



A Glimmer of Labor Peace

RN stipends stay for 1 more year



UHP nurses turn out at Dr. Andy's June 18 town hall!

Vocal opposition from our nurses got management's attention and helped us fight off planned cuts to the recruitment and retention stipend for some of our RNs. Use [the QR code](#) for additional details.



While this is an important development in our larger discussions with management, we understand there is much more work to do to maintain what we've won in the past and seek fair compensation for all our members. This must be done one step at a time. Thank you to all those who recognized its importance and lent their voices in support, making this gain possible!

New VP Takes Office



President Bill Garrity swears in Randi Schiavi as VP for community outreach. Hear from Randi on the back page

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

Small Step Forward; Long Road Ahead

Haven't we been here before?

First, I want to say we have a contract extension for one year that allows us to continue with many of the good things we have in our contract. Everything in the contract stays in place, except currently, no new wage increases. This at least will allow us to continue to negotiate with management and try to move our contract forward.



We have a large variety of members in UHP. Our current most senior member has 45 years of service, and we have new members starting every two weeks, so, a lot of difference in union experience levels. This hopefully will be a review for some and new information for some.

We have done this before. Through multiple negotiations over the years there have been extensions: some short, six months to a year, one (2010) much longer.

I started at UConn Health in 1996 and have been on every negotiating team since 1998. Each time we negotiate for the best contract we can get with UConn and for our members. Once we have a contract we believe is acceptable, we hold meetings to discuss any changes that might be coming if ratified and answer questions from the membership. We then bring it to the membership to vote on. If we approve, then it goes to the UConn Board of Directors for their approval, then to the state legislature for our lawmakers' vote on all state union contracts.

We have outside factors that influence what we do here. State and federal budgets impact everything we do. This is the delay we are facing right now. The federal budget does not finalize until September, the state won't know what is coming from the feds, and UConn will not know what we are looking at in higher education or health care funding. Both state and federal government have attacked higher education and research funding already. With the passage of the funding bill there look to be major cuts to Medicare/Medicaid, which will again impact us here at UConn Health.

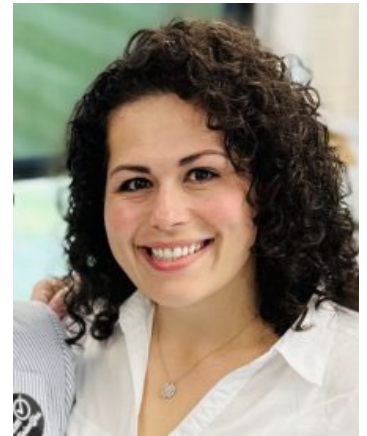
It's another reminder: Elections have consequences.

—In solidarity, Bill Garrity

Meet Randi Schiavi, Our New VP for Community Outreach

Hello! For those who don't know me, my name is Randi, and I am following Robin Addison as UHP's VP for Community Outreach. You and I may have already crossed paths at the hospital, where I work as a nurse, or as representative and steward for UHP. If we have not met yet, I hope we do in upcoming months! I have plans to focus on the community aspect of this role, working to build up our union and help people come together in solidarity. We live in turbulent times, but I believe in the power of community and the power we have to improve one another's lives.

If you'd like to join me in building our community, please reach out to contactuhp@uhp3837.org, and we'll get to work!



Report From AFT Health Care PIC

In the early weeks of June, I was lucky enough to attend, along with Bill, AFT's Health Care Professional Issues Conference (PIC) in Chicago. Despite being only a few days, it was time well spent; the seminars opened discussion on some health care's most pressing issues, including Medicaid cuts, safe staffing, health care workers' rights, and immigration policy in a health care setting. We also touched on the timely issues of health care's political climate, and private equity in health care — something we cannot be too vigilant about as UConn seeks to navigate a major budget shortfall.

The solidarity found in these workshops was amplified in the streets of Chicago, as many of us marched in defense of immigrants and in protest of ICE raids. I know that I was not the only one to return home from this event energized and motivated, and I hope to share that with our membership.

*—In solidarity,
Randi Schiavi, VP for Community Outreach*



Randi with AFT President Randi Weingarten at the Health Care PIC in Chicago

Bringing Home Books for Kids

Jozii Ruiz and her son Micai accept more than 200 books donated by Tata Sons North America and First Book.

Learn more on our website via the QR code.



Yard Goats Tickets Available

We still have a few tickets left for the **Aug. 30** Yard Goats game. Get more information with **the QR code.**



ON THE SCHEDULE

Union 'Back-to-School' Workshop Day

Aug. 12, 9a-4p, AFT CT and online
bit.ly/2508aftctworkshop

Executive Committee,

Aug. 12, 5:30p, UHP office

Union Rep Assembly

Aug. 14, 12p, Onyiuke Dining Room

Steward Committee

Aug. 26, 5:30p, UHP office (no July meeting)

Organized Labor Night at Yard Goats

Aug. 30, 6:10p 1st pitch, Dunkin Park, Hartford
bit.ly/2508yardgoats

CT AFL-CIO Convention

Nov. 6-7, Foxwoods
bit.ly/2511ctaflcio

UHP calendar: bit.ly/uhpca