

THE OUTLOOK

Newsletter of the Retiree Council 12

A NYSUT-NEA-AFT Affiliate June 2019

Where Do Recyclables Go?

By Carolyn Darkangelo, Retiree from Mayfield TA

As you diligently separate your recyclable items to put out for recycling collection, are you sure the items that you are rinsing out are not just being buried near your garbage? In January 2018, China discontinued taking American mixed recycled items. Where is our recycling going? Rather than getting an income stream, communities now have the choice to pay companies to take their recyclables away or simply dump them into the ground next to the trash.

Single stream seems like an easy way to recycle, but it can lead to other problems. Many people don't wash the chemicals and food out of their containers. The expense of dealing with these dirty recyclables results in a cost that makes recycling more expensive than creating a new item.

What can we do? Check with local officials to see what is really happening in your community. Try to think of ways you can use products that don't require so much recycling. When we shop for stuff, we must consider the amount of packaging. Plastic bags can be taken to stores like Hannaford and Wal-Mart for recycling. I plan to search for products that are packaged in cardboard instead of plastic (for example laundry and dish washer detergent). Another example would be to use bar soap for hand washing in place of plastic pumps with liquid soap. Shopping at a farmer's market will avoid all of the plastic wrappings used in many supermarkets. Every time you get ready to throw a plastic container into the recycling, ask yourself, "Could I use this item for some other purpose?"

We must be mindful about what we use in our daily life. Every time a product is created to make our lives easier, we need to ask, "Is the convenience worth the effect on the future?"



Constitutional Amendments

During the May 16th RC 12 general meeting, amendments were voted on to change the sections of the constitution dealing with officers and executive board duties. Go to the RC 12 website to see the changes.

<http://rc12.ny.aft.org/>

Direct any questions to board members and officers. (see page 2)

Save the Date

Aug. 5, 2019	RC 12 trip to "Showboat" at Glimmerglass, Cooperstown
Aug. 29, 2019	RC 12 trip to Gavin's Country Inn
Sep. 16-18, 2019	RC 12 trip to Amishlands
October 3, 2019	RC 12 Day trip to Boston
Oct. 8, 2019	RC 12 General Membership Meeting at the Otesaga in Cooperstown
Oct. 23, 2019	RC 12 NYC Play (title TBD)
June 14 to 20, 2020	RC 12 trip to Mackinac Island, Michigan
Sep. 25 to Oct. 5, 2020	RC 12 trip to South Dakota

From the President's Desk... Stacey Caruso-Sharpe

Originally, I was working on a column about the struggles that unions, including teacher unions, have faced through the years, and I had planned to compare it to what unions are facing now. But then, while watching what has been going on in the news, I received an email from Vice President Kathy Lyman and knew that the column I had planned should wait.

When I was young, I took an interest in watching magicians, also known as illusionists. I remember watching an illusionist named Doug Henning perform and recall him saying that what we thought we were watching him do was not actually what he was doing. Performing illusions requires a distraction to draw your attention away from what is really happening.

As I read Kathy's email from NY StateWide Senior Action Council, I couldn't help but think that with so many other things being reported in the news, there are many distractions. And while our attention may be focused on big headlines, there are still many other things happening at all levels in our government. The end of session push is on at the state level, and a lot of deals are being made. NYSUT staff are there at the state legislative offices around the clock trying to protect our members' rights. If you receive a notice from the MAC (Member Action Center) asking you to email or call your state legislator, I encourage you to take a few minutes to do this so our legislators know where we stand. And yes, there does seem to be a lot of MAC notices coming out, but that just means there are a lot of proposals that could affect us.

At the federal level, there are proposals about many topics that could affect our quality of life. While many things are grabbing the headlines, there are many other bills that are being acted upon without our knowledge. As the summer months kick in, I encourage you to try to pay attention not just to headlines, but to other issues and proposals that are being advanced. Our future could depend on it. Don't just read the headlines, read the small stories that seem to be buried. Read the updates sent out by your elected representatives. Change the channel or station and listen to news on different stations to see how it compares.

Below is a copy of the email that was received from NY StateWide Senior Action Council. I encourage you to take the requested actions. I know several people who could be impacted greatly by this proposal.

Your help is needed to protect senior benefits. Please share this message with others! The White House is proposing the way the federal poverty level is calculated that will mean fewer seniors will qualify for important benefits that allow them to live with dignity the community. This could be adopted by June 22, 2019.

The proposal must be stopped or many seniors will no longer qualify for Medicare premium support through the Extra Help and Medicare Savings Programs, heating and cooling assistance, weatherization, Medicaid, housing allowances, food stamps, and other benefits. This change will also negatively impact programs for children and low income families.

ACT NOW! Call your congress member.

Ask your representative to contact the White House to stop the proposed change on how to calculate the federal poverty level.



18th District	— Sean Patrick Maloney	(202) 225-5441
19th District	— Antonio Delgado	(202) 225-5614
20th District	— Paul Tonko	(202) 225-5076
21st District	— Elise Stephanik	(202) 225-4611
22nd District	— Anthony Brindisi	(202) 225-3665
23rd District	— Tom Reed	(202) 225-3161
24th District	— John Katko	(202) 225-3701
25th District	— Joseph Morelle	(202) 225-3615
26th District	— Brian Higgins	(202) 225-3306
27th District	— Chris Collins	(202) 225-5265

On a final note, as you enjoy the summer months, I encourage you to buy union, buy made in America. It is getting easier to find affordable, well made products made by union members! Let's support our fellow unions! Look for the union label!!!! Have a safe and healthy summer!

In Solidarity, Stacey

The Outlook

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NYSUT RC 12 TRIP – Thursday, August 29, 2019

GAVIN’S COUNTRY INN, a resort in the Catskill Mountains

8:30	Amsterdam Pick-up	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church, 39 St. John Street
8:50	Schenectady Pick-up	Home Depot, 2330 Watt Street (Crosstown)
10:00	Durham Center Museum	1825 Schoolhouse, antiques, artifacts, etc.
11:00	Arrive Gavin’s	Explore grounds, tea, coffee, scones, gift shop
12:00	Gavin’s Lunch	3-course meal, prime rib or chicken in lemon sauce
1:15	Andy Cooney Irish Music Show	
3:00	Our Lady of Knock Shrine	Stained glass windows from Ireland, etc.
4:00	Leave Shrine	
5:10 (approx)	Schenectady Drop-off	Home Depot
5:30 (approx)	Amsterdam Drop-off	Our Lady of Mt. Carmel Church

The total cost of the trip is \$82. This will cover your 3-course meal (including tax and gratuity), Irish show, transportation, driver tip, and snacks. Also included will be a tip for our guide at the church. The total amount is due August 10, 2019. A deposit of \$50 can be sent prior to that.

NYSUT RC 12 TRIP – Gavin’s and More – Thursday, August 29, 2019

Name(s) _____ Phone # _____
 Address _____ Cell # _____
 _____ Email _____
 Number attending @ \$82 each: _____ Total enclosed: _____
 Balance due: _____

**Pick-up site: Circle one. Amsterdam or Schenectady
Meal Choice: Circle one. Prime Rib or Chicken with lemon sauce**

**Send this registration form by August 10, 2019 to: (Check payable to NYSUT RC 12)
Kathlene Lyman, 254 Riverside Place, Alplaus, NY 12008
Questions: Call Kathy at 518-366-4545**



**RC 12 Trip to Mount Rushmore,
the Badlands, and Black Hills of South
Dakota**

Sep. 25 to Oct. 5, 2020

\$995 dbl and \$ 1354 single

This trip includes motor coach transport, 10 nights lodging, 18 meals (10 breakfast and 8 dinners), wildlife tour at Custer State Park, admission to the unique Journey Museum, visit to Mount Rushmore National Memorial, guided tour of Deadwood, Deadwood Casino, the Crazy Horse Memorial, and visit to Badlands National Park.

CONTACT: Linda Zilka (518) 725 5139

OR go to Website: <http://rc12.ny.aft.org/> for complete information and registration

Retiree Council 12 Contribution Form July 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Name _____ County _____
 Address _____ City _____ Year Retired _____
 State _____ Zip _____ Phone _____ Email _____
 Original Union Local _____ You may share my email with AFT and NYSUT _____
 My Assemblyman _____ My NY State Senator _____ My US Representative _____

I would be willing to work for my fellow retirees in the area of: ___ Legislation ___ Social Committee ___ Newsletter

Check this box if there has been a change in your contact information

\$15.00 yearly contribution requested. Send to
Dolores Talmadge 206 Main Street, Fort Plain, NY 13339

Make check payable to NYSUT Retiree Council 12.
Any questions, please call (518) 993-2854 .



June 2019 RC 12 Outlook



RC 12 trip to Mackinac Island, Michigan June 14-20, 2020

The cost is \$817 pp dbl and \$1116 single

The package includes 6 nights lodging, 6 breakfasts, 1 lunch and 4 dinners . You will visit Bronner’s Christmas Wonderland, Frankenmuth Village Shops, Grand Hotel, Tahquamenon Falls, Great Lakes Shipwreck Museum, Kewadin Shores Casino, and Cross in the Woods. There are also a carriage tour of Mackinac Island and a hydro jet ferry ride. Taxes and meal gratuities are covered.

Contact: Phyllis Nicolella 14 Wells St. Gloversville, NY (518) 725 4060
For more information and registration form, go to
the RC 12 Website
<http://rc12.ny.aft.org/>



Protect Your Loved Ones with Union-Endorsed Benefits

Insurance... it's often the type of product you hope to never have to utilize. In the event you do need it, though, it's important to have the insurance product that best meets your needs and those of your loved ones.

NYSUT Member Benefits endorses a variety of **crucial insurance programs** that provide important protection for NYSUT members and their families, including life, auto and home, disability, long-term care, dental and vision plans, and more.

The Power of the Union

Regardless of whether you're participating in one of our endorsed insurance programs; legal or financial services; or many shopping, entertainment or travel offerings, NYSUT members receive a quality product and enjoy the **"Power of the Union"** behind them.

The **"Power of the Union"** should serve as a steadfast reminder to all NYSUT members that we are your advocate. Unlike when purchasing products available to the general public, NYSUT Member Benefits is here if you ever have any issues or concerns with our endorsed programs. You aren't just a member to us... you are part of our union family.

Member Benefits is here to offer assistance with the student loan crisis. Visit our website for more information.

MEMBER BENEFITS
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Working to Benefit You

To learn more about Member Benefits-endorsed programs & services, visit memberbenefits.nysut.org or call **800-626-8101**.

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