



R-UTN Newsletter

www.retiredteachersofnorthport.org

Volume 31 Number 3

Winter 2019

*Warmest
Wishes For
A Wonderful
Holiday Season And
A Healthy New Year!*

From Your R-UTN Executive Board:

Frances LaDuca, Joanne Kroon, Roszann
Giovina, Dave Hosig, Judy Bensimon,
Bobbi Scott, Linda Quinn, Suzy Travis,
Irene Eckert, Jane Flood,
Teddy Emanuel,
Hank Kasven,
and Larry Ryan.



NYSUT REGIONAL RETIREE CONFERENCE

**TUESDAY OCTOBER 29, 2019
THE WATERMILL, SMITHTOWN**

Dave Hosie, Larry Ryan, Fran La Duca and JoAnne Kroon represented the R-UTN. The theme this year was “Power of Retiree Connections.” Each of the workshops addressed issues facing retirees and provided valuable information to assist retirees in dealing with them.

“Aging, Happiness and NYSUT Social Services,” presented by Social Services Director Ani Shahinian, provided tips on how to age happily and remain in good health. She advocated that retirees continue to learn new things, socialize and exercise to stay happy and healthy. Brochures were distributed describing the many social services and assistances provided to retirees by NYSUT.

“Elder Care” workshop, presented by a NYSUT Elder Care lawyer, covered important documents and end of life directives that all seniors should have in place. She stressed the importance of having those documents updated every few years. She also answered questions and reviewed the services provided by NYSUT Legal Services.

“Exploring Senior Living” examined Stay-at-Home Care, Assisted Living, Nursing Care, Dementia Care and Continuing Care (Life Care) Communities options available to seniors. The presenters covered the factors of need, costs and personal preferences to be considered in selecting the best options for retirees.

“Focus on You” discussed scams, financial and health issues that are targeted specifically at seniors. Protect yourself from calls from “grandsons” asking for help by asking a question that only the real one can answer. To help with Robo calls, add your cell and house phone to the “do not call” registry by calling 1-800-382-1222. Telemarketers must remove you from their list within 3 days.

“Future of Long Island Drinking Water” examined the levels of the toxic contaminant 1,4 - Dioxane found in shampoos, detergents and cleaning products. The Citizens Campaign for the Environment is lobbying for new laws to reduce the amount of this contaminant in products.

The keynote speaker, Randi Weingarten, AFT President, ended the day with a passionate call to retirees to remain true to their legacy and to maintain their commitments to being “Union Strong.”

NYSUT conferences are always well run and informative. We urge all members to attend when possible.

MEMBER NEWS

GLENN BALDWIN, retired Northport High School English teacher, continues as a volunteer with ALS Ride for Life as a co-presenter, with **CHRIS PENDERGAST** and other ALS patients, to students of all ages attending schools and colleges throughout Long Island. Last year, Glenn received the **Ride for Life's Keeper of the Light of Hope Award** for his volunteer work. He also serves as a driver and piano player when needed. He and his bandmates played at the last two September picnics at the Vanderbilt Museum!

LINDA TROTT DICKMANN, retired elementary school librarian, reports that her third book of poetry, *Road Trip*, won first prize in the Local Gems Press "NaPoWriMo" (National Poetry Writing Month) Contest. The book will be published in January of 2020. Her poem, "Willow" will be in the fall issue of an international poetry journal, Pratik curated by Himalayan Poet and Columbia University professor Yuyutsu Sharma. "Willow" will be in the Fall Issue of this journal. Linda is currently the facilitator of poetry for the Northport Arts Coalition at the Cafe' Portofino in Northport, NY.

ROD JENNINGS, retired Northport music and theatre arts teacher, has been busy writing and directing plays locally in West Palm Beach. At 84, he recently stopped directing but is still writing plays. Rod is a fan of the Dreyfus School of the Arts that provides a broad spectrum of the arts to locally talented high school students who audition for entry into the program. After seeing their recent production of *Crazy for You*, Rod rated it a four-star production, reporting that the choreography and tap dancing was on par with what one might expect to see on Broadway.

FRANK KONDRICH, retired from Northport High School, has been a member, of the Bonsai Society of Greater New York for ten years. Two years ago, he became a member of the Long Island Chrysanthemum Society, which got him involved with growing small chrysanthemum cultivars that are suitable for bonsai. Frank is the recipient of many blue ribbons for his efforts. Please go to the RUTN website to read more about this relaxing and rewarding hobby. Don't miss the beautiful color photos!

MARY MOORE, retired from Norwood Avenue School, reports that her granddaughter, Allie Long, is on the USA women's professional soccer team playing in the winning World Cup Game. She started playing soccer in Northport at age 7. Allie became professional after she finished college at North Carolina, Chapel Hill where she had a scholarship. She plays with the Seattle's NWSL as well as the USA team. Allie is now looking forward to her second time at the Olympics in Japan.

In Memoriam

Please see the website for more details and photos

- **BRUCE HUNT**, retired Northport High School social teacher and department chair, passed away on October 9 at the age of 86. At NHS Bruce was an educational innovator, designing and implementing unique classes, some of which are still being taught at Northport High School today.
- **MERLE P. LEVINE**, retired high school social studies teacher as well as Northport High School principal, age 95, passed away on September 12, 2019. Throughout her life, Merle worked tirelessly on behalf of women, minorities, and the poor, both locally and nationally.
- **ELLEN M. SCHLACHTER**, Home Economics teacher at Northport Junior High School, known to her students as Mrs. S, died on July 18, twelve days before her 81st birthday. Ellen is survived by her son James and his wife Lynn. She was predeceased by her husband, William.
- **JOAN C. SMITH**, retired Northport – East Northport teacher, passed away on August 10, 2019 at 89 years of age. Joan lived in Northport and is survived by her husband Edward, her children Suzie, Cindy Latchford, Kevin (Diane), & Keith (Kathy), nine grandchildren and one great grandchild.



RETIRED TEACHERS OF NORTHPORT

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First Class Mail

TO

Volunteer Opportunities for Teachers

TEDDY EMANUEL was the winner of this year's NYSUT Community Service Award for her work with CAPS. Founded in 1982, **Child Abuse Prevention Services (CAPS)** is Long Island's leading non-profit resource on the prevention of child abuse and neglect, and provider of youth violence prevention and child safety education to all K-12 Nassau and Suffolk schools. CAPS offers in-classroom, developmentally appropriate, multi-media workshops. The programs are designed for small classroom settings to engage students and encourage active participation.

As a CAPS Volunteer Presenter, you can parlay your interest in bully prevention and child safety into a learning and often life-changing experience for a child ... particularly, one in need of help.

Training is offered to those who qualify, at the CAPS office in Roselyn. Call 516-621-0552 or email www.capsli.org