

# THE SPRINGFIELD RIFLE

SPRINGFIELD, MA | AREA LOCAL 497

November | 2021 | Issue 4



Equal Pay For Equal Work  
Regardless of Gender, Race,  
Religion or Sexual Orientation  
**UNIONS BUILT THIS!**

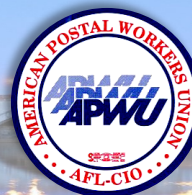
*"The Woman's Trade Union League, 1903, was formed within the AFL to support the organization of unions and halt sweatshops."*

(<http://mad4nm.com/2018/01/09/the-womans-trade-union-league-1903-was-formed/>)



**APWU SPRINGFIELD LOCAL 497**

1124 Berkshire Ave  
Springfield, MA 01151  
Main Office: (413) 543-1146  
APWU497@gmail.com  
[apwusal.org](http://apwusal.org)

**EXECUTIVE BOARD**

**President** Russ Evans **Vice President** Ed Rowell

**Recording Secretary** Stu Kibbe **Treasurer** Manny Gonzalez

**Clerk Craft Director** Debbie Jacobs-Wheeler **Maintenance Craft Director** Enid Rivera

**Motor Vehicle Craft Director** Charlie Morin **Safety and Health Representative** Richard Peabody

**Research and Education Director** Pete Mooradd **Editor** Jennifer Brouillette

**Executive Board at Large** Dan Rosso **Executive Board at Large AOs** Justin DesLauriers

**OFFICERS**

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**Legislative Director** Vacant **Trustee** Cynthia Clough

**Webmaster** Todd Griffen **Trustee** Tara Lanzo

**Sgt. At Arms** Nick DeFeo **Sgt. At Arms** Sean Hayes

**STEWARD DESIGNATIONS**

Designations are subject to change. Information is correct as of 11/15/2021. Contact our business office for further information.

**CLERKS | TOUR 1 | SPFLD NDC**

Russ Evans • Debbie Jacobs-Wheeler • Brandon Johnson (All Areas) • Ed Rowell

**CLERKS | TOUR 2 | SPFLD NDC**

Russ Evans • Debbie Jacobs Wheeler • Julie Page • Anthony Leroux • William Duggan • Jackie Ciak • Ebonie Arnold

**CLERKS | TOUR 3 | SPFLD NDC**

Russ Evans • Debbie Jacobs-Wheeler • Nancy Kenyon (All Areas) • Dave Bogacz • Annie Chamberlain • Deb Roberts • Kareena Williams • Daniel Carney • Gavin Baker

**CLERKS | AOs**

Russ Evans (All) • Justin DesLauriers (Alt./All) • Amy Chamberlain MSS • Evelyn Scyocurka Chicopee • Abby Sherwood Athol • Justin DesLauriers Pittsfield & N. Adams • Anne Provost Wilbraham • Andy Mayo Agawam

**MVS | SPFLD NDC**

Ed Rowell T1 • Justin Lincoln T1 • Nick DeFeo T1 • Robert Burnup T1 • Dan Rosso T2 • James Davis T2 • Maureen Hickson T2 • LeRoy Kenyon T3 • Mario Colucci T3 • Charlie Morin All Tours

**MVS | AOs**

Charlie Morin (All)

**MAINTENANCE | SPFLD NDC**

Joseph Sayles T1 • Ronda Wynn T1 • Jennifer Brouillette T2 • Pete Mooradd T2 • Dave Jones T2 • Gina Jones T2 • Doyle Maloni T2 • Stu Kibbe T3 • Michelle Sammataro T3 • Dave Lanzo T3 • Enid Rivera All Tours

**MAINTENANCE | AOs**

Enid Rivera (All) • Jeff Laing MSS • Justin DesLauriers Pittsfield/N. Adams • Andy Mayo Agawam

**APWU****HEALTH PLAN****NEW 2022 BENEFITS!**

CHOOSE A HEALTH PLAN THAT PUTS YOU FIRST.

**OPEN SEASON HOTLINE:**

800.PIC.APWU (Opens Nov. 1)  
 virtualopenseason@apwuhp.com (response within 48 hours)  
 www.apwuhp.com (Open Season information coming soon)

**OPEN SEASON 2021**  
Nov. 8th - Dec. 13th**HIGH OPTION****100% COVERED SERVICES**

- ✓ Preventive care and treatment
- ✓ Lab tests (covered blood work performed at LabCorp and Quest Diagnostics)
- ✓ Maternity care
- ✓ Accidental injury outpatient services within 72 hours
- ✓ Diabetes generic oral medications
- ✓ Visits to a registered dietician/nutritionist
- ✓ Tobacco cessation and weight management programs
- ✓ Breast cancer screenings for women (starting at age 40)

**2022 PREMIUMS****APWU Career Biweekly and Retiree Monthly**

Self Only enrollment code 471		Self Plus One enrollment code 473		Self & Family enrollment code 472	
Biweekly	\$106.39	Biweekly	\$212.96	Biweekly	\$268.83
Monthly	\$230.51	Monthly	\$461.41	Monthly	\$582.46

**CONSUMER DRIVEN OPTION****100% COVERED SERVICES**

- ✓ In January, the Health Plan funds a Personal Care Account (PCA) members can use for covered medical services. Members are covered at 100% until the PCA is exhausted. The Plan funds the PCA at \$1,200 for Self Only and \$2,400 for Self Plus One and Self and Family.
- ✓ Preventive care and screenings
- ✓ Well-woman care
- ✓ Maternity care
- ✓ Healthy pregnancy and tobacco cessation programs

**2022 PREMIUMS****Biweekly and Monthly | No Rate Increase!**

Self Only enrollment code 474		Self Plus One enrollment code 476		Self & Family enrollment code 475	
Biweekly	\$69.65	Biweekly	\$151.38	Biweekly	\$165.14
Monthly	\$150.91	Monthly	\$327.99	Monthly	\$357.81

**APWU Special Rates Biweekly | ★ Reduced Rate**

APWU career less than a year	Postal Support Employees	APWU career greater than a year in FEHB	APWU career less than a year	Postal Support Employees	APWU career greater than a year in FEHB	APWU career less than a year	Postal Support Employees	APWU career greater than a year in FEHB
\$69.65	\$69.65	\$13.93	\$151.38	\$151.38	\$30.28	\$165.14	\$165.14	\$33.03

This is a summary of benefits and features offered by the APWU Health Plan. All benefits are subject to the definitions, limitations, and exclusions set forth in the Plan's Brochure (RI 71-004).

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**Editor's Note:** Opinions expressed in this publication are those of the individual author and do not necessarily reflect those of the editor or Union. Article and photograph submissions from all APWU members are welcome and encouraged! The Editor reserves the right to determine if material submitted to this publication shall be printed, and reserves the right to edit as needed for libel, space and clarity. Please send signed submissions to the editor at 497JBD@gmail.com or to our business address at 1124 Berkshire Ave, Springfield, MA 01151.





## FREE COLLEGE BENEFIT!



EASTERN GATEWAY  
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

<https://egcc.edu/>

Brothers and Sisters,

I would like to inform you of the free college benefit offered since 2016 to union members (and their families!) of the APWU via AFL-CIO Union Plus Benefits.

You can attain an associates degree online from Eastern Gateway Community College, for free (paid via grants and scholarships)! Classes start every eight weeks.

### Degree Programs Offered:

- \* Accounting
- \* Associate of Arts
- \* Business Management — with optional certificate programs in: Advertising; Cyber Security; Data Science; Digital and Social Media; Entrepreneurship; Environmental and Conservation Studies; Finance; Hospitality: Food and Beverage Management or Hotel and Event Management; Human Resources; Information Systems/IT Help Desk; Labor Studies; Marketing; Programming and Development
- \* Criminal Justice
- \* Teacher Education (Associate of Arts)
- \* Healthcare Administration
- \* Health Services
- \* Individualized Study
- \* Paralegal
- \* Professional Office Management
- \* Social Work

*Go to the Union Plus website for more information at:*

**<https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/free-college>**



<https://smart-union.org/news/tag/union-plus/>





In addition, Union Plus is now extending the free college benefit to a Bachelors program in partnership with Central State University.

#### **Bachelor's Degrees Offered :**

- \* Business Management
- \* Teacher Education - Early Education (Pre-K – 5th Grade) and Intervention Specialist
- \* Criminal Justice
- \* Interdisciplinary Studies - Humanities



<https://smart-union.org/news/tag/union-plus/>

*Go to the Union Plus website for more information at:*

**<https://www.unionplus.org/benefits/education/bachelors-degree-completion-program>**

*Jenn Brouillette*

Editor



# NOTICE TO EMPLOYEES AND MEMBERS

POSTED PURSUANT TO A SETTLEMENT  
AGREEMENT APPROVED BY A REGIONAL  
DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL LABOR  
RELATIONS BOARD

AN AGENCY OF THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT

**THE NATIONAL LABOR RELATIONS ACT GIVES YOU THE RIGHT TO:**

- Form, join, or assist a union;
- Choose a representative to bargain with us on your behalf;
- Act together with other employees for your benefit and protection;
- Choose not to engage in any of these protected activities.

**WE WILL NOT** interfere with, restrain, or coerce you in the exercise of the above rights.

**WE WILL NOT** tell non-members that they do not have any rights with the Union.

**WE WILL NOT** threaten to not represent you because of your membership status with the Union.

**WE WILL NOT** in any like or related manner interfere with your rights under Section 7 of the Act.

**WE WILL** advise members and non-members in our next Rifle Newsletter publication of their rights under Section 7 of the Act and **WE WILL** make that publication available to non-members.

American Postal Workers Union, Local 497

(Employer)

Dated: 11/10/21

By: [Signature]

(Representative)

(Title)

The National Labor Relations Board is an independent Federal agency created in 1935 to enforce the National Labor Relations Act. It conducts secret-ballot elections to determine whether employees want union representation and it investigates and remedies unfair labor practices by employers and unions. To find out more about your rights under the Act and how to file a charge or election petition, you may speak confidentially to any agent with the Board's Regional Office set forth below. You may also obtain information from the Board's website: [www.nlr.gov](http://www.nlr.gov), and the toll-free number (844)762-NLRB (6572).

10 Causeway St Fl 6  
Boston, MA 02222-1001

Telephone: (202) 273-2900  
Hours of Operation: 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m.

**THIS IS AN OFFICIAL NOTICE AND MUST NOT BE DEFACED BY ANYONE**

This notice must remain posted for 60 consecutive days from the date of posting and must not be altered, defaced, or covered by any other material. Any questions concerning this notice or compliance with its provisions may be directed to Compliance Assistant Terry Bennett at [complianceunit@nlrb.gov](mailto:complianceunit@nlrb.gov) or (504) 321-9475.



### **ARTICLE 7 of the NLRB dictates that:**

Employees have the right to unionize. That's the key take-away from the National Labor Relations Act Section 7. Even if a company's workers don't belong to a union, they have the right to "concerted activity," to improve their work environment or their situation as employees. The National Labor Relations Board investigates employers who deny workers their rights.

This notice is also available at our Local web address of [www.APWUSAL.org](http://www.APWUSAL.org)

*To find more information on the National Labor Relations Board and labor laws, visit their website at:*

**<https://www.nlr.gov/>**

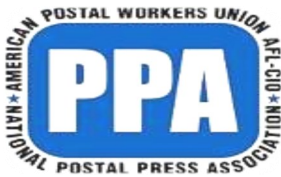
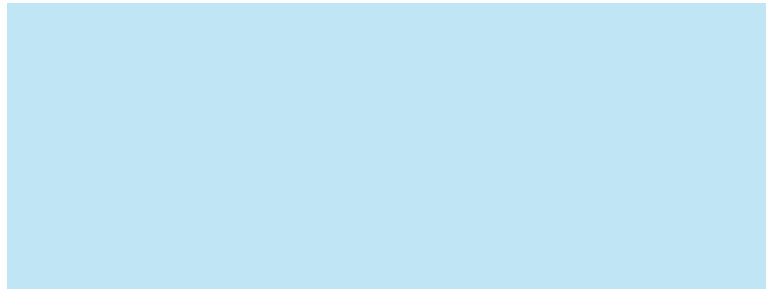


*For Article 7 in-depth, visit:*

**<https://www.nlr.gov/about-nlr/rights-we-protect/the-law/interfering-with-employee-rights-section-7-8a1>**

American Postal Workers Union, Local 497  
1124 Berkshire Ave, Suite 3  
Springfield, MA 01151-1316

NON-PROFIT  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
Springfield, MA  
Permit No 215



## 2022 Membership Meeting Schedule

Union meetings are held the third Thursday of every month *except* July, August, and December.  
Meetings are held at our business office at 1124 Berkshire Ave at 6:30 P.M.

**JANUARY 20**

**FEBRUARY 17**

**MARCH 17**

**APRIL 21**

**MAY 19**

**JUNE 16**

**SEPTEMBER 15**

**OCTOBER 20**

**NOVEMBER 17**