



**UHP** University Health Professionals  
LOCAL 3837 AFT/AFTCT/AFL-CIO

# UHP Newsline

Issue #26.2

[uhp3837.com](http://uhp3837.com)

September 2018

## Our Role in Election '18



*Robin Washington Addison, VP for Political Activities*

Unions can influence elections when they harness the activism of their members to support labor-friendly candidates. While UHP does not have a history of endorsing political candidates, we do have a long history of working with AFT CT and the CT AFL-CIO to inform members of the candidates the statewide federations have endorsed. Find them at [bit.ly/AFTCTendorsed18](http://bit.ly/AFTCTendorsed18) and [bit.ly/CTAFLCIOendorsed18](http://bit.ly/CTAFLCIOendorsed18).



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In the last several weeks UHP has been involved in numerous efforts to support candidates for state office who have pledged to stand up for working families, including phone banks and labor-to-labor walks. Learn how you can get involved at [bit.ly/1809walks](http://bit.ly/1809walks).

Also please join us for our **Meet the Candidates Breakfast, Tuesday, Oct 2, between 7:30 and 10 a.m.** in the main building cafeteria. Everyone is welcome to ask questions or just listen.

If you have any questions or need help signing up for phone banks or labor walks, please do not hesitate to contact me. Call 860.676.8444 or email [rwjj48@yahoo.com](mailto:rwjj48@yahoo.com).



## **PRESIDENT'S CORNER:** **We are under attack**

Less than 60 days until the November 2018 election of a new Connecticut governor, we as state employees, have a choice to make.

I've said it before and I'll say it again: We are under attack and fighting for our livelihood.

Ned Lamont and Bob Stefanowski are the names on the top of their tickets. They could not have more differing opinions on what to do with our state, our jobs and our livelihood.

Ned Lamont has said he believes in the right to collectively bargain. Bob Stefanowski has his now-infamous line about taking us out at the knees, "Thank God for the Janus decision... Scrap the SEBAC agreement."

As a state employee this should be a simple question: What side are you on?

Mr. Stefanowski is coming right out and saying he is going to attack your pay, pension and health care.

We need to engage with our elected officials and let them know, you are there to represent us, and if you do not we will work to replace you with someone who will represent us.

Please post this newsletter. Leave it out for your non-UHP colleagues to read. We help do the research that moves us forward. We help educate the next generation of doctors, dentists, and nurses. We care for the sick, dying and underserved. We are the patient advocates. We need to ask our elected officials: What side are you on?

**—In Solidarity,  
Bill Garrity**

(Read Bill's full remarks at [uhp3837.com](http://uhp3837.com).)





**UHP delegates to the CT AFL-CIO Convention stand with Jahana Hayes, endorsed candidate in the 5<sup>th</sup> Congressional District (Photo by Matt O'Connor)**

## From Capitol Hill... (They DO hear us!)

Thank you again for your message. I will be sure to keep your views in mind as I consider how to address the Supreme Court vacancy created by Justice Kennedy's retirement. I commit to you that I will not stand by while this administration seeks to take our country backward by nominating a Supreme Court candidate who will undo the tireless work of millions of Americans in moving our country forward.



**--U.S. Sen. Richard Blumenthal, in response to an email from UHP VP Comms Chris DeFrancesco urging opposition to the nomination of Brett Kavanaugh to the U.S. Supreme Court**

## Member Spotlight



### Way to Go, Marisa Merlo!

Lacation consultant Merisa Merlo emceed a media event to open Connecticut's first hospital-based milk depot at UConn Health Aug. 30.



### Carol Underwood Digs in Once More

Application architect Carol Underwood joined state archaeologist Brian Jones again this summer to unearth clues about early European settlers and Native Americans



### Still Pedaling Bike to Work

Administrative fiscal assistant Joyce Fritz continues to share her passion for cycling with her monthly bike-to-work breakfasts, third Friday of the month through October.



Office of the State Comptroller  
Retirement Services Division  
SAG

## SAG Award Update

### Watch your home mailbox

If you are eligible to switch retirement plans under the 2010 SAG (SEBAC ARP Grievance) Award, expect a letter from the Office of the State Comptroller to your home this month. It will have invoices for buying years of service if you chose to make a one-time, irrevocable move from ARP (Alternate Retirement Plan, or defined contribution) to SERS (State Employee Retirement System, or defined benefit/ traditional pension).

We have from Sept. 14 through Dec. 14 to exercise this option, which would take effect in January. Remember, this is an individual choice based on your individual circumstance, and the best place to turn for assistance with this decision is a professional financial adviser. More information on the SAG award is available at [bit.ly/saguhp](http://bit.ly/saguhp).

## UPCOMING SCHEDULE

### Election '18 Activities

September details: [bit.ly/1809walks](http://bit.ly/1809walks)

Sept. 19, 5 p.m., UHP Office

### Community Outreach Committee

Sept. 25, 5 p.m., UHP Office

### Steward Committee

Oct. 2, 7:30 a.m. to 10 a.m., Caf Lobby

### Meet the Candidates Breakfast

**Tuesday**, Oct. 9, 5 p.m., UHP Office

### Executive Committee

Oct. 10, 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m., Caf Lobby

### 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Cider & Donuts

Oct. 11, noon, Onyiuke Dining Room

### Union Rep Assembly

UHP online calendar: [bit.ly/uhpca](http://bit.ly/uhpca)