Union Member - here is your September, 2019 e-newsletter (with updates since early August):

**Stepping Up to Show that "Labor is Your Neighbor"**

AFT Connecticut is backing active and retired members of our local affiliate representing West Haven's school teachers in the community's September 10 Primary Election. Click here for more on why we're supporting educators "with firsthand classroom experience" to serve in town government.

**Rallying Fellow Activists on Labor Day**

The president of our local affiliate representing caregivers and support staff at UConn Heath is another union leader seeking elected office in his community. Click here to watch and share his closing remarks at the Connecticut AFL-CIO's annual Labor Day breakfast.

**Protecting and Preserving Public Employees' Benefits**

The Connecticut Coalition for Retirement Security's coordinator was the co-host for the second of two podcast episodes answering union members' questions about pensions. Click here to listen to her and AFT Connecticut President Jan Hochadel's interview with State Comptroller Kevin Lembo.

**Defending Vulnerable Communities Against Intolerance**

Local, state and national union leaders have teamed up with social justice allies across Connecticut and the country to support at-risk immigrant families. Click here for a report on how activists are demonstrating "solidarity without borders" for their students and patients.

**Supplying their Students at "Back to School" Season**

Our local affiliate representing teachers in Windham in late August partnered with the town's police union to prepare their classrooms for the new year. Click here for photos of union leaders receiving donated supplies collected during the department's "stuff a cruiser" drive.
Recognizing Top Performing Non-Certified Education Personnel

Hartford's "paraeducators of the year" at the school and district level were in late August recognized at a day of "back to school" professional development. Click here to watch union members celebrate their colleagues' accomplishments with the superintendent and the capitol city's mayor.

Bearing Witness at the Southern US Border

Our state federation's vice president and a team of health professionals and educators in mid August traveled to a South Texas immigration detention facility. Click here for photos of John Brady and fellow union leaders attempting to observe and aid migrant children.

Raising Public Awareness of the Need to "Fund Our Future"

Our state federation in early August offered to help NBC Connecticut expose the unique financial burden placed on Connecticut's teachers and school support staff. Click here to share the news outlet's online classroom expense survey with fellow union members on social media.

Upcoming Activities & Events

- September 10: Municipal Primary Election Day *
- October 3 -4: Connecticut AFL-CIO 2019 Constitutional Convention
- October 3: Connecticut United Labor Agency Reception & 40th Anniversary Fund-Raiser
- October 16: PreK-12 Teachers NextGen Science Standards Workshop
- October 28: Connecticut SERC Paraeducator Development and Leadership Symposium

Featured Benefit

- Union Plus: Health Discounts

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