As NALC’s 71st Biennial Convention approaches, planning enters its final stages for the thousands of letter carriers who will converge on the Cobo Center in Detroit in July. The delegates will tackle numerous union business items during their five days in Detroit, including resolutions and amendments to the NALC Constitution, and also will participate in workshops to help them learn various ways to keep our union strong.

In this issue, we bring more vital information for delegates, including several things to see and do outside the downtown Detroit area when the convention isn’t in session.

Delegates lucky enough to be housed in nearby Dearborn will be close to some of the Detroit area’s most significant tourist attractions, along with many restaurants and shops. Just six miles west of downtown Detroit, Dearborn is most famous for hosting the Ford Motor Company and related museums and attractions.

**THE HENRY FORD MUSEUM OF AMERICAN INNOVATION**

As Henry Ford was transforming the auto industry, he also was collecting historic American objects. His collection has grown into The Henry Ford Museum of American Innovation, also known as “The Henry Ford,” a sprawling indoor/outdoor museum in Dearborn.

Among the objects and even entire buildings on display are John F. Kennedy’s presidential limousine, Thomas Edison’s laboratory, the Wright Brothers’ bicycle shop, the Illinois courthouse where Abraham Lincoln practiced law and the bus in which civil rights pioneer Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat. The 12-acre site contains other historic machines, automobiles, trains and aircraft.

Nearly 100 historic buildings were moved from their original locations and arranged in a village setting at Greenfield Village, the outdoor living history museum section of the Henry Ford. The village includes buildings from the 17th century to the present, many staffed by costumed historical interpreters and demonstrators of work such as farming, pottery and glass-blowing. Some of the craft products are for sale.

The Automotive Hall of Fame, a museum celebrating the people and vehicles that defined America’s auto industry, is adjacent to the site.

For more information on the museum, go to thehenryford.org.

**FORD RIVER ROUGE PLANT**

The Henry Ford Museum is located next to the Ford Motor Co.’s River Rouge complex, which hosts manufacturing and research facilities and the automaker’s corporate headquarters. The factory has operated since 1928, but an overhaul in 2000 transformed it into a modern, environmentally responsible manufacturing plant.

The River Rouge factory also was the site of labor struggles that led to auto
workers winning representation by the United Auto Workers (UAW).

On March 7, 1932, unemployed Ford workers devastated by the Great Depression took to the streets in what became known as the “Ford Hunger March”—or the “Ford Massacre.” The 5,000 or so workers marched on a bitterly cold day from Detroit to Dearborn to deliver their demands to the anti-union Ford Co. These included the right to full union representation, rehiring of the unemployed, health care and an end to racial discrimination. Though the marchers were peaceful, Dearborn police used tear gas and guns to stop them from entering the city. Five workers were killed by police officers and more than 60 were injured.

Another incident at the plant five years later, known as the “Battle of the Overpass,” helped to turn public sentiment toward the autoworkers. On May 26, 1937, Walter Reuther, who later would be elected UAW president, led labor activists to a pedestrian overpass outside a gate at the plant to pass out leaflets to workers as they changed shifts. As Reuther and other union leaders posed for newspaper photos at the gate, a group of Ford security guards emerged from the plant and savagely beat them. Realizing that photographers had captured the incident on film, some guards tried to destroy the evidence by seizing reporters’ cameras. They failed, and photos of the attack ran in newspapers the next day. The incident greatly increased support for the UAW and hurt Ford’s reputation.

Henry Ford had once vowed never to allow unions at his company. After these and many other confrontations, marches and strikes, Ford signed a contract with the UAW in 1941.

Tours of the facility, including Dearborn Truck, the plant that produces the industry-leading Ford F-150 pickup, depart Monday through Saturday from The Henry Ford Museum. Getting tickets in advance is recommended; go to thehenryford.org/visit for more information.

BELLE ISLE

Just a few miles from downtown Detroit lies a natural oasis on an island in the Detroit River. Belle Isle Park has 982 acres of outdoor and recreational attractions. The island, which is accessible by bridge, is home to an historic aquarium, a greenhouse and botanical garden, a nature center, a maritime museum, a municipal golf course, a beach with swimming, picnic shelters, athletic fields and hiking trails.

Belle Isle also hosts a monument to hubris—the James Scott Memorial Fountain. The fountain pays tribute to local businessman Scott, who was born wealthy and who spent most of his life gambling and trying to bully his business partners. When he died in 1910 with no heirs, Scott bequeathed his fortune to the city, with the requirement that a grand memorial be built in his honor. After hesitating to accept his conditions, the city eventually erected the fountain in 1925, but with a statue of Scott placed in the background.

For more information about attractions on Belle Island, go to belleisleconservancy.org.

DIAMOND JACK’S RIVER TOURS

See the city and surrounding terrain from the water by taking a riverboat cruise.
Diamond Jack’s River Tours offers two-hour sightseeing excursions on the Detroit River Thursday through Sunday, including departures from Rivard Plaza, 1340 Atwater St., near the convention center.

The tour from the Rivard Plaza dock includes views of the Detroit skyline, huge ocean-going vessels that ply the Detroit River, and the Ambassador Bridge linking the United States and Canada. Snacks and drinks are available on board.

After the boat tour, children and adults alike can enjoy Rivard Plaza’s landscaped gardens, fountains, children’s play area, cafe and carousel.

For more information and the latest tour information, go to diamondjack.com.

DETROIT RIVERFRONT

A showcase of Detroit’s urban renewal of the 1970s and 1980s, the Detroit Riverfront contains more than five miles of parks and natural scenery easily accessible from downtown, as well as the Cobo Center.

The Riverwalk, a path running nearly the entire length of the riverfront area, connects downtown with several attractions, including Belle Isle, Rivard Plaza and Chene Park. The latter features a 6,000-seat amphitheater with regular outdoor concerts in summer.

WINDSOR, CANADA

Detroit is one of the few places in the United States where going south of the border takes you to Canada. A day trip to Windsor, Ontario, Detroit’s Canadian neighbor just across the Detroit River, offers a variety of things to see and do.

Thousands of slaves found freedom by crossing from Detroit to Windsor after escaping from the South via the Underground Railroad. A memorial on the Windsor waterfront, facing Detroit, recalls their journey. A 22-foot freedom tower, with a statue of formerly enslaved Africans giving thanks for their freedom as a Canadian Underground Railroad conductor welcomes them, marks the end of their journey. The sculpture faces a matching memorial in Hart Plaza in Detroit that shows nine escaping slaves and a conductor pointing their way to freedom across the river.

Built in 1894, the Canadian Club Brand Centre is a great example of historical architecture in the city—but most people come for the whiskey. A tour of the building, naturally, ends with a whiskey tasting.

Duty-free shopping, gaming in one of four area casinos, outdoor art and gardens are among the other Windsor attractions.

The mile-long Detroit-Windsor Tunnel takes visitors from downtown Detroit to Windsor. The Ambassador Bridge, just west of downtown, also leads to the Canadian city. Because it crosses an international border, the visit involves security and customs checks as well as tolls. Motorcycles are not allowed in the tunnel.

Every U.S. citizen traveling between the United States and Canada must have personal documentation. In general, a U.S. citizen needs a passport or similar document, but requirements vary for different people. Check the U.S. Customs and Border Protection website at cbp.gov for details.

For more about Windsor attractions, go to citywindsor.ca/visitors.

Correction: The March issue of The Postal Record mentioned that NALC had not held a national convention in Detroit since the 1940s. The 45th Biennial Convention was held in Detroit in 1966.
NOTICE OF NOMINATIONS FOR NALC NATIONAL OFFICERS

Nominations for national officers of the National Association of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO, will be held on Wednesday, July 18, at the national convention in Detroit. All terms are for four years.

The nominations will be held in accordance with Article 6, Section 2 of the NALC Constitution, which provides:

Every four (4) years, nominations for officers of the Union shall be called by the Chairperson of the Convention on the third day (Wednesday) of the Convention. The Chair shall call for nominations from the floor for each national office separately. Any delegate may nominate any eligible member for any one of the following national offices: President, Executive Vice President, Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer, Director of City Delivery, Director of Safety and Health, Director of Life Insurance, Director of Health Benefits, Director of Retired Members, and a three-member Board of Trustees. Nominations of fifteen (15) National Business Agents shall be separately by NALC Regions, as constituted effective January 1, 1974, or as realigned by the Executive Council. Any realignment of the geographic boundaries of the 15 National Business Agent regions must be announced by the Executive Council, and must be voted on and approved by the delegates, no later than the convention preceding the next convention at which nominations will take place. Only delegates from the appropriate NALC Region may nominate candidates for the position of National Business Agent for such Region. Nomination to the position of National Business Agent in each Region shall be restricted to nominees whose Branch is located in such appropriate NALC Region. No person shall be nominated for any office without his/her written acceptance, on the officially prescribed form, which must include the endorsement from five (5) delegates representing five (5) Branches. The official form shall be handed to the Secretary-Treasurer at the time of nomination, and no person shall be permitted to accept nomination for more than one office at any Convention. No second shall be necessary to a nomination, and no nominating speeches will be permitted by the Chair. No nominee who filed acceptance with the Secretary-Treasurer shall be allowed to withdraw his/her name. When there is but one candidate placed in nomination, the Chairperson shall declare the election by consent.

NALC has a combined official nomination and acceptance form for the 2018 convention (pictured at right). Prior to the convention, the form may be obtained from the secretary-treasurer’s office or by downloading it from nalc.org in the “Secretary-Treasurer” section. Copies of the form also will be available at the convention.

Prospective candidates for national office not attending the national convention may arrange for a delegate attending the convention to submit the completed form at the time of nomination.

Alternatively, prospective candidates for national office not attending the national convention may submit advance written acceptance of nomination by completing the bottom portion of the form and submitting the partially completed form to the secretary-treasurer prior to the convention. The nomination/acceptance form should be sent by certified mail, return receipt requested, and it must be received by the secretary-treasurer’s office at NALC Headquarters no later than July 6.

In addition, such prospective candidates not attending the convention must ensure that a second copy of the form containing the remainder of the required information, including the signature of the nominator and the signature endorsements of five delegates representing five branches, is submitted at the convention.

Note: Electronic signatures are not acceptable on the nomination/acceptance form.
The following is information for those campaigning for NALC national office.

ELECTION BANNERS

The cost to hang an election banner at the national convention is $250 per banner. Checks should be made payable to “Secretary-Treasurer, NALC.” All banners must be in the headquarters office at the convention center no later than 3 p.m. on Tuesday, July 17. Banner size is limited to 11 feet by 22 feet.

RATES FOR NALC ELECTION ADS IN THE POSTAL RECORD

In accordance with federal law, NALC has arranged for Kelly Press to handle requests by candidates for national office in the 2018 NALC election to distribute campaign literature by email at the candidate’s expense. Details can be found on the NALC website. Information was placed on the NALC website in early April.

Any candidate(s) wishing to arrange distribution of campaign literature by email, at his/her own expense, must contact Edeline M. Jean or Gary Locke, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Eastern Time, at 301-386-8285 or 301-583-5300.

DISTRIBUTION OF CAMPAIGN LITERATURE BY MAIL

Upon request, candidates may make arrangement for distribution of campaign literature by mail, at the candidate’s expense. Candidates must make a request for the preparation of any mailing lists for their literature in writing to the NALC secretary-treasurer. The written request must include a breakdown of the mailing list identifying the distribution (i.e., all members, partial list, active separate from retirees, etc.). The written request must also include the date of the mailing.

The cost for a mailing list is $50 each. Candidates must pay NALC directly. The list will not be mailed directly to the candidate. Lists will be given only to NALC’s designated printer for campaign literature. Candidates may have their election materials printed at another printer and use NALC’s designated printer solely for mailing. If using another printer, all mailings must be pre-packaged, sealed and have adequate postage. NALC’s designated printer will affix the address and distribute into the mailstream. There will be a fee for distribution of the literature via mail by the printer. Candidates will be given contact information to discuss the cost for an election mailing. PR