

# THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate

February 2015

## From the President's Desk... Sandra Bliss

## "All hands on deck!"

That is the mobilization we need from all NYSUT members. You have seen the TV news reports, heard the radio news on NPR, received emails/ tweets/ facebook posts, and talked with your family/ friends/neighbors/people on the street.

### YOU ARE ANGRY!

Public education, the foundation of our democracy, has enemies ready to destroy the future of our children and our country. It is happening in New York State; right now! How can that be possible? Governor Cuomo has said public education is a monopoly which must be broken!

How is Cuomo going to break public education? "Starve the beast" tactics are employed. Schools have been deprived of \$5.9 billion though GEA and loss of foundation aid. Tax caps, tax freeze and underfunded public schools are in place. Then bogus standardized tests with manipulated scores "prove" public schools are failures. For profit charter schools are given taxpayer dollars to operate schools without accountability or transparency for the public dollars they spend or the "education" they do or do not provide.

Lack of funding deprives students of their New York State constitutional right to an education. The Board of Regents says \$2 billion of new money is needed for our schools this year. NYSUT says \$2.2 billion is required and schools must be equitably funded. Twenty per cent of our students live in poverty. The funding gap between low income and wealthy school districts is \$8,600 per year per student. This must end now!

Cuomo says if you pass my "reforms" you can have \$1.1 billion. *Cuomo is holding our students hostage*. Cuomo's "reform" proposals take local control away from our school districts. The "reforms" are bogus. They have been proven not to work! Schools need the resources to be able to educate all children. That takes \$\$\$. Money does matter because it pays for programs for students.

### The Outlook

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You have read all the details in the NYSUT United Teacher newspaper. So what do you do?? **STAND UP** and **TAKE ACTION**. Go to <a href="https://www.nysut.org">www.nysut.org</a> and keep up to date on the details of the battles. **Educate** yourself and everyone around you.

**Sign up** to receive NYSUT Member Action Center Alerts on the home page of www.nysut.org. Take action when you receive an alert. If you don't have a Smartphone to download the app, send a fax from the NYSUT homepage and you will receive emails with each new alert.

**Attend** rallies, forums, and meetings of your teacher association along with your in-service colleagues. **Bring** your family, friends, neighbors. **Write** letters to the editor of your local newspapers and send handwritten letters to your legislators. **Call** your legislators. **Contribute** to Vote/Cope so NYSUT can run media campaigns in the newspapers and on TV.

To **sign up** for **text alerts** from NYSUT send a text by entering: 38470 in the recipient bar and in the message section type: NYSUT.

# Save the Dates—2015

March 2-3, 2015
NYSUT Committee of 100
April 16, 2015
RC12 General Meeting Cobleskill
April 25 – May 3, 2015
RC12 trip to Nashville
May 7, 2015
NYSUT RC12 Regional Conference
Glen Sanders, Scotia
June 2, 2015
RC12 General Meeting Watersedge

Lighthouse. Glenville



David Keefe, NYSTRS Trustee, and Peter Savage, NYSUT Legislative Representative discuss the Retirement system at the September 30th meeting of RC 12.

## Thank You for Your Contribution !!!

Listed below are those who have made their \$ 15 contribution to NYSUT Retiree Council 12 by December 13 for the 2014 - 2015 year. Our year runs from July 1 to June 30. The names with an asterisk indicate payment for future years. A name with one asterisk means that member has paid for this year plus the 2014 - 2015. Two asterisks mean you are paid up through the 2015 - 2016 year. The contribution form can be found in this issue. Those that make their donation in the upcoming weeks will have their names listed in future issues of THE OUTLOOK. Look over this list, and if you think I have made an error, please call me at (518) 993-2854 or e-mail me at dltalmadge@citlink.net.

Thanks for your continued financial support. Dolores Talmadge, Treasurer

Abbadessa, Remza Abbott, Francis X. Ackerknecht, Holly A.\* Adler, Virginia L. Ahola, Nancy Albanese, Jacqueline J.\* Alexander, Albert R.\*\*\*\* Alves, Beverly Ameduri, Karen O'Donnell(5yr) Cauffman, Susan Andrews, Beverly H. Andrews, Carol\* Angelotti, Mary Angione, Christine M. Argotsinger, Susan Armstrong, Carolyn\* Armstrong, Mary Louise Arpin, Marilyn Ashe, Ken Bacon, Lorraine Baker, John Baldwin, Carol Bancroft, Edward Bange, Angela Barker, Carol Y.\* Barnett, Marget Bassett, Janis A. bates, Bernice Bates, Karla\*\*\* Baumler, Joan Bernocco, Joe Bianchi, Vincent Bilins, Barbara Biviano, Janet Z. Blance, Karen Blinsinger, Robert\* Bliss, Sandy Bond, Emil Borom, Maxine H. Boschi, Alexander Boschi, Phoebe Bournazian, David\* Bradt, Lauralee A. Brady, Grace "Kay"\* Brancatelli, Sylvia\*\* Brate, Regine\* Brickner, Pauline Brown, Delores Brown, Merry Brown, Geraldine Brown, Robert M.\*\*\*\*\* Brownell, Karen Buck, Richard\* Bundy, David Bundy, Donna Burdick, Charles\* Burnet, Marie Burns, Marguerite Bush, Joann\*\* Cadieux, Ronald Camillo, Joan Cangiano, Joan

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Kline. Maureen

Klinetob, Arlo

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Greenfogel, Claire

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McMillian, William S.\*

Merrow, Gudrun K.

# Make your dental & vision care a priority!

Well, another year has passed us by and the New Year is upon us! As you take stock of the various resolutions you've made for this year, now is the time to make your dental & vision care a top priority.

## Dental Care



The NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Dental Plan features the MetLife PDP Plus Network.

## The Plan offers easy to understand dental coverage that allows you to:

- Protect you and your family by providing competitively-priced dental coverage for most preventive and routine services that help promote long-term oral health.
- Choose the dentist of your choice at the time of treatment. You do not have to select a primary dentist and there is no ID card to show or referrals needed for specialty care.
- Save on out-of-pocket expenses by receiving services from thousands of participating dentist locations nationwide that agree to charge fees typically 15% to 45% lower than the average charges in your area.

With the MetLife Dental Plan featuring the PDP Plus Network, you'll receive a wide range of benefits that provide choice, savings and convenience to help make your dental health a priority.

## Vision Care

The NYSUT Member Benefits Trust-endorsed Vision Plan provided by Davis Vision ensures that you are able to obtain proper eye care.



## The plan offers a variety of benefits, including:

- One complete eye exam (including glaucoma testing, and when professionally indicated, dilation).
- One pair of eyeglasses (lenses & frames) or contact lenses per benefit period - paid in full according to plan specifications from participating providers.

Once you've enrolled in the plan and you're confirmed, simply call an in-network provider, identify yourself with your name or NYSUT ID number (available on your NYSUT membership card), make an appointment, and use all of the plan benefits at that visit (exam & glasses cannot be split into two appointments).

The provider's office will contact Davis Vision and verify your eligibility for benefits. There are no claim forms or ID cards needed to use the plan.

# February is Member Appreciation Month!

Don't forget that NYSUT Member Benefits is teaming up with its endorsed program providers for a special monthlong event in February 2015.

Member Appreciation Month will feature a special prize drawing each day of the month in February, including a Bose Wave Radio, iPad Mini, several



Amazon Kindles, and a variety of gift cards. The winners of the daily prize drawings will be announced exclusively on the Member Benefits website throughout the month of February.

You MUST be a member of the voluntary Member Benefits MAP Alert email service to be eligible for these drawings!

For more details about these endorsed programs or Member Appreciation Month, visit the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org or call 800-626-8101.



For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed programs.

Jan./Feb. '15

Meyer, Dorothy\* Meyer, Theodora C. Michalski, Patricia Mikenas, Elaine M. Miner, Rosemary\* Miseikis, Mary Lynn Monk, Mary Montero, Clara Moore, Rita\*\*\*\* Morse, Mary Jane

Moser, Albert E.\*

Mosher, Kathleen

<u>Contributors continued</u> Moylan, Margaret Olszowy, Caroline\* Moylan, Patrick Nadler, Faye\* Naple, Susan L. Naple, William L. Neet, Helen Nevulis, Robert Nickson, Kathleen\*Papa, Susan Nicolella, Phyllis Nigro, Barbara Niles, Anne O'Hare, Debbie Olds, Cathy\*\* Olendorf, Leah

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## Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2014 - June 30, 2015

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Name		County	
Address		City	Year Retired
StateZip	Phone	Email	
Original Union Local		You may share my email with AFT	
My Assemblyman	My NY St	Representative	
I would be willing to wo	rk for my fellow retire	ees in the area of: Legislat	ionSocial Committee Newsletter
Check this box if there	has been a change in	your contact information	
: : 	<b>Dolores Tali</b>	0 yearly contribution requested. madge 206 Main Street, Fort Place leck payable to NYSUT Retiree C	ain, NY 13339



Rogerson, Royann\* Rosasco, Fred Rosenberry, Elise Roser, Rene Rowland, Eleanor Rowland, Rosemary Sammons, David Sammons, Linda Sand, Janet\* Sasso, Marianne Schad, Judith Scrip Schechter, Stephanie Schedbauer, Geraldine Schermerhorn, Susan Schermerhorn, Suzanne J. Schmitz, Barbara Schou, Margaret\*\* Schultz, Bill\*\* Schultz, Judy\*\* Schwarting, William Seward, Deborah Shaad-Derby, Jennifer\* Shaw, Harold J.

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