



The Award-Winning Newspaper of  
Joseph P. Considine  
Branch 34 NALC, AFL-CIO

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**National Association of Letter Carriers**  
Joseph P. Considine Branch 34 NALC, AFL-CIO  
400 West Cummings Park, Suite 3950  
Woburn, MA 01801-6396

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BOSTON, MA

NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS

# BRANCH 34's CLAN

CELEBRATING 130 YEARS OF UNION PARTICIPATION AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS ★ 1890-2020

Upcoming Meetings

Please check out the dates, times and locations for all upcoming Membership Meetings on the **BRANCH 34 WEBSITE** at [nalcbranch34.com](http://nalcbranch34.com)



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T/781-281-1133  
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**New 24/7 Branch 34  
Emergency Number  
781-420-0950**

President's Report

## Coronavirus Update

Every Monday at 11 am, there is a Management and all Unions Teleconference to share all information and address issues concerning the Coronavirus Pandemic. Since Day 1, we have been trying to get all the Greater Boston District postal employees access to one of the first responder test sites. This request is now and has been at the headquarters level. I have personally E-mailed and called Governor **Charlie Baker** and I have e-mailed Mayor **Marty Walsh's** office all have been met with no reply. Business Agent **Rick DiCecca** has also been working on this at his level and he has had the same results as of this writing. A few weeks ago, I honored a request to contact East Boston State Representative **Adrian Madaro** from an IMC Carrier **Matt Panzini**. Representative Madaro was concerned if we had the supplies needed to safely perform our job. We discussed this issue and ended the conversation with Representative Madaro offering to provide us assistance in the future.

So fast forward to last week and getting the same result from this request for employee testing, the lightbulb went off on the top of my head since one of the testing sites is in East Boston and I called Representative Madaro. We spoke for a few minutes and he ended our call saying, "I'll get back to you by the end of the day." Less than 30 minutes later, he called me back stating that he was granted access to the East Boston Test site for IMC employees only. I thanked

him and notified all the IMC Stewards and Manager **Cindy Skelton** with the necessary information. Representative Madaro did us a solid on this after being basically ignored by the Governor's office and The Mayor of Boston. (I did finally get to speak to a person on my last phone call).

The Branch will continue to call all offices on the level of the necessary supplies needed and if you have everything. These reports are relayed to both Management and the B.A.'s office. If you run out don't wait for our call, Call us! If your office is dirty call us and report it, we will address this issue immediately with management. The Postal Service has begun to hire employees again with good start classes in session as we speak. With the unemployment levels rising daily this job is looking better and better every day. Since day one management has been working with us during this pandemic. Now about two months since the restrictions started, there are rumblings about stationary events and attendance issues. I have explained some of these issues with phone calls to Area Managers, Postmaster **Leroy Middleton** and during the telecons. The answer to these questions is simple, you cannot do your route in the same fashion you were doing it prior to this pandemic. Comfort stop locations are closed, authorized lunch locations are closed, so travel and stationary time will go up unless you want to take the scanner into the toilet with you. If you

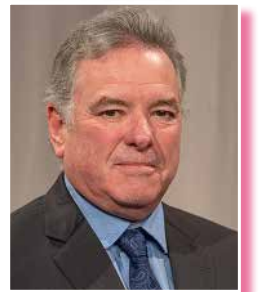
explain yourself on Monday, you should not have to re-explain the same situation on Thursday. Another one of the issues

that has reared its ugly head this week is the movement of CCAs from one office to another.

On Monday, May 11, Numerous CCAs were moved into Jamaica Plain due to a number of sick calls. We had to make a few calls, drop a few E-mails and got an immediate cease and desist from the Postmaster and the grievances we filed will continue in the system. Step 4 agreement M-01915 will continue to be honored and CCAs will stay in their assigned office for now.

These agreements will not last forever, The Moratorium that we currently have on lower levels of discipline will not last forever and I have addressed Management at all levels that it should not take a pandemic for us to work together on day to day issues. Currently many in upper management are in agreement with this thought process.

I would personally like to commend all Branch 34 Letter Carriers who have stepped up over these past few months during this trying time. Please be safe and do the right thing for you and your family. I would like to wish all Mothers and Fathers, a happy special day! Delivering the Mail is our job, not our life!



**GERALD (Jerry) MCCARTHY**  
President

## Four North Weymouth Carriers Receive Million Mile Awards on Same Day



Left to right, John Murphy, Liza Monziona, Michael O'Hare, and Mark Elliott.



## BRANCH 34 STATION STEWARDS

Allston.....	<b>Gerardo Rosario</b>
Arlington.....	<b>Anthony Falco</b> <b>Sean Mullett</b>
Auburndale.....	<b>Thomas Keirstead</b>
Back Bay.....	<b>Lucy Warren</b> <b>John DiBlasi</b>
Belmont.....	<b>Salvatore Celeste</b> <b>David D'Agostino</b>
Braintree DMU.....	<b>Richard Fraser</b> <b>Robert O'Donnell</b>
Brighton.....	<b>Roshon Butts</b>
Brookline.....	<b>Joseph DeMambro</b> <b>Dean Gonatas</b>
Cambridge - Central Sq.....	<b>William Wilkins</b> <b>Robert Liberatore</b>
Cambridge - Porter Sq.....	<b>William Cresitelli</b> <b>John Dickenson</b>
Cohasset.....	<b>Judi Aronson</b>
Chestnut Hill.....	<b>Thomas Conville</b>
Dorchester Center.....	<b>Marc Babin</b>
East Weymouth.....	<b>Artie Matthews</b>
Fenway.....	<b>Tony Cinelli</b>
Fields Corner.....	<b>James Hudson</b>
Fort Point.....	<b>Benny Faletra</b> <b>Elizabeth Purvis</b>
Hingham/Hull.....	<b>Michael Bertrاند</b>
Hyde Park.....	<b>Joseph DeBerardinis</b>
IMC - Chelsea.....	<b>William Lang</b>
IMC - East Boston.....	<b>Emelio Leone</b>
IMC - Winthrop.....	<b>John Fanning</b>
IMC - Everett.....	<b>Tom Ciulla</b>
IMC - Charlestown.....	Vacant
IMC - Somerville.....	<b>John Fucile</b>
Jamaica Plain.....	<b>Robert Damatin</b> <b>Charles Zimmerman</b>
J.F.K. Station.....	<b>Robert Amirault</b> <b>Alex Taylor</b>
Kenmore.....	<b>Dan Abellard</b>
Lexington.....	<b>Tony Scrivano</b> <b>John Lucey</b>
Malden.....	<b>Laura Fahey</b> <b>Chris Dineen</b>
Mattapan.....	<b>Fuming Chen</b>
Medfield.....	<b>Christopher Pacitti</b>
Medford.....	<b>Jon Holmberg</b> <b>Stephen White</b>
Milton.....	<b>Robert Leighton</b>
Needham.....	<b>Diane Butera</b> <b>Brian Senior</b>
Newton Centre.....	<b>David Ward</b>
Newton Highlands.....	<b>Shawn Tierney</b>
Newtonville.....	<b>Thomas Duff</b> <b>(A) Heidi White</b>
North Quincy.....	<b>Cathy Cooper</b>
North Weymouth.....	<b>Mike Davis</b>
Quincy.....	<b>Amy Baker</b> <b>Brendan Finn</b>
Revere DMU.....	<b>David O'Connor</b>
Melrose.....	<b>Dan Durant</b>
Roslindale.....	<b>Adam Difazio</b>
Roxbury.....	<b>John Galvin</b> <b>Keith Meredith</b> <b>Samie Smith</b>
Scituate.....	<b>Justin Vo</b>
South Boston.....	<b>Michael Kidd</b>
So. Weymouth.....	<b>Rusty Craven</b>
Stoneham.....	<b>Joseph Mangano</b>
Waban.....	<b>Rich Farrell</b>
Waltham.....	<b>Edward Walsh</b> <b>Rick Nourse</b>
Watertown.....	<b>William Huber</b>
Wellesley Square.....	<b>Toni Alexander</b>
Wellesley Hills.....	<b>Kevin McMahon</b>
Weston.....	<b>David Demarco</b>
West Newton.....	Vacant
West Roxbury.....	<b>Michael Walter</b> <b>Sandino Blaise</b>
Weymouth Landing.....	<b>Mario Venturrelli</b>
Woburn.....	<b>Vigo Conte</b> <b>Fred Casey</b> <b>Richard Bucci</b>
Wollaston.....	<b>Thomas Rooney, Jr.</b>

## Yes, We Are Essential!

This question pops up a lot, "Are we Essential?" Yes, we are. Even more so during these unusual and uncertain times. It seems everyone around us is required to "Stay at Home" in areas where the government orders everything to shut down, but not us. We keep right on delivering the mail.

This is a time of uncertainty and a time to reflect on just how important our jobs have become. Sure, we deliver to over 158 million businesses and residences. And yes, we deliver four million prescriptions to customers, each and every day (seven days). What is also true is the fact we are the neighborhood watch for our customers and even more so, for our elderly patrons. Helping them when needed and keeping them safe when we see something wrong, and that's not to mention lending an ear when that's what they look forward to. All of these things are true, but they are not what makes us essential.

People are not only worried but scared right now of not knowing what is ahead of us. The world suddenly changed, almost overnight. Is this our new normal? Did

we ever imagine having to wait in line to buy groceries? Did we ever imagine having to wear masks in public places or social distance ourselves? Did we ever imagine toilet paper, paper towels, water, hand sanitizer, Clorox wipes, and Tylenol disappearing off the shelves? That's not to mention the shortages of meat and chicken in the Markets. How bad will this crisis get? Will the stores be emptied tomorrow? Will our loved ones get sick? Will we have a job tomorrow or will we be laid off/furloughed? Will we have a paycheck? A feeling of quiet panic surrounds us. These are the unknowns that are in front of us now.

Brothers and Sisters, we are the Postal Service. If it weren't for Letter Carriers there would be no Postal Service. Neither rain, nor sleet, nor snow, nor Covid-19, we are out there on the frontlines every day. We are the continuous reminder that our customers need and can count on us in these challenging and difficult times. Seeing the mail truck parked in its usual spot or the letter carrier walking their rounds means that some things re-

main as they have been. Opening the mailbox and getting that piece of mail or package is a clear sign the world is still moving forward, even for those quarantined inside their homes. No matter what is going on around us, we are there, every day, serving as the communication lifeline of this country. We are essential employees because our presence means some things will never change, and eventually everything will be okay.

Letter Carriers have always amazed me with our dedication to our customers and this health crisis has been no different. You should be proud of what you do. Your presence brings a feeling of comfort and normalcy to an otherwise frightening and confusing situation.

Brothers and Sisters, you should be very proud of the job you are doing out there, and how much it's appreciated. Take care of yourselves and your families. Please be safe.



**BERNADETTE ROMANS**  
Vice President

## A President Without A Precedent

In the midst of a pandemic, with social distancing, small businesses shuttered, the middle class facing Great Depression-like unemployment, and tremendous uncertainty, our President chooses to unleash a barrage of ill conceived directives that could destabilize, and cripple the United States Postal Service. His ambivalence, along with his lack of knowledge about the agency could be a recipe for disaster, seeing that we are still dealing with the pre-funding debacle instituted in 2006, which requires the USPS to fund retiree healthcare benefits, now which is hovering around some 50 billion dollars. Not one Fortune 500 company in this country has to or would even contemplate doing this, and by having to pay in, it makes it look like we're running out of money. And the businessman President's solution: raise prices because of a personal vendetta with **Jeff Bezos**, owner of the *Washington Post*, and the Standard Oil-like monopoly, Amazon. Furthermore, he has cancelled a 10 billion dollar coronavirus stimulus loan that would help in carrying the Postal Service beyond September, the month the soon to be former Postmaster General Megan Brennan predicted the agency will run out of money. And seeing this crisis looks to be a prolonged one, Brennan believes much more would be needed. The leader of the free world threatens Congress that he would veto trillions of dollars in stimulus to Americans if that loan was part of the bill.

The misread on behalf of this President comes partially from the confusion the folks at L'Enfant Plaza have been churning out for years, telling themselves, and everyone else the USPS is a business. And like a business, raising prices, increasing revenue, and constantly portraying the service as a .com, and not a .gov is now our achilles heel. No wonder the President looks at us as he does. Businesses that lose money, customers, and market share, go bankrupt, and then get taken over. The USPS has a business model, but it has no business having one. They have forgotten the mission the founding father's intended for this storied institution: to serve the needs and interests of the citizens of the United States. Having a mixed message in wanting all the protections of being part of the federal government, but having the yearnings to be an in-the-black business has backfired, leaving all of us on shaky ground. We too are a monopoly, but in stark contrast to a business like Amazon. We were never meant to be profitable,

but we were always meant to be there to deliver seamlessly, and consistently our customer's correspondences, documentation, and packages, no matter where they live. We are given unfettered access to American homes and businesses because of years of trusted service to the communities far and wide that we work in, and not because we run funny commercials with animals, snappy jingles, or hiring Hollywood to do our bidding.

The president needs to also realize that we have tens of thousands of American servicemen and women working in our ranks in offices all across the country. Providing good, honest work to those that have put their lives on the line for this country is a great honor, and tradition of the USPS. Turning his back on these brave members is nothing less than hypocritical, and nothing more than again not understanding the dynamics of the Postal Service.

And let's not forget we are a unionized work force, with constituencies in every corner of the United States. With 600,000 Postal Service employees, those numbers in terms of votes can be a very compelling reason to tread lightly when talking about eliminating or privatizing one of America's great institutions.

And we have family, friends, and customers that know us, and love us. Americans consistently identify the USPS as their favorite government agency, which is in large part because of the letter carriers craft, and our close relations to our customers. For example, some Americans have started campaigns to save the Postal Service, buying books and sheets of stamps to help fund our deficit. Now that's loyalty, and it shows how deeply ingrained we are in the conscience of America.

There is no rhyme or reason to how this President thinks, and as if on cue, he has begun to walk-back some of what he initially stated by striking a much more positive cord in regards to our workforce, and the future of the USPS. And with that surprising turn of events, now come the appointment of **Louis DeJoy** as Postmaster General, being a businessman and one of the President's biggest donors. All of this shows our union must always stand at the ready to defend this agency, and our livelihood, no matter what we have to deal with.



**BOBBY DAMATIN**  
Financial Secretary



Back Bay Shop  
Steward Lucy  
Warren was  
featured in the  
April 9th issue of the  
*Boston Globe*.

# There Will Be No Economic Recovery Without the USPS!

A lot has been made of the Postal Service's plight during the coronavirus pandemic. Like most businesses, the pandemic has caused us great financial harm. Unfortunately, unlike most other businesses in America we were not part of any legislation to help get us through this crisis. This is something we need to rectify. Write and or call your Congress person and your Senators and let them know how important the public's Postal Service is to the country and its people.

You can also help by educating your friends and family. Here are some interesting facts from the USPS and the NALC to know about our Postal Service that many of our elected officials or the general public may not know:

We're not broke. The Congress created the Postal Service's financial woes in 2006 when they required the PO to massively pre-fund our future retiree health benefits 75 years in the future but required us to do so in a 10-year time frame to the tune of about 5.5 billion a year.

- This is responsible for 92 percent of our losses over the last 12 years and 100 percent of our losses over the past six years.
- If not for this pre-funding burden the PO would've made almost 4 billion since 2013.
- In 2019, we delivered 142.6 billion pieces of mail.
- We receive no tax money from the government. We rely on the sale of postage, products and services to pay our bills.
- The Postal Service employs over 600,000 Americans.

**We're the cornerstone of a \$1.6 trillion US mailing industry that employs about 7 million people. Which is 4.6% of all employed Americans and accounts for 4.3% of economic output.**

Clearly, we are a critical component to the country. So next time someone says something about the PO that isn't true, educate them on the facts. Don't let the privateers steal America's public Postal Service and destroy all that we've built through collective bargaining. We all have a huge stake in this fight and it's time to get involved. 50 years ago our brothers and sisters answered the call by going on strike to win us those collective bargaining rights let's not give them back!

## Blood Leave

As many of you have heard there is a critical need for blood at this time. A lot of blood drives had to be cancelled due to the coronavirus for obvious safety reasons. But the Red Cross is still accept-

## Congratulations Retirees!

On behalf of President McCarthy, the Board of Officers and the Brothers and Sisters of Branch 34, we extend our wishes for a long, happy, healthy and well-deserved retirement to the following recently retired members:

John Cotta ..... Milton  
 Mark Elliott ..... North Weymouth  
 Joe Francis ..... Chestnut Hill  
 John Gaudet ..... Waltham  
 Charlie Hamos ..... Needham  
 John Hazlett ..... Milton  
 Margaret Howlett ..... Milton  
 Bill "Willie" Leddy ..... Arlington  
 John Murray ..... Newton Centre  
 John "Jack" Pinto ..... Back Bay  
 Frank Russell ..... Allston  
 Mike Schroth ..... Chestnut Hill  
 Marjorie Shannon ..... Waltham  
 Paul Tsinzo ..... Weston

ing donations at their permanent donation centers. And there are hospitals that take donations as well.

Carriers that have been around a long time may remember a time when they'd get a notice from management letting them know they're eligible to get paid four hours for donating blood. Well those notices have gone away, but blood leave is still alive and well in the Employee Labor Relations Manual (ELM). I've reprinted it below to let carriers know they can get paid while doing their civic duty.

### 519.51 Blood Donations 519.511 Policy

All postal employees are urged to cooperate fully with the public blood donation programs for the health and security of their community. The time necessary includes the time required for travel and the time required by the medical facility to process the blood donations.

### 519.512 Time Allowed

The following provisions concern time allowed for blood donations:

**General Allowance.** Postal employees may be excused for that period of time deemed reasonably necessary to cover any absence from regular tours of duty to make voluntary blood donations, without remuneration, to the Red Cross, the community, or other nonprofit blood bank. This regulation does not apply to those employees who participate in this program on their own time, off duty.

**Additional Time.** In the case of employees in occupations for which the blood bank recommends additional time off following the blood donation, the time necessary includes the additional time recommended by the blood bank. Every effort should be made to have blood donations for such employees scheduled near the end of their tour of duty.

### 519.513 Restrictions

The following provisions concern restrictions on time allowed for blood donations:

The time allowed may in no instance exceed 8 hours. A full day's administrative leave may be granted only when there are unusual circumstances, such as in rural areas where considerable travel may be involved. It is not intended that a full day's administrative leave be granted any employee for donating blood when the blood bank or facility is nearby.

*Administrative leave for blood donation may be granted during a regular tour of the employee's basic workweek, but only on the date of the blood donation. It is not granted to employees on suspension or in any nonpay status.*



MICHAEL MURRAY  
Secretary-Treasurer

### 519.514 Facility Arrangements

For group donations, postmasters or installation heads make arrangements with the blood bank to provide facilities (mobile) for on-site participation or arrange the hours of donation to present the least interruption and cost to the Postal Service.

### 519.52 Bone Marrow, Stem Cell, Blood Platelet, and Organ Donations 519.521 Policy

Career postal employees who wish to donate bone marrow, stem cells, blood platelets, or organs may be granted administrative leave, subject to the limitations in 519.522, with appropriate management approval. Administrative leave is not available to bone marrow or organ recipients.

### 519.522 Time Limitations

Except as otherwise specified in the collective bargaining agreements, the maximum administrative leave that can be granted per leave year to cover qualification and donation is limited to the following:

To a full-time career employee:

- For bone marrow, 3 days.
- For stem cells, 3 days.
- For blood platelets, 3 days.
- For organs, 14 days.

To a part-time career employee:

- For bone marrow, 1-1/2 days.
- For stem cells, 1-1/2 days.
- For blood platelets, 1-1/2 days.
- For organs, 7 days.

For anyone interested in donating platelets, it takes about a 2-1/2 hours to donate and you have your own TV with Netflix. I donate platelets about once a month, but you can donate platelets every 48 hours, with a total of 24 times per year. For blood, it's every 8 weeks. If you're interested in donating, call 1-(800) 733-2767 and fill out your 3971. When you get to "Type of Absence" check off other and write in **blood leave**.

Let's all work together, brothers and sisters, to get through this!

BOSTON, MA  
 NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF LETTER CARRIERS  
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 400 WEST CUMMINGS PARK, SUITE 3950  
 WOBURN, MA 01801-6396  
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Founded May 1971

### AWARDS

#### International Labor Communications Association

**GENERAL EXCELLENCE - LOCAL UNION PUBLICATIONS - CIRCULATIONS OF 2,500 TO 9,999**

First Place, 2003

#### National Association of Letter Carriers

##### BEST ORGANIZED - LARGE BRANCH

First Place, 2018  
 First Place (tie), 2014

##### GENERAL EXCELLENCE - LARGE BRANCH PUBLICATIONS - MORE THAN 1,500 MEMBERS

First Place, 2018  
 First Place, 2016  
 First Place, 2014  
 First Place, 2012  
 First Place, 2010  
 First Place, 2008  
 First Place, 2002  
 First Place, 1996  
 First Place, 1994

Second Place, 2006  
 Second Place, 1992

Third Place, 2004

Honorable Mention, 1982  
 Judges' Commendation, 1988

##### BEST EDITORIAL OR COLUMN

Honorable Mention, 2016

##### BEST STORY

First Place, 1996  
 Third Place, 1990

2 Honorable Mentions, 1992  
 Honorable Mention, 1990

##### BEST CARTOON OR PHOTO

First Place, 2006

##### PROMOTING UNIONISM

First Place, 2018  
 Third Place, 2018  
 Third Place, 1992

Judges' Commendation, 1988

##### BEST WEBSITE

First Place, 2018

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## In Memoriam

James Courtney\*  
 Retired Member - Woburn

Robert "Blue" Rooney  
 Retired Member - Arlington

Paquale A. Rosati\*  
 Retired Member - Fields Corner

\* Denotes Gold Card Member

Rest in Peace

★ To Our Troops! ★  
 Thank You For Your Service  
 and Your Sacrifice!

**NALC BRANCH 34  
 SUPPORTS YOU!**

# Branch 34 Salutes Its Retirees

## Milton's John Hazlett



Milton retiree John Hazlett with Branch President Jerry McCarthy.

## Weston's Paul Tsinzo



Paul Tsinzo with President Jerry McCarthy and Weston Shop Steward Dave Demarco.



Weston Retiree Paul Tsinzo.

## Needham's Charlie Hamos



Needham celebrates Charlie Hamos' retirement.



Needham's Charlie Hamos and Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.



Charlie Hamos' retirement cake with Carol and Lorraine.



Needham's Shop Steward Brian Senior and Branch 34 VP Bernadette Romans.

## Milton's Margaret Howlett



Milton Retiree Margaret Howlett with Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.

## Chestnut Hill's Michael Schroth



Chestnut Hill Retiree Michael Schroth and Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.

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**Chestnut Hill's Joe Francis**



Chestnut Hill's Shop Steward Tom Conville along with Retiree Joe Francis.



Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy with Chestnut Hill's Joe Francis and Shop Steward Tom Conville.

**North Weymouth's Mark Elliott**



North Weymouth's Mark Elliott, his retirement watch and last swipe.

**Arlington's Bill "Willie" Leddy**



Arlington's Bill "Willie" Leddy making his last swipe.



Mark Elliott with his retirement cake. Mark loves his retirement jacket.



Arlington's Bill Leddy along with co-worker Pam Chaves.



North Weymouth celebrates Mark Elliott's retirement.

**Allston's Frank Russell**



Arlington retiree Steve Dwyer Branch 34 President McCarthy and Bill Leddy.

Allston's Frank Russell with Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy.



Branch 34 President Jerry McCarthy congratulates Arlington retiree Bill "Willie" Leddy.



Allston retiree Frank Russell rides off into the sunset with his favorite passenger.

# Now More Than Ever, We Must Look Out For One Another

**B**rothers and Sisters let me start out by saying I hope you are doing well and staying safe. If you or someone close to you has unfortunately contracted this disease please know that you are in my thoughts.

I hope that you are all practicing the appropriate social distancing, washing your hands frequently, and wearing some sort of face covering when you are near others. That last one, wearing a face-covering is unfortunately not as widely observed as I would like to see. All too often I see various individuals, be it my fellow colleagues on the workroom floor or members of the general public not adhering to what is now punishable by a \$300 fine in Massachusetts.

The insidious nature of this disease causes some people to not show noticeable symptoms for some time after contracting the disease yet still being able to spread it. There are also people who are "asymptomatic" meaning they can catch the disease and never show symptoms yet are still able to spread it. We know that one of the most common ways this disease is spread is by droplets that are exhaled through are nose and mouth when we breath and talk. Wearing a mask helps to filter most of these droplets from going into the air. This is why we all must wear them!

I am not trying to shame anyone or control anyone but I just want people to be mindful of others. For example, at 31 years of age, with no prior conditions, I believe I am not in the "high-risk" category. But I do live with individuals who are high-risk and the last thing I would want to do is bring home a disease to them. Additionally, one of my co-workers could be considered high-risk or more than likely have someone at home who IS high-risk. That is why I wear a mask.

When you wear a mask or face covering, it must cover both your mouth AND your nose. Pease see the pictures I've included on the right and wrong ways to cover your face.

Lastly, I know things are tough right now to say the least. But I believe that Letter Carriers are an especially resilient group of people. I know that we will beat this disease, we will persevere, and we will carry on.

***"There are many ways to wear a mask, but the bottom photo shows the only correct way to wear it."***



**ROSS MURRAY**  
"Branch 34's CLAN" Editor

## Don't Be A SCAB!

Urge them to pay their fair share and join Branch 34!

**Back Bay**  
THOMAS N. CONCANNON  
ROBERT A. ROMIKITIS

**Braintree**  
MOLLY LONG

**Brookline**  
CHRISTINE M. BAILEY  
LINDA M. HAZELL

**Cambridge - Porter Square**  
BLANCA I. TEEBAGY

**Chelsea Carrier Annex (IMC)**  
SANDRA GIORDANO

**Fenway**  
BEVERLY A. SCANLON

**Fort Point**  
WAYNE J. CHIN

**Hingham-Hull**  
MARK J. DION

**Malden**  
EILEEN M. FINN

**Medford**  
GERALD M. LYTES

**Milton**  
CHARLES S. ROSEN

**Needham**  
TAMI L. JOHNSON

**Newton Highlands**  
SIMON CHAN..... CCA  
ROBIN I. DEVITTO

**Scituate**  
KAREN M. LYNCH

**Stoneham**  
TINA M. DOHERTY

**Waltham**  
DAVID BAHM  
JOSEPH REGNA..... CCA

**We apologize in advance if your name appears on this scab list in error. This information is forwarded to us from our National Headquarters and we do our best to ensure its accuracy. If you are still not in the Union, it's time to step up and pay your fair share. No excuses. Contact your Station Steward to join NOW!**



# Stay Well!! Stay Safe!!

I hope that every single Letter Carrier in Branch 34 is reading this from the comfort of your own home. For those of you who are ill or at home with a sick family member I pray that each and every one of you and your family make a speedy and full recovery!

I will not sit here and preach to you or debate with you about how you should feel, or not feel! I will not sit here and agree with you or disagree with you. I will not sit here and tell you, you are under re-acting or over re-acting. Quite frankly however you are feeling, whatever you believe or whatever your reaction has been, to deal with these uncertain times, is not for anyone to judge!!

We must support each other in any way we can!!! A kind word, or gesture, will go a long way!!!

Each one of us has different things going on in our personal lives that affect us at work. There are those of us who have children and grandchildren who live in another part of the state or country, who we worry about daily. Some of us like myself have a family member who is a Nurse (my sister) who lives in the same house as my considered (by the CDC) elderly mother (who if you ask her "That is a goddam insult by the way" and "Why the #\$@& did you sign me up for lunch delivery in the city of Everett I don't need goddam meals on wheels"). There are some of us who have a spouse who owns a small business or works at a small business and we are crippled with fear that those businesses will have to close never to re-open again and we question what we will do then. There are some who live with immunocompromised individuals who take extra precautions just to get through the door at the end of the day as so not to infect their loved one. Some of us have spouses, or children who are Police Officers, Firefighters, Nurses, EMT's or are in the Military who we hope don't get called to a COVID case, but we know ultimately, they will. And there are some who have no

other choice but to stay home because their children's schools or daycares are shuttered for the time being, and the list goes on!!! So please think before you judge the person working next to you!!!

I'm asking each and every one of you to **BE KIND – BE GENEROUS – BE SUPPORTIVE – BE HELPFUL – BE PATIENT – BE POSITIVE** with each other, with your family, with people you see on the street, in the grocery store, etc., because at the end of the day being any of those, in our daily life means more to some, than hopefully you will ever know!!!!

I ask this because there are people who are struggling and hurting much more than maybe you or I are or are aware of. **If you need help, or just need someone to talk to, Call 1-800-EAP4U!!!, National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-8255!!!!, AA Hotline 617-426-9444, The Greater Boston Food Bank 617-427-5200.**

On a side note, just to cheer you all up just a little bit, and give some TV's shows to consider while your binge watching TV. This is my list of what I have watched since quarantine began, in order from best to 7<sup>th</sup> best!!!

1. The Wire- Amazon Prime/HBO
2. Mind Hunter-Netflix
3. Jack Ryan-Amazon Prime
4. You-Netflix
5. Bosch-Amazon Prime
6. Atypical-Netflix
7. Newsroom -HBO
8. Sons of Anarchy-Hulu
9. Power-Hulu
10. I Know This Much is True-HBO

Stay Safe!!!! Stay Healthy!!! And now you have a few more ideas on what to binge watch!!!!



**LAURA WOOD FAHEY**  
Area Steward

## Be Wary of the 7:01 Rule!

**B**y now most of you have heard of the 7:01 rule. This rule can be found in the Employee Labor Relations Manual (ELM) and it essentially means that if you complete your route and work over seven hours but under eight hours you get paid for your full eight-hour guarantee. Sounds great, but before you start running your route remember the 1840-B time.

The 1840-B time is when management uses your clock hits to show that you can complete your street duties in a certain amount of time. It should come as no surprise that it's almost always used to show you can complete your street duties in under your base street time. So, if your base street time is 6:50 and your clock hits show you can do your route on the street in 6:30 guess who's getting a 20-minute addition?

The national parties agreed to the following language at the outset of the coronavirus outbreak, in what's called a step 4 agreement, numbered M-01913. This agreement is only good for 60 days from March 23<sup>rd</sup> but as the last paragraph states they have the ability to extend the agreement. Letter Carriers should always be careful of what they agree to because a good deal today may mean a very bad deal in the future of additional streets to deliver on your already overburdened routes.

For the 60-day duration of this Memorandum of Understanding, the parties agree that, the Postal Service will institute the use of Employee and Labor Relations Manual (ELM) Section 432.53, City Letter Carriers (7:01 Rule). A city letter carrier who actually

works more than seven hours but less than eight hours of a regular scheduled day will, upon his/her request, be officially excused from the completion of the 8-hour tour and still credited with 8 hours of work time for pay purposes. Any hours not worked between the seventh and eighth hour of a regular scheduled day pursuant to ELM 432.53 are included in an employee's regular rate of pay pursuant to ELM 443.212.g.

All delivery service supervisors are reminded that city letter carriers should not be excused under the 7:01 rule unless they have completed their routes and cannot be assigned to any available work in the same wage level.

Local management at all delivery units must reemphasize to all city letter carriers that they must apprise their supervisor of their desire to clock out prior to completion of a full eight-hour workday, minus time covered by the five-minute leeway rule.

The parties will revisit this issue immediately prior to this MOU's expiration to determine if extension is appropriate.

If you want more info on the 1840-B time, see my article in the September-October 2019 issue of the CLAN on the NALC website: [nalcbranch34.com](http://nalcbranch34.com) or give me a call at the Branch.



**RICH GALVIN**  
Clerk, NBA/NSBA



## Waltham Carriers Step Up to the Plate

These are trying times for us all. When we're not busy working at our essential job, our spare time is usually spent mostly at home in isolation. However, for Waltham letter carrier **Paul Senior**, he has had to spend this time isolated at home – fighting cancer.

Saturday, May 16<sup>th</sup> was Paul's birthday. In order to show their support, carriers from the Waltham Post Office, along with friends and family orchestrated a small parade consisting mostly of various postal vehicles. Way to go!



## MDA<sup>®</sup> Corner

As we work through this difficult time many of us find it hard to shelter in place. As a retiree, I also find it hard, especially with the gym closed.

Even during these difficult times we shouldn't forget about the kids with muscular dystrophy. Many of them have to shelter in place most of their lives because their leg muscles are too weak to walk by seven to eight years of age.

Hopefully we can find a cure soon! We can do our part by selling Shamrocks, Bowling in our Branch 34 bowl-a-thon, golfing in our golf tournaments, Labor Day office col-

lection, Satchel Drive and this year a polar plunge on New Year's Day.

The MDA took a big hit when they had to cancel their annual muscle team event at the Seaport this year. This annual event netted the MDA

\$350,000 last year. Let's see if we can help raise some extra money to offset this loss.

*Fraternally,  
George Adams  
Branch 34 MDA Chairman*

### ATTENTION RETIRED LETTER CARRIERS:

**Anyone who meets the 50 year requirement to receive a GOLD CARD, please contact the Union Office at 781-281-1133 to provide and receive more information.**

## Massachusetts Congressional Delegation

### U.S. SENATE

**The Honorable Elizabeth Warren**  
Hart Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 317  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-4543 Fax: 202-224-2417  
www.warren.senate.gov

**The Honorable Edward J. Markey**  
Dirksen Senate Office Bldg., Rm. 218  
Washington, D.C. 20510  
202-224-2742 Fax: 202-224-8525  
www.markey.senate.gov

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neal.house.gov

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trahan.house.gov

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# IMPORTANT!!

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