



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Many of you have known me from working hand and hand through Covid, when an emergency has occurred, or stealing those opportunities to laugh when we pass in the hallways. For those of you that do not, my name is Emer H. Frani, your newly elected Union President. I was hired during a dark time in our collective lives, the year 2020 where we all suffered from the scourge of Covid. Coming from the workflow of a retirement home, I found myself deep in the trenches with many of you. Running from rapid response to rapid response, dealing with over 12 patients a shift, trying to keep our patients and myself sane, I am truly humbled and in awe of what we can accomplish when we work together. With our patients not allowed visitors, we were their family. With our families and loved ones at home shielded from the horrors that we have lived through, we became a family. With our covid cases dropping and us seeing patients for something other than shortness of breath, we grew closer as our focus broadened. I had my start on 3 West, though I am sure you have seen me almost everywhere else. Going from Covid to the Surgical section and subsequently to the recovery room, the number of people who I considered family grew. In time, that family branched out: some moved to different hospitals, others to different professions in general. What remains the same, is the pride I have in our family, the honor I feel in working with you all, and the vision of what we can still accomplish together. With you all I have become a better nurse, and together we will continue to ensure that the workplace that houses us, will be a source of pride for us all. I am not done growing, neither are we, the faith you have placed in me as your union president tells me you feel the same. Together we beat the pandemic, together we helped this hospital grow, and together we will protect what makes this place truly special: the sense of community in this small community hospital. For those that need to find me, I am available in the recovery room 11a-11p, and reachable via email at HudsonRegional5147@gmail.com.

With faith in solidarity and hope for the future,

Emer H. Frani
Union President

MEMBERSHIP MEETING

September 19, 2023

Location: 2 Center Conference Room, Outside

Times: TBD

Agenda: Kickoff Meeting for a New Contract

VP NURSING MESSAGE

Dear colleagues,

I hope this message finds you well. My name is Tracy Panagiotopoulos and I am thrilled to introduce myself as your new RNVP of HPAE Local 5147. With over 33 years of experience in critical care and PACU, I am honored to represent all the dedicated RNs at Hudson Regional Hospital.

In my role, one of my key responsibilities is to ensure that your concerns and roadblocks are addressed in the new contract. I will be actively involved in the contract-writing process, advocating for the best interests of our nursing staff. Please feel free to share your thoughts, concerns, or any suggestions you may have so that we can collectively shape a contract that supports our needs.

Currently, you can find me working in PaCU from 11 AM to 11 PM. I am always available to discuss any matters either in person, by dropping by the unit, or through text messages. Communication is essential to building a strong and supportive work environment, and I encourage open dialogue with each and every one of you.

Outside of work, I find solace in the company of my three dogs and my adorable kitten. My two grown-up boys are the light of my life, and I cherish spending time with them.

I am truly excited about working alongside such a talented and dedicated team. Let's collaborate to create a positive and empowering environment for all nurses at Hudson Regional Hospital. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me at any time.

Warm regards,

Tracy Panagiotopoulos

VP SERVICES MESSAGE

Hello members of Local 5147,

My name is Juan Seguinot, your newly elected Vice President of Service Workers. I want to take this moment to thank you all for giving me the opportunity or representing you alongside the other elected officials of the union leadership. As you all may know, multiple departments were given well deserved hourly rate increases that we, your elected officials worked on getting, and prevailed! With contract negotiations upon us, we the Labor executive Board will diligently work together in getting a fair contract. What is what we are here for: to do better for YOU! Should you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact me via email a68jas@gmail.com

In Solidarity,

Juan Seguinot



HPAE 2023 PROFESSIONAL ISSUES CONFERENCE

CODE RED:

From Crisis to Action

SAVE THE DATE

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 12, 2023

8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Hilton East Brunswick

Earn up to 4.5 Contact Hours

➔ REGISTER ONLINE TODAY:
www.bit.ly/HPAEPIC2023



HPAE

Putting care first

HPAE/AFT/AFL-CIO

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HEALTHCARE IN THE UNITED STATES IS IN CRISIS. This is evidenced by plummeting measures of quality care, efficiency, access to care, equity, and safe workplaces for patients and workers. Safe staffing is essential to providing stability and equality in all aspects of the delivery of care.

Change is possible through individual and collective efforts to establish, maintain and improve the ethical environment of the work setting and conditions of employment conducive to safe, quality healthcare. By standing together, we can improve workplace conditions and patient outcomes.

THIS CONFERENCE will feature 4.5 contact hours jointly provided by HPAE & AFT that expands knowledge to advocate for dignity, rights, health and safety of both patients and healthcare workers. Participants will achieve positive results in the workplace using effective individual communication skills, evidence-based data, and speaking in one voice to advocate to improve adverse patient and workplace conditions related to unsafe staffing, workplace violence, and/or health inequities.

American Federation of Teachers/Nurses and Health Professionals is accredited as a provider of nursing continuing professional development by the American Nurses Credentialing Center's Commission on Accreditation. P#0003. There has been no commercial support of this program and the presenters declare there is no conflict of interest.



REGISTER ONLINE TODAY: www.bit.ly/HPAEPIC2023



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Putting care first

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HPAE

A Newsletter for the members of HPAE Local 5147

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VP TECHS MESSAGE

Dear Members,

My name is Chris Fatzer. I am the VP of the tech unit for our local HPAE here at Hudson Regional Hospital. I have been working here for 9 years as an X-ray tech of which 3 of them as your VP of the tech unit. 12 years ago when the market for IT personnel became tight I pivoted to a new career. I came from a technical background in the corporate world as a system and network administrator for 25 years before going back to school and becoming an X-ray tech. I was elected to our local board 3 years ago and I am looking forward to working with the new members of our board serving our members the best that I possibly can. I am here every weekday 7am to 3pm in the radiology department. If you have questions or need assistance feel free to contact me in radiology.

In solidarity, Chris Fatzer

UNION SECRETARY MESSAGE

Hello Everyone! My name is Lana Pratisoli and I would like to introduce myself as your new RN- union secretary, HPAE local 5147. I am delighted to be serving you during this time. Many of you know me and have worked with me during the past three years. I am a dedicated nurse and I love to care for my patients and now for all of you as well. I am enthusiastic to be part of this new union committee and to be part of the news yet to come. I will make sure that our concerns are well addressed along with everyone in the committee. We made a commitment to serve you and to make sure that we keep our workplace safe, fair and just to all of us equally. We are the union. All of us are the union and we are here to remind you that together we are stronger and that together we will collaborate for a better environment for everyone. I am currently working on the first floor in the recovery room, so please reach out to me or to any of our members and representatives with your concerns and suggestions for a better workplace. Hudson Regional Hospital is our second home and making it better, safe and equally just to everyone is our mission.

Thank you for believing in us! Lana Pratisoli

UNION TREASURER MESSAGE

Dear Members,

My name is Monique (Molly) Cavalli. I have been an RN here at HRH (formerly MHMC) for the past 28 years. I was blessed to spend my entire career working in Maternal Child Health, with expectant moms and newborns.

This past April when L&D closed, I started a new venture in SDS...and I LOVE it!! I was welcomed with open arms and it has been great meeting so many new people and also putting faces with the names of our members. I have been an active member of Local 5147 since its inception here, dating back to 2000.

In 2020 I was elected Local 5147's Secretary/Treasurer. Currently I am holding the role of Treasurer. I am looking forward to working with our newly elected board!

Please feel free to reach out to me with any questions, concerns, suggestions or just to say HI!!

I work 8am-9pm in phase 2 of SDS, ext 3230.

In solidarity, Molly

CATH LAB WELCOME

Hudson Regional Hospital has gone through many changes over the years: the remodeling of patient rooms, the upgrading of the operating rooms, and the unfortunate closure of our Labor and Delivery unit. The Home of Robotic Surgery has a new addition to the numerous services available, the opening of our own Cardiac Catheterization Lab. Equipped with a plethora of state of the art equipment, the Cath Lab saw their first case on July 10th, 2023 and has since hit the ground running. With their first case completed July 10th, 2023 the team is well on their way with over a dozen catheterizations, pacemaker placements, as well as maintenance such as ICD battery replacement. The current operating hours are Monday through Thursday 0700-1700 to start, but with the future possibilities that Interventional Radiology has to offer be ready for that to change. For those in need of services or looking to get in on a fast growing area, visit them in house on the 3rd floor.