



Issue #71.1

UHP Newsline

uhp3837.com

June 2022

Coming Soon to Your Paycheck...

Here's the word from the Office of the State Comptroller and SEBAC on our raises and back pay:

- **June 17 paycheck:** \$2,500 special lump-sum payment **plus** adjustment of our current pay rates *moving forward* to reflect *both* the Year 1 general wage increase (GWI) of 2.5% and Year 1 step increase for year 2021-2022.
- **July 15 paycheck:** Back pay on *both* the Year 1 GWI of 2.5% (retroactive to July 2021) and Year 1 step increase (retroactive to January 2022). *Note: Payroll needs time to accurately calculate this for ~43,000 state employees.*
- **July 29 paycheck:** Adjustment of our pay rates to reflect the Year 2 GWI of 2.5% **plus** the remaining \$1,000 of the special lump sum.
- **January 2023:** Adjustment of our pay rates to reflect the Year 2 step increase.

A few things to remember: (1) This is the plan, subject to execution by the comptroller and/or UConn Health payroll, and (2) The combined \$3,500 lump-sum amount is prorated based on FTE. See more about our new contract at bit.ly/22CBAfaq (or hit the QR code).



PRESIDENT'S CORNER



We'll Miss You, Ivonne!

It is with both joy and tears that I say

goodbye to our beloved Ivonne Hamm, who is retiring June 30. Ivonne has been at my side as our 1st VP since we were elected together as part of our terrific leadership team in 2016. I couldn't imagine doing this with anyone else.

Please see the below for Ivonne's farewell letter to UHP.

May God bless you in retirement, Ivonne. We have more to thank her for than we ever could say. You will always be a part of UHP.

—In solidarity, Bill Garrity

'Dear UHP': A Farewell Letter From 1st VP Ivonne Hamm

WOW in less than one month — July 1, 2022 — I start a new chapter in my life: RETIREMENT! I can't believe it's been 35 years since I came to work at UConn Health and became a public employee, 25 years since becoming an RN and a UHP member, and six years since you all elected me to be UHP's 1st VP for Collective Bargaining.

Although two totally different jobs, the similarities are many. For example, as a nurse I always considered myself a patient advocate. As your 1st VP, I see myself as being a member advocate.

I have been honored to have been elected to serve with a great group of leaders and I can say we have worked hard over the past six years and made significant improvement in communicating with our members through social media, Action



Network blast emails, our UHP website, and UHP informational tables at multiple UCH sites.

We increased the number of union reps and stewards to better serve our members' needs. We increased member participation — thank you to all who called or emailed their legislators to ask for their support on passing the 35 state contracts, and those who testified or wrote testimony on legislation we supported or legislation we were against.

It hasn't been easy, sometimes thinking you reached an agreement for a group of members, and then you get accused of only caring for a specific group (nurses, MAs, etc.) but I assure you that has never been the case, at least not in the past six years.

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Please do not use state equipment to print or copy this newsletter

Ivonne's Farewell Message

(Continued from front)

It truly has been an honor to work on behalf of all our 2,864 members. Some members may not be happy with some of the decisions made at the table, and I encourage all members to become active members in our union in whatever capacity you are able to. Join a UHP committee, or a UCH committee as a representative of UHP. Volunteer to help with a UHP membership activity or a community outreach activity. Write an email, make a phone call. Nothing we do is too small or too big, we are a large local that can make a big difference if we all do our part. Don't leave it to the 11 elected UHP officers. If you haven't heard Bill or me repeat the saying, "If you don't have a seat at the table, then you're part of the menu," now you have. Although I say we have done an excellent job, we need more help — your help. Get involved.



Ivonne with her husband, Mike, and daughter, Angie, at our 2021 rally for a fair contract

vested in keeping UHP strong and united. I have no doubt that my successor, Shawn Brown, will continue and do a great job in his new role on our current and future challenges. Remember this, "You get the union you vote for."

I won't say goodbye, I'll just say, "See you around," and leave you with one of my favorite quotes:



Why are Ivonne and AFT CT's John Brady with Sen. Murphy at the White House?

bit.ly/2204IvonneWH



Ivonne and the rest of the UHP delegation to the 2018 AFT convention make it clear, they're sticking with their union!

I was tasked as part of my duties to chair the Negotiations Committee. I've heard veteran team members say this was the most contentious negotiations they have ever been involved in, and I echo their perception. Negotiations were tougher this year than the previous four negotiations I have been a part of. In the end though, our Executive Committee, our AFT-CT field rep and the UHP Negotiating Team members did an amazing job. Under our leadership, when this contract expires, our members will have received five GWIs and five step increases in five years. That is no small task.

We currently have a very strong union, with some truly experienced leaders who are

ON THE SCHEDULE

Executive Committee

June 13, 5:30p, UHP office (?)

Union Rep Assembly

June 21, 5:30p, Zoom

CT AFL-CIO Convention

June 23-24, Foxwoods

bit.ly/22CTAFLCIO

Steward Committee

June 28, 5:30p, Zoom

Executive Committee

July 11, 5:30p, UHP office (?)

AFT Nat'l Convention

July 14-17, Boston

bit.ly/22AFTnatConv

UHP online calendar:

bit.ly/uhpca