

The Local Line

"A PPA Award Winning Publication"

The Official Voice of the
Northwest Illinois Area Local

Floor Edition

Update by: Jackie Engelhart

The Tentative National Agreement will be Mailed to all Members for Ratification...

On 1-18-2022 President Dimondstein emailed: "The printing of the TA is close to being completed. Supply chain issues and COVID are having an impact on the process, but it is our hope that ballots will begin to be mailed within two weeks. The tentative agreement should be posted on the APWU website." Every member should receive a copy of the agreement and a ballot to vote on it. **District 1 Medical Unit** All of northern Illinois is now part of District 1 as Palatine is no longer part of Lakeland and Carol Stream is no longer part of Central because those districts no longer exist. The District 1 Medical Unit is located in Chicago at Cardiss Collins and that is where all medicals with restricted information should go. The A/OHNA is Barbara Dailey, RN OHS Illinois 1 Phone: 312-983-8614 Fax: 312-983-7521 Her email is Barbara.j.Dailey@usps.gov.

USPS to Deliver COVID Test Kits

The Postal Service will begin delivery of the millions of COVID test kits to be mailed out in the next few weeks/months. This work will be performed in Postal Support Annexes set up around the country to handle the peak Christmas volume. Many of these leased buildings have no mail, including the Chicago PSA down the street from Chicago Metro L&DC. Clerks are assigned to assemble the packages. The Chicago (Busse) PSA began operation last week. Some 20 Palatine PSE Clerks were called at home and told to report to the Chicago Annex the next morning, with no notice to them or to the Union, and without asking for volunteers. This is another example of the lack of consideration postal management shows to employees as a result of poor planning. The site manager for the Chicago PSA is listed as "Dan Halfman (Kenyata Moore). Kenyata is the Palatine in-Plant Manager on detail as A/Manager Integration and Support for Westshores Division.

APWU Signs Memorandum for COVID Test Kit Fulfillment Pilot

The MOU has 10 items #5 states: The USPS will supply the Union at the installation level with a list of all PSEs designated for performing this work. This information has not been provided to NWIAL. #9 states: Full-Time Career clerks assigned or detailed to PSAs designated as part of this pilot and who are on the ODL will be afforded maximum overtime opportunities up to 12 hours/60 hours per week for the duration of the pilot. #10 states: The duration of the pilot will be 75 days from 1-12-2022, unless extended by mutual agreement. Our National Union has told all Locals representing the PSA's to not file grievances on this pilot program. We would have filed a grievance on management not asking for volunteers and the lack of notice. **NWIAL Shirts Remain** If you did not order a shirt on the website you can request one at your union office and the AO's can call the union hall with your name and shirt size. We are out of 2x, 3x, and 4x but are working on getting those sizes. Order...

January 27, 2022

Jackie Engelhart
President
Dave Baskin
Vice President
Alan Czerwinski
News Director

Special points of interest:

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Miscellaneous

Northwest Illinois Area Local
American Postal Workers Union
194 W. Lake Street
Elmhurst, IL 60126
Phone: 630-833-0088
Fax: 630-833-0248
Email: nwial7140@yahoo.com
Web: nwial7140@yahoo.com

Palatine Sexual Harassment Investigation Drags on...

"We are still waiting for the results of the sexual harassment investigation regarding a Palatine SDO. A complaint was given to the Union and forwarded to Palatine Plant Manager Allen Mitchell on 11-3-2021. The investigation is being conducted by District 1 Labor Relations Manager Lawrence Edwards Jr. after first being assigned to MDO Michelle Oliver." Since that was printed in the 12-27-2021 Local Line we have heard nothing from management. We contacted our National Business Agent James Stevenson for assistance and on 1-9-2022 he wrote the following email to District 1 Human Resource Manager Barbara Singleton: *"The APWU is requesting that an official IMIP (Initial Management Inquiry Process) per publication 552/553 and the ELM be conducted immediately at the Palatine facility due to serious allegations of sexual harassment. The IMIP has also been mandated by the Postmaster General as the recognized procedure for investigating claims such as those being raised at Palatine. Please contact Jackie Engelhart (President of NWIAL) for further details with the understanding that specific witness statements should be obtained by the members of the IMIP team in their official investigation. It is my understanding that the allegations of sexual harassment were officially raised in November 2021. It is now January 2022. Publication 552/553 requires a "prompt" investigation. Please insure that an IMIP is immediately conducted at the Palatine Facility to investigate serious allegations of sexual harassment. As the issue has now been outstanding in excess of 60 days without an investigation being conducted, Step 2 of the IMIP process specifically requires in-*

volvement of the District Manager of Human Resources which is why my correspondence was addressed to your attention." On 1-10-2022 HR Manager Singleton responded "I am forwarding your email to Illinois 1 LR Manager Lawrence Edwards, coordinator for IMIP." Why did the plant manager not contact the district immediately? The state of postal management is reflected in the deteriorating conditions of our postal facilities.

Is Postal Management incompetent or do they just not care? Yes. We await the investigation results.

About ECOMP

ECOMP is a web based application accessible via the Department of Labor's public internet site. Through this portal, federal workers and their employers may; Electronically file workers compensation forms; Track the exact status of any form or document submitted via ECOMP; and Electronically upload and submit documents to existing case files. The Employees' Compensation Operations & Management Portal (ECOMP) allows federal employees to file claims for benefits under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) online. You will begin by registering with the ECOMP website:
<http://www.ecomp.dol.gov>

1. Click the registration link to register for an account
2. Enter your personal information including your name, email address, your supervisor's email address, and choose your agency information.
3. Once you have completed the registration information click the Create Account button.
4. Go to your email and complete your registration by clicking the provided line to confirm your email. Providing accurate information is important.

After you have filled out all required fields in your CA-1 or CA-2 and electronically submitted it to your supervisor, you will be notified of your form's progress in ECOMP every step of the way via email. The final email will be your OWCP case number. You can also monitor your ECOMP forms via your claimant home page by logging into your account. Additional help and training material can be found in the HELP section of the ECOMP home page. ECOMP also allows CA-7 forms to be filed for wage loss compensation claims. For cases created outside of ECOMP, click the button at the top right hand side of the screen to locate an existing case and find your CA-7 form's listing to begin. After you have filled out all required fields in your CA-7 and electronically submitted it to your injury compensation and or HRM office you will be notified of your form's progress via email.

Welcome New Busse Steward

We recently appointed Asia Slater as a tour 1 Busse Clerk Steward.

From Brenda at Palatine

Tour 3 General Clerk Brenda asked me to remind ODL employees who bid to a new section or tour to notify management of the change so they can be added to the correct ODL. To avoid confusion it is a good idea to notify management to add you to the ODL corresponding to your new bid.

Miscellaneous

1. When you move, etc., fill out a change of address with us.
2. When you retire become an APWU Retiree Member
3. Tour 1 employees writing a witness statement should make sure they have the right date.
4. Always ask for a Steward if you are called into a meeting that could lead to discipline.
5. If you want to file a grievance, write a witness statement.

