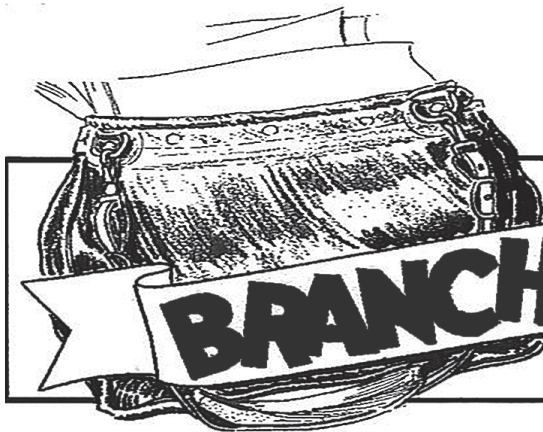


JEROME J. KEATING BRANCH



BRANCH NINE NEWS

"AN INJURY TO ONE IS AN INJURY TO ALL"

1964

VOLUME 67 No 7

Official Publication of Branch Nine, NALC

September 2015

You'll see all the fun and games from this year's picnic later in this issue, but here's a historical look back at one of the events Branch 9 had.

It was a different time and era but for a few years Branch 9 had a Branch 9 Queen contest. Researching one of the contestants we found that the 2nd runner up from 1967 is now The Honorable LaJune Thomas Lange.

She began her legal career with the Hennepin County Public Defender's Office as a trial lawyer until appointed by the governor to the trial court in 1985. Judge Lange served as a Fourth Judicial District Court Judge for the State of Minnesota handling complex civil and criminal cases until her recent retirement. Judge Lange now serves as Senior Fellow with the Roy Wilkins Center for Human Relations and Social Justice at the Hubert H. Humphrey School of Public Affairs. She is a founding member of the Minnesota

Jerome J Keating



BRANCH 9 QUEENS

From 1967 to 1970 Branch 9 held Queen Contests at the annual picnics. Picnics at that time drew about 3,000 people and the Queen Contest was a popular event. The Queens duties included parades and representing Branch 9 at labor functions around the city.



Winners of the first Branch 9 Queen contest in 1967, 1st runnerup Linda Carlson, Queen Marsha Rosein and 2nd runnerup LaJune Thomas.

Minority Lawyers Association and has Governors, Minnesota Women Lawyers, Minnesota Public Interest Research Foundation, American Bar Association, National Bar Association, Minnesota Association of Black Lawyers, Minnesota Supreme Court Racial Bias Task Force. She is a graduate of Augsburg College and the University of Minnesota Law School. Judge Lange is an internationally recognized expert in human rights and the rule of law in developing nations.

Diane Fisher a carrier in Parcel Post was Miss Branch 9 in 1969 and Tessie Neilson was Miss Branch 9 in 1970. Her father Paul carried at Richfield.



Carol Frisell, daughter of Main Office carrier Don Frisell was Miss Branch 9 and Miss Union Maid in 1968.

RETIREMENTS



Gary Olson (Lost Lake) takes his last punch with Steward Carol Garnto. Happy Retirement!



Jim Hogan and Dan Ingle (Thomas Burnett) last punch with Stewards Nancy Hall and Richard Pennertz.

THE LIGHTER? SIDE OF WORK :)



Columbia Heights CCA, Paige Jones received a little mix-up when ordering uniforms for the first time.

...ummm what unit of measurement did you use?

Welcome New Members

Abdi A Aden
 Travis A Balchun
 Eldon L Berkland
 Colin J Bjorklund
 Ashley M Egan
 Brock O Frazier
 Christopher R Grotkin
 Gordon D Gyeabour
 Caitlin M Hill
 Christopher T Hill
 Michael J Lepree
 Michael J Linn
 Kathryn F Logue
 Yuriy Mitrofanov
 Adam M Mohamed
 Stephanie D Nicholson
 Rahshad S Nixon
 Jose A Nunez Mendez
 Metuselah N Onduto
 Jean Paul Owona
 Natalie R Payne
 Tin Phan
 Gabriel N Sellers
 Abraham P Spinelli
 Giovauntai S Stewart
 Douglas W Strohkirch
 Ryan S Tollefson
 Joel S Turrentine
 Lyneatta K Ware
 Eric M Watson

In Memoriam

Peter Benzoni
 Richard "Dick" Anderson
 Dean Knight (Active)

Branch 9 would like to thank
GENE McNULTY
 for sponsoring a lane
 during the 2015 Ron St Clair
 MDA Bowl-a-thon!

*Thank you for supporting
 this worthy cause Gene!*

Branch 9, NALC
 2408 Central Ave. NE
 Minneapolis, MN 55418
 Voice: (612) 781-9858
 Fax: (612) 781-9849
 Website: branch9nalc.com

Branch 9 Officers

President
 Mike Zagaros

Exec. Vice President
 Darrell Maus

Recording Secretary
 JoAnn Gilbaugh

Treasurer
 Lisa O'Neill

Financial Secretary
 Melia Derrick

Editor
 Jeremy Rothstein
branch9news@branch9nalc.com

Sergeant at Arms
 Jim Nelson

Trustees
 Mike Smith
 Cathy Jones
 Ken Jambois

Director of Retirees
 Rodney Anderson
 (651) 270-7807

NALC Health Benefits Rep.
 Julie Waldemar
 (612) 963-6252

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.

Executive Vice President's Report

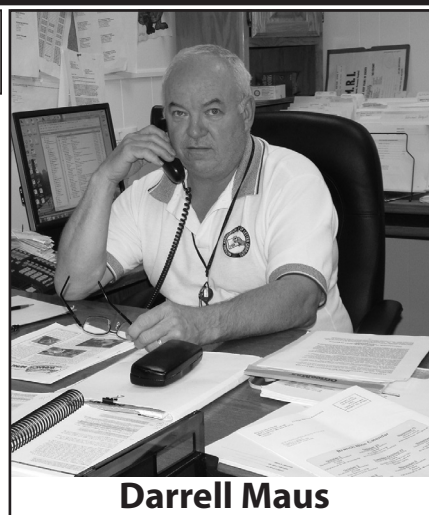
OUR DAILY BATTLES

Carrying mail, whether on foot or curb side delivery, is honest, hard work and letter carriers do it day in and day out. We are out there daily no matter what, in good weather or bad, new rules and policies, unfounded expectations, different methods of scanning or handling mail, carriers EARN their paychecks. Our work load is not very predictable or consistent, and occurs mostly in the outdoors, in weather conditions often cursed by inside workers. Knowing these truths, *why, oh why, would we allow ourselves and our work ethic to be defined by some troubled supervisor and/or manager?* Where the only vision they see about a day's workload has come off a computer screen (DOIS projections) or a mandate to be off the street by 4:00. These are absolute and the only guides they use no matter what the carrier's input is.

It seems as of late, some management personnel have developed a very poor habit. It apparently begins when a carrier fails to meet the leave time to be on the street "expectations" that DOIS has generated. The carrier will not receive any consideration by the supervisor on what their judgment of workload is for the day. **Then when the carriers input turns out to be reality for the day, the carrier is then called into the manager's office, where a supervisor or manager bombards them with several of their subjective observations.** "Why is it taking you so long out there?" "You're not giving us an honest effort!" "If your times don't improve, I'll have to discipline you!" "What happened to you? You use to be such a good carrier?" **Or worse yet these shouting matches taking place on the workroom**

floor. These meetings vary with regards to specifics (or lack of), and are sometimes layered with inconsistent messages and are void of any of your personally witnessed "deficient activities." Almost all of the carriers that have been through this leave the meeting feeling less of a person than when they walked in or while working at their case. For whatever reason, some carriers allow this perception of their work ethic and performance to own them. Despite their own reality of self worth and character, they take on this cloud of guilt and shame. It's impossible to make people be nice, let alone professional or genial with this type of managerial style.

Unfortunately, as a result of these meetings, carriers are left feeling dejected, devalued, and angry. They have informed management what their day's workload consists of and when that estimate turns out to be accurate and not according to DOIS numbers they are scorned. The only thing management considers is that they have to be on the street by a certain time and back to the office by a certain time and that is the only rule they have to follow. **DOIS cannot project your leave time, your return time, or your workload for the day. Saying that, management has the right to tell you when to be on the street and to return by a certain time and letter carriers are to follow those instructions.** Unfortunately it is the amount of work that management wants performed during that time span that is the problem. Mike and I have never had so many different stations calling to inform us that management is curtailing first class, preferential, and priority mail.



Darrell Maus

The regular carriers in our stations that have been on their routes with the Postal Service for years are all being subjected to this style of management in some of our stations. **But to make matters worse our office is getting reports of this type of behavior happening with our CCA's even when they are still in training at the station (IF A STATION ACTUALLY DOES THE PROPER TRAINING!).** "You're not going to make it", "You won't last two weeks", **everyone else can do those deliveries in 2 hours!** Often the decision to retain a new CCA is decided before all the requirements of the training procedure are completed by management. There are managers that feel our CCA's are "throw away employees" and have the mentality that there is a revolving door and just move on to the next new CCA and keep repeating the cycle. **The Postal Service has invested \$6,500 in these new employees before they even show up at the stations they are assigned to.**

CCA's are the future of the Postal Service. Proper training and working with the JIT's helps these new carriers through the first few weeks and is the only way to insure the future career carriers the Postal Service staffing will require down the road.

Exec. VP Report cont'd on page 8

THE BRANCH 9 PICNIC 2015

FUN - FOOD - CARICATURES - FACEPAINTING - GAMES



Looks just like me



The shelter was needed as the rain came later in the day



OK- now turn to your left



Beautiful facepainting



Mmm good BBQ



Hold still and smile



Captured in caricature



Lined up for the feast



Facepainting sharks, artistic designs and superheros



The caricature artists were very popular

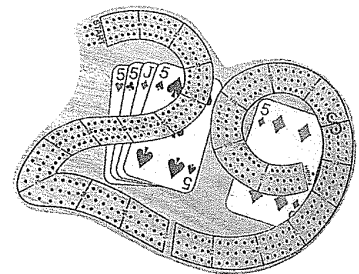
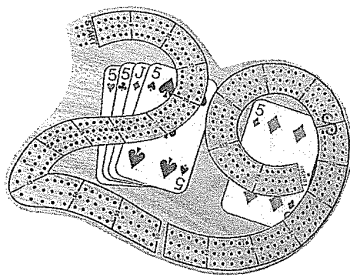
RETIREE CRIBBAGE TOURNAMENT

Wednesday, October 14th

10:00AM

PLACE:

NALC Branch 28
1715 Van Dyke Street
Maplewood, MN
651.771.0533



DIRECTIONS:

Take Highway 36 to White Bear Avenue
then go south to Larpenteur Avenue.

OR

Take Highway 94 to White Bear Avenue
then go north to Larpenteur Avenue.

\$3.00 Entry Fee

- If you have any questions or if you need a ride, call Rodney at 651.270.7807.
- Bring a friend, your cribbage board and cards.
- Refreshments will be provided.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

CCA RELATIVE STANDING LIST

1	6/14/2014	PETERSON	LESLIE	58	10/18/2014	WALSH	SARA
2	6/21/2014	MORRIS II	TIMOTHY	59	10/25/2014	UNG	JOE
3	6/21/2014	GRAF	JAMES	60	10/25/2014	KRINKE	BARRY
4	6/21/2014	MENA	ANTHONY	61	10/25/2014	SPEED JR	RODNEY
5	6/21/2014	YI	HYEMIN	62	10/25/2014	ISAAK	REBEKAH
6	6/21/2014	OREMODU	OLANREWAJU	63	10/25/2014	SJOLSVOLD	TYLER
7	6/28/2014	LYONS	JEREMY	64	10/25/2014	WERKMEISTER	LAYLA
8	6/28/2014	GALVAN HARDY	ANGELA	65	10/25/2014	JABLONSKI	JOEL
9	6/28/2014	LEGROS	BRIAN	66	10/25/2014	COLE	GRACIELA
10	7/5/2014	HUEPENBECKER	NATHAN	67	10/25/2014	POLLAK	GABRIEL
11	7/5/2014	KEMMETMUELLER	JULIE	68	11/1/2014	REED	JEFFERY
12	7/5/2014	MCCALPIN	WANDA	69	11/8/2014	FAGERBERG	NETERRE
13	7/5/2014	ISAAK	MESERET	70	11/8/2014	LEWIS	JASON
14	7/12/2014	MORRIS	VIRGIL	71	11/8/2014	MULCAHY	KYLE
15	7/19/2014	CASH	AMANDA	72	11/8/2014	HOLIWAY	WYATT
16	7/19/2014	JONES	ANEISA	73	11/8/2014	JOHNSON	MAURICE
17	7/19/2014	WOODBURN	MATTHEW	74	11/15/2014	BRADLEY	CHANTA
18	7/19/2014	TUCKER	AARON	75	11/15/2014	MANNING	CIEIRCA
19	8/9/2014	SOP	BRIAN	76	11/15/2014	HER	VANG
20	8/23/2014	BLAKE	DANIEL	77	11/15/2014	TURNER	FALEASEA
21	8/23/2014	LYDDY	JESSE	78	11/15/2014	WALLACE	LAMAR
22	8/23/2014	BELTER	MIRIA	79	11/15/2014	WHITBY	WES
23	8/23/2014	BROOKS	SAMUEL	80	11/15/2014	MOUA	GER
24	9/6/2014	STRAND	ZACHARY	81	11/22/2014	MOKOSSO I	MARK
25	9/6/2014	NELSON	CHRISTOPHER	82	11/22/2014	SHIN	MIKE
26	9/6/2014	HAJI ALI	ABDIKARIM	83	12/6/2014	LA TOURELLE	AMANDA
27	9/6/2014	THAO	YER	84	12/6/2014	VOELZ	CODY
28	9/6/2014	HOGAN	EDWARD	85	12/6/2014	HEDMAN	DAVID
29	9/6/2014	VENTURA	MICHELLE	86	12/6/2014	VANG	SHONG
30	9/6/2014	TYRRELL	ASHLAND	87	12/6/2014	WHITE	PAMELA
31	9/20/2014	CHERNY	CRAIG	88	12/6/2014	DENEBOBA	DEGEFU
32	9/20/2014	VANG	TOLD	89	12/13/2014	BICKEL	MELISSA
33	9/20/2014	GARCIA	GABRIEL	90	12/17/2014	SAMPSON	CARL
34	9/20/2014	JOHNSON	JOSEPH	91	12/20/2014	FENTRESS IV IV	LAWYER
35	9/20/2014	NOULINTHAVONG	ALEX	92	12/20/2014	BISCHOFF	PETER
36	9/20/2014	DONZO	OUSMANE	93	12/20/2014	BOSTIC II II	ROBERT
37	9/20/2014	WALTON	CALVIN	94	12/20/2014	SOWL	SAMUEL
38	9/20/2014	SCHNEIDER	DEAN	95	12/27/2014	OTTUM	JASON
39	9/20/2014	GRAY SR	DAN	96	12/27/2014	JONES	PAIGE
40	9/20/2014	DUAX	BRIENNA	97	12/27/2014	SMITH	ALEXANDER
41	9/20/2014	ZOUAD	BADREDDINE	98	12/27/2014	BRANKLEY	JOHNATHAN
42	9/20/2014	GERTZ	JEFF	99	12/27/2014	JOHNSON	MATTHEW
43	9/27/2014	HANSEN	DAVID	100	12/27/2014	DOVENMUEHLER	CARA
44	9/27/2014	JOHNSON	JAY VONN	101	12/27/2014	MOHAMUD	ABDISALAN
45	9/27/2014	OLUFSON	ANDREW	102	1/3/2015	NEWCOMB-EVANS	THERESA
46	9/27/2014	SCHMALTZ	JORDAN	103	1/3/2015	KELLY	AMANDA
47	9/27/2014	ERICKSON	KURT	104	1/10/2015	BEIRN III	GEORGE
48	9/27/2014	JONES	SPENCER	105	1/10/2015	SCHIUNG	KEVIN
49	10/1/2014	HANSON	SCOTT	106	1/10/2015	THOMPSON	BRETT
50	10/4/2014	WILLIAMS	KENON	107	1/10/2015	GASTON	DANIELLE
51	10/4/2014	PECK	TANNER	108	1/10/2015	DAWSON	KYLE
52	10/4/2014	LEONARD	LOUIS	109	1/10/2015	PERRIZO	MICHAEL
53	10/11/2014	MEIER	MAXWELL	110	1/10/2015	KASPERSON	GENE
54	10/11/2014	LEONARD	JETT	111	1/10/2015	MURRAY	TYNISHA
55	10/11/2014	BOEKHOFF	JACQUELIN	112	1/10/2015	NIKUS	LEMU
56	10/11/2014	LERMA	CRYSTAL	113	1/16/2015	NEIMY	JOSEPH
57	10/11/2014	SMILEY	ERIK	114	1/16/2015	NAYLOR	TARIE

115	1/17/2015	KELLER	DONOVAN	166	6/27/2015	JONES	MARVIN
116	1/17/2015	CHEA	DANYETTA	167	6/27/2015	PETERSON	MARK
117	1/17/2015	WOODS	ROBERT	168	6/27/2015	POHL	MICHAEL
118	1/17/2015	CASEY	TIMOTHY	169	6/27/2015	SOMADO-HEMAZRO	MESSAN
119	1/17/2015	LAMMERS	MICHAEL	170	6/27/2015	LI	FEIFEI
120	1/17/2015	HOLLINS	KUMARRIA	171	6/27/2015	BARNUM	CYNTHIA
121	1/17/2015	ROLL	BRIAN	172	6/27/2015	MAZZARA	SHANNON
122	1/17/2015	POZNIAK	CHRISTOPHER	173	6/27/2015	POULSEN	RICHARD
123	1/17/2015	RUSSELL	JAMES	174	6/27/2015	LOGUE	KATHRYN
124	1/24/2015	ARIGNAMATH	STEVEN	175	6/27/2015	HARRY	ELIZABETH
125	1/31/2015	WRIGHT	GENTRY	176	6/27/2015	GYEABOUR	GORDON
126	1/31/2015	LIYANAGE	BILLIE JO	177	6/27/2015	DOLO JR JR	MOSES
127	1/31/2015	KORBEL	JOEY	178	6/27/2015	GORDON	ERWIN
128	2/7/2015	CHANDLER	RONALD	179	7/1/2015	GONZALEZ	BRIAN
129	2/7/2015	BROWNSON	DERRICK	180	7/4/2015	RENNER	DAN
130	2/7/2015	BERGEN	SEAN	181	7/4/2015	VAUGHN	MITCHELL
131	2/7/2015	HALL	DARIUS	182	7/4/2015	YEBOAH	PATRICK
132	2/7/2015	DIAWARA	SEKOU	183	7/8/2015	LEE	KONGSHIA
133	2/14/2015	FREY	NICHOLAS	184	7/9/2015	WATSON	ERIC
134	2/14/2015	LUNDQUIST	KYLER	185	7/11/2015	KOMAREC	JACOB
135	2/14/2015	BIXLER	JOYLYNN	186	7/20/2015	CARTER	DONALD
136	2/14/2015	ANDERSON	CARESSE	187	7/25/2015	PAYNE	NATALIE
137	2/14/2015	HOLMES	NIKIA	188	7/25/2015	SELLERS	GABRIEL
138	2/21/2015	LOR	BEE	189	7/25/2015	HILL I	CAITLIN
139	2/21/2015	TAYLOR	CHAVONN	190	7/25/2015	BALCHUN	TRAVIS
140	2/21/2015	TANGEN	KYLE	191	7/25/2015	LINN	MIKE
141	2/21/2015	XIONG	CHOUA	192	7/25/2015	NICHOLSON	STEPHANIE
142	2/21/2015	AMEGNENOU	KOMIVI	193	7/25/2015	HILL	CHRISTOPHER
143	2/21/2015	NEAL	EVALINA	194	7/25/2015	AOHAMED	ADAM
144	2/21/2015	BOWMAN	VERNA	195	7/25/2015	GROTKIN	CHRISTOPHER
145	2/21/2015	SCOTT	DAVID	196	7/25/2015	ADEN	ABDI
146	2/21/2015	HERNANDEZ	MOISES	197	7/25/2015	BJORKLUND	COLIN
147	4/28/2015	STAIERT	STEPHANIE	198	7/25/2015	GARRITY	GREGORY
148	5/6/2015	THOR	CHUE	199	7/25/2015	LAVALLE	JAMES
149	5/30/2015	ZAJAC	RENAE	200	7/25/2015	TURRENTINE	JOEL
150	5/30/2015	DENNEN	ROBERT	201	7/25/2015	HUNE	KANIKA
151	5/30/2015	KIERNAN	TERENCE	202	7/25/2015	EGAN	ASHLEY
152	5/30/2015	FLETCHER	BEVERLY	203	7/25/2015	SARENPA JR	MICHAEL
153	5/30/2015	LEKMON	TENZIN	204	7/25/2015	NTEGE I	PAUL
154	5/30/2015	JEONG	KAYM	205	7/25/2015	OWONA	JEAN PAUL
155	5/30/2015	MERCHANT	DONALD	206	8/1/2015	LEPREE	MICHAEL
156	5/30/2015	YANG	SAYEE	207	8/8/2015	NIXON	RAHSHAD
157	5/30/2015	GRISHAM	GORDON	208	8/8/2015	WARE I	LYNEATTA
158	5/30/2015	JIBALO	MIRESSA	209	8/8/2015	NUNEZ MENDEZ	JOSE
159	5/30/2015	CUEVAS	OLGA	210	8/8/2015	PHAM	TIN
160	6/27/2015	KAROUN	TRICIA	211	8/15/2015	STROHKIRCH	DOUGLAS
161	6/27/2015	ZIEMANN	PETER	212	8/15/2015	ONDUTO	METUSELAH
162	6/27/2015	MICHILOT	JORDAN				
163	6/27/2015	FLAGG	CHRISTOPHER				
164	6/27/2015	ROSS II	RANDALL				
165	6/27/2015	EDWARDS	NATALIE				

**UNIFORMS
UNLIMITED**

Minneapolis
2220 Lyndale Avenue South
Minneapolis, MN 55405
612-377-0011

The Twin Cities Postal Headquarters

USA
Union preferred

St. Paul
935 N. Dale Street
St. Paul, MN 55103
651-224-7567

The White House Recognizes the Postal Reorganization Act Anniversary

THE WHITE HOUSE
WASHINGTON

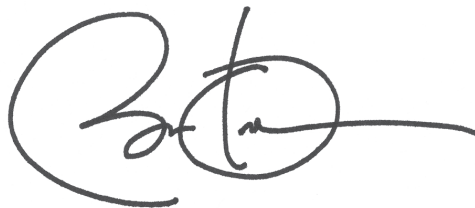
August 11, 2015

I send greetings to all those observing the 45th anniversary of the Postal Reorganization Act.

Post offices and their employees play an important role in our national culture and contribute to a rich and lasting tradition of correspondence in the United States. Since our Nation's earliest days when Benjamin Franklin was appointed as the first Postmaster General, postal workers have tirelessly served their fellow citizens by fortifying the people-to-people bonds that make our society strong.

Forty-five years ago, the modern United States Postal Service was created with the passage of the Postal Reorganization Act—and today, the women and men of the postal service carry forward a proud legacy of connecting Americans and fortifying the ties that bind us. As President, I know how important this is: Each day, I read mail from ordinary Americans—letters that do more than almost anything else to keep me in touch with what is happening around our country and in the lives of our people.

I am profoundly grateful to our Nation's dedicated postal service professionals, and I wish you all the best as you commemorate this meaningful anniversary.



On August 11, 2015 President Barack Obama sent a letter to the NALC and the other three postal unions, recognizing the 45th anniversary of the signing of the Postal Reorganization Act.

Exec. VP Report cont'd from page 3

This whole negative perception is based on formulas in DOIS that may be a semi accurate tool for management to use but only if accurate data is inputted. **The problem is when inaccurate data is entered into the system that contaminates and makes it a flawed system.** The assumptions that management seems to have is that you are a machine, able to replicate exact time performances. Every time I witness a supervisor doing their morning go around it reminds me of the Family Feud show where the host constantly says *"and the computer says"*.

We currently are winding down from stations going through the City Delivery Route Alternate Adjustment Process (CDRAAP) attempting to adjust DOIS to the current route values as opposed to adjusting the routes to DOIS projections. Hopefully it gets better.

Here is the real fact *"your route is valued at whatever it is the morning you punch in"* that's it, plain and simple.

Latest Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA)

Based on the August 19, 2015 release of the July 2015 Consumer Price Index (CPI), the sixth Cost-Of-Living Adjustment (COLA) for letter carriers under the 2011-2016 National Agreement **will be \$0.**



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

How do we **FIX** the U.S. Economy?

A HIGH-WAGE STRATEGY FOR SHARED PROSPERITY

PUT AMERICA BACK TO WORK

Wall Street and the 1% Pay for Investments in Education, Clean Energy and Infrastructure



RESTORE WORKERS' BARGAINING POWER

To Raise Wages, Reduce Inequality, Fuel Demand and Rebuild the Middle Class



MAKE THINGS IN AMERICA AGAIN

Stop Exporting Good Jobs Overseas

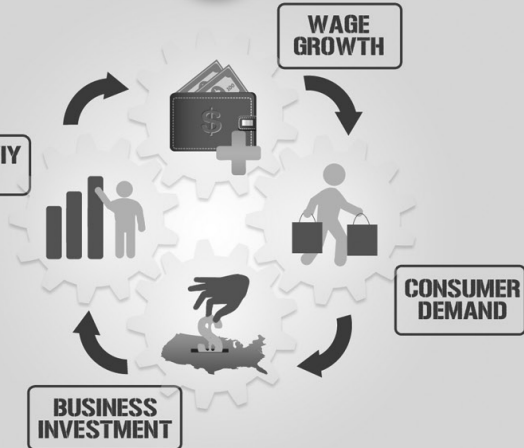


REIN IN WALL STREET

Make Wall Street Serve the Real Economy



PRODUCTIVITY GROWTH



THE RESULT A Virtuous Circle

AFL-CIO

To fix what's wrong with the U.S. economy, we have to replace the failed low-wage economic strategy of the past 30 years with a high-wage strategy for shared prosperity.

The first step in such a high-wage strategy is to put America back to work because high unemployment keeps wages down. Our goal should be "full employment," meaning everybody who wants to work should be able to find a decent job. We can't allow the unfounded fear of inflation to be used as an excuse to keep unemployment high and wages low.

The second step of a high-wage strategy is to restore workers' ability to bargain collectively, which will raise wages, reduce economic inequality, fuel consumer demand and help rebuild the middle class. To guarantee that workers who want to join a union and bargain collectively can do so, we need urgent reform of our unfair labor laws. We also can reconnect wages with productivity by ensuring that every job is a good job, raising and indexing the minimum wage, extending minimum wage and overtime protection to more workers and strengthening investment in workers' education and skills training.

The third step of a high-wage strategy is to make things in America again. We can do that by eliminating our trade deficit, ending overvaluation of the dollar, combating currency manipulation by our trading partners, eliminating all incentives for offshoring in our tax code, enhancing Buy America safeguards, aggressively enforcing our trade laws and promoting a Global New Deal to help our trading partners rely on domestic incomes, rather than trade surpluses, as their source of economic growth.

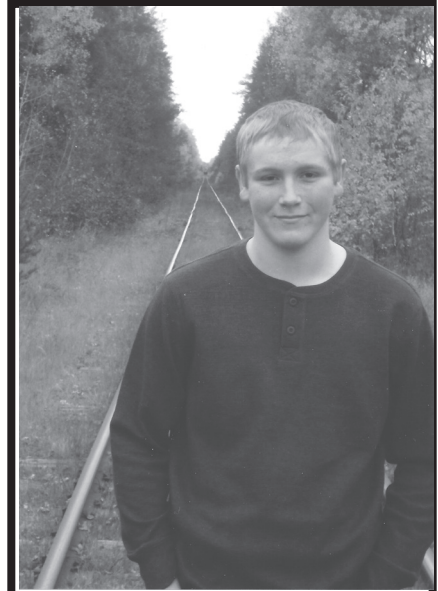
The fourth step of a high-wage strategy is to shrink our bloated financial sector and make it serve the real economy again. We can do that by re-regulating Wall Street, eliminating the tax benefit for leveraged buyouts and imposing a modest tax on financial speculation.

Doing all these things would restore a "virtuous circle" in which wage growth leads to healthy consumer demand...which encourages business investment...which drives productivity growth... which (if we have strong unions and low unemployment) leads us back to dynamic wage growth.

<http://www.aflcio.org/Issues/Jobs-and-Economy/How-Do-We-Fix-the-U.S.-Economy>

2014 Million Mile Plaque Recipients Minneapolis, MN

Timothy E. Anderson – Coon Rapids – Retired
 Andrew J. Brueske – Brooklyn Park
 Mary C. Carter – Bloomington – Retired
 Alan H. Champion – Golden Valley
 Daniel M. Courteau – Main Office
 Scott A. Dehn – West Edina – Retired
 Gene D. Delano – Main Office
 Jane E. Doe – T. Burnett
 Marc P. Dumas – Coon Rapids
 Kevin G. Erickson – Brooklyn Center
 Anthony M. Halfen – Main Office
 Diane M. Hall – Brooklyn Center – Retired
 Jeffrey M. Heimer – Coon Rapids – Retired
 Mark A. Holtey – Coon Rapids
 Thomas R. Kahler – Eastside
 Kimberly K. Kline – Edina
 Linda L. Larson – Lost Lake – Retired
 Kim S. Lewis – West Edina – Retired
 Rosemary J. Lundell – Elmwood – Retired
 Jeffrey R. Mattson – Brooklyn Park
 Jeffrey S. Mc Eachern – T. Burnett – Retired
 John P. Meyer – Brooklyn Center
 William M. Morgan – University – Retired
 Pauline P. Pepper – Edina
 Jonathan E. Peterson – University – Retired
 Wallace L. Santos – Golden Valley
 Steven L. Schwede – Lost Lake
 Kevin L. Squier – Brooklyn Center – Retired
 Sandra J. Stensgard – Richfield
 Robert J. Warden – Loring



Thank You Branch 9.
 Hello, my name is Jason Johnson
 and I am the recipient of the
 2015 Walter E. Couillard/
 Eugene P. McNulty Scholarship.
 I enjoy hunting and fishing and
 in the Fall will be going to
 school for accounting.

Request for Annual Leave Donations USPS Annual Leave Sharing Program

The following list of carriers are incapacitated for available Postal Service duties.

RICHARD A BURKE - City Carrier at the Thomas Burnett
LSP# 15-4E-553-1024

GREG E GREENWELL - City Carrier at Coon Rapids
LSP# 15-4E-553-1131

ROBIN T PIERSON - City Carrier at Powderhorn
LSP# 15-4E-553-0985

MICHAEL WILLIAMS - City Carrier at Robbinsdale
LSP# 15-4E-553-1195

Any Northlad District Career, CCA, MHA or PSE employee who is interested in donating **earned** annual leave may access PS Form 3970-D, *Request to Donate Leave* at <http://blue.usps.gov/formmgmt/3999.htm>. An Employee may also contact (a) the immediate supervisor, (b) the HR Shared Service Center at 1-877-477-3273, option 5; or (c) a union representative to request this form.

Mail PS Form 3970-D, *Request to Donate Leave*, with **Parts I and II completed to:**

Attn: Leave Share Coordinator
 HR Shared Service Center
 Compensation and Benefits
 PO Box 970400
 Greensboro NC 27497-0400

“Knowledge is Power”

CCA Rights and Benefits

Uniforms

CCAs are provided a uniform allowance. This is covered in Article 26.3 found on page 100 of the National Agreement.

Article 26. Uniforms and Work Clothes:

Section 3. City Carrier Assistant
When the CCA has completed ninety (90) work days, or has been employed for 120 calendar days, whichever comes first, the CCA will be provided with an annual uniform allowance equal to the amount provided to career employees in Section 2.A. Time served as a Transitional Employee will count toward the 90/120 day requirement. The uniform purchases are reimbursed by the Postal Service directly to the vendor. Uniforms will be returned by CCAs separated and not reappointed.

The amount of the uniform allowance is covered in Article 26.2 found on pages 99-100 of the National Agreement:

Section 2. Annual Allowance

The annual allowance for eligible employees in the reimbursable uniform program shall be as follows: *Effective November 21, 2015 the annual allowance for all eligible employees shall be increased from \$409.00 per annum to \$420.00 per annum. The increase shall become effective on the employee's anniversary date.*

Questions 47-54 of M-01833 clarify how the uniform allowance is provided to a CCA, how items are purchased, and how the licensed uniform vendor receives payment for uniform purchases:

47. When does a CCA become eligible for a uniform allowance?

Upon completion of 90 work days or 120 calendar days of employment as a CCA, whichever comes first. CCAs who have previously satisfied the 90/120 day requirement as a transitional employee (with an appointment made after September 29, 2007), become eligible for a uniform allowance when they begin their first CCA appointment.

48. What defines the anniversary date for the purpose of annual uniform allowance eligibility for a CCA? ***The calendar date the CCA initially becomes eligible for a uniform allowance.***

49. How is the uniform anniversary date determined for a CCA who is converted to career status? ***The employee retains the same anniversary date held as a CCA.***

50. How is a uniform allowance provided to a CCA? ***When a CCA becomes eligible for a uniform allowance, funds must be approved through an eBuy submission by local management. After approval, a Letter of Authorization form must be completed and provided to the employee within 14 days of the eligibility date. The CCA takes the completed form to a USPS authorized vendor to purchase uniform items. The Letter of Authorization can be located on the Uniform Program website on the Blue Page under Labor Relations.***

51. How are uniform items purchased? ***Uniform items can only be purchased from USPS licensed vendors. A list of all authorized Postal Service Uniform vendors is located under the Labor Relations website: Uniform Program from the Blue Page and also on Liteblue under My HR, and look for the link for uniform Program.***

52. How does a licensed uniform vendor receive payment for

uniform items purchased by a CCA? ***The licensed vendor creates an itemized invoice of the sale, provides a copy of the invoice to the CCA, and sends the original invoice for payment to the local manager identified on the Letter of Authorization. Upon receipt, the local manager certifies the invoice and pays the vendor using the office Smartpay card.***

53. If a CCA does not use the full allowance before his/her appointment ends, does the allowance carry-over into the next appointment when the appointment begins before the next uniform anniversary date? ***Yes, however, the CCA cannot purchase uniform items during his/her five calendar day break between appointments. If the full annual uniform allowance is not used before the next anniversary date, the remaining balance for that year is forfeited.***

54. Does the annual uniform anniversary date change when a CCA is separated for lack of work and then rehired as a CCA after his/her anniversary date has passed? ***Yes, in this situation a new anniversary date is established on the date of reappointment and the CCA is provided a full annual uniform allowance within 14 days of the new anniversary date.***

If CCAs have any questions about uniforms or they have not received a letter of authorization for purchasing uniforms within 14 days of their eligibility they should see their shop steward.

UNIFORMS NEEDED

If you have any gently used, clean, current uniforms that you would like to donate, please give them to your steward or you can drop them off at the Branch 9 office during business hours.

Branch Nine News
2408 Central Avenue NE
Minneapolis, MN 55418-3712

Change Service Requested

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

Stay informed by:

- **Signing up for E-activist at NALC.org**
- **Branch9nalc.com (website)**
- **“like” our Branch 9 Facebook Page**
- **Follow us on Twitter**



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

Branch 9 Calendar

September 3, 1916

Adamson Act - Est. 8 hr. workday for employees of interstate railroads, with OT for working longer hrs.

September 7

HOLIDAY

Labor Day

September 8

Southside Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM

Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Dr, Richfield, MN

September 8

Steward Meeting
7:00PM

Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lk Rd, Crystal, MN

September 22

Nokomis Retiree Breakfast
9:00AM
Fred Babcock VFW
6715 Lakeshore Dr, Richfield, MN

September 22

General Membership Meeting
7:00PM
Crystal VFW
5222 Bass Lk Rd, Crystal

September 22

POCUM
6:00 PM
Labor Centre -2nd Floor
312 Central Ave, Minneapolis, MN

October 2

N Suburban Retiree Breakfast
8:30AM
Denny’s Restaurant
9020 Quaday Ave NE, Otsego, MN

October 6

Northside Retiree Breakfast
9:30AM
Elsie’s
729 Marshall St NE, Minneapolis, MN

October 12

HOLIDAY

Columbus Day