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Oppose Tier 5.

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SRP NewsLink

A NEWSLETTER FOR NYSUT'S SCHOOL-RELATED PROFESSIONALS LOCAL LEADERS

SPRING 2009

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SRP leaders receive recognition

This has been a great season for our SRPs. Several of our leaders have been selected to receive state and national awards. We are sure you share our pride in these deserving unionists.

Carol Herb, a clerical worker in the Monroe-Woodbury schools for two decades, has won the 2009 NYSUT School-Related Professional of the Year award. Carol has been instrumental in the growth and development of the district's SRP program.

Arlene Hanley, a retired member from Rochester Association of Paraprofessionals, received one of the 2009 NYSUT Retiree of the Year awards. Arlene spent her entire union career fighting for the rights of others in many capacities. She remains active by working as a NYSUT ERS retirement consultant in the Rochester regional office.

Shelvy Young-Abrams, a para leader from the United Federation of Teachers and NYSUT Board of Directors member, was awarded a 2009 "Not for Ourselves Alone." The Sandy Feldman

Outstanding Leadership Award. Shelvy has been a long-time union activist and came up through the ranks alongside Sandy Feldman. Shelvy credits Sandy with being her inspiration and mentor.



NYSUT Vice President Kathleen M. Donahue

Lastly, at the AFT PSRP conference in March, Sandie Carner-Shafran, a teaching assistant from the Saratoga Adirondack BOCES Employees Association and a member of the NYSUT Board, received the prestigious Albert Shanker PSRP Pioneer Award. This national award is presented to an outstanding person who demonstrates leadership, has been active in all levels of the union, and leads the fight to win recognition for the important work that SRPs do in our nation's schools. Sandie has been a strong advocate for SRPs and works tirelessly on their behalf.

NYSUT Vice President Kathleen Donahue offered warm words of praise for our award-winning sisters as she acknowledged their statewide and national recognition. Donahue also tipped



Arlene Hanley, Shelvy Young-Abrams, Carol Herb, Sandie Carner-Shafran

her hat to all SRPs in her speech as she said: "I am sure each of them will tell you that they could not have accomplished so much without the support and encouragement of other hidden heroes — our bus drivers, teacher aides, food service workers, secretaries and custodians."

It is the SRPs, said Donahue, who contribute so much to the creation of a healthy and safe learning environment for millions of students across this great state.

NYSUT is fortunate to have leaders such as Carol, Arlene, Shelvy and Sandie who fight the good fight on behalf of the 95,000 School-Related Professional members in New York state. Thank you for all you do!

Welcome new locals

NYSUT is pleased to welcome: the 53-member Mount Pleasant Cottage Teaching Assistants Association; the 57 aides and monitors forming the new chapter of the West Hempstead Education Association; the Devereux Foundation Teaching Assistants; and the tutors who have been accreted into the Monroe II BOCES Para Unit.

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Representing more than 600,000 professionals in education and health care
For more, see www.nysut.org

IMPORTANT DATES

Check the NYSUT Web site for details of these events.

Health Care Forum

May 2, Albany

Child Nutrition Employees Week

May 4-8

National Nurses Week

May 6-12

National School Nurses Day

May 6

Committee of 100

May 11-12, Albany

School Budget Vote

May 19, Statewide

SRPNewsLink

SRP NewsLink is a newsletter published periodically for New York State United Teachers' School-Related Professionals leaders. NYSUT locals and staff have permission to reprint all NewsLink content.

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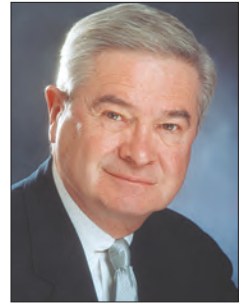


Organizing SRPs is Hobart's proudest moment

During a recent NYSUT staff training, NYSUT President Emeritus Tom Hobart presented a session on NYSUT history. Tom was instrumental in NYSUT's formation and remained at the helm for some 35 years. Tom talked about the who-and-the-how that this amazing organization came to be where it is today.

During the ending Q&A, Tom was asked what he was most proud of during his years as president of NYSUT. He answered that he was most proud of bringing SRPs into the organization just as Al Shanker was so proud of organizing the paraprofessionals back in the day. Tom said it is so important to help those who aren't as fortunate

and helping SRPs with their issues — salary and working conditions — is what the union is all about. He said we still have a way to go but he is most proud of bringing support staff in the fold.



Tom Hobart

Thank you, Tom Hobart, for all you've done through the years to help support School-Related Professionals through their struggles and triumphs. SRPs owe you a great debt of gratitude for your work on their behalf.

Legal plan is a benefit for all

At some point, you're likely to need some form of legal advice or assistance. Whether it's preparing a will, creating a trust, refinancing a mortgage, even changing your name, you'll need a legal professional.

By enrolling in the Legal Service Plan endorsed by NYSUT Member Benefits Trust, you'll have access to the legal help you need, when you need it.

The annual fee of \$85 for in-service members, \$55 for retirees, provides a simple will, durable power of attorney, living will and health care proxy; coupons for two office consultations; unlimited legal advice and communications made on your behalf, a nation-

wide network of referral attorneys and the Preventive Law Guide newsletter.

Many legal service fees are capped at set amounts. For other services, plan attorneys charge \$175 an hour or 40 percent less than their standard rate, whichever is less.

For information about this program or about contractual expense reimbursement/endorsement arrangements with providers of endorsed programs, please call NYSUT Member Benefits Trust at 800-626-8101, visit www.memberbenefits.nysut.org.

Agency fee payers of NYSUT are eligible to participate in Member Benefits Trust-endorsed programs.

New Social Services Web site

As many of you are aware, NYSUT Social Services has been serving you, our members, since 2001. Our mission is to help you improve your personal lives by addressing your own concerns and the concerns you have about your family members. The service is confidential and there is no fee. We have updated and expanded a page on the NYSUT Web site that offers information about the range of services that NYSUT social services provides. Use it at your convenience.

The Web site offers some basic information and resources that may be helpful to you or your family through difficult times. We invite you to take a look at it. To access the Web page just go to the NYSUT Web site and click on Social Services under the Resource menu or you can go directly to the page at www.nysut.org/socialservices.

If you have any questions call 800-342-9810, ext. 6202.

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