

RETIREE NEWS

It is with great sorrow that we again share the passing of another beloved brother James Handley! He was our co-worker, friend, retired member of our local and one of the nicest men you could ever meet! Our hearts go out to his wife Mary and their family. She worked at the GMF box section for over 40 yrs. The two of them were an institution that we could always count on! Services are pending, we will have a celebration of his life at the union hall when planned, we will announce date and time

Stay Safe, Stay Connected! *(Reprinted APWU Retiree Dept)*

There are many ways to communicate; we can keep the old ways and try new ways. During the period of self-quarantine, for many of us our telephones are our connections to others. We also write letters, note cards and send greeting cards. When we cannot visit the post office, we order stamps by mail. Those seniors with “smart” cell phones use them as a full-range communication tool – by voice, visually with FaceTime or other video chatting applications, and writing with text. In addition, seniors who are tech-savvy use numerous social media tools – applications that can be used on computers or cell phones with internet service. Our cell phones, internet service and writing paper are resources that we can use to stay in touch with everyone, including our elected officials – our local mayors and governors; our members of Congress, as well as to our APWU family. Retiree chapters and local unions are using Zoom, Skype, FaceTime and other teleconference tools for meetings. Our churches and houses of worship are using the same technologies. If you are not sure how to use all of this technology, remember that help is just a telephone call away. Reach out to your families, especially your children and grandchildren, for assistance. When family is not available, use our network of friends and our community, and contact your local office on aging.

The Heroes Among Us

We salute all medical personal and workers who are rightfully being applauded as the heroes in this crisis. However, there are also unsung heroes among us – the store clerks, the sanitation workers, truck drivers and us – all USPS employees. Postal workers are essential employees in this “new normal.” Retirees must shout as loudly as we can to Congress: “Do not let the USPS fail! Provide the funding needed to replace revenue lost from COVID-19 and attach no strings to money borrowed. Do not allow this pandemic to destroy the USPS – a true national treasure and a vital part of America’s response and eventual recovery from the COVID-19 pandemic. *“Vote by mail is essential in 2020. Starting in your primary elections, if you have the ability to vote by mail, do so to protect the integrity of your voice. Senior voices will only be listened to when we vote.*

Joe Lewis