



# RIH-UNAP Report

RI Hospital United Nurses & Allied Professionals, Local 5098

August 2020



**A message from President Frank Sims, RN**

## Touching Base

I hope everyone is enjoying their summer as best as they can during this very different time in our history. I want to thank each and every one of you for all your hard work and dedication during

the pandemic surge- our State could not have made it through without all your hard work.

While it was indeed a very trying time, I believe we are all better equipped to handle any future upticks in Covid-19 positive patients.

I wanted to take some time and update you on some developments around the Hospital:

1. **Opening of a new ICU unit** - we have been working with a team from the Hospital to staff, train and operate a new ICU to be located on the 6th floor. Staffing has already begun and training will start shortly thereafter. This will be an open unit (meaning employees can be floated in and out of the unit) and we hope that by the end of the year it will be fully operational.

2. **Visitor Policy** - As you know, the hospital relaxed the ban on visitors to the hospital. During the first week or two after the revision, we heard of many issues with the policy. We took these concerns to management and the Hospital revised the policy. Hopefully, this will reduce the number of issues. If you have any suggestions or concerns regarding the visitor policy, please contact UNAP at one of the numbers below.\*

3. **Masking** - Please remain vigilant in masking; as more visitors come into the Hospital, it is as important as ever to make sure we all stay safe and properly mask.

4. **'YourVoice' Survey** - This year's anonymous employee engagement survey is available- please go to [YOUR VOICE](#) or check your Lifespan email for the link. UNAP is encouraging every member to participate and complete the survey in its entirety.

*Please note that managers should not be engaging you about your responses to the survey. If you feel anyone is trying to influence how you respond, please contact the Union below.*

Enjoy the rest of the summer and stay safe.

\*CONTACTS: Norman Farias (401) 573-8114 Mon/Tues  
Sherry-Ann Johnson (401) 479-9199 Wed/Fri  
Bill Deware (401) 345-6497 Thurs

## UNAP Election Day

**Thursday  
NOVEMBER 19**

Open to all UNAP members who have been in the Union for one year prior to election day and in good standing.

Information and nomination form will be mailed in October. Questions?  
831-3647 ext 11.



## 2020 Scholarship Winners!

A long overdue but still heartfelt "CONGRATULATIONS" to our two winners of the Sue McGuire-Pizzo Scholarship.

Every Spring, UNAP members and/or their children submit an essay to our Scholarship Committee for review and scoring.



Sue McGuire-Pizzo, RN

Both winners effectively articulated their viewpoint along with a fact-based essay on 'the functioning of the healthcare system' in the United States.

Our winners:

**Percy West of Main 6AB  
Holly Berthod of Main 8AB**

If you know them, give them a shout out of "Congratulations".