



UHP's Jozii Ruiz Brings AFT's 'First Book' to Hartford

Thanks to our **Jozii Ruiz** and AFT's Reading Opens the World initiative, underserved families in the Hartford area have access to books to help kids cope.

Through her connections with the national AFT Latino Issues Task Force, the AFT brought 500 books to Hartford's Burgdorf Clinic Oct. 17.

Read about it in "A Book for a Baby" by AFT's Melanie Boyer, via the QR code or at bit.ly/2310JoziiBooks.



From left: Jozii Ruiz, Caroline Lewis from the Burgdorf Clinic, and UConn Health Dr. Kavita Advani at the AFT First Book event at the Burgdorf Oct. 17 (AFT-CT photo)

Holiday Party Is Happening



Do you have **Wednesday, Dec. 13**, on your calendar yet?

That's right, we're bringing back the UHP holiday party! It will be from 3 to 7 p.m. in the Food Court (main building). We're asking everyone to bring unwrapped toys or nonperishable food items to be entered in a prize drawing and, more importantly, to help those in need for the holidays.

We're looking for members to help us with additional social events as well as our 2024 scholarships. If you would like to learn more about either the social committee or the scholarship subcommittee, please email vpmembershipactivities@uhp3837.com.

—**Shané Reid**

VP for Membership Activities

See page 2 for more ways you can get involved!

OFFICER'S CORNER

Beyond Our Local

I can't believe we are already in November. The holidays are near and we're coming to a close of what has been a busy and productive year.



I want to shine a light on an event that is happening this month. UHP is sending a dozen delegates to the AFT National Professional Issues Conference (PIC) in Baltimore, representing both health care and public employees. Many of these delegates are our members who participated in our Member Organizing Institute over the summer. These members have taken the initiative to learn to maximize growth for our local by interacting with members and educating them about our union, its benefits, how we all have a voice, and how, with numbers, we have a stronger voice.

I was invited to speak on a panel at the conference on recruitment and retention, which has been a huge topic here at UConn Health. We've made great strides with nursing, ophthalmology and radiology. And the work isn't finished. I think this is a perfect example showing how the labor movement isn't just on the local level, but nationally we fight for all. It also is a great way for members to get involved and have a larger impact on issues that concern us on the local, state and national levels.

I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday. Be well.

—**In solidarity, Shawn Brown, 1st VP**

A Salute to UHP's Veterans



From left: Lt. Col. Ed Roden is commander of the 105th Detachment-1 Medical Element (MEDEL) of the Air National Guard and a nurse anesthetist at UConn Health. Rob Sutton (U.S. Army 1995-1999) is an infrastructure architect in IT. Lisa Zahina (U.S. Navy, 1987-1995) is a CN3 on the 6th floor. Ricardo Watkins (U.S. Navy, 1987-1990) is clinical coordinator in the Comprehensive Spine Center. Capt. Michael H. Wilhelm and Capt. Alejandro Bautista serve with the 103rd Medical Group of the Air National Guard. See more at bit.ly/2311UHPvets. Thank you for your service!

Community Outreach Report: Remembering Fallen Police Officers



On Thursday, Oct. 12, I attended a candlelight vigil to honor and remember our fallen heroes Lt. Dustin DeMonte and Sgt. Alex Hamzy from the Bristol Police Department.

Thank you to everyone at the Bristol PD — this was an amazing tribute! And thank you for your continued acts of selflessness and bravery. Also, thank you to the community for coming together for this vigil.

—Robin Washington Addison, VP Community Outreach

Constitutional, Comms Committees Convening

The newly formed **constitutional amendment committee's** next meeting (tentatively Tuesday, **Nov. 21**, 5:30 p.m. in the union office) will be to review our constitution and discuss potential changes... The **communications committee** plans to meet Tuesday, **Dec. 12**, at 5:30 p.m. in the union office. New members are welcome. If you are interested in attending one or both, please email cdefrancesco@uhp3837.com.

ON THE SCHEDULE

AFT Prof. Issues Conference

Nov. 16-18, Baltimore

uhp3837.ct.aft.org/23pic

Constitutional Amendment Committee (tentative)

Nov. 21, 5:30p, UHP office

Steward Committee

Nov. 28, 5:30p, UHP office

UConn Labor Coalition Advocacy Training

Dec. 4, 12p-2:30, state Capitol

bit.ly/2312UConnLabor

Executive Committee

Dec. 11, 5:30p, UHP office

Communications Committee

Dec. 12, 5:30p, UHP office

UHP Holiday Party

Dec. 13, 3p-7p, main building caf

Union Rep Assembly

Dec. 14, 12p, Onyiuke Dining Rm

UHP calendar: bit.ly/uhpcal