

THE LOCAL LINE

June 21, 2024

President Dave Baskin
Czerwinski

Vice President Jackie Engelhart

News Director Alan

600 MVS Director

On Sunday, June 9, 2024, the membership voted in favor of Oscar Molina to be the new 600 MVS Director, replacing Walter Mitchell who vacated the position when the NDC took over the representation of the Busse facility.

Congratulations Oscar.

NWIAL Scholarship

The annual Northwest Illinois Area Local scholarship is once again upon us. Chief Trustee, Ray Wience announced, at our membership meeting, that there will be five (5) \$1,000.00 scholarships awarded this year.

Applicants must be a member, spouse, child, stepchild, grandchild, or legally adopted child of a member of the NWIAL. The member must be a member for at least 1 year as of the date of the drawing on August 11, 2024. The scholarship recipient must attend an accredited college, university, vocational school, community

college, or accredited online course(s) of his or her choice. Only 1 application per applicant. If you have more than 1 eligible child a separate application needs to be submitted. No winner shall receive more than 1 scholarship. The winning student must be enrolled by December 31, 2024. There will be two (2) alternates chosen in the event of disqualification or rejection of the award by the winner. Submit your application(s) to your local union room or fax to the union building at 630-833-0248. You can also mail your submission to the Union building at 194 W. Lake street Elmhurst, IL. 60126.

Reminder - Changes in Health Benefits.

There will be changes to our Health care beginning 1/1/2025. The changes are due to the Postal Reform Act. President Dimondstein suggested employees should call the National Union (202-842-4200)

or the Postal Service Health Benefits (PSHB) (1-833-712-7742). Or you can text PSHBP to 39369. You can also email retirementbenefits@USPS.gov or PostalretireeHealthBenefits@USPS.gov.

All employees participating in FEHB are required to select a PSHB plan during open season (11/11/2024 - 12/9/2024).

Active employees are not required to enroll in Medicare.

All employees under the age of 64 are required to enroll in Medicare Part B, when you become eligible. HOWEVER, if you are at least 64 as of 1/1/2025, or already retired, that requirement would not apply.

If you are already enrolled in Medicare Part B, you cannot cancel. You must remain in Medicare Part B.

Again, if you have any questions, get answers from the contact information provided above.

OPF back online

We got word this week that you have access to your OPF once again. Due to a hacking situation, the site was closed. However, it has since been fixed. To review your OPF you can no longer get there by logging into Liteblue and then Postalease. You must access through the eOPF app in the "MyHR" website in Liteblue. Once you log into "Liteblue", the screen should show "MyHR" under Human Resources. Click on "MyHR". The next screen should say "Welcome" and there should be "MyHR APPS" **DO NOT CLICK ON "Postalease / Blue / Liteblue"**. If it is not already there, you will need to add "eOPF / LiteBlue" icon by clicking on "Add an App". Once you click on "Add an App", you will see an "Application Library". Look for "Electronic Official Personnel Folder (eOPF) Employees" and click on the star. You can add it to favorites, Visit the site, or get a description of the site.

Don't risk your job

There are a lot of newer

members at our offices so it is always good to remind everyone not to risk their job. It is not an accident there are a lot of members with 20+ years of service. It is not difficult keeping your job at the post office. First, come to work and be on time. If you need leave, get it scheduled in advance. Management cannot go after you for attendance if your leave is scheduled. If you try to get advance leave and it is denied, contact your steward right away. We may be able to get it approved for you. Second, Don't get into confrontations. If someone wants to confront you about something, walk away. Do not get into a confrontation at work. Sometimes you might feel it is difficult to walk away or ignore the other employee, but in reality, it is not. Don't let your pride or feelings get the better of you. If someone wants to act like a fool, let them. Don't become a fool too. Let them have the bad day. Third, Do not steal. This is probably the easiest of the 3. It takes effort to steal. It is not difficult to leave the mail alone. It is not

yours. Also, you don't know who is watching. An inspector may be watching. Your co-workers may be watching. Most importantly, IT DOES NOT BELONG TO YOU. Additionally, if you see money on the floor, let it be. Notify your supervisor. Do not bend over to pick it up even if you intend to give it to a supervisor. It could be a set-up. It might have been planted there. Even if it is just a penny. Leave it alone. While I was a registry Clerk at Elk Grove, I came to work and saw 10 pennies on the floor. I notified the supervisor who picked them up and put them on top of the safe. The next day, the same 10 pennies were back on the floor. It was a trap by inspectors.

Contract talks

Our contract "expires" on 9/20/2024. Contract talks begin on June 25. Until we have a new contract, and even though the contract may "expire", the current contract will remain in effect.

Have a happy and safe July 4th holiday.

Work safe, Be safe

