Many letter carriers dream of retiring to a nice, sunny location on the water, and NALC has a way to make that dream come true. Nalcrest, NALC’s retirement village in Florida, has openings available for carriers ready to make a permanent or seasonal move.

“I talk to a lot of carriers who are getting ready to retire to a place in the sun,” President Fredric Rolando said. “Not many are aware of what’s available in Nalcrest. It’s like NALC’s own hidden paradise.”

Located in sunny Central Florida, Nalcrest is conveniently midway between the Gulf Coast and the Atlantic Coast, about an hour’s drive from Tampa and an hour from Orlando. Residents have access to the best of Florida, but away from the crowds.

Spanning 153 acres, Nalcrest sits next to 15-square-mile Lake Weohyakapka (“Lake Walk-In-The-Water”) and is a haven for boating and fishing enthusiasts. And there’s always something to do at Nalcrest, with an Olympic-size swimming pool as well as other recreation and exercise facilities, a small town center and a driving range.

Nalcrest was the dream of NALC President William C. Doherty, who made the dream a reality in 1953. When he retired, he moved into Nalcrest, too. A lot has changed at Nalcrest since then, but it remains a wonderful retirement spot for America’s letter carriers.

The low rents make this carrier-only community the perfect location for either year-long residency or a getaway from the relentlessly cold winters in the North. One-bedroom apartments lease for only $395 a month and efficiencies for $365 a month, water and basic cable included.

A new brochure on Nalcrest is available in this issue of The Postal Record, and branches are encouraged to help make their members aware of this unique benefit they can enjoy.

For more on the retirement community, go online to nalc.org/nalcrest or call 863-696-1121.

NALC friend Pat Patterson dies

A longtime friend of letter carriers, Pat Patterson of Peake-DeLancey Printers—the publishers of The Postal Record, the NALC Bulletin and many other NALC publications—passed away Jan. 8, just four days after his 80th birthday.

Patterson, a native of Owings, MD, had worked in the printing industry since 1952. In 1960, he began his close association with the NALC, serving as the union’s customer service and account representative at Merkle Press, where The Postal Record was printed at the time. When Merkle closed in 1982, Patterson moved to DeLancey Printing and brought the NALC’s account with him. That same year, his son Tom joined him at DeLancey and the pair had managed the NALC’s account together since then. DeLancey merged with Peake Printers in 2005.

“Pat was unflappable in the face of all the ups and downs of the printing industry over the years, and he never failed to come through for the NALC, no matter what we asked of him,” NALC President Fredric Rolando said. “I’m sure I speak for all of us when I say that we will miss his friendship. I extend heartfelt condolences to his wife, Jane, to Tom and to the rest of Pat’s family.”

Besides Jane and Tom, Patterson also is survived by a sister, two sons, two daughters, 15 grandchildren and eight great-grandchildren.

Memorial contributions may be made to the American Heart Association, P.O. Box 5216, Glen Allen, VA 23058.

The ninth and final contract COLA under the 2006-2011 National Agreement was set at $978 annually following the release of the Consumer Price Index (CPI) for July 2011. This is equal to 47.01 cents per hour, or $37.60 per pay period. The COLA was payable effective pay period 20, beginning on Sept. 10, with a pay date of Sept. 30.

The projected accumulation toward the 2013 retiree COLA and the 2012 COLA under the Federal Employees Compensation Act (FECA) was not available at press time.