



'We're Still Here'

Solidarity and resiliency on Med 3: (Top, from left) Nurse Carla Albini, nurse Farukh Shakeel*, nurse Erika Murphy*, and nurse aide Aneta Piotrowski, plus (bottom, from left) Nurse aide Olivia Breece, nurse Danny Morocho*, nurse Sami Grabbe*, nurse Shannon Pflomm* (* indicates UHP member). Our front-line health care workers continue to answer the call during this resurgence of COVID-19. (Photo shared by Olivia Breece)*

UHP Holiday Gifts

We can't celebrate the winter holidays this year like we normally would, so Plan B? Watch your home mailbox this month for your official UHP holiday gift! And in lieu of our traditional toy drive for our friends at the United Labor Agency, this year we're sending a donation to ULA on behalf of our members. Let's all stay safe and healthy this year so we can be festive next year!

**—In solidarity, Shawn Brown,
VP of Membership Activities**



Union Reps Reassembling

We've postponed reconvening our union rep assembly until **Thursday, Jan. 14**, via Zoom, time to be determined. Reps please stay tuned for additional details.



PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Where Did the Year Go?

I'd love to do a year in review, but we're all plowing ahead full-steam and we just do not have the time.



Hopefully as you read this the **COVID-19 vaccine** will be available to us. Hospital personnel are supposed to be the first group getting it. So again we lead the way.

We've had other issues that continue:

- We are still in talks with management over the **mandatory flu shot policy**. We will have more info to come.
- Day 2 of the **CN3 arbitration** case is Dec. 18.
- The **hazard pay arbitration** is on the horizon and will meet on Jan. 21.
- **Contract negotiations** for 2021 are starting to heat up. As of this writing we've had the second of four planned sessions to bring

(continued on reverse)



Did you miss the story about Sammy Myers, one of our medical assistants, whose simple act of kindness made all the difference to a patient in our oncology unit? bit.ly/2011SammyMA

UPCOMING SCHEDULE

Dec. 11, 1p, Zoom

Negotiating Team Caucus

Dec. 14, 5p, Zoom

Executive Committee

Dec. 16, 5p, Webex

Contract Negotiations

Dec. 21, 1p, Zoom

Negotiating Team Caucus

Dec. 30, 4p, Webex

Contract Negotiations

Jan. 9, 9a-2p, Zoom

Finance Committee

Jan. 11, 5p, UHP Office/Zoom

Executive Committee

Jan. 13, 4p, Webex

Contract Negotiations

Jan. 14, Time TBD, Zoom

Union Rep Assembly

UHP online calendar: bit.ly/uhpocal

NEW: UConn Health COVID-19 vaccine program:

• Website: bit.ly/2012uchCOVIDvax

• Call center: 860-679-8888

REMINDER: Report symptoms/potential exposures to the COVID-19 call center: 860-679-3199.

PRESIDENT'S CORNER (continued)

proposals. So far we've brought forth 12 proposals, management has put forth 10 proposals. Each side has been afforded the opportunity to ask questions and seek further explanation. It is still early in the process and details on the proposals need to stay in the room. There have been no agreements or counter proposals. The upcoming events section of the newsletter will give you a sense of the time our negotiating team is dedicating to secure our next contract.

- We have had to have at least six members being investigated over "**Fair Warning.**"
- We've had a number of discussions with HR over the six-month restriction for **employees who transfer** to a new position. We've asked for the supervisors to have the opportunity to review these applications and determine whether or not to waive that restriction. Also if you've recently switched jobs, and are finding it is not a "good fit," we'd like to hear about it. There will always be some growing pains, but we don't want to lose people over something like that.
- **Vacation policy and requests** around the holidays are prevalent this year.

On a final sad note, former AFT Connecticut President and AFT National Vice President **Sharon Palmer** passed away this month. Sharon was always an avid supporter of UHP and state employees, especially during our privatization fight between 2008 and 2011. She will be missed.

From all the officers, we wish a safe and joyous, COVID-free holiday season.

Merry Christmas to all, and to all a good night!

—**In Solidarity, Bill Garrity**