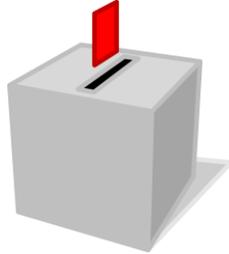




Election '18: Call for Nominations



It's election time again! Members soon will receive the Call for Nominations. This is an opportunity for members in good standing to be nominated for positions that will be open July 1, 2018. This year we are electing the following:

- President
- First Vice President
- Recording Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice President Communications
- Vice President Political Activities
- Vice President Membership Activities

There will also be a handful of opportunities for more union involvement by members who might be interested in becoming a delegate to various conventions and councils. Delegate nominations this year will be for:

- AFT-CT Convention
- AFT National Convention
- CT State AFL-CIO Convention
- AFT Executive Council
- Eastern CT Area Labor Federation
- Greater Bristol Labor Council
- Greater Hartford Labor Council

Nominations for both officers and delegates must be turned into the UHP office by the close of the first business day in February, which will be **5 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 1.**

Watch the UHP website, Facebook page, rep meetings, information tables, and the newsletter for additional information about this year's elections.

If you have any questions regarding the election and the positions open for nomination or you have an interest on being on the Election Committee, please email ldidden@uhp3837.com.

—Laura Didden, Recording Secretary

VP's CORNER: Shawn Brown, Membership Activities



This past year has been a whirlwind for myself and the Social Committee. We ended the year on a very positive note. I would really like to start by thanking the members of the Social Committee for their hard work and dedication to keeping the UHP membership engaged and active with activities. Over the past year we have had a number of bake sales, proceeds all going to support our activities and UHP scholarships that benefit our members and their dependents. Starting this month scholarship applications are available online at uhp3837.com and the **deadline for submission is February 16.**

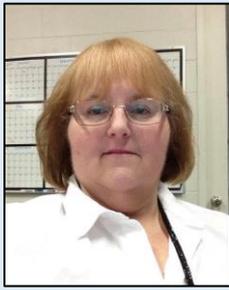
We had bus trips to Boston, the casinos and New York City. The amount of members I've seen over this last year who have become involved and engaged has been a welcomed change. We ended our year with our annual holiday party, once again collecting toys and food for the United Labor Agency, helping those in need. Our holiday party had a new look—a change of venue, to the Academic Rotunda, and a new caterer, Boroussa Catering—and we held drawings for five door prizes, which we were able to obtain entirely with credit card rewards points.

This year, if you didn't know, is UHP's 40th anniversary and the Social Committee is looking forward to bringing another year full of exciting events and activities for the membership. The entire year will be a 40th theme, so keep your eyes and ears open for the latest activities and events that I'm sure you're going to love.

May this year bring you and your loved ones success and happiness and have a Happy New Year!

—In Solidarity,

Shawn Brown, VP for Membership Activities



Happy Retirement, Sandy Pilares!

Congratulations to **Sandy Pilares**, who has retired from UConn Health after 28 years of service. Sandy was a night nurse (CN3) in the ICU for nearly 15 years, and then served another 13 years in clinical informatics. "I really missed the teamwork on nights in the ICU," Sandy recalls. "We really were a great team. When we had a crisis in the ICU, everyone jumped in and helped, taking care of the patient who was crashing as well as ensuring the remaining patients are safe and taken care of. It was nursing at its best." Please join us in wishing Sandy the best in retirement!

'Janus': 2018 Word to Watch

Later this year the U.S. Supreme Court, will take up the *Janus vs. AFSCME* case. This should be of great interest to you as a unionized public employee, as the potential consequences to organized labor are far reaching.



Put simply, an unfavorable ruling threatens to hinder the abilities of public employee unions to collect dues from all the members they serve, protect and represent. Anti-labor forces—and there are many of them—are counting on that resulting in unions like ours to become divided, thus weakening our strength and collective bargaining power.

Our friends at the state (AFT Connecticut) and national (AFT) federations are following developments and will be forthcoming with more information on this in the coming weeks and months. Watch for that, and in the meantime we encourage you to educate yourself about what's at stake here.

Pension Contributions Update Reminder for those in SERS or Hybrid

As you likely are aware, last September, as a result of the SEBAC agreement, we started contributing an additional 1.5 percent of our earnings toward our retirement.

This increase didn't take effect until the seventh pay period of fiscal 2018. Therefore we have to "make up for" the first six pay periods in which that increase was not deducted. These catch-up payments will be spread out over the last 12 pay periods of fiscal 2018, starting with the Feb. 2 paycheck.

The [details of how this is taking place](#), including how take-home pay will start improving in six months, are available on our website, uhp3837.com.



Upcoming Schedule

Jan. 20, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., UHP Office

Finance Committee

Jan. 27, 9 a.m., UHP Office

Finance Committee (if needed)

Jan. 23, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Steward Committee

Feb. 1, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Call for nominations closes

Feb. 8, noon, Onyiuke Dining Room

Union Rep Assembly

Feb. 12, 5 p.m., UHP Office

Executive Committee

Feb. 16, via <http://uhp3837.com>

Scholarship applications due

UHP online calendar: bit.ly/uhpca

Certification Requirements

UConn Health is requiring certification for **medical assistants**, **electrophysiology technicians**, and **ophthalmology technicians**. If the certification test is scheduled during your regular shift, you should not have to use accrued time. If the test is scheduled on a day when you're not scheduled to work, there is no compensation for that time. UConn Health will reimburse up to \$300 for expenses related to required certifications.

UConn Health is not requiring **patient service representatives** to be certified at this time.