In the pay period guide for 2010, inserted into the December 2009 Postal Record, we mistakenly listed January 8, 2010 as the beginning of the 2010 leave year. The correct date is January 2, 2010.

Entries have already started to trickle in for the Life of a Letter Carrier Contest—the photo competition designed to promote the work of America’s hardest workers.

The contest asks carriers to enter photos of NALC members in the office or out on their routes, interacting with co-workers or delivering to patrons, in rain, snow, sleet and on those sunny days. The best photos will be recognized in The Postal Record, put on display at the NALC Convention in Anaheim in August and exhibited at the Vincent R. Sombrotto Building in Washington, DC.

Entries must be received by June 30—plenty of time for shutterbugs to capture carriers in various seasons—and can be in either digital or hard copy format. All submissions must be labeled clearly with the name and branch of the photographer and identification of the people and locations in the photo.

We ask that every entrant be certain that all subjects are aware they are being photographed for the NALC contest and might be displayed by the union in various settings and publications. Photographers are limited to 25 entries. All entries become property of the union.

Entries by mail can be sent to Letter Carrier Photo Contest, NALC, 100 Indiana Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20001-2144. Digital entries can be sent to postalrecord@nalc.org, with the subject line Photo Contest.

Suggestions for better entries:

✧ No photos of people standing around looking at the camera, please. Seek action shots of carriers doing their work.
✧ Try to picture as many different carriers as you can; we want to see members of both sexes and all races to best represent the diversity of the United States Postal Service and our union.
✧ Consider framing and backgrounds, lighting and shadows to capture the best photo.
✧ For hard copy entries, please submit prints that are done professionally or printed on photo paper with the proper color configuration.
✧ Digital photos should be at least 3.5 megapixels or 300 dpi.