

MID HUDSON BRIDGES

Representing **Columbia Dutchess Greene Sullivan Ulster Counties**

50th Anniversary CELEBRATION nysut

Volume XXXI Summer Issue

NYSUT RC 13

June/July 2023



**From The
President's Desk
Patrick McCarthy**

HAPPY SUMMER!

Dear Colleagues,

I hope everyone reading this newsletter is experiencing good health & enjoying all of summer's natural beauty in whatever way you choose.

Since the last issue of the Mid-Hudson Bridges I am happy to report that the RC#13 Board of Directors has been a bee hive of activity. In March, we participated in "Committee of 100," NYSUT's lobbying effort, with our in-service brothers & sisters at the Capitol. Meetings were held with legislators who represent various areas of the Mid-Hudson to urge their support for our Union's legislative agenda: supporting Community Schools, fully funding Teacher Centers, increasing support for SUNY & CUNY, fixing the draconian Tier 6, and providing "Healthy School Meals" for ALL of New York's children.

In April, delegates from locals across NYS attended our Repre-

sentative Assembly in Albany to help set the union agenda for the next year. Delegates to the RA considered 33 resolutions at committee meetings; 6 were approved on the floor & the rest were referred to the NYSUT Board of Directors for consideration as there was a lack of a quorum on the last day. A special order of business calling for an end to over-testing, as well as a constitutional amendment raising dues was approved. Delegates also heard from a variety of speakers & recognized several NYSUT members for their service to the Union.

Delegates elected **Melinda Person**, former Director of Legislation, as **President of NYSUT**, filling the shoes of Andy Pallotta, who has now joined our ranks as a retiree. Jolene DiBrango also stepped down as Executive Vice-President and **Jaime L. Ciffone**, from the UFT, is now filling that position. NYSUT 2nd Vice-President **Ron Gross** & Secretary/Treasurer **J. Philippe Abraham** were

both re-elected to 3-year terms as well.

In addition, your Board & its committees continue to provide more diverse opportunities for members. As mentioned in our last issue, our Social Committee has set up visits to various art venues in the Mid-Hudson area over the coming months with more opportunities on the horizon. Monthly webinars on important Medicare issues are being virtually provided and walking groups are hitting the trails throughout the region. We will continue to seek to provide further activities.

Please, make it a priority to regularly check our website: (www.retireecouncil13.com) so that you can take advantage of: social events, webinars, or political action opportunities. These events are being added frequently.

Your Board of Directors has made the goal of increasing the opportunity of engagement for ALL our members, one of its **TOP PRIORITIES!**

In solidarity,
Patrick McCarthy



2023 Calendar IN PERSON



The RC#13 Board of Directors meet monthly, every second Wednesday (except July & August). If you would like to be a **GUEST** contact Patrick McCarthy (rc13president@retireecouncil13.com).

PLEASE CHECK DATES!

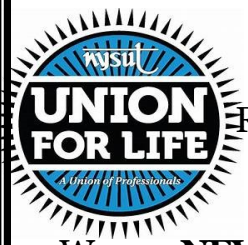
September
13 Wed. - **Board/Liaisons, (10:15 am-12 noon)**

September
19 **New Retiree Reception (10:00-12:00 am)**
Kingston Regional Office

October
11 Wed. - **Board/Liaisons, (10:15 am-12 noon)**
19 Thurs. **NYSUT Regional FALL CONFERENCE**

November
8 Wed. - **Board/Liaisons, (10:15 am-12 noon)**

December
13 Wed. - **Board/Liaisons, (10:15 am-12 noon)**



PLEASE NOTE:

Many retirees receive mailings from an organization called Retired Educators of New York (RENY). **THIS IS NOT OUR UNION!** It is an independent organization that offers some benefits and membership at a **COST**.

We are **NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS (NYSUT)** and you are a member for **LIFE!**

NEW PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT!

Universal Life Insurance with Convalescent Care Benefit

provided by:

Trustmark[®]
benefits beyond benefits

- Innovative universal life insurance product provided by Trustmark[®], combining life insurance coverage with a convalescent care benefit that can be used to pay for long-term care services.
- **Limited time offer!** In-service members ages 18-64 who enroll between May 1 and June 16, 2023 may qualify for guaranteed coverage (no medical questions) up to \$50,000.
- Retiree members up to age 70 may elect coverage up to \$100,000 by answering some medical questions.

LIVING BENEFITS FOR LONG-TERM CARE

You could require long-term care services at any point in your life, which could cost hundreds of dollars per day. This universal life insurance program includes a convalescent care benefit that can help pay for these services at any age. Policyholders with a qualifying claim can collect up to 4% of their universal life death benefit per month for up to 25 months -- helping to cover the cost of long-term care services such as an in-home health aide, assisted living facility, or nursing home care.

LIFE INSURANCE

Protecting your loved ones is one of life's greatest responsibilities. Along with the grief that comes with losing a family member, survivors may suddenly be faced with costly expenses, debts, and a loss of income. Your death benefit can be used to help pay these expenses or for other items such as tuition or savings.

YOURCARE360 ONLINE RESOURCE GUIDE

This program includes access to YourCare360, providing an online resource that can help to guide you and your family through the caregiving journey.



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left,
visiting memberbenefits.nysut.org
or calling 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits.

May-Jun 2023

**OUR
SOCIAL
SIDE**

SAVE THE DATES!

For full details & cancellation policy see our website:
(www.retireecouncil13.com) and click on **EVENTS**.

THURSDAY, JULY 6TH and continuing every Thursday from 1-3) **MAHJONGG Classes.** @ the Kingston Regional Office, 201 Stockade Dr., Kingston, 12401. Class in the Conference room downstairs.

Minimum of 3 people , maximum of 11. **NO COST**

To sign up contact Sandra at 914-388-0779 or email sandrabreitenberger19@gmail.com

WEDNESDAY AUGUST 30TH - 10 AM **MUSEUM @Bethel Woods**, 200 Hurd Road, Bethel, NY, 12720.

Cost: Adults(19-64) \$15, Senior(65+) \$12, Students \$10. Must have a minimum of 15 people, maximum of 40.

Payment due by July 31st to reserve spot. Contact Patrick @ 845-701-1825 or email

rc13president@retireecouncil13.com

THURSDAY, Sept. 21ST - **Art Omi Fields Sculpture Park / Martin Van Buren National Historic Site** - MORE INFO in next newsletter or on our website.

WEDNESDAY, October 4TH, 10:30 A.M., **Fall Walk With Me: Walkway Over the Hudson**, 61 Parker Ave, Poughkeepsie, NY 12601. Walkway Over the Hudson State Historic Park is a 19th century railroad bridge transformed into the world's longest elevated (212 ft.) pedestrian park.

To RSVP call 845-706-6986 or email Sheryl Baker Delano - sheryl.delano@nysut.org

TUESDAY, October 10TH, 2:00 P.M., **Hudson River Fall Foliage Tour**, Hudson River Boat Tours, 40 Rondout Lane, Kingston, NY 12401. Cost is \$30 per person. Maximum # +60. Payment due to reserve spot is July 14th . Contact Laurie @ 845-626-3468

ALL CHECKS FOR EVENTS MAKE PAYABLE TO: **NYSUT, RC #13**

Send checks to: **NYSUT/MHRO**

201 Stockade Drive, Kingston, New York 12401

List event on memo line (ie, Walkway, Bethel Woods, Hudson River Fall Foliage Tour, etc.

PLEASE INCLUDE CONTACT INFORMATION (CELL #, EMAIL) WITH YOUR CHECK

It can't happen without you!

Stand up and give to **VOTE-COPE!**

NYSUT VOTE-COPE



VOTE-COPE voluntary contributions ensure that our collective voices are heard on the issues that are so vital to us. It allows us to elect candidates, regardless of political affiliation, who are **pro-public education** & **pro-labor**.

Cont. on page 4

Retiree Council #13

OFFICERS:

President: Patrick McCarthy Sullivan BOCES (845) 701-1825

1VP: William Rule Wallkill (845) 687-0849

2VP: Laurie Silver Sullivan BOCES (845) 626-3468

Secretary: Susan Eagan Marlboro (845) 889-4416

Treasurer: Mary Lou Davis Spackenkill (845) 223-5544

NYSUT/ AFT DELEGATES:

Patrick McCarthy, Donna Matthews, Caren Levant

Alternates: Paula Ptaszek, William Rule

Presidents Emeritus:

Marvin Eisenberg, Matt Ostoyich, Janice Scriber, Victoria Schulte

DIRECTORS:

Susan Grybas Chatham (518) 755-9431

Paula Ptaszek Chatham (518) 929-8641

Sharon Carloni Coxsackie-Athens (518) 339-6619

Nancy Sharoff Ellenville (845) 798-5925

Carole Chambers Hyde Park (845) 454-9696

Sandra Breitenberger Kingston (845) 657-2164

Irene Romano Red Hook (876) 758-0333

Janis Bianco Rondout Valley (845) 338-0215

Donna Mathews Ulster BOCES (845) 706-6973

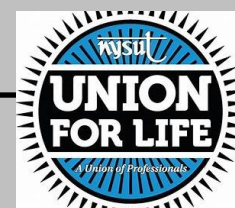
Caren Levant White Plains CSD (914) 479-8774

Cliff Foley Wappingers (845) 297-1875

Sue Huggler Liberty (845)-701-5668

NYSUT RC 12-13 RETIREE SERVICES CONSULTANT: Sheryl Delano: Sheryl.delano@nysut.org (845) 706-6986

NYSUT Mid-Hudson Regional Office 201 Stockade Drive Kingston NY 12401 (845) 339-4450



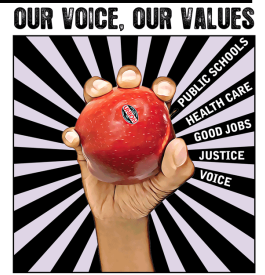
NYSUT VOTE-COPE:

To get more information on VOTE-COPE go to www.NYSUT.org and click on the Take Action Tab and select VOTE-COPE or access the links directly on RC #13's new website www.retireecouncil13.com under the VOTE-COPE Tab.

To request a Pension Deduction or Direct Contribution Form for VOTE-COPE email Patrick McCarthy at: rc13president@retireecouncil13.com or call (845-701-1825), with your name, mailing address & name of the local you retired from.

Contributions can be mailed to the following address. They are more important than ever!

VOTE-COPE
P.O. BOX 295
Canajoharie, N Y 13317-0295



The only thing between us & Wisconsin, where the Governor & Legislator took away bargaining rights, is VOTE-COPE.



SAVE THE DATE: Oct 19th
NYSUT FALL CONFERENCE
Wiltwyck Golf Club
Kingston, NY



Strong Union Active Retirees!

About Retiree Council #13



Mid-Hudson Bridges, is a quarterly publication of the Mid-Hudson Retiree Council 13, serving: Columbia, Greene, Dutchess, Ulster, & Sullivan Counties.

Email articles/pictures to: Paula Ptaszek, Editor of Mid-Hudson Bridges, at ptaszekp@gmail.com

Co-editors are: Mary Lou Davis at maryloudavis125@gmail.com
William Rule at wvr12@aol.com

Electronic files are appreciated attached as a Word document or embedded as text of an email.

Next issue deadline: August 1st

Visit our website for other useful information:
retireecouncil13.com

