



Matt - here is your February, 2016 e-newsletter (with updates since early-January):

[A Threat to CT's Quality of Life](#)

State employees are reacting to significant budget cuts and workforce layoffs proposed this week by Governor Dannel Malloy. [Click here for union leaders' criticism of a plan that fails to "support the vital public safety, health and education services we all count on."](#)

[Union Members in the Spotlight](#)

In honor of National Mentoring Month we highlighted educators who strive to guide students and colleagues "in becoming the best they can be." [Click here to meet members of PreK-12 and Higher Education unions who are mentors both on and off the job.](#)

[Help to Beat the High Cost of Higher Ed](#)

The application window for scholarships exclusively available to members of AFT-affiliated unions and their families has opened. [Click here to access information on the benefits, including criteria, instructions, application forms and deadlines.](#)

[Community, Labor and Clergy Coming Together](#)

Over 300 union members, civil rights activists, people of faith, and civic leaders gathered on the weekend before the Martin Luther King, Jr. holiday. [Click here to watch brief highlights from the forum where attendees pledged to fight for a voice for all.](#)

[Continuing the Fight for Quality Care in Windham](#)

The coalition working to reverse Hartford HealthCare's unjust service and staffing cuts at Windham Hospital has engaged U.S. Representative Joe Courtney in the effort. [Click here for a photo from the mid-January meeting where the congressman heard from advocates and union leaders.](#)

[An Essential Right to Due Process](#)

A wide-ranging panel discussion that included our AFT national union president in mid-January took on the topic of tenure for PreK-12 teachers. [Click here for a report-back and video of the forum held at the Albert Shanker Institute.](#)

[Resolved: Keep Our Members' Strength in 2016](#)

Our state federation president is pledging to fight forward "for a society that cares more about people than the wealth of the richest 1%." [Click here for Jan Hochadel's New Year's message to members on our continuing "struggle with the titans" in 2016.](#)

[High Court Lawsuit Threatens Our Rights](#)

Teachers, first responders and other public employees earlier this month sent a strong message to the special interests funding the *Friedrichs* lawsuit. [Click here for a report-back on their delivery of over 100,000 petition signatures to a radical anti-union front group.](#)

Upcoming Activities & Events

- February 6: [2016 Legislative Issues Conference](#)
- February 24: [Preventing Workplace Bullying in Healthcare Workshop](#)
- March 5: [New Haven Regional Legislative Meeting](#)
- March 8: [CPR, AED & Basic First Aid Refresher Course](#)
- March 10 & 12: [CPR, AED & Basic First Aid Courses](#)
- March 12: [Southeastern Regional Legislative Meeting](#)
- March 12: [Windham Regional Legislative Meeting](#)
- March 19: [Central Regional Legislative Meeting](#)
- March 19: [Hartford Regional Legislative Meeting](#)

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