RC 7 will hold its election at the May 20th general membership meeting to be held at Orchard Vali, Lafayette. The Elections Committee will conduct the election, with balloting from 11:45am - 12:15pm. All NYSUT retirees of ED 7 are eligible to vote.

Resumes of candidates will be published on the RC 7 website (http://nysutretireecouncil7.org) and will be available at the April 18th general membership meeting at the Springside Inn, Auburn. There are five Officers, five members of the Board of Directors, and two NYSUT Delegate and four Alternate Delegate (NYSUT and AFT) positions on the ballot. (At the time of press, the candidate resumes have been submitted but the determination of candidate eligibility had not yet been determined. For up-to-date information, go to the website)

The term of office is July 1, 2017 to June 30, 2020.

Its Time to Apply for a Scholarship

Each year, RC7 awards up to three scholarships of $1000 to qualifying children or grandchildren of an RC 7 member (whose participation fee was paid by December 31) who will graduate from any New York State public high school or any private/parochial high school whose staff is NYSUT affiliated and who plan to enter a profession requiring higher education at an accredited institute of learning.

The application is available on the website. They will also be at the March and April RC7 meetings. You may request an application from Joanne Heisler at jh5012@aol.com.

Please use your name and RC7 in the subject line of the e-mail.
From the President’s Desk…

Loretta K. Donlon

Say “NO” to the ConCon!

RC 7 and NYSUT have been telling you about the 2017 vote on a New York State Constitutional Convention during most of last year. It seemed so far off last fall, but here we are well into 2017, and now we can count the months until it appears on the ballot across the state. If the Constitution is opened for review, the changes could be devastating to the environment, to a free public education, to the right to have a union, and to all the regulations that protect us from predators. It is that Constitution which has made New York a great place to work and to retire.

So YOU HAVE BEEN ENCOURAGED TO VOTE “NO” on convening a Constitutional Convention – a ConCon - with good reasons. You have been asked to convince your friends and family members to do the same. But convincing everyone is going to be quite the task.

Take a look at these statistics in recent polls from the NYSUT Polling Center.
- 20 percent of the general public said that they had very little knowledge about the Convention, but what is really shocking is 65 percent knew nothing at all.
- 33 percent of those asked said they were opposed to the convention, BUT 69 percent said they SUPPORTED CONVENING a convention.

It is hard to believe that they really had evaluated the possible loss of protections for New Yorkers that can occur or the projected taxpayer cost of $47 million for having a convention. That money, of course, could be used for education, infrastructure improvements and other services to benefit its citizens.

The ability to amend the constitution is already in place and has been used successfully over the years. The danger and cost of a convention is not necessary. Amendments can and should be made using those procedures.

If you want to read more about this issue, check the NYSUT web site (NYSUT.org) and RC 7 web site (nysutretireecouncil7.org).

This may be the last issue of this newsletter until summer because of recent NYSUT budget cut backs, so it’s important that you stay connected by coming to a luncheon this summer because of recent NYSUT and/or mailing delays.

In Remembrance…

Baldwinsville
Leonard Cooper
Lois Rhebergen

West Genesee
Carol Columbus
Patricia Pagano

North Syracuse
Laura Doolittle
Sally Harrington
Angie O’Neil
Dorothy Wells
Mary Yuil

Liverpool
Arthur Conners
Joyce Goelzer
Shirley McIntosh
Margaret Sandella
Mary Scantlon

Jamesville-Dewitt
Ellen Andreatta
Michele Kuon

Fayetteville-Manlius
Margaret Davison
Raymond Mann

East Syracuse-Minoa
Judith Beil
Esther Hutton
Patricia Szuba

Westhill
Mary Cranner

Jordan-Elbridge
Lisette Lando

OCC
Edith Schmitz

Solway
Louis Donahue
Andrea Dowling
Irene Stanley

Syracuse
Frances Bova
Marie Bova
Karlene Capone
Ann Carr
Victor Ciciarelli
Mary Cranner
Ethan Cunningham
Ann Dalgety
Jeremiah Haley
Ernest Leal, Sr.
Virginia Lewis
Ossie Moody
Shirley Rifkin
Edward Wilson

Onondaga Central
John Madison

Please Note: Our newsletter is posted on the RC 7 Website before it is printed and mailed from NYSUT Headquarters. Be sure to check the site for luncheon information and avoid sending in a late reservation due to unexpected printing and/or mailing delays.

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NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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https://www.facebook.com/nysutretireecouncil7

Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director
Anne Marie Voutsinas
Retiree Services Consultant
Lynn Davis, Web Master
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Lower your Insurance Cost
Reduce Points on your License
NYSUT & National Safety Council’s
6 Hour Defensive Driving Class
Thursday April 20, 2017
At the Regional NYSUT HQ, 4083 Brittonfield Parkway
East Syracuse, NY 13057
Class is open NYSUT Retirees, their family and friends
Registration Begins at 8:45, Class 9:00AM - 3:30PM
Cost: $25.00 per person includes Snacks
Maximum of 40 people (minimum 10) Reserve your spot now!
30 minutes for lunch is included in the time, Bring a bag lunch or order pizza as a group.

Call 315-431-4040 to register
Join Us on April 18, 2017 for the RC 7 Luncheon at Heritage Dining Room @ Springside Inn, 6141 West Lake Rd., Auburn
$22 per person
Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:30 • Program after Lunch
Michael Ostrander, NYSUT Member Benefits, will update participants on the newest benefits available.

Directions: From Syracuse and the east, take 690 W to Rte. 5 by-pass. Exit towards Auburn. Take Rte. 5 into Auburn Approximately 16 miles. Turn left at Rte. 38A, then right on Lake Ave. Enter the roundabout and take 2nd exit to W. Lake Rd. The restaurant is on the right.

Join Us on May 16, 2017 for the RC 7 Luncheon at Orchard Vali, 4693 Route 20, Lafayette
$20 per person
Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:30 • Program after Lunch
Doreen Todorov will speak about plants and invasive species in our surroundings.

Directions: From Syracuse take Rte. 81 South to exit 15 – Lafayette. Take Rte. 20 West for 4 miles. The restaurant is on the right.

**PLEASE SEND A SEPARATE CHECK FOR EACH LUNCHEON EVENT.**
Simplifying your life insurance options

As an educated consumer, you realize the earlier in life that you purchase life insurance, the cheaper the premiums will likely be. You’re also aware that life insurance offers financial protection for your dependents upon your death, helping to cover the costs of funeral and burial expenses; assistance to help with your children’s education; and offering financial assistance with paying debts and other expenses.

It can be overwhelming, though, trying to determine the best type of life insurance policy. Let’s take a look at some of the different types of life insurance options available.

**#1: Whole Life Insurance** – This type of insurance is usually the most costly since policies are guaranteed to remain in force as long as premiums are paid. Whole life insurance offers permanent protection with premiums that never increase and builds cash value you can borrow against while you are living (like a loan). **Important:** Understand that you will reduce your death benefit if you don’t repay loans with interest and will no longer have coverage if you surrender the policy.

**#2: Term Life Insurance** – This type of insurance pays a benefit in the event of the death of the insured during a specified term, offering a fixed rate of payments during that time period. Once that period ends, coverage at the previous premium rate is not guaranteed and the insured would need to get further coverage. Term life insurance (and its level term life cousin) is designed only to protect your dependents if you were to die prematurely -- offering NO cash value.

**#3: Level Term Life Insurance** – Like term life insurance, level term life insurance pays a benefit in the event of the death of the insured during a specific time period. Premiums may not be increased during the time period due to change in your age or health status.

**#4: Universal Life Insurance** – This type of insurance offers a way to protect your dependents while building tax-deferred cash value. While the cost of a universal life plan needs to be covered so the policy remains in force, the policyholder has the option to adjust how much he or she will pay in premiums each year. Policyholders can also access a portion of the balance without affecting the guaranteed death benefit as the cash value accumulates over time.

Keep in mind that NYSUT members & their spouses/certified domestic partners can help protect their dependents from life’s uncertainties with a variety of NYSUT Member Benefits-endorsed life insurance plans. Many of these plans offer group rates not available to the general public along with additional convenience and savings opportunities.

For more information about these plans, visit the Member Benefits website at [memberbenefits.nysut.org](http://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.

Mar./Apr. '17
Join Us on **June 20, 2017** for the RC 7 Luncheon at
**NYSUT 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, E. Syracuse (catered by John and Sons)**
$15 per person

*Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ Noon • Lunch @ 12:30 • Presentation of Scholarship Winners*

Directions: From Syracuse, take Rte. 690 East to Rte. 481 North. From 481 North, take exit 7 - Bridgeport. At exit turn right, then left onto Brittonfield Parkway. NYSUT is on the right.

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**Reservation Form – RC 7 Luncheon – June 20, NYSUT**

Name ___________________________________________ Phone ____________________________

Email ____________________________________________

Baked Manicotti and Meatballs, Tossed Green Salad, Fruit Salad, Bread and Butter, Cookies, Soda and Water

Number of reservations ___________ at $15. Amount enclosed $__________

Please send reservation form and a check payable to **NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7** to:

**FRAN HUDSON, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, Box 247, E. Syracuse, NY 13057**

Reservations must be received by June 1. No one can be seated without a reservation.

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**NYSUT RC 7 TRIP RESERVATION FORM**

Please complete the following form for each traveler and return to

**Bella Tours and Travel Inc. 305 Vine Street, Suite 9, Liverpool, NY 13088**

Phone# 315-652-0121 Fax# 315-299-4733 email: bellatours@hotmail.com

Trip Location: ________Ottawa ________Alex Bay ________Baltimore

Name ___________________________________________ M______F______

Address __________________________________________________________________________

Home Phone #________________________ Cell Phone#________________________

Optional Cancellation Insurance? Yes____No_____ (please submit with deposit - insurance is $10 per person - additional info available at Bella Tours)

Method of payment: Cash_____ Check#_____ Credit Card ____ (call cc info into Bella) Money Order _____

Please indicate any physical limitations, and dietary restrictions.

Bring a list of medications and allergies with you on tour.

You must have a Passport or Enhanced License for Ottawa trip.

Make checks payable to Bella Tours and Travel Inc. (There will be a $20 fee for any returned checks.)

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4/18 @ Springside Inn, Auburn 5/16 @ Orchard Vali, Lafayette 6/20 @ NYSUT, E. Syracuse