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LETTERS

USPS cash hurdle

John Crudele's column on the US Postal Service's finances needs to be addressed ("A problem the Postal Service refuses to lick," Business, May 17).

The Postal Service does not rely on Uncle Sam for its budget — in fact, it doesn't get a dime of taxpayer money for its operations. By law, <u>USPS</u> relies on revenue earned from selling its products and services.

Far from being "broke," the Postal Service has seen an operating profit three of the last four years, averaging \$1 billion a year. The red ink stems from political, not postal, factors.

In 2006, Congress mandated that <u>USPS</u> do something no other entity — public or private — has to do: pre-fund future retiree health benefits 75 years into the future and pay for it all in a decade. That \$5.8 billion annual burden accounts for postal "losses."

Congress should address prefunding, so <u>USPS</u> can continue to provide New Yorkers and their businesses with the industrial world's most affordable delivery network.

Fredric Rolando, President, National Association of Letter Carriers, Washington, DC

Front-line feminist

I agree with most of F.H. Buckley's argument in "Let the Military Do What the Schools Don't" (PostOpinion, May 12).

However, as a female and longtime feminist, I take offense to the suggestion that military service should be mandatory for boys only. If we want women to be equal, then one year of military service should be mandatory for females as well.

Eileen Corr, Manhattan

A patriotic protest

Kudos to Eddie Desmond for flying the American flag upside down as a protest of his condominium board and a Manhattan court's ruling that the flag cannot be displayed on "common element" ("Upside down & out in Midtown," May 14).

I'm not in any way in favor of the American flag being displayed in this matter, but I don't agree with Judge Franc Perry's decision that Desmond must take it down.

When he's eventually forced to take his flag down, Desmond should then cover every window inside his residence facing the street with some display of our flag — be it cloth, decal, paint or otherwise.

Ralph A. Manente, Yonkers

Backing Hochul

The Post article reporting the Village Independent Democrats endorsing Cynthia Nixon and Kathy Hochul quoted a political consultant who said the move made little sense, since Nixon is challenging Gov. Cuomo and Hochul is his lieutenant governor ("Dem-club hedge on Nixon vote," May 12).

As a Democratic district leader for Village Independent Democrats, I listened carefully to arguments from dozens of people before our vote, and I can promise

that our choices made great sense.

Hochul has taken strong, unpopular stands (such as for gun control, as she lives upstate). We do not see this as a progressive-ys.-establishment contest; we see it as a stand for moral integrity.

Keen Berger, 66th Assembly District Leader, Village Independent Democrats, Manhattan

Goodbye, Lois Lane

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I saw Margot Kidder in the original "Superman" when it was first released in 1978, and she did a great job playing Lois Lane ("Sad farewell to Lois Lane," May 15). She was very pretty and very talented — one of my favorite actresses in the film.

Later, while battling bipolar disorder, she became a great mental-health advocate. We will remember her as a great movie actress and advocate.

Paul Bacon, Hallandale Beach, Fla.