 billion in financial relief to the Postal Service. Now it's up to the Senate to take action. Unfortunately, the Senate has failed to advance much-needed relief despite the public demand during the pandemic and leading up to Election Day.

### **For Leave Year 2021, Maximum Annual Leave Carryover Amount Increased from 440 Hours to 520 Hours**

NALC and the Postal Service have agreed to a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that increases the maximum allowable annual leave carryover amounts outlined in the Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM). For leave year 2021, regular work force career employees covered by the USPS-NALC National Agreement may carry over 520 hours of accumulated annual leave from leave year 2020 to leave year 2021. Normally, as defined in ELM 512.321(a.), bargaining unit employees have a maximum leave carryover of 440 hours.

The Branch Nine News is a monthly publication of NALC Branch 9, and is published in the interest of and for the members of NALC Branch 9.

The opinions expressed by the writers are not necessarily those of the OFFICERS, or of NALC Branch 9.

**Articles MUST be submitted to the editor by the 1st of the month, and must be signed.** The Editorial Staff reserves the right to edit or refuse to print articles which are derogatory in nature.

Any official NALC organization may reproduce our articles provided appropriate credit is given.

## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

The past six months have been an unimaginable reality for Branch 9. Together we continue to navigate through our new reality of COVID, the loss of the Branch 9 Union Office, Civil Unrest in Minneapolis, the burning down of Lake Street and Minnehaha Post offices, operational tests to mail delivery, and the attack on the USPS from the current White House administration, just to get us started.

### COVID

The USPS has now required that all employees wear a facemask on the workroom floor. In some stations management has placed carriers, who have refused to wear a facemask, off the clock, on an Emergency Placement (EP). For the short amount of time spent in the office each day we are asking carriers to comply with wearing facemask while on the workroom floor. If you have a medical condition that will prevent the face mask from being worn, or you want a face shield instead of a face mask, you will be required to provide medical documentation.

### Branch 9 Office

The building committee will be preparing their first report for the membership at the September GMM on September 28th. The committee has been gathering information about rebuilding, and information about purchasing a new building. This will be the first informational report to the membership, and it will not be the last report. My hope is to be able to have a vote on the direction for a new building in either November, or December so we can make permanent plans for the future home of Branch 9.

### General Membership Meetings (GMM)

Any member who wants to be included in the online ZOOM GMM needs to complete the form in the Branch 9 News, ONLY ONE TIME. We need an email address to send the registration link for the meeting. Have either the steward initial your form, or use your Postal

Record Number, found above your name on the address label, so we can verify that you are a member. If you have a problem with the form and need assistance, please call the Branch Office.

### Uniform Allotment

We have recently learned that numerous members have not been getting their uniform allotments. There is confusion as to where the disconnect is with the lack of uniform allotments being issued. If you have not received your card after being converted to full-time career status on the anniversary date of your uniform allotment date, please immediately call the branch office. While waiting for your card there is no reason why management cannot issue you a voucher in the interim. We need to file grievances on this right away, no one should have to wait over a year for the uniform allotment.

### New Employee Agreement Update

The Postmaster has agreed to update the Branch 9 New Employee Agreement. The only update that has been added to this agreement is that new probationary employees will NOT be moved from their station for their first 45 days as a CCA. Prior to this agreement management was moving CCAs at will, even in their first week or two on the job. The intent of this agreement is to help new CCAs build a solid base for how to do the job and have some consistency. This will hopefully help increase CCA retention in Minneapolis.

### Politics

The USPS has been in the news almost daily because of the upcoming election, and the rhetoric around mail in balloting. The important thing to convey to the public is that the USPS can get the election ballots mailed on time and voting by mail is safe. We need to speak with all our friends and family that live outside the State of Minnesota, ask them to contact their Senators; and then ask their Senators to support legislation in the Senate that will



**Samantha Hartwig**

help the USPS during the COVID Pandemic.

### USPS Tests

The two tests that the USPS was attempting to implement have ended. The first one was the Expedited Street Afternoon Sortation (ESAS), which was active in the Elmwood and Brooklyn Center Stations has ended. We have not received any data on the results from the USPS on this test. The second test was SER, where some stations were slated to go down to one piece of casing equipment with six shelves. SER has ended.

Unfortunately, the Richfield Station has been identified as space constrained, this is separate from the SER test. Due to the designation as a space constrained station, Richfield has had their casing equipment reduced to one piece of casing equipment with six shelves. Grievances have been filed on this issue.

As this year continues to throw punches our way, we just keep moving forward and try to dodge them the best we can. At times everything we have experienced together can seem overwhelming, and never-ending. It is important to remember that we are in this together, not alone. I am proud of all the carriers in Branch 9, and how everyone has persevered during these difficult times, I know it has not been easy, and I want to express my sincere gratitude and appreciation for the membership of Branch 9.

In Solidarity

<b>BRANCH 9</b> <b>2020 SCHOLARSHIP DRAWING WINNERS</b>
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**WALTER E. COULLARD/EUGENE P. McNULTY – \$2,000.00**

		<u>School Attending</u>	<u>Parent</u>	<u>Work Location</u>
<b>Winner</b>	Andrew Watroba	UMD	Marcy Watroba & Greg Watroba	Fridley Retired
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Cale Vetter	Undecided	Lisa Vetter	Anoka
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Sarah Borrell	Augustana University	Richard Borrell	Bloomington

**JEROME J. KEATING/AUSTIN B CARLSON – \$2,000.00**

		<u>School Attending</u>	<u>Parent</u>	<u>Work Location</u>
<b>Winner</b>	Emma Bedard	U of MN - Minneapolis	Ken Bedard	Retired
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Andrew Watroba	UMD	Marcy Watroba & Greg Watroba	Fridley Retired
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Kaitlyn Hecksel	U of MN - Rochester	Troy Hecksel	Chanhassen

**J. WESLEY WOODS – \$1,000.00**

		<u>School Attending</u>	<u>Parent</u>	<u>Work Location</u>
<b>Winner</b>	Sam Orgon	Luther College	Jeffrey Orgon	Blaine
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Michaela Tabor	Purdue University	Jericho Tabor	Golden Valley
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Runner-Up</b>	Sarah Borrell	Augustana University	Richard Borrell	Bloomington

**LEONARD A. LARSON/BARRY J. WEINER – ADULT SCHOLARSHIP – \$1,000.00**

		<u>Position</u>	<u>Work Location</u>
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Winner</b>	Brittni Welter	CCA	Osseo
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Winner</b>	Johnna Lush	Active	Robbinsdale

**The following candidates have been endorsed by Branch 9 for the 2020 election.**

Visit [www.mnvotes.org](http://www.mnvotes.org) to check your registration, register to vote, and find out where you vote.

**President/ VP of the United States**

[--] Joe Biden and Kamala Harris

**United States Senate**

[--] Tina Smith

**Minnesota Senate District 58**

Matt Little

**United States Congress**

[--] Dist. 1: Dan Feehan

[--] Dist. 2: Angie Craig

[--] Dist. 3: Dean Phillips

[--] Dist. 4: Betty McCollum

[--] Dist. 5: Ilhan Omar

[--] Dist. 6: Tanya Zahradka

[--] Dist. 7: Colin Peterson

## Exec. Vice President's Report

Have you ever heard "Oh, I didn't recognize you without your uniform"? If you live anywhere near your route, there's a good chance you have or will run into a customer at the grocery store or gas station. Inevitably, it takes them a second to figure out who you are when you say hi. After all, they usually see you wearing your postal blue.

I had a conversation with a good friend a while back. She wanted to know why she was seeing people delivering mail without a uniform. She stated they were only wearing a hat and carrying a bag. "How do we know that they are really a mailman and not just coming to steal our mail?" There had been news reports of stolen mail that sparked a discussion with her friends. She volunteered to ask me for some answers. I explained that our CCA's don't have a uniform allowance until they pass probation, so all they have is a hat or satchel. I explained that our Branch offers gently used uniforms to CCA's until they receive their uniform allowance.

Our conversation made me think about the importance of our uniforms and how they are an integral part of the trust that

the American public puts in us. Our uniforms are as instantly recognizable as our LLV's.

The bonus for us is that uniforms make getting ready for work so easy. The decision of what to wear today is already answered. It gives us a few extra minutes of sleep, which is always helpful. We can grab them off the hanger and go with no fuss or worry.

But does this convenience also make it easy to miss their condition? The material of our uniform shirts is notoriously horrible when it comes to stains. No amount of bleach or scrubbing completely abates the green from flats or brown from satchel straps. While our pants are more durable, they are still susceptible to holes from keys and fraying.

This brings a few questions to mind. When was the last time you looked in the mirror and took stock of the condition of your uniform before you walked out the door? Does your appearance match the professionalism that we provide our customers? Or does your uniform look like it hasn't been washed in a few weeks or past the time to be thrown away? You may ask, does it really matter?



**JoAnn Gilbaugh**

The answer is yes.

Consider this. Do you go out in public in street clothes that match the condition of your uniform? Because when you walk out the door to go to work each day, your "office" is there for everyone to see. Your uniform is your number one identifying factor on the street, a symbol of the trust placed in us, and a reflection on you and the state of the Postal Service.

Your work as a Letter Carrier is integral to our Nation. It's your hard work that makes our service world class. Use your uniform allowance and wear those postal blues with pride and professionalism. You deserve the respect and trust they instill every day.

In Solidarity,  
Jo

### VOTER GUIDE MAKE A PLAN

COVID-19 has changed so much in this country and that includes Election Day. In normal times, letter carriers would have a few more months to prepare for Election Day, but these are not normal times. Numerous states have either transitioned fully to vote-by-mail or absentee so that voters don't have to sacrifice their health for their vote. In North Carolina, voters began requesting ballots on September 4 and several states are following suit. With so many changes, NALC is encouraging members to make their voting plan and make it now.

Without question, this election will be one of the most consequential for letter carriers. This year, letter carriers will be the backbone of our democracy, delivering more ballots than any other election in history. Amidst this prideful responsibility to the American voting public, we must not lose sight of our own plans to vote.

No matter where you live, this year will be different. Are you registered to vote? Does your state allow for vote-by-mail/absentee this year? Do you have to apply, or will that ballot be sent to your home? To ensure that you have the most accurate information about what your state is doing and what you need to do to make sure your vote is counted go to <https://sos.state.mn.us/elections-voting/>

# BRANCH 9'S DAY OF ACTION

## Rally to Save America's Postal Service



# BRANCH 9'S DAY OF ACTION

## Rally to Save America's Postal Service



# Request to Join ZOOM GMM Meeting

## It's a whole new world!

EVERY MONTH ON THE 4<sup>th</sup> TUESDAY (until further notice). Branch 9 members will be able to attend monthly GMM's via computer in the comfort of your own home.

All of these meetings will be closed captioned.

If you are a Branch 9 NALC member and wish to join in on these monthly meetings, please fill out the registration form below. **If we do not receive your completed form, you will NOT be sent the invite.**

Active/CCA Carrier

Retired Carrier

STATION: \_\_\_\_\_ Steward's Initials: \_\_\_\_\_  
If Active Member

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

COMPLETE ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_  
Address, Unit #, City, State, Zip

PHONE #: \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

POSTAL RECORD #: \_\_\_\_\_

(Must have to confirm you are a NALC member in good standing - located on Postal Record mailing label)

E-mail/Scan to [angie@branch9nalc.com](mailto:angie@branch9nalc.com), fax to 612.781.9849 or mail completed form to 4001 Stinson Blvd, Ste 304, Columbia Heights, MN 55421

YOU ONLY NEED TO SIGN-UP ONCE FOR THESE ZOOM GMM'S!

If you have any question's contact the Branch at (612) 781.9858.



### DOL revises the definition of intermittent FMLA leave under the FFCRA

On April 1, 2020, the US Department of Labor (DOL) issued the implementing regulations pertaining to the Families First Coronavirus Response Act (FFCRA). The FFCRA created two new types of paid leave, Emergency Paid Sick Leave (EPSL) and Expanded Family and Medical Leave (EFMLA). Both categories of leave allow an employee to be absent from work in order to care for a child whose school or place of childcare is either closed or unavailable due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The FFCRA grants employees up to 80 hours of EPSL and up to 12 workweeks of EFMLA for this reason. Under the EFMLA rules, the first two weeks of leave are unpaid; however, the employee may use either their own paid leave or EPSL to receive pay. The remaining ten of weeks are paid at no less than two-thirds of the employee’s regular hourly rate of pay, but capped at \$200.00 per day and \$10,000.00 total. EPSL used during the first two weeks of the absence is payable at no less than two-thirds of the employee’s regular hourly rate of pay, also capped at \$200.00 per day and \$2,000.00 total.

According to the regulations issued on April 1st, employees were only allowed to take the EFMLA leave intermittently upon the approval of the employer. On September 16, 2020, the DOL issued revised rules, clarifying the definition of intermittent leave. Under this revision, employer approval of intermittent leave is not required when an employee needs to take leave due to their child’s school operating on alternate days of in-person and distance learning. In these cases, each day the school is closed constitutes a new reason for the leave and the reason would cease once the school reopens.

For example, if the school is open for in-person learning on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday, the employee would be allowed to take leave on Tuesday and Thursday, when the child is not allowed to be present in the school. The same rule applies in circumstances where the school is open for a portion of the day. The reason for the leave would begin at the time the child was not allowed to attend class in the school and end upon their return to the building. For more information regarding leave under the FFCRA, please see President Rolando’s statement dated April 3, 2020, on the COVID-19 page on the NALC website

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## NOTICE OF NOMINATION

I \_\_\_\_\_ hereby submit my name into nomination for the  
 (Please Print)

position of delegate to the **2021 MSALC STATE CONVENTION**

I certify that I have not served in a supervisory capacity for two years, am a member, and am current in my dues obligations to the NALC

I certify that I have not been convicted of a crime in the last 13 years that would disqualify me under the terms of the LMRDA (Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act).

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Social Security # X X X - X X - \_\_\_\_\_

Your name as you wish it to appear on the ballot: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (Please Print)

This information must be given to the Branch 9 Recording Secretary by 5:00PM on **November 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020.**



**Dave Allmann**

By the time you read this I'm pretty much guaranteed that Covid-19 is still alive and well. Since my last article we have seen a sizeable uptick in positive cases. This is happening in the plants as well as the stations. With the affected facilities increasing, our question of what management's role is increases as well. I've had plenty of conversations with management, union and maintenance dealing with the same questions. I'm reassured that management is following through on their responsibilities. Maintenance is not allowed to do any cleaning while employees are in the building. They get the area that the affected employee was working and sanitizes it. This does NOT mean that the whole station gets sanitized top to bottom. The maintenance team is given instructions on a case by case basis to what needs to be cleaned. I think it's safe to say that since the beginning of this pandemic everybody had been taken by surprise as to the severity of it. While there was missteps with how the whole process of ordering PPE's went, management has worked very hard to get us the supplies. In fact I went to one station and saw they were very low on sanitizers and gloves. One phone call and the problem got resolved right away. Between what your local maintenance person

## 9's Safety Liason Report

does and if a team has to come in, they are getting the job done.

When there is a positive case reported, the district nurse follows her protocol. This includes contact tracing to find out if anyone else may be affected. Even with the pandemic, all affected employees are protected by HPPA laws. This affects the amount of information that is given out. Then the maintenance team comes out to do their thing. Every employee that comes in the next day all want reassurances that the station is completely sanitized and they won't get it. This is when all employees need to reassure themselves that whatever they touch is sanitized.

Your station should be well stocked in sanitizing products and PPE's. If not, let management know and you'll get what you need the next day, if not the same day of the request. Wear the gloves to create distancing from contacting the virus. Wear masks to help reduce the number of droplets. Use sanitizing wipes to wipe down all surfaces that you may touch. We must take personal responsibility in assuring that we are safe. At the end of the day, there are a lot more possible contact points than we have maintenance people. I know you're tired of hearing we are in this together, but we are in this together.

This came from our national business agent, in regards to those stricken with Covid-19; 92% of those cases the contact tracing came from outside of the Post Office. Only 8% of cases were the contact tracing from within the Post Office. Quite frankly we are doing one heck of a good job inside the Post Office.

Every night before Tony Williams retires for the evening he always reflects on the day and sends out

an email. His emails will keep you updated on the organizational changes that are occurring. All of which includes what the overall goal is and how the changes can make the goal a reality. While our opinions vary with the changes, you are getting the message straight from the top. Overall we do have a lot of differences on a lot of different topics. With these messages you will at the least feel part of a team.

Everyday Customers are showing their thanks and support to the Postal Service. You will see daily as he shows examples of what we receive. His closing always has positive and encouraging words to close out with. Here you will also find two simple words, thank you. If you have any questions or concerns send him an email and he will respond. Please, while we have our differences, may the correspondence respectful.

Winter is approaching and already I've been hearing how awful it will be. In April we can talk about how bad it was. In the meantime, let's get prepared before it hits. Your local management has already been instructed to start stocking up now with ice grippers, hand warmers and salt. You need to make sure your set with your clothing. Check the bottoms of your boots. If you don't have much tread you're not going to have much of a chance when it gets slippery. Take a CCA or even a recently converted CCA and take them under your wing for the next few months preparing them. Not only will they appreciate it but you'll also feel better about passing your experiences on to someone else.

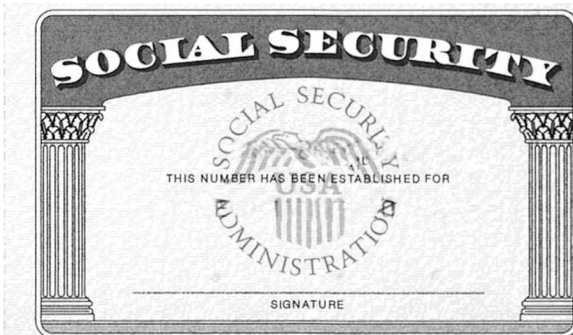
Enjoy what fall has to bring to you and not what you can bring to a fall. Stay safe and be the light to the public's eyes.

# Director of Retirees Report

Well if you were at all confused before as to where the White House occupier stood on the USPS and our Social Security, the last few weeks has cleared all the fog.

In late 2018 the administration issued a postal task force report calling for massive service cuts, pay and pension cuts and the elimination of the FERS retirement basic annuity. Carriers clung to the idea that somehow this wasn't "too bad" and would never actually happen. Then DeJoy is hired as PMG in 2020 and the fight gets real. This administration has a history of putting in charge the very person who wants to see the destruction of that agency. DeJoy began to blow up the Postal Service immediately. Is he pushing for releasing us from the prefunding mandate? No. Instead, in his opening statement to Congress he supported the idea that retirement payments are "unaffordable" and pension funding payments must be "rationalize[d]." DeJoy has financial interest in our competitors and has long sought the privatization of the USPS. A PMG who wanted us to succeed would be screaming from the rooftops about our dedicated forces working to deliver safe, secure and timely ballots for this election. He isn't. The best he has

offered is to stop dismantling the USPS until after the elections. While a recent survey showed the USPS with a 91% approval rate from the public, how long will that stand when the PMG lowers delivery standards and is actively working to undermine the public confidence of our ability to handle the upcoming ballots in a secure and timely manner. The losing side will scream voter fraud or voter suppression. Democracy will be the loser; the USPS will have been diminished.



Then of course the outright attack on Social Security. After campaigning that only he will protect Social Security, Trump stabs the program in the heart by proposing a suspension of the FICA tax. SS is half of the monthly income for many retirees, who would otherwise be living in poverty. We pay for these retirement benefits throughout our working lives with a payroll tax of 6.2%, complemented by an employer matching tax. A temporary suspension of this tax



**Melia Derrick**

means no funds are coming into the program which many claim is already in financial trouble. Even Republicans are questioning this Executive Order as serving no purpose for the current Covid 19 crisis. People can't spend the tax since it will have to be repaid as a balloon payment in 2021; the unemployed will of course see no relief. So why propose this? Well, if we all vote for the current Occupier, he will forgive the tax and make the cut permanent. And there goes your Social Security. It will not be up to any President, Congress must approve permanent cuts. Understand where your Congressperson or Senator stands on Social Security. Unions usually ask for a Scrap the Cap solution which taxes incomes past the current \$134,000 limit. Vote as if your financial life depends on it.

Stay tuned in  
Melia Derrick



Br. 9 Retired Letter Carrier  
Kerry Herdine  
Home: 952.854.2655  
Cell: 612.805.8407

## AME'S UNIFORMS

**OUR BUSINESS IS MAKING YOU LOOK GOOD!**

We offer "Life of the Garment" guarantee.  
If fixable we will repair your uniform at no cost to you.  
Take waist in/out and change hem length

**Ame's Uniforms are a UNION PREFERRED vendor**

Branch Nine News  
4001 Stinson Blvd. Suite 304  
Columbia Heights MN 55421

Change Service Requested

PRSR STD  
US POSTAGE  
PAID  
TWIN CITIES MN  
PERMIT NO. 91964

**Stay informed by:**

- \*Join Veterans Group <https://www.nalc.org/member-benefits/join-the-nalc-veterans-group>
- \* Branch9nalc.com (website)
- \* "like" our Branch 9 Facebook Page

**Contribute to the PAC**  
The Letter Carrier Political Fund is the anchor for NALC's legislative and political activities.



[nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity](http://nalc.org/government-affairs/political-activity)

## Branch 9 Calendar

Most BRANCH 9 Meetings and events have been modified see meeting notice.

Please continue to check the website and Facebook page for the latest information.

**September 22**

GMM  
7:00 PM  
Zoom/Online

**October 12**

Indigenous  
People's Day  
Columbus Day

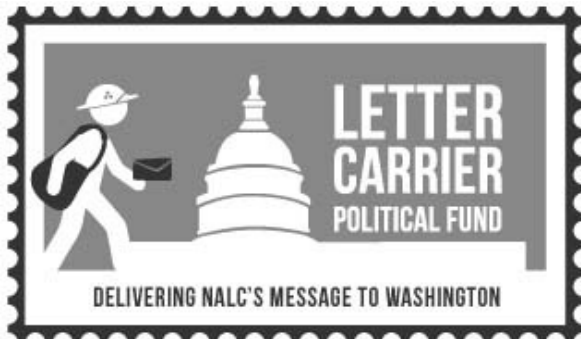
**October 13**

Steward Meeting  
7:00 PM  
Zoom/Online

**THE DIRECTOR OF RETIREES IS SCHEDULING ONLINE SOCIALS**

**If you wish to be part of them, contact Melia, the Branch office or check our Facebook page.**

**All other breakfasts and meetings are cancelled until further notice.**



Since union dues can't be used to support candidates for political office, NALC relies 100 percent on member contributions to the LCPF, which in turn helps us support those on Capitol Hill who defend the issues that matter most to us. Our PAC brings together in Washington strong letter carrier advocates—from all political parties—who are dedicated to helping to defend a strong USPS that provides universal, innovative and affordable service