



# THE CENTRAL NEW YORKER

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## Vote! Your Future Depends On It!!

“With control of both houses of congress and the Presidency this election cycle there is no doubt that this is the most significant election of our lifetime. With significant differences the choice for our country’s seniors is both important and stark. For this election Social Security **is on** the ballot. Medicare **is on** the ballot. The cost of prescription drugs **is on** the ballot. Medicaid **is on** the ballot. The Affordable Care Act **is on** the ballot.”

The above comes from a recent newsletter from the NYS Alliance for Retired Americans. This organization is sounding the alarm for the future of programs on which many of us depend. Your voice and your choice will make a difference. So, you should know how the parties approach these programs.

Upon his re-election to a second term, President Bush pushed for privatization of social security. Its eventual defeat was followed by the Great Recession. Had the privatization plan been in place it may have jeopardized the financial future of Older Americans. Recently, a Republican House Study Committee proposed increasing the age for full social security benefits to 69 and cutting benefits by \$1.5 trillion dollars. Moreover, in a recent interview former President Trump suggested there could be cuts made to social security and Medicare.

In addition, we have a record on retirement to know how our own Congressional representatives voted on bills affecting Older Americans. According to the national Alliance for Retired Americans, three of our area Congressional representatives had 0% positive voting records on 10 bills they flagged as impacting us. Those three: Brandon Williams, Claudia Tenney, and Elise Stefanik.

Make no mistake about it. It’s all on the line in 2024: social security, Medicare, Medicaid, prescription drug costs, and the Affordable Care Act. Vote. Your future may depend on it.

*-Bill Spreter, 2<sup>nd</sup> VP, Vote-Cope Chair*

### RC 7 TRIP to BOSTON HARBOR

**September 29-30, 2024**

Cost dependent on number of participants. Cost will range from \$404 (triple room, 35+ guests) to \$650 (single less than 30 guests).

Non-refundable deposit of \$75 due by June 18, 2024. Final payment due August 27, 2025.

Package includes round trip motor coach, one overnight accommodation; lunch at Maggiano’s; visits to Quincy Market, Faneuil Hall, Little Italy; evening at Encore Boston Harbor Hotel Casino.

Contact **Kathy LaRocca at 315-466-9463** for more information.

#### NEWSLETTER

Our newsletter is posted on the **RC 7 Website and the RC 7 Facebook page** 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.



### NYSUT RETIREE CONFERENCE FOR RC 7 & RC 8

**September 23, 2024**

**Doubletree by Hilton, East Syracuse**

*Invitation coming soon!*

# From the President's Desk...

*Loretta K. Donlon*

This issue's column is an RA report from **Margo Buckingham**, one of three RC 7 Delegates to NYSUT. Margo serves on the Board of Directors as the Immediate Past President. She is a Fayetteville-Manlius TA retiree. **Candace Johnson**, 3<sup>rd</sup> VP of RC 7, also serves as a Delegate. She is a United Liverpool FA retiree.



In early May, your elected RC 7 Delegates – Loretta Donlon, Candace Johnson, and Margo Buckingham – travelled to New York City to attend the annual NYSUT Representative Assembly. The RA is where the work of our UNION takes shape. NYSUT officers and delegates celebrated our success related to the New York State budget's funding for education. NYSUT was also successful in improving Tier 6 by changing the final average salary calculation from 5 years to 3 years.

Resolutions submitted by Locals and Retiree Councils are discussed and voted on by the Delegates. Those resolutions provide direction for NYSUT's legislative efforts for the upcoming year. At this RA, some of the resolutions passed dealt with such issues as fighting child poverty, banned books, monitoring Medicare Advantage plans, rising health insurance costs, Alzheimer's, the ERA, and AI – artificial intelligence.

Also on the agenda was a star-studded line-up of speakers. Delegates heard from AFT President Randi Weingarten, Governor Kathy Hochul, NYS Comptroller Tom DiNapoli, NY's Senior Senator Chuck Schumer, and NY Attorney General Tish James.

All in all, it was a jam-packed couple of days that showcased the best of NYSUT.

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NYSUT, AFT, NEA, AFL-CIO

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Loretta Donlon, ED 51 Director

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*We Remember Fondly ...*



**Marjorie Carter,**  
President Syracuse TA,  
First African-American  
Teacher in Syracuse

**Syracuse**

Monica Anderson  
Marie Bukowski  
Marjorie Carter  
Dolores Jasinski.  
Margaret Kinslow  
Ruth Merrill  
James Paro  
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Join Us on Tuesday, June 18, 2024, for the RC 7 Luncheon at The Inn of the Seasons, 4311 West Seneca Turnpike, Syracuse Registration @ 11:30 • Meeting @ noon • Lunch @ 12:45 • Program after Lunch \$38 per person

Special Presentations: 2024 RC 7 Scholarship Winners

Entrée Choices:

Certified Angus Beef Tenderloin Cheeseburger - ground tenderloin: grilled with American Cheese, red onions, house mayo and ketchup on brioche bun served with fries. Quiché Lorraine - a rich egg custard, bacon, sauteed onions and Swiss Cheese nestled in a buttery crust, garnished with fresh fruit. Chicken Caesar Salad - Char grilled chicken breast sliced and served with crisp romaine lettuce tossed in the classic Caesar dressing and freshly grated parmesan cheese with roll and butter. Cobb Salad - grilled romaine lettuce, hardboiled egg, fresh sweet corn and shisito pepper relish, chopped red onions, crumbled bacon, fresh avocado, choice of dressing with roll and butter.

Reservation Form RC 7 Luncheon - June 18 @Inn of the Seasons

Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

If you require any device or accommodation as provided by the Americans with Disabilities Act, or need a vegetarian, vegan, or gluten-free meal or other dietary accommodation, please contact Mary Duffin at mduffin2@verizon.net

Please indicate entrée choice below. If including multiple reservations, indicate names clearly next to meal choice.

\_\_\_\_\_ Cheeseburger \_\_\_\_\_ Quiche Lorraine \_\_\_\_\_ Caesar Salad \_\_\_\_\_ CobbSalad

Number of reservations \_\_\_\_\_ at \$38. Amount enclosed \$ \_\_\_\_\_ Check # \_\_\_\_\_ Cash \_\_\_\_\_

\*\*First Time Attendee? \_\_\_\_\_ District Retired From: \_\_\_\_\_

We'll make sure you find your colleagues!

Please send reservation form and a check payable to NYSUT RETIREE COUNCIL 7 to: RC7 Luncheon Chair, NYSUT Regional Office, 4983 Brittonfield Parkway, E. Syracuse, NY 13057 Reservations must be received by June 10. No one can be seated without a reservation.

Active membership in Retiree Council 7 is open to every NYSUT retiree of any NYSUT represented group in Election District 7 - units in Cayuga and Onondaga counties. Active RC 7 members are those who have paid RC 7's participation fee of \$10 per year and, if required by the local, payment of local retiree fees. Be sure to keep your contact information up-to-date with NYSUT.

If you retired from Jordan-Elbridge, Liverpool, North Syracuse, Port Byron, or Syracuse City, your fees are collected by your local (or chapter) and includes the voluntary RC 7 participation fee that is then sent to RC 7. The fees collected in these cases are determined by the local. You should use the local's address when sending in your check.

If you retired from Auburn, Cato-Meridian, Cayuga-Onondaga BOCES, Moravia, Skaneateles, Southern Cayuga, Union Springs, or Weedsport, your fees are collected by CORN (Cayuga-Onondaga Retirees of NYSUT) and forwarded to RC 7. Send your check to CORN @Auburn Teachers Association.

Retirees from other locals in this RC should send their \$10 check to the NYSUT Regional Office, attn Membership Chair, 4983 Brittonfield Pkwy, East Syracuse, 13057.



## WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS THIS SUMMER?

NYSUT Member Benefits offers a variety of endorsed programs & services that can help you enjoy today, while planning for tomorrow.

As a NYSUT member, you have access to participate in a number of programs and services endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits. These products have been carefully cultivated to provide members with quality programs at competitive prices, including insurance programs to help you protect your family; legal and financial plans to help you plan for the future; and shopping, travel & personal services to help save you money.

Member Benefits also offers a number of benefits available free of charge to members such as the premium Calm service, Peer Support Line, Financial Learning Center, and more.

Participation in our endorsed programs features the added protection of having a trusted advocate on your side. Our staff take great pride in stepping in to support members with any questions, concerns, or issues that may arise.

**No matter what your plans may be, NYSUT Member Benefits is a great place to start. Explore all that your union membership has to offer!**



Learn more by scanning the QR code to the left, visiting [memberbenefits.nysut.org](https://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/June 2024

