

UNITY

UUP Scheduled Webinars Pertaining to Campus Reopening and other Concerns in the COVID-19 Context

Members in Information Technology

There will be two (2) webinar sessions to choose from:

Tuesday, September 29, 2020 from 11:30 AM – 1:00 PM

Thursday, October 1, 2020 from 1:00 PM - 2:30 PM



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**Virtual 2020
Ex Board Meeting**

Thursday, September 3
12:30 pm—2:00 pm

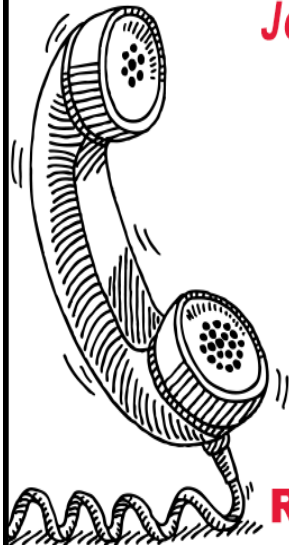
Virtual 2020 Fall DA

Friday, September 25
1:00 pm—5:00 pm



UUP Regional Tele-Town Halls

*Join your regional tele-town hall to to ask questions
and share concerns.*



September 15, 12 PM – **Western NY**

September 16, 12 PM – **Capital District**

September 17, 12 PM – **Central NY**

September 22, 12 PM – **Long Island**

September 23, 12 PM – **Hudson Valley/Metro-Downstate**

September 24, 12 PM – **North Country**

Register at: <http://bit.ly/UUPTownHall>





Help support
NYSUT-endorsed
candidates and
campaign
committees that
are pro-public
education and
pro-labor.

Click onto the link
below for more
information:

[https://
uupinfo.org/
votecope/](https://uupinfo.org/votecope/)

Or you may
contact:

Dr. Salvador Rivera
Vote-Cope
Coordinator
(518) 255-6238

Network Expansion Agreement

Dear Colleagues:

UUP has received good news for UUP-represented employees and retirees who are enrolled in the Empire Plan but live in states where they do not currently have access to in-network providers. The Governor's Office of Employee Relations has announced that, beginning January 1, 2021, the Empire Plan is expanding its existing "network integration" to provide Empire Plan enrollees living outside of New York State with nation-wide access to participating providers. (Currently the Empire Plan's "network integration" provides access to participating providers in Arizona, Connecticut, Florida, Maryland, New Jersey, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Virginia, Washington DC, West Virginia, and the greater Chicago area.) This expansion will, for the first time, provide 252 out-of-state UUP-represented employees and thousands of retirees who currently don't have access to participating providers with access to participating providers in the states where they live.

This expansion (which benefits out-of-state Empire Plan enrollees regardless of bargaining unit) has occurred as a direct

result of our advocacy in the UUP Joint Committee on Health Benefits (JCHB). Responding to inquiries from adjunct faculty who live in states without network integration, we raised this issue in the JCHB. In response to our advocacy, the Department of Civil Service agreed to review the issue (something previously resisted and long overdue) and has now determined that providing nation-wide access to in-network providers is justified.

The network expansion will be announced in the upcoming Department of Civil Service *Empire Plan Report* and in individual letters to those living outside of the current network. The expanded list of participating providers will be visible in the online directory after January 1, 2021. UHC will provide specific search results from the online directory, by mail or email, to enrollees who desire printed provider information. Paper directories showing the expanded network will be published starting in August of 2021.

In Solidarity,
Fred

Apples & Honey Cocktail for Rosh Hashanah

(courtesy of <https://whatjewishwannaeat.com/apples-honey-cocktail/>)

INGREDIENTS

- 1/8 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 3 packets Nektar (It is honey, in granulated form.)
- 1 1/2 cups sparkling apple cider
- 1 1/2 shots whiskey
- 1/2 cup ice
- Apples for garnish



INSTRUCTIONS

Mix cinnamon with 1 packet of Nektar and dip the martini glass into the water and then the mixture to rim the glass. Garnish glass with apple slice.
Then mix the whiskey, apple cider, and remaining Nektar packets with ice in a shaker. (Stir slowly so the cider doesn't overflow!)
Pour and enjoy!



Are You a Member?

Thomas P. DiNapoli New York State Comptroller		J. DOE		Total Gross Fed Taxable Gross		
Advice # 123456789		Pay Start Date 11/10/2019		Current 3456.78 1234.56		
Advice Date 11/10/2018		Pay End Date 11/24/2019		YTD 45,678.90 34,567.89		
Department ID 1234		Pay Rate 56,789.10		Net Pay 1,234.56		
EARNINGS			TAX DATA			
Hrs./Days	Current	YTD	Federal	State	NYC	Yonkers
Regular Pay Salary Employee	3456.78	45,678.90	4	4		
Location Pay	56.78	678.90	2	0		
TAXES			Current	YTD		
Fed Withholding			3,456.78	12,345.67		
Medicare			5,678.90	4,567.89		
Social Security			3,456.78	1,234.56		
NY Withholding			5,678.90	4,567.89		
DEDUCTIONS			Current	YTD		
Regular Before Tax Health			456.78	1,234.56		
Supplemental Ret. Annually Prog.			678.90	5,678.90		
TIAA Retirement Before Tax			56.78	1,234.56	34.56	456.78

CHECK PAY STUB TO MAKE SURE

To be a member of the union, your paycheck **must** say "UUP Member" under "Deductions."

Please contact your chapter officers for a membership card or go to <https://bit.ly/1RYG65y>

The Benefits of Being UNION!

Membership in your union goes well beyond fair and equitable wages, and quality, affordable health insurance. It's a statement: There is strength in numbers, and our collective voice will be heard.

Together, our voice is heard when bargaining with New York state and SUNY. Our voice strengthens our leverage in contract talks and enforcement, and in addressing problems in SUNY labor-management meetings.

Our voice is heard as the main advocate for SUNY campus and hospital funding, and for other legislative issues of importance to you—issues that help us better meet the needs of our students and our patients.

Being a member of UUP also means you maintain:

- Representation in interrogations or disciplinary actions, or in legal actions brought on behalf of members;
- Representation if Title IX harassment complaints are filed against you (for student or co-worker complaints);
- Access to benefits and services provided by UUP Member Services Trust, and discount programs and services provided by UUP's state and national affiliates: NYSUT, AFT and NEA;
- Access to UUP's vision, dental, and life insurance plans in retirement; and
- The right to vote on the union contract, and to provide input in chapter and statewide union elections.



*Opinion from the desk of
Dr. Frederick E. Kowal, President*

Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg

Colleagues,

Though it is still difficult for me to gather my thoughts concerning the passing of Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg, I feel impelled to write to you. We all are keenly aware of how important the Supreme Court has been in determining many of the realities we face as organized labor, as progressives, as Americans. However, Justice Ginsburg's tenure on the court was so remarkable, so ground-breaking, and yet in the best tradition of great jurists in American history. Unfortunately, she stands with a very small group of true progressives in the history of the Court, as throughout our history, the Court has been a bastion of conservative, at times regressive, and far too often, marked by the worst of racism and sexism.

But more than her tenure on the Court, she was a true warrior in the struggle for justice, for equality, calling on our country to live up to the ideals we claim to hold. Her life stands as a testament to what the struggle can bring in terms of progress and the awakening of hope. We need such examples in these very dark days.

I will not comment at this time about what the next days will bring in terms of challenges to the Constitution, to our institutions, and to our future. I simply invite you to consider how we can, together, live up to the example of Justice Ginsburg, in the way that we struggle for a more just state, nation and world. And let us remember this brilliant, principled, compassionate woman's remarkable life.

At this sad time, I would be remiss if I did not wish a Happy New Year to those celebrating their important day of reflection. *Shanah tovah.*

In Solidarity,
Fred

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Monday & Tuesday

8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thursday

8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.