



Calling All Members to the Aqua Turf:
Did you RSVP yet to our annual business convention, Friday, April 24? Doors open at 5 p.m. RVSP: vpmembershipactivities@uhp3837.com.

Ratified!

New contract heads to legislature for final approval following overwhelming membership support

By a margin of greater than 19 to 1, we have ratified our next collective bargaining agreement!

The contract is retroactive to July 1, 2025, and runs through June 30, 2029.

It includes both a 2.5% general wage increase (GWI) and a step increase in each of the first three years. The first GWI is retroactive to July 2025, and the first step is retroactive to January 2026. Those at the top step will receive a \$1,200 lump-sum payment.

Other highlights include protection of important language on personal time and job security.

Nearly half the total membership — 1,580 members — took part in the online vote March 25-27, with 1,513 members, or 95.8%, voting yes.

"I just want to thank the negotiations
(continued on back)



Our negotiating team at one of its early meetings, December 2024 (Photo by Matt O'Connor, AFT CT)

PRESIDENT'S CORNER

UHP Voted Yes. What's Next?

On March 27 we were able to announce that close to 96% of the nearly 1,600 members who voted in our contract ratification voted in favor, 4% voted against.



Then on March 31, the UConn Health Board of Trustees also voted in favor of our negotiated contract.

Our next step is to the Connecticut General Assembly at the state Capitol. We don't have a date yet, but our
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ON THE CALENDAR

Executive Committee

April 14, 5:30p, UHP office

UHP Business Convention

April 24, 5p, Aqua Turf,
bit.ly/26uhpbizcon

Steward Committee

April 28, 5:30p, UHP office

Executive Committee

May 12, 5:30p, UHP office

Union Rep Assembly

May 14, 12p, Onyiuke

UHP calendar: bit.ly/uhpca



Ashley McCall (1), Charles Rowland (2), Bill Garrity (3), and Chris DeFrancesco (4) represent UHP at the AFT CT regional legislative meeting in Southington March 21. (Photo by Rosemary Rich, AFT CT)



Home Stretch for Contract

(continued from front)

team for their commitment and dedication to achieving a contract, and thank you to the membership for staying informed and voting to ratify," says 1st VP for Collective Bargaining **Shawn Brown**, who chaired the negotiating committee. "Everyone involved dedicated their time and energy to fight for the many benefits all our members have, and although we didn't 'win' everything we wanted, this contract was a win, and now we continue the fight."

With approval by the UConn Health Board of Directors, the contract next goes to the Connecticut General Assembly for a vote in both houses, likely sometime in this month.

Once all approvals are in place, we'll have a better sense of when the retroactive raises will show up in our paychecks. Also to come are an updated pay grid to reflect the raises, and the creation of the actual contract book. Both will be accessible on our website once available, and at some point after that we'll have printed copies of the contract in book form.

Special thanks to **Meg Bartos** and **Michelle Proper** for facilitating the ratification vote, and to our chief negotiator and AFT CT field rep, **Emily Demicco!**

PRESIDENT'S CORNER *(continued)*

contract will get a hearing. When it does, I'm hoping we have members writing to and calling their representatives and senators encouraging them to vote in favor of our contract. This is a short session so they will be done by May 6. A hearing and a vote will happen before then. Once our contract is voted on, we will have a signing session for the contract.

We can't be sure but we are pushing to get our retro payments before the July '26 raises. It will take some time, but we will have our contract printed and get them in everyone's hands probably in September.

I want to thank everyone who was involved in negotiations, every UHP member who took the time to come to one of our informational sessions, and every member who voted this year. With this contract, this will make nine consecutive years of both GWI (general wage increases) raises and step increases. We did a good job, and I am proud of everyone involved.

I'd also like to remind everyone that our annual business convention is **Friday, April 24**, at the Aqua Turf. It's an evening of fellowship with our union family, including a nice meal, a cash bar, music, and awards and scholarship presentations, in addition to a modest business agenda. It's not often we can get a large portion of our membership together; this is one of those times, and I hope to see you there. Please be sure to **RSVP, before April 20**, to Shaneé Reid, our VP for membership activities, who's been working hard to organize this event:

vpmembershipactivities@uhp3837.com.

—In solidarity, Bill Garrity