



# R-UTN Newsletter

[www.retiredteachersofnorthport.org](http://www.retiredteachersofnorthport.org)

Volume 31 Number 2

Fall 2019

# Annual Picnic

TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

11:30 AM



## BUFFET PICNIC

WITH WRAPS &  
HOT AND COLD DISHES

*Water, soft drinks and beer will be served*



**FREE FOR PAID UP R-UTN MEMBERS**

Guests: \$10 per guest

## VANDERBILT MUSEUM

180 Little Neck Rd, Centerport, NY 11721

(631) 854-5579

**MUST RSVP BY AUGUST 29, 2019 ON MEMBERSHIP FORM**

**(Available on the Website)**

RENEW FRIENDSHIPS & WELCOME NEW MEMBERS





## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Frances La Duca*

WE START ANOTHER NEW YEAR with our **Annual Picnic on September 10<sup>th</sup>**. It will be held at the Vanderbilt Museum. Come and join us to say hello to past colleagues and to welcome our new retirees. The location is beautiful and the food, catered by Anderson's Deli in Kings Park, is always great. The picnic is free to paid up members – looking forward to seeing you all - - -

**MEMBERSHIP FORMS** are being mailed separately – fill it out and mail it in with your dues check to membership chair Judy Bensimon as soon as possible. ***Please remember to cut off the bottom part of the form at the starred line before mailing it.*** Along with your dues, contributions to our scholarship can be made with the same check. Your generosity has made it possible for us to award two \$2,000 scholarships to Northport graduates who are planning to become teachers and to give awards to the graduating children of our in-service colleagues. For more information, see pages 3 & 4.

***To help us keep up to date with our records, please remember to let us know if you change your address, phone and especially your email address during the year.***

Your membership in the R-UTN also gives you membership in NYSUT. That allows you to participate in any of the award-winning insurance programs – Life, Health, Property, Major Medical, Long Term Care, Vision, Dental and Legal. Many other services and benefits are available to NYSUT members.

**WATCH THE MAIL - - for the VOTE/COPE** donations letter – it will be mailed in September. You can donate by sending in a check or by arranging for automatic pension deductions. Pension deduction is the easiest way to donate – just remember that the amount you put on the form is a MONTHLY deduction.

### **SAVE THE DATES:**

- ◆ **Wednesday, November 29**, NYSUT is hosting a bus trip to the Brooklyn Navy Yard. Check the NYSUT retiree newsletter “From the Top” for details.
- ◆ **Tuesday, October 29**, is the date of the Long Island Regional Conference for Retirees. Details will be in the NYSUT mailing.

## **ATTENTION!**

**This is the last paper copy of the R-UTN Newsletter being mailed to all members. Future issues will be sent to all members by email, unless you have specified on the membership form that you must have a paper copy.**

## VOTE/COPE

### *Please contribute to VOTE/COPE*

You will soon receive a donation request letter in the mail – please respond to it.

Each of us must do everything we can to protect our hard-earned pensions and benefits. As life-long educators, we also need to be advocates for the children and grandchildren of our colleagues in New York State.

We need to support NYSUT with our voices, votes and contributions. A \$25.00 contribution from each retired teacher will help to protect ourselves, our families, and all present and future students from those special interest groups that are seeking to destroy public education and pension benefits. No amount is too small. Give what you can.

Send a donation, or request a direct deduction of a designated amount from your pension.

**Remember that the amount you select for pension deduction is a monthly amount.**

Whatever means you choose will help in the fight to preserve public education and retirement benefits.

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## 2019 SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

Thanks to your generosity, the R-UTN awarded two \$2,000 scholarships to Northport graduates. This year's winners are:

**PEGEEN FRIESE**, a wonderfully talented musician, plans to become a music teacher. She has performed in many music festivals, participated in NYSSMA, and composed her own music. Although music is her main pursuit, she has maintained a competitive GPA, a place on the Honor Role and a position as drum major. Pegeen will be attending Ithaca College.

**GISSELLE PATTAGLIA** is hard working, reliable and responsible. She approaches every subject with enthusiasm and has maintained a high grade point average, challenging herself with a strong college preparatory curriculum, including International Baccalaureate and dual enrollment classes. One of her greatest academic accomplishments is her acceptance into the honor tour choir. Gisselle will be attending Mercy College.



## CONGRATULATION TO THE RETIREES OF 2019

At the United Teachers of Northport Retirement Party, June 14<sup>th</sup> at the Whale's Tale in Northport, we congratulated and welcomed as new members this year's retirees.

- ◆ **Kathy Amundsen** served as an Elementary Teacher for 20 years in Fifth Avenue
- ◆ **Jamie Dellaquila** served as an Elementary Teacher for 32 years in Ocean Avenue
- ◆ **Regina Karn** served as a Speech Teacher for 25 years at Ocean Avenue
- ◆ **Tracy Meissner** served as a Special Education teacher for 36 years in Northport Middle School
- ◆ **Heidi Miles** served as a Teacher Assistant for 16 years in Northport High School
- ◆ **Cynthia Porciello** taught Social Studies for 26 years at Northport High School
- ◆ **Janice Shepherd** served as a Special Education teacher for 28 years in Bellerose Avenue and Dickinson Avenue schools
- ◆ **Eileen Marie Smith** taught Family and Consumer Sciences for 30 years at Northport Middle School
- ◆ **Stephen Taylor** taught Technology courses for 17 years in Northport Middle School
- ◆ **Joan Visbal** taught Science courses for 16 years in Northport High School
- ◆ **Christine Zacher** taught Music courses for 34 years in Northport Middle School and Norwood Avenue school

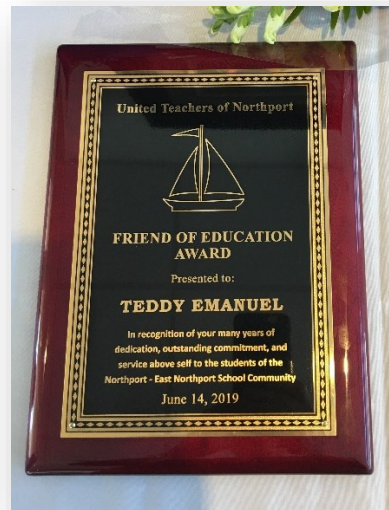
We wish them happy and healthy retirements and hope they will attend our events and perhaps participate as members of the board.

**Scholarships:** At the same event, the R-UTN awarded four \$500 to the children of our in-service colleagues:

- ◆ **Holden Koestner** who will be attending Towson University
- ◆ **Demitri Smith** who will be attending Hofstra University
- ◆ **Robert Staudigel** who will be attending Pennsylvania College of Technology
- ◆ **Gabrielle Teiner** who will be attending Pennsylvania State

## MEMBER NEWS

CONGRATULATIONS to our colleague **TEDDY EMANUEL**, (retired Elementary/Middle school teacher and member of the R-UTN Executive Board) for being the recipient of this year's NYSUT Community Service Award. Teddy is being recognized for her work with CAPS (Child Abuse Prevention Services). On behalf of CAPS, she has spoken to numerous school groups about identifying symptoms of abuse and the services available to aid abused children. She has also developed curriculum and presented training sessions for teachers and parents on identifying and dealing with bullying. In addition, the UTN honored Teddy with the "Friend of Education" award, presented by UTN President Stacey Weisberg (see photos below), at the Retirement Party held in June at the Whales Tale.



**JUDY BENSIMON** is happy to report excellent progress on the road to recovery from hip surgery. There is no doubt that all the calls, cards, visits and healing vibes from my colleagues were an important factor. Thank you for all your good wishes!

**MIRIAM FEINSTEIN** reports that she has been in Washington D.C. for one year now. "I live near my son. I'm still emptying boxes. I have gotten involved with a few groups here in D.C., I am volunteering at a local Regional Theatre, Keegan Theatre, which is around the corner from where I live, where I help out in the box office. I have joined Dupont Circle Village and have volunteered in their activities such as stuffing envelopes, helping out at the farmers market booth and joining the 80+ group. I am taking art, yoga and exercise classes. It has been a good year. Although I have been active, I miss being involved with R-UTN. I will be joining R-UTN once I get the membership form."

**LOIS ELSINGER**, retired physical education and health teacher at the high school, will be inducted into the Northport Athletic Hall of Fame on September 28 during the half-time ceremony at the Homecoming football game. She compiled a hall of fame resume as a



boys and girls gymnastic coach, but also holds the feather in her cap of being the Tigerettes Dance Team's founder, director, and choreographer for 30 years. She was also the first woman to coach a boys' gymnastics team in Suffolk County and was selected to coach the Suffolk County Boys' All-Star team in 1971, for which she led the team to the New York State title. In 1983, Elsinger became the first woman to be elected president of Section XI, the governing body of Suffolk County's high school athletics for boys and girls. She served as first vice president of secondary education for the union, and served as building chair at the high school. She retired in 2002.

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## IN MEMORIAM

Please see the website for more details and photos.

- ◆ **DORIS BANKS, retired Special Education teacher at Northport Junior High and Northport Middle School**, passed away June 7th. Memorial donations can be sent to the Ovarian Cancer Research Alliance, 14 Pennsylvania Plaza, Suite 2110, NY, NY 10122.
- ◆ **MICHAEL CAMPBELL, retired Northport High School business teacher**, passed away on June 27. During his Northport career, he was the work study coordinator and coach of the golf team. Michael served in the United States Army, 101st Airborne, during the Vietnam War.
- ◆ **PETER CORRADI, long-time Northport teacher and administrator**, passed away on June 18, 2019. In lieu of flowers, his family requests that you consider a donation in his name to a charity of your choice.
- ◆ **CURTIS FIELD, retired Northport – East Northport elementary teacher**, passed away on June 28. Memorial contributions may be made to the Cradle of Aviation Museum ([www.cradleofaviation.org/](http://www.cradleofaviation.org/)), Honor Flight Long Island ([honorflightlongisland.org/](http://honorflightlongisland.org/)) or to Matinecock Lodge # 806 F.&A.M., 14 West Main St., Oyster Bay, NY 11771.
- ◆ **MARION HAMMER, an R-UTN member and a long-time teacher in Northport-East Northport UFSD**, passed away on April 24 at the age of 92. Her family request that in lieu of flowers, please make a donation in memory of Marion to a charity of your choice, or to Dogs for Better Lives, Central Point, OR.
- ◆ **STEVE PAYSAN, a retired member of the Northport music department**, passed away suddenly and unexpectedly on July 25. For those who wish to contribute financially to the Paysan family, the Music Department is accepting cash or checks made out to cash at the Fine and Performing Arts office at Northport High School.

## **R-UTN EXECUTIVE BOARD MEMBERS 2019 – 2020**

<b>President:</b>	Frances LaDuca	631-368-1545	<a href="mailto:laduca@aol.com">laduca@aol.com</a>
<b>Vice President:</b>	Joanne Kroon	631-757-2266	<a href="mailto:jmkroon@optonline.net">jmkroon@optonline.net</a>
<b>Secretary:</b>	Roseann Giovina	631-757-0725	<a href="mailto:rgiovina@yahoo.com">rgiovina@yahoo.com</a>
<b>Treasurer:</b>	Dave Hosie	631-754-3468	
<b>Membership Chair:</b>	Judy Bensimon	631-368-6287	<a href="mailto:jkbensimon@optonline.net">jkbensimon@optonline.net</a>
<b>Email Coordinator:</b>	Bobbi Scott	631-757-7389	<a href="mailto:scotta@optonline.net">scotta@optonline.net</a>
<b>Webmaster:</b>	Linda Quinn		<a href="mailto:lsquinn@digitalquinn.com">lsquinn@digitalquinn.com</a>
<b>Newsletter Editor:</b>	Suzy Travis		<a href="mailto:suzytravis@optonline.net">suzytravis@optonline.net</a>
<b>Social Committee:</b>	Irene Eckert		<a href="mailto:hurreck@aol.com">hurreck@aol.com</a>
<b>Social Secretary:</b>	Jane Flood		<a href="mailto:jcpflood@hotmail.com">jcpflood@hotmail.com</a>
<b>UTN Liaison:</b>	Teddy Emanuel		<a href="mailto:tenick2@optonline.net">tenick2@optonline.net</a>
<b>Insurance Info:</b>	Hank Kasven		<a href="mailto:hkasven@optonline.net">hkasven@optonline.net</a>
<b>Past President:</b>	Larry Ryan	631-543-2462	<a href="mailto:laryan@mac.com">laryan@mac.com</a>

We work for you – contact us with questions, suggestions, or information. Thank you.

### **We need help with the following committees:**

**Picnic Committee** – select caterer, menu, date, and arrange for location, set up and clean up, collect RSVPs and check-in attendees.

**Luncheon Committee** – select dates and locations, arrange menu, arrange and supervise the raffle, collect RSVP checks, make name tags, and check-in attendees.

**Communications Committee** – assist Bobbi Scott with sending out email notices and information to the members.

**Newsletter Committee** – assist Suzy Travis with collecting information and items of interest about the activities of our members for inclusion in the newsletter.

Come and join your colleagues, make or renew friendships, and help make our association more responsive to the needs of our members.

**Volunteers can contact Fran at 631-368-1545**



**RETIRED TEACHERS OF NORTHPORT**

**45 GARFIELD PLACE**

**EAST NORTHPORT, NY 11731**

[www.retiredteachersofnorthport.org](http://www.retiredteachersofnorthport.org)

[UTN-R@optonline.net](mailto:UTN-R@optonline.net)

**First Class Mail**

**TO**

### **Editorial Policy for the R-UTN**

**Newsletter:** Our newsletter welcomes letters and articles from our members. Items submitted should address issues of interest and concern to our retirees. Articles must be limited to 250 words and should address a single issue. All points of view will be accepted as long as the article is not derogatory of any other point of view or group and is factually accurate. The editorial board reserves the right to edit for space and to determine the appropriateness of items submitted. Authors will be consulted about decisions of the editorial board prior to publication.

**Website:** Items submitted for posting should be brief and timely announcements of information or activities of interest or concern to our retirees. Information items must be factual and cite the source of data. Activity items will be accepted for free and open-to-the-public events. Postings for events sponsored by not-for-profit groups will also be accepted. Name of sponsoring group must be included in the posting. The editorial board reserves the right to edit for space and to determine the appropriateness of items.

**No ads or items of a commercial nature will be accepted for the newsletter or for the website.**