

the **HHHART BEAT**

Newsletter of the Half Hollow Hills Active Retired Teachers
Fall, 2012 Volume 26, No. 1

HHH Teachers Association, 6268 Jericho Turnpike, Unit #10, Local 2701, NYSUT/AFT/AFL-CIO, Commack, NY 11725-2810

Welfare Trust Fund Benefits by Dick Lee, Fund Administrator

As a member of NYSUT YOU HAVE ACCESS TO MEDEX, a worldwide, 24-hour a day medical and travel-related assistance service. You may use the printed membership card on page 8 to activate this service and receive the benefits of the plan.

The following is a list of MEDEX services:

MEDICAL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

- Worldwide Medical and Dental Referrals
- Monitoring of Treatment
- Facilitation of Hospital Payments
- Transfer of Insurance Information to Medical providers
- Dispatch of Doctors and Specialists
- Transfer of Medical Records
- Continuous Updates to Family, Employer and Home Physician
- Hotel Arrangements for Convalescence
- Replacement Corrective Lenses and Medical Devices

TRAVEL ASSISTANCE SERVICES

- Replacement of Lost or Stolen Travel Documents
- Emergency Travel Arrangements
- Transfer of Funds
- Legal Referrals
- Translation Services
- Emergency Pet Housing and/or Pet Return

WORLDWIDE DESTINATION INTELLIGENCE

- Pre-Travel Information
- Travel and Health Information
- Real-Time Security Intelligence

Frequently Asked Questions:

WHO IS MEDEX? Since 1977, MEDEX has been assisting travelers worldwide by utilizing highly trained, multilingual coordinators in conjunction with an extensive information and communication system to provide medical and travel-related assistance.

WHEN SHOULD I CONTACT MEDEX? Coordinators are available 24-hours a day, every day of the year. Many times people assume that the services are to be used only in serious cases. Be assured that MEDEX is there to help you with any type of problem regardless of the severity.

WHAT IF LOCAL MEDICAL FACILITIES ARE INADEQUATE? If, through its medical management, MEDEX determines that local medical providers are inappropriate for treatment, MEDEX will arrange for a medically safe evacuation to a facility capable of providing the necessary care.

WHAT HAPPENS IF I AM HOSPITALIZED? It is important to notify MEDEX as soon as possible. MEDEX will immediately contact your treating physician to assess your condition and treatment plans to ensure your safe recovery.

Detach, activate, and carry the card printed on page 8.

-----*The President's Message*-----

We started the new school year with our Annual Luncheon on September 12th at Orlando's restaurant in Commack. We had good attendance and invited new retiree, Jonathan Stumpf as our guest. He enjoyed the event and promised to come back for future ones.

The Board had decided to try another Theater Party at the Engeman Theater in Northport in late October and Ellen Keuling polled members. Not enough interest was shown so we will reschedule in the spring. Eileen Lohrey reminded us of the CORTLI Luncheon on October 18th at Crest Hollow Country Club. The guests will be Carolyn McCarthy and Tim Bishop. If you haven't made a reservation, call Eileen at 516-352-8486 to let her know you are coming. The charge is \$30 made out to Eileen Lohrey.

Betty Volpe spoke about our website, HHHART.net and urged members to check it out for current info.

If you aren't sure what APPR stands for in all the news about Teacher Evaluations, it stands for Annual Professional Performance Review. HHTA has already submitted theirs and it was approved. There are 715 school districts in NYS and so far only 75 have been approved, with a deadline of January, 2013. If you have seen the news, the State Education Department is very shorthanded and having financial problems with completing their examination of the proposals.

The other big news is about endorsements and elections. NYSUT had their Endorsement Conference this summer attended by presidents of Retiree Councils and other legislative leaders. Candidates were judged on their votes in support of teacher issues and their cooperation with NYSUT 's proposals. Many incumbents who had previously received our endorsements did not this year. One of the most important votes was against the new Tier 6, which is harmful to new teachers. It is interesting to note that endorsed NYS candidates were split equally between Democrats and Republicans. Our endorsement is sought for its financial help and phone banks, volunteers, etc. On the federal level, Tim Bishop was endorsed. Phone banks will be held during the month of October with Tuesdays set aside for Retirees between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m., at NYSUT's Hauppauge Office. NYSUT, NEA, and AFT have all endorsed President Obama because of the

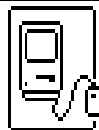
Democratic support for Education, Medicare, and Social Security. And speaking of Social Security, if you are receiving Social Security or just starting, be sure to arrange for Direct Deposit of your checks. They are phasing out postal mailings and the last one will be mailed in February, 2013. Call your bank and get the info you need to set up Direct Deposit.

Enjoy the beautiful fall weather! I hope to see many of you at the CORTLI Luncheon.

Joan Petroske

IMPORTANT INFO FROM HHHART

- The last date to register to vote is October 20th.
- If you have Empire as your secondary insurance after Medicare, you will be receiving a separate Rx (drug) card for you and each of your family members on the plan. Each will have different numbers. This card will be active January, 2013. You should receive a letter with the option to opt out of Empire. **Don't opt out** if you wish to keep your Empire medical insurance.
- The NYSUT endorsements for the November elections can be found on the NYSUT website: NYSUT.org.
- NYSUT.org has dates and places where *Making Strides Against Breast Cancer* walks will be held.



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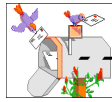


HHHART is no longer receiving financial assistance for printing, preparing envelopes for mailing, and postal costs for our newsletter. Therefore, at some time in the near future, we will be forced to charge for sending hard copies of the *HHHART Beat*.

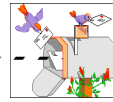
For those who don't wish to pay for a hard copy, the newsletter is available at no charge on the HHHART website. We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you.

Sandy, Barbara & Norma

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH
Be sure you're registered to vote.



-Keep In Touch-



Best \$30 I spend all year. The digital newsletters are the best. I am still working about 20 hours per week at our local food bank. (www.cuoclc.org). I have just graduated from the Catholic Biblical College of Dallas with a four year Advanced Certificate in Biblical Studies. I will begin teaching an adult education New Testament course at my local parish in September. We will explore one book of the New Testament each month in the order in which they were written. It will allow us to witness the growth of our faith one layer at a time. Thanks for all you do to keep us connected.

Harry Shaver

My daughter and I will be going to Italy in June, 2012 – Florence, Rome, Venice for ten days – her first time. We are still healing from the loss of my son (who was supposed to go with us).

Denise Simonetta

Finally retired from supervision at Dowling College, unfortunately due to a fall. I am healing well and able to enjoy my newest grandchild – Hannah – three years old. "Dimples" (Malinda Dobrins) deserves applause.

Florence Feinstein

Looking forward to enjoying part of our summer at our vacation home in Myrtle Beach, SC. We find it very relaxing and enjoy the pond running through our development.

Peter Di Gennaro

Jeremy and Kate Donovan welcomed baby sister Lulu in August, 2011. Our son, Josh Joyce, is marrying Diana Leonardo on June 23rd (2012) in DelRay Beach, FL. Happy, joyful times for the Joyce family.

Nancy Joyce

Am now a reluctant widow. Ed died January 6, 2011. He is very much missed by all. Sold my house and love living in Florida. Come visit.

Grace Ricketts

Time marches on. We recently went to the college graduations of our two grandsons, and a bridal shower for our granddaughter. Harvey and I are sitting back and enjoying all these good things.

Gladys and Harvey Krasner

When you get to be my age, the good news is that I am not in the hospital. But, keep your fingers crossed.

Francis A. Roach -3-

My daughter Denise and husband Aaron, welcomed their second child Zachary in July. Big sister Katie is very excited too. Denise Christine is a graduate of HHH and is an attorney for a firm in Philadelphia. I'm a very proud mom and grandma.

Georgianna Dellegrini

I was having a great time with my great-grandchildren, looking forward to beaching with them, until I fell and broke my shoulder. Now I am in a chair and trying to avoid breaking any more limbs.

Kathleen M. Blank

The day after I retired in 1995, George and I flew to California to take possession of our beautiful, small R.V. and then spent the next twelve years storing up wonderful memories as we wandered about this magnificent country. We also took unforgettable trips to Antarctica, China, England, Scotland and Denmark. Our greatest pleasure came from watching our seven grandchildren grow into young adults. When George's health meant giving up our travels, we kept ourselves busy with involvement in the community and politics, and nurturing our new and old friendships. Sadly, George died in April. I am so grateful for our memories, and my message to everyone is to do as much as you can, while you can and cherish every day.

Dorothy Rose

Judy and I celebrated our 50th anniversary in mid-June, at Ocean Isle Beach in North Carolina. Our children and grandchildren joined us from across the country for a week's celebration.

Tony Cuzzucoli

I finally made the decision to leave L.I. and have settled in sunny Florida after 46 years on The Island. Some of you know I lost my wife, Sandy to cancer after almost 43 years of marriage. I have reconnected with a woman I was engaged to when I was 20 years old. She got cold feet and broke the engagement. We reconnected and this time she didn't back out... We are currently living in Lake Worth, FL. I am still restoring my antique cars and attending car shows and cruise nights with them. I have a 1952 Chevrolet "Bel Air" hardtop and a 1953 Ford convertible. I love receiving the HHHart newsletter and sharing news with and about old friends. The Memoriam column is always difficult when it includes names I am familiar with. Please keep up the good work.

Irwin Becker

My niece Deborah Ellis (married to my nephew, Lieutenant Colonel Doug LeVien) is a Lieutenant Colonel in the U. S. Army. She graduated from West Point in 1992. At the present time she and her Battalion are stationed in Afghanistan.

I am passing along this information to you in the hopes that you may take time out of your busy lives to assist our troops cope with these deplorable conditions.

Below is an e-mail from Deborah's Mom, Jean, requesting much needed items:

.....It appears that her troops located in outposts need support because there is no PX and the summer heat is on. Items for the 502nd Military Intelligence Battalion, the "Watchmen", can be mailed in care of Deborah. **Do not put rank on the mail.** She will distribute the items to the troops. The Post Office has special cartons with flat rate: call....1 800 610 8734 and ask to have a Military Kit sent to you.....that you are shipping to Afghanistan. THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT!! :

- sunscreen
- drink mixes (individual packets)
- baby wipes
- deodorant
- toothbrushes and toothpaste
- bars of soap and body wash
- razors (male & female) and shaving gel
- female sanitary products
- hand sanitizer
- body lotion
- flashlights
- batteries
- gum and hard candy
- canned meats and soups/packages of noodles
- any kind of pre-packaged treats (no chocolate - it's too hot here)
- magazines

Mailing Address:
 Task Force Watchmen
 c/o Deborah Ellis
 502 MI BN
 FOB Spin Boldak
 APO AE 09355

My heartfelt gratitude to those of you able to participate!

Ann Soranno Carro

Please notify Alice Langholz, in charge of data base, and/or Malinda Dobrins, HHHART secretary, when you change your e-mail address. This will keep you in the loop of the news concerning our retirement group. We don't want to lose you due to changes.

Alice: aelang@optonline.net
 Malinda: lotsofdimples@optonline.net

The Caledonia Senior Citizen Softball Team plays every Monday, Wednesday, Friday (9 to noon) at the field opposite Signal Hill. Ed Quinn (HSE, PE) AND TOM CAREY (HSE, PLT) founded the team. The group plays till late November/early December. Goes indoors (Sayville, St. James, Lindenhurst) and returns early March. Men and women are eligible.

NYSUT has a new member benefit which is: 20% discount at 1800flowers.com. The promo code is: NYSUTMB.

HHHART SUMMER THEATER PARTY

I Love You, You're Perfect, Now Change.
 What kind of a name is that for a show? It will probably be a silly revue. That's what went through my mind when I decided, despite my low expectations, to join HHHART for an afternoon, August 4th, at the John W. Engeman Theatre in Northport.

What a pleasant surprise was in store for us. The show was a series of very amusing vignettes about relationships, that had clever lyrics, and pleasant music performed by four very talented professionals who had excellent voices and who were good actors as well. Those in our group, who I polled, agreed that it was a very enjoyable afternoon.

Thank you Malinda for taking care of the details of this outing. Perhaps next time we could add lunch or dinner reservations for those who are interested in continuing to socialize.

Sandy Glickman

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH
 Check the voter ID laws in your state.

Know Your HHHART Board

This issue's Board Interviewee is Ellen Keuling who is the Treasurer of HHHART.



Ellen Keuling grew up in Woodside, Queens, with her parents and three older brothers. She loved school from the beginning and would play school every afternoon. She spent her Saturday mornings taking swimming lessons at a YMCA in NYC. Ellen's summers were spent on an island in Oscawana, New York with the Hudson River as her front yard.

She met her husband, Roy, dancing in the Castle Cave in Jackson Heights and they still continue to dance every chance they get. They have two children, Laura and Kevin, and a son-in-law, Vinny. All five of them traveled to Australia this past August. Now that her husband Roy has retired many more family vacations are being planned.

After graduating from Queens College, Ellen began teaching in a Catholic elementary school in Elmhurst where her mother also taught. After three years she moved to Bethpage and looked for a teaching position on Long Island. After substituting in Jericho, Bethpage and Half Hollow Hills, Ellen was hired full time in

December, 1972, in Taukomas where Joan Petroske, our union president, was her third grade level chairperson.

For many years of her career she changed schools within the district due to being excessed. She recalls that those years were difficult in June because she had to pack up all her belongings. Ellen taught in Chestnut Hill, Manasquan, Sunquam, Otsego, Vanderbilt, Signal Hill, Paumanok, and ended her career in West Hollow Middle School in June, 2009. She then joined the faculty in Adelphi University for two years as an adjunct professor in their Scholar Teacher Education Program.

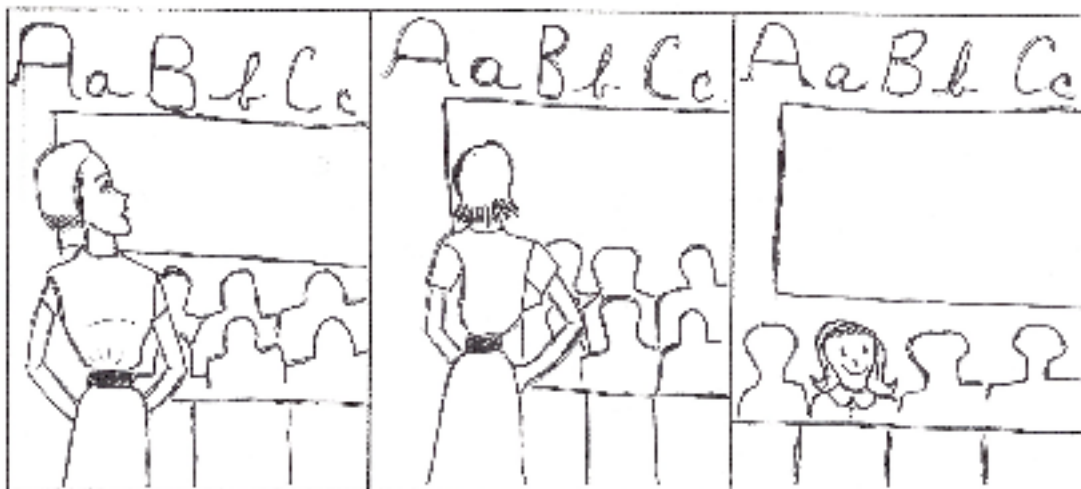
After being an educator for forty-two years, a profession she dearly loves, Ellen decided it was time to have more time to play. She enjoys her free time doing anything she wants. She swims, plays canasta and bridge with great friends, and loves to eat out. For the past fifteen years she has walked with her brother, Jim, at Jones Beach every weekend all year long, even on freezing cold and snowy days.

She became a member of the HHHART board shortly after retiring. She worked on the database with Betty Volpe and Alice Langholz and now is managing the accounts as Treasurer. She also has organized the last two fall luncheons.

You might remember Ellen with her red hair, her passion for her students and teaching, and always with a smile on her face. She states that she has a great deal to smile about. God has been very good to her!

Glimpses

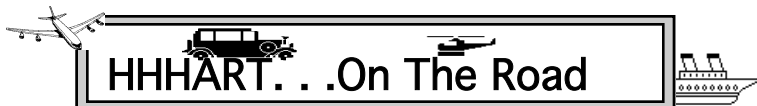
by Norma



Write an alliterative sentence using the letter T.

Betsy, what did you write?

Tommy, tweeted, twittered, texted, telephoned, typed, and talked.



HHHART Fall Luncheon

Ted and I belong to Friendship Force International, an organization with branches all over the world. Each year since we joined 3 years ago, we've traveled with the LI chapter. Two years ago we spent 3 weeks in Germany, the first 2 in the homes of members in Hannover and Hamburg. Last year we stayed with a family in Latvia and spent 2 weeks on our own in Lithuania and Estonia.

This year we spent three fabulous weeks in Japan. We were guests of a couple in Yonago and another couple in Fukuoka on the south island. Each of them treated us like family and, with other members of their Friendship Force group, took us to all the interesting sites in their cities and surrounding area. We bathed in hot springs, visited temples and shrines, climbed a castle tower and an active volcano. We saw examples of their finest traditional and folk crafts, went to museums and gardens – and ate the most delicious food – and ate – and partied.

We learned how to make sushi, and made soba from scratch, mixing and rolling out the buckwheat flour dough, then cutting the noodles. The food was fresh, varied and always artistically presented, both the homemade dishes we had at potluck parties and restaurant food. Although I eat at Japanese restaurants on LI, much of what I ate in Japan was new to me.

The best part of the trip was getting to know such warm and generous people and learn something about the culture that made them that way. After our two weeks with the group, we traveled on our own to Hiroshima, Kyoto, Nara and Tokyo, where strangers went out of their way to help us find places and share insights. We hope some of our hosts will be able to visit us in the next few years. Meanwhile, a group from Moscow will be staying with members of our group in July and we'll be taking them to all the places that make Long Island so special to us.

Carole Goldfarb

If you attended HHHART's Fall Luncheon on September 12th at Orlando's in Commack, you had the pleasure of enjoying good food and the wonderful company of many of your former colleagues. If you weren't there, you missed a lovely afternoon.

Joan Petroske, our President, welcomed everyone, and acknowledged the members of the Board. She congratulated Betty Volpe on receiving an award from NYSUT's Journalism competition for best website. If you haven't visited it as yet, you have a treat in store for you at hhhart.net.

Joan urged us to attend the CORTLI (The Coalition of Retired Teachers of Long Island) Luncheon, which will be held on Thursday, October 18th at noon at The Crest Hollow Country Club in Woodbury. The featured speakers are Carolyn McCarthy and Tim Bishop.

Mel Stern told us about the NYSUT phone banks at the NYSUT office at 150 Motor Parkway which can use your assistance on Tuesdays at 10 a.m. and from Monday to Thursday from 3 to 7 p.m. He reminded us that the endorsements made by NYSUT are not related to political party, but solely on the position of the local candidate on educational issues and teachers. NYSUT does not make calls for the national candidates.

We learned that HHH's proposal for the new assessment of teachers, The Annual Professional Performance Reform (APPR) was accepted by the state.

A good time was had by all. Thanks to Ellen Keuling for making the arrangements for the afternoon and to Alice Langholz for taking loads of pictures.

Sandy Glickman



Jon Strumpf
New Retiree

VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH
Know where your polling place is.

Let Member Benefits help you save a few dollars



It seems like we make so many purchases on a daily basis – whether it's everyday routine items, back-to-school shopping, holiday gifts, or just something for that special occasion.

Are you keeping NYSUT Member Benefits in mind before making these purchases? If not, now is the time to start doing so! We are always here to help you save a few dollars in this financially unstable economy.

Need to book a hotel or condo for an upcoming trip? We're here for you! Maybe you're looking for the latest and greatest electronic gadgets for your loved ones this holiday season? We can help with that too!

Your NYSUT membership brings with it many advantages and benefits – including the opportunity to utilize our endorsed discount programs. Check out the box below for a sampling of some of the discount programs available to you.

Car & Truck Rental Discounts
– Take advantage of a variety of discounted car & truck rental rates offered by Alamo, Avis, Budget, Enterprise, Hertz, and National.

Wyndham Hotels & Endless Vacation Rentals – Enjoy savings of up to 20% at nearly 7,000 participating hotels and 25% at more than 200,000 vacation rentals in 100 countries.

TripMark.travel – Use this all-inclusive travel program when planning your next trip or use the group travel feature for your next family reunion.

Buyer's Edge, Inc. – Get discounts on a variety of consumer goods such as vehicles, appliances, audio equipment, and luggage.

Working Advantage – Get discount tickets for online shopping, theme parks, museums and attractions, and other special family events.

Motivano SmartSavings Online Discount Marketplace – Shop for sales and discounts on dining, travel and more.

Bose® – Special pricing available to NYSUT members and agency fee payers on consumer products.

OfficeMax Customer Perks – Save 5% on technology items such as electronics and business machines and 10% on office supplies, furniture, ink/toner, and OfficeMax ImPress® services.

Powell's Books – Locate that rare book along with new and used books, e-books, audio books, DVDs, and souvenirs from the nation's largest unionized bookstore.

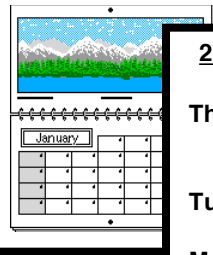
EPIC Hearing Service Plan – Do you have elderly relatives who are having trouble with their hearing? Save between 35% and 65% on brand-name hearing aids and products.

Visit the Member Benefits website at memberbenefits.nysut.org for a complete listing of endorsed programs and services available to you. Don't forget that you can always call us with any questions as well at 800-626-8101.

For information about contractual endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please contact NYSUT Member Benefits. Agency fee payers to NYSUT are eligible to participate in NYSUT MemberBenefits-endorsed programs.



Mark Your Calendar



2012-13

Thursday, October 18th Cortli Luncheon
Crest Hollow C.C., Woodbury, NY

Tuesday, November 6th Election Day

May (TBA) HHHART Annual Meeting

The HHHART Newsletter is a publication of the Half Hollow Hills Active Retired Teachers
631-499-4240

President	Joan Petroske
Vice President	Eileen Lohrey
Treasurer	Ellen Keuling
Secretary	Malinda Dobrins
RC 20 Representative	Joan Petroske
Programs/Social/Hospitality	Rowena Book
	Helen Chipkin
	Marlene Flanagan
	Honey Kellman
	Alice Langholz
	Gloria Montesano
	Malinda Dobrin
	Alice Langholz
	Betty Volpe
	Joan Petroske
	DickLee
	Barbara Arbuss
	Sandra Glickman
	Norma Smith

E-mail Communication
E-mail Data Base
Webmaster
RA Delegate
AFT Delegate
Newsletter Publisher /Co-Eds

HHHART Web Address <http://www.hhhart.net>



IN MEMORIAM

Josephine Blyskal
BU
September, 2009

Mary Coe
EE
March, 2012

Donald DeCarlo
SI
October, 2012

Mildred Huff
HE
September, 2012

Marie LaBianca
EE
October, 2012

Joan O,Carroll
July, 2012

Mary Coe passed away on March, 2012. She was 90. Mom never got over her love of the classroom and often reminisced about students and the wonderful faculty and staff she worked with. Those of you who remember her probably also remember Vincent, her fun-loving husband and fellow 5th grade teacher at Signal Hill. He left us in 2008.

Fran Doppoon daughter

Joan O'Carroll was a monitor at Vanderbilt for more than 30 years. She worked until four years ago when she was 83. She passed in July.

Shirley Cooke




Fall Luncheon Pix

Did you forget to pay your dues? HHHART dues run from July 1st to June 30th. Send a check for \$30 to the TA payable to HHHART.


PREPARE FOR THE UNEXPECTED

Chubb Travel Assist
I.D. No.: CRB-75
Group No: 9907-06-61
Name: NEW YORK STATE UNITED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION
Effective Date: 10/01/2011



Notice to Policyholder/Member: Call MEDEX immediately for benefits information and procedures. Call 24 hours a day (including nights) if you do not have access to a printer, email for assistance: ops@chubbna.com

Chubb Travel Assist Services are provided by:
MEDEX Assistance Corporation. Call the MEDEX
Emergency Response Center at:



Toll Free Access Number: 1-866-832-6930
or call collect: +1-410-453-6330

Please refer to local country dialing instructions and make sure to use a telephone that has international access.

Corrections and additions for e-mail addresses

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Fall Luncheon Pix by Alice Langholz

