

## Our Benefits

### ★ Our 2007 McCusker Award Winners



**Scholarship Recipients at Our Union Hall for McCusker Awards Night 2007**

As we announced in the July edition of the CSEA News, this year's enthusiastic support of our Bernard H. McCusker Memorial Scholarship allowed us to increase the value of the scholarships awarded to this year's 41 recipients from \$750.00 to \$1,000.00!

We listed each of our scholarship winners in our *McCusker Awards Night 2007* booklet, provided to recipients, their families, and guests at this year's ceremony on Monday, June 18. The booklet is available to download and print at our "McCusker Memorial Scholarship" page at [www.csea-ct.com/benefits/#MMSF](http://www.csea-ct.com/benefits/#MMSF), and also includes a brief biography of each of this year's winners.

Recipients who were able to attend are listed here, along with photos from the event:



**Kelsey Aarrestad**  
 Daughter of Peter Aarrestad  
 Member, P-4 Council



**Robert Antoniak**  
 Son of Yolanda Antoniak  
 Member, P-4 Council



**Ryan Bielenda**  
 Son of Stephen Bielenda  
 Member, P-4 Council



**Carmen Blatt**  
 Daughter of David Blatt  
 Member, P-4 Council

(Continued on page 4)

## Our Voice for Reform

### DOT Staff Can Help End Corruption



**Jay Doody**

Trans. Principal Engineer,  
 CT Dept. of Transportation  
 Member, Chapter 88,  
 P-4 Council

*(Editor's note: this Opinion-Editorial was published in the New Haven Register in their July 25 Opinion section's "Forum," and updates our on-going efforts to pass clean contracting legislation in a special session this summer)*

As a 30-year veteran of the state Department of Transportation, I share Gov. M. Jodi Rell's desire to reform the Rowland-era culture of

corruption that lingers over the agency. I was disappointed when she did not include a single front-line worker within the department to her expanded DOT reform panel, first announced back in April.

A commission made up primarily of private-sector representatives and agency chiefs is simply not enough. Several of the governor's new appointments actually serve the special interests that have consistently opposed the kind of contract reform that would have helped protect taxpayers from the waste, fraud and abuse of the Interstate 84 "Little Dig" scandal.

It is critical that the governor and DOT management hear from the engineers, inspectors, planners, safety professionals and others working within the department, too. Otherwise, the reform panel risks becoming just another echo chamber, unable to understand the

(Continued on page 5)



**Jay and Fellow P-4 Council Members Ned Statchen and Monique Burns Testify at Legislative Hearings into the "Little Dig" at the Capitol**

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 CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

### In this Edition:

|  |        |
|--|--------|
| <b>Our Actions...in Brief</b>  | Page 2 |
| <b>Council 400 Retirees' Annual Outing</b>                             | Page 2 |
| <b>Editorial Missed Issues in Bus Contract</b>                         | Page 3 |
| <b>Our President's Desk - Missing Benchmarks</b>                       | Page 3 |
| <b>Council 400 LAC: Retired Workers Should Call for More Oversight</b> | Page 4 |
| <b>Social Activities Committee Upcoming Events</b>                     | Page 6 |
| <b>Classified Advertising</b>  | Page 7 |
| <b>Deaths Reported</b>   | Page 8 |

# Our Actions...in Brief

## Members' Current Issues, Meetings, & Events

»» Win **CASH PRIZES** in our **Retiree Recruitment Drive**: Council 400 is kicking off a new recruitment drive on September 1 and this is your chance to win for yourself -- and your Chapter! Three levels of prizes will be awarded each quarter:

- »» **Level 3 – \$100.00 cash**  
*25 new members signed-up*
- »» **Level 2 – \$50.00 cash**  
*10 new members signed-up*
- »» **Level 1 – \$25.00 cash**  
*5 new members signed-up*

PLUS a grand prize will be awarded for signing-up the most new members in a year! Make calls from the Local hall in Hartford, your home, or with a group of friends from your Chapter. Talk to retirees from your former agency or your community. Come to our next Membership Committee Meeting on Tuesday, August 28 at 10:00 a.m. at the Local hall in Hartford for training, or call Retiree Coordinator Hollis Block at (800) 894-9479, extension 130 to sign-up TODAY!

»» **Former Governor Rowland's Day in Court is Coming**: On July 10, the US Second Circuit Court dismissed attempts by former Governor John Rowland and his OPM director Marc Ryan to throw out the federal lawsuit we filed with our SEBAC partners on behalf of laid-off State workers 4 years ago! This decision allows us to proceed forward and put Rowland and Ryan under oath to testify why they chose only unionized State employees to lay-off in 2003. We are still fighting to return laid-off workers to their state jobs, protect the free-speech rights of workers everywhere, and make our members hurt by the illegal lay-offs whole. Read the extensive news media coverage of the decision at our "Standing Up to Illegal Lay-Offs" page at our website, at [www.csea-ct.com/action/sebac\\_layoffs.cfm](http://www.csea-ct.com/action/sebac_layoffs.cfm).



**Thousands of Union Members in SEBAC at the Capitol Protesting Lay-Offs in January of 2003**

(Look for the Arrows Symbol »» throughout this edition for more "Actions...In Brief")



# JOIN US for Our Retirees' Annual Outing

**Wednesday, August 29 from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M.**  
**Holiday Hill 43 Candee Rd., Prospect, CT**

Phone number for the facility: (203) 758-4547 (Handicap accessible)



**Chapter 401 President Kay Goulet Presented with Lifetime Achievement Award at Our 2006 Annual Outing**

### ACTIVITIES

*(Showers and dressing facilities available)*  
Swimming ▪ Bingo (with prizes) ▪ Dancing (music provided by a disc jockey) ▪ Tennis ▪ Bocie Ball ▪ Shuffleboard ▪ Horseshoes ▪ Badminton ▪ Volleyball ▪ Softball ▪ Basketball ▪ Golf ▪ Boating ▪ Canoeing

### BEVERAGES and SNACKS

*(Available throughout the day)*  
Coffee ▪ Tea ▪ Sanka ▪ Milk ▪ Assorted Soda ▪ Fruit Punch ▪ Potato Chips ▪ Pretzels

### MENU #1: 9:00 - 11:00 a.m.

*(Unlimited Buffet)*  
Donuts (cinnamon, powdered, glazed) ▪ Danish (fruit, cheese, butter) ▪ Muffins (corn, blueberry, bran-raisin) ▪ Bagels (w/butter & cream cheese)

### MENU #2: 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

*(Unlimited Buffet)*  
New England Clam Chowder with oyster crackers ▪ Giant Cheese Blocks (Havarti, Cheddar, Muenster) ▪ Assorted Crackers

### MENU #3: 12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

*(Unlimited Buffet)*  
Relish Tray (celery curls, carrot sticks, ripe & green olives) ▪ Grilled Hot Dogs/Sauerkraut ▪ Grilled Hamburgers & Cheeseburgers ▪ Sliced Tomatoes & Onions Pickles/Relishes/Mustard/Ketchup ▪ Chef's Special Baked or Barbecued Chicken ▪ Potato Salad/Hard Boiled Egg ▪ Baked Penne ▪ New England Baked Beans ▪ Corn on the Cob ▪ Fresh Cole Slaw ▪ Garden Salad garnished with tomato wedges/cucumber slices and served with a choice of dressings ▪ Breads & Rolls with butter (rye, onion, hard, pumpernickel, Vienna) ▪ Chilled Watermelon Wedges ▪ Fresh Strawberry Shortcake ▪ Decorated Sheetcake

### COST:

*(Includes 3 unlimited buffets beverages and snacks, and tax and gratuity)*

**\$10.00**

*Council 400 Members*

**\$20.00**

*Members' Spouses*

**\$38.00**

*Members' Guests*

**(Editor's note: a downloadable flyer for the Annual Outing and driving directions are posted online at our website's Events Calendar at [www.csea-ct.com/calendar](http://www.csea-ct.com/calendar))**

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 24 (no refunds after this date). Please complete this coupon and mail with check (payable to CSEA Council 400) to:

**Council 400, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106**

(Please Note: You need only present your name to the gate attendant to obtain access to Holiday Hill on August 29.)

## Council 400 Annual Outing ▪ Wednesday, August 29, 2007

Member: \_\_\_\_\_ Spouse: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Guest(s): \_\_\_\_\_ Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone Number: (\_\_\_\_) \_\_\_\_\_ Chapter: \_\_\_\_\_

# Standing for Dignity and Respect

## Editorial Missed Issues in Bus Contract



**Edna Morales**  
School Bus Driver,  
First Student, Inc.,  
New Haven Public Schools  
Secretary, Chapter I108,  
Council 760

**(Editor's note:** this Letter was submitted to the New Haven Register in response to their June 25 Editorial "Aldermen vote against taxpayers," and was published in their July 3 edition)

In an editorial, the Register missed the real reason school bus drivers reached out to the city's elected officials. We asked the Board of Aldermen to get involved because the private contractor we work for is forcing local taxpayers to pick up our families' health care costs.

As bus drivers transporting city children to and from school every day, my fellow members and I in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 believe the companies we work for should be held to higher standards. We are calling for corporate accountability, and we appreciate the board standing with us.

The Register pointed out that

First Student was the low bidder for the school board's contract, which the Board of Aldermen tabled.

What the editorial failed to mention was that the highest bidder, Laidlaw Transit, was taken over by First Student earlier this year.

Perhaps the Register is not aware that First Student is now the largest student transportation company in the nation and part of a foreign-based multinational corporation with operations around the globe. The company reported worldwide sales of \$5.06 billion and operating profits of \$397.6 million in 2005.

Despite healthy profits, First Student's medical insurance plan is unaffordable for nearly all local drivers. To cover our families under the plan offered by the company, most of us would have to pay \$485 a week in premiums. Currently, our drivers average \$475 in weekly earnings.

That is why so many of us rely on HUSKY and Title XIX for our families' medical care.

The city's elected officials should be applauded, not criticized, for sending a strong message to companies like First Student to take responsibility in the communities where they operate. They should invest in the health of their workers and their families.

### Another Victory By and For Our Retirees:

After 3 years of pursuing changes to the date the offset to Social Security occurs for Tier I Plan B retired State employees born after 1938, we have won! Governor M. Jodi Rell signed the Social Security Offset bill we announced had been passed by the General Assembly in the July edition of the CSEA News. Winn Heimer, who was one of the many Council 400 members to write letters, send e-mail, and leave voice mail messages to lawmakers during the session, summed up this effort, saying, "if it wasn't for the efforts of our retirees and CSEA/SEIU staff, we would not have won this victory and rectified this injustice!"



**Winn Heimer**  
Member, Legislative Action  
Committee, Council 400

## Our President's Desk

### Missing Benchmarks



**Michael J. O'Brien**  
Supervising Sanitary Engineer,  
CT Dept. of Environmental  
Protection  
Executive Council President

The recent interim report on the progress in Iraq on achieving the benchmarks set out at the time of the announcement of the troop surge is less than glowing. The Iraqi army is less battle ready now than in January and the least progress has been made on the most important goals, such as developing laws on sharing oil revenues and provincial elections.

Clearly the government in Iraq is not working to full capacity despite the ongoing sacrifices of our troops. Yet the Administration has put their own spin on the report, as well as the recently issued National Intelligence Estimate, claiming "Al Qaeda would have been a heck of a lot stronger today had we not stayed on the offensive." I might be inclined to believe that had we maintained the pursuit of Al

Qaeda in Afghanistan, rather than allowing ourselves to be distracted by Iraq, which has since become a recruiting tool for radical extremists.

The opposite may in fact be true and we may be less safe or no better off than on September 10th.

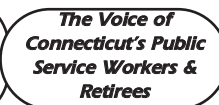
While the President argues his plan needs to be given more time to work, Democrats are powerless to force a vote on troop reductions because they don't have enough votes to break a Republican filibuster in the Senate.

So while the government is not working in Iraq, I'm not so sure that our government's elected officials here at home are working for the American people, either.

We have an Administration that has been operating under a cloak of secrecy since its first days in office. Yet when a high-ranking administration official is convicted of perjury in a case involving the leaking of a CIA agent's identity, the President commutes his prison sentence, claiming the jail sentence was too severe.

There is a critical shortage at the Food & Drug Administration with less than 1% of the goods imported for consumption actually being

(Continued on page 6)



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**Patrice Peterson**.....Secretary/Treasurer  
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INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

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Recycled Paper

# 400 LAC ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee

## Retired Workers Should Call for More Oversight



**Irv Schwartz**

Co-Chair, Council 400 LAC  
Member, Chapter 405



**Al Tee**

Member, Council 400 LAC  
Member, Chapter 411



**Stu Fishbone**

Member, Council 400 LAC  
Member, Chapter 416

There is literally a gold rush among insurance companies to receive the government's blessing to sell private Medicare insurance, such as the Medicare Advantage plans, to any senior citizen who will buy it because the government pays the companies a subsidy of 19% above the cost of traditional Medicare.

Of course, this practice leads to abuses in marketing these private plans. Unscrupulous insurance agent salespeople signed up elderly Chinese-Americans with limited ability to speak English who lived in a housing complex in San Francisco. Other agents signed up unwilling consumers and even deceased individuals. In some cases, signatures were forged, and in North Carolina, agents switched residents of an assisted living community from traditional Medicare into private plans without their permission.

After all these fraudulent tactics, people suddenly found that they had huge new co-payments, sometimes as much as \$1,250.00 every three weeks for a combination of five intravenous chemotherapy drugs. Furthermore, the people discovered that their doctors did not accept the plan, or that their medicines were not covered.

As Richard Foster, chief actuary for the Medicare program, said, "The additional payments to Medicare Advantage plans, above and beyond the costs" of traditional Medicare were causing higher premiums for all

beneficiaries and speeding the depletion of the Hospital Insurance Trust Fund for Medicare (R. Pear, Methods Used by Insurers, *New York Times*, May 7, 2007).

All of this has prompted Congress to hold hearings before the Senate Special Committee on Aging chaired by Sen. Herb Kohl (D-WI). Also, Rep. Fortney "Pete" Stark, (D-CA) chairman of the House Ways and Means Health Subcommittee, warned that private fee-for-service plans could face curbs. He added, "Given what we know about private plans at this time, they're at the top of my list" for planned Medicare reimbursement reductions (ARA *Friday Alert*, May 25, 2007).

Our Council 400 Legislative Action Committee members believe our elected representatives must be the watchdogs we need to protect our health in retirement! Stay informed of opportunities to get involved by attending your Chapter's regular monthly meetings when they resume in September.

## McCusker Award Winners...

(Continued from page 1)



**Maegen Brady**

Daughter of Margaret Brady  
Member, Council 760



**Shalyn Carey**

Daughter of Steve Carey  
Member, P-4 Council



**Matthew Cartoceti**

Son of Mel Cartoceti  
Member, Police Inspectors Council



**Kathryn Czaja**

Daughter of John Czaja  
Member, P-4 Council



**Erin Czczotka**

Daughter of Jan Czczotka  
Member, P-4 Council



**Andrew Fritzer**

Son of Stephen Fritzer  
Member, Council 400



**Nicholas Furlani**

Son of Dan Furlani  
Member, P-4 Council



**Sara Gruner**

Daughter of Julia Gruner  
Member, P-4 Council



**Amy Hubert**

Daughter of Susan Hubert  
Member, P-3B Council



**Caroline Malcolm**

Granddaughter of Don & Ann Cashman  
Members, Council 400



**Margaret Mennone**

Daughter of Diana Mennone  
Member, P-3B Council



**Krishna Mistry**

Son of Harishchandra Mistry  
Member, P-4 Council



**Dana Oullette**

Daughter of Tom Oullette  
Member, P-4 Council



**Shannon Packer**

Daughter of Warren Packer  
Member, P-4 Council



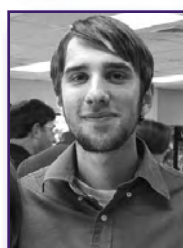
**Sierra Raimondi**

Daughter of Natalina Raimondi  
Member, P-4 Council



**Joseph Reutt**

Son of Charles Reutt  
Member, P-3B Council



**Andrew Reynolds**

Son of Mark Reynolds  
Member, P-4 Council



### Rebecca Ruitto

Daughter of James Ruitto  
Member, P-4 Council

### Milena Rydzewski

Daughter of Renata Rydzewski  
Member, P-4 Council



### Ricky Song

Grandson of Claire Gallant  
Member, Council 400

### Rachel Stevenson

Granddaughter of Salvatore Pitruzzello  
Member, Council 400



### John Wood

Son of John Wood  
Member, P-3B Council

### Kelby Zimmerman

Daughter of Kathleen Zimmerman  
Member, P-4 Council



### Allison McAdam

Granddaughter of John McAdam  
Member, Council 400



### Kara McCann

Daughter of James McCann  
Member, P-4 Council



### Lorraine Mobarak

Daughter of Arlene Mobarak  
Member, Council 400

Recipients unable to attend the event are listed here:

### Thomas Besade

Son of Donna Besade  
Member, P-3B Council

### Matthew Braddon

Son of Margaret Braddon  
Member, Council 400

### Christina Capobianco

Daughter of Thomas Capobianco  
Member, P-4 Council

### Shawn and Kevin Cobleigh

Sons of Neal Cobleigh  
Member, P-3B Council

### Shahla Farzan

Daughter of Ali Farzan  
Member, P-4 Council

### Brittany Gustafson

Daughter of Brian Gustafson  
Member, P-4 Council

### Eliza Jones

Daughter of Mark Jones  
Member, P-4 Council

Our booklet has also been updated to include additional "Hall of Fame" donors whose gifts were received after publication or were left off the list in error, including:

- **Council 400: \$6,870.00**  
**(incorrectly credited as \$5,000.00)**
- **Council 400, Chapter 402: \$200.00**
- **Council 400, Chapter 424: \$200.00**
- **Council 400, Chapter 401: \$175.00**
- **Council 760, Chapter 1112: \$100.00**
- **P-4 Council, Chapter 75: \$50.00**
- **P-4 Council, Chapter 224: \$25.00**
- **Council 400, Chapter 401 President Katherine Goulet: \$50.00 in memory of Everett Kandarian and Marian Machini**



## DOT Staff Can End Corruption...

(Continued from page 1)

culture it has been commissioned to fix.

Fellow members in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 and I testified at the recent legislative hearings into the I-84 contracting fiasco. I believe our testimony exposed many of our lawmakers for the first time to just how deeply the problems within the agency run. It is this insight from the inside that is needed if the DOT is going to find its way.

In our testimony, we provided a historical context for the condition of the DOT today. The story we shared with the members of the Transportation and Public Safety/Security committees begins in 1989, when our engineers discovered a group of appointees diverting almost \$100 million in state contracts to political favorites outside the statutory selection process. Only

shared how agency management was encouraged to divert so many projects to the private consulting community that our own engineers were left without work.

Now, three years later, the Rowland-era culture of corruption still hangs over the DOT. It started at the top, held our work force hostage, and to this day revolves around the power to award work to private consultants without regard to the waste and abuse that is paid for by taxpayers in the end.

The good news we brought to the hearings is that our lawmakers have an opportunity to finally begin to end the waste, fraud and abuse by private consultants at the DOT.

And, I believe the first step is to listen to the voices within the agency that have been blowing the whistle for nearly 20 years.



**P-4 Council Leaders Ned Statchen, Oscar Gomez, and Mike O'Brien Discuss Clean Contracting on FOX-TV Channel 61's "Beyond the Headlines"**

after we filed a whistle-blower complaint with the auditors of public accounts was the illegal trading of private consultants' political contributions for state contracts ended.

We shared the story of how swift action by Gov. Lowell P. Weicker Jr. to remove corrupt management in the department allowed the DOT to move forward. We described how we worked with a new DOT commissioner in 1994 on a study that confirmed a cost savings of more than 16% when utilizing state workers instead of private-sector consultants. At the time, the state invested in 200 new engineers to replace costly contractors, saving tax money for designing and inspecting more roads and bridges.

The defining moment in our story was the election of John G. Rowland in 1995. Over the next nine years, the culture of corruption returned to the DOT, and grew stronger than ever. We

I applaud my fellow members for their commitment to delivering the truth to legislators, the agency's top brass and the traveling public. I hope that Rell will agree that our voice needs to be heard if we are to help the department find its way.

**(Editor's note: at press time the legislature adjourned the Special Session to override gubernatorial vetoes without casting any votes, and the Senate President publicly reaffirmed his commitment to pass clean contracting legislation when the General Assembly reconvenes later this summer to vote on a bonding bill, though the House Speaker continues to defer the decision to the issue to House members – the Governor issued a statement urging legislative leaders to call a special session to pass the bill, so keep those calls, e-mails, and visits to local House members up for the next 3 weeks.)**



# Social Activities

## "In The Beginning"

Presented In Lancaster, PA

Tuesday, Oct. 16 – Thursday, Oct. 18

Deposit Deadline: \$150 per person DUE IMMEDIATELY

Final Payment Due: Aug. 28

Cost: \$361 per person twin

Includes: deluxe motorcoach; 2 nights hotel; 2 breakfast, 1 lunch; 1 dinner; sightseeing; tickets to "In the Beginning," a presentation of the Christian view of the birth of the earth



## Great Smoky Mountains Tour

Sunday, Oct. 7 – Saturday, Oct. 13

Cost: \$809 per person Double,

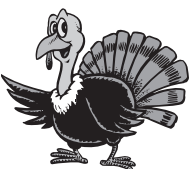
\$779 per person Triple, \$999 per person Single

Full Payment Deadline: Sep. 7

Includes: travel and accommodations for 6 nights; 3 nights in Pigeon Forge TN, 1 night in the Great Smoky Mountains; 6 breakfasts; 6 dinners; sightseeing; 3 Pigeon Forge shows; a full day of Dollywood and the Harrah's Cherokee Casino



## Meadowlands Flea Market & Macy's Balloons



Saturday, Nov. 3

Cost: \$40.00 per person, with reservations

Deposit deadline: Sep. 19

Includes: bus transport; driver's gratuity; practice session of some of the Macy's Parade balloons at the Meadowlands; day of early holiday shopping at the Flea Market, with designer clothes, jewelry, automotive, sporting goods, shoes, foods, CD's, and all new merchandise

Bus pick-ups in East Hartford & New Haven!



## Radio City Christmas Rockettes Spectacular

Bus pick-ups in East Hartford, Waterbury, & Danbury

Thursday, Nov. 15

Cost: \$124.00 per person

Reservations due: Oct. 21

Includes: bus transport; Radio City Christmas Show with 40 show-stopping minutes of brand new scenes, glorious fire works display & mesmerizing 25-foot tall warehouse of toys; lunch at Waldorf Astoria Hotel; driver's gratuity

### CHECK FOR AVAILABILITY:

Weekend Fit for a King Philadelphia Tour: Sep. 8 – Sep. 9

\$279.00 per single accommodation; includes bus travel to and from city; hotel accommodations; guided tour of Philadelphia; breakfast Sunday morning; King Tut's Golden Exhibition at the Franklin Institute; gratuities for guides and driver.

Visit our website's SAC Page at [www.csea-ct.com/benefits](http://www.csea-ct.com/benefits) for more details and access to flyers you can download and print for scheduled events.

Call phone number below for a flyer with full details on any trip.

Trips sponsored by CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Social Activities Committee. For more information call the Local hall in Hartford at (860) 951-6614, or toll-free at (800) 894-9479.

Make checks payable to CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Social Activities Committee and mail with reservation form below to the committee at: 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.

Please call for availability after deadline. No refunds on cancellations on and after deadline. Travel insurance (cancellation waivers) available on some trips (see flyer) due with initial reservation.

Reservations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

**DISCLAIMER:**  
CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 is not responsible in whole or in part for any loss, damage, injury, financial loss, or whatever to persons or property, however caused, during or in connection with any tour, trip or activity.

### CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Social Activities RESERVATION FORM

|                                      |                      |                                     |                             |
|--------------------------------------|----------------------|-------------------------------------|-----------------------------|
| Name of Trip                         |                      | Date of Trip                        |                             |
| Name                                 |                      |                                     |                             |
| Address                              |                      |                                     |                             |
| City                                 | State                | Zip                                 |                             |
| Home Phone                           | Work Phone           |                                     |                             |
| Number of Tickets                    | Amount Enclosed      | Cancellation Insurance              |                             |
|                                      |                      | Yes <input type="checkbox"/>        | No <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Pick-up Place                        |                      | Traveling with                      |                             |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking | CSEA Chapter # _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> Non-member |                             |

## Our State IT Workers are Moving Forward:

After months of negotiations, on June 29 we resolved a grievance filed with the State over the Objective Job Evaluation (OJE) process affecting job classes for our P-4 Council members working in information technology. This unprecedented win moves the vast majority of affected members into new job classifications, along with compensation adjustments. Numerous resources, including the OJE Agreement with the State, the DAS' complete list of Job Specifications impacted by this victory, and a worksite leaflet



P-4 Council Stewards Serving on Our IT OJE Grievance Committee

highlighting our gains, are linked to the new "State IT

Workers are Moving Forward" page at our website at [www.csea-ct.com/p4/it\\_reclass\\_win.cfm](http://www.csea-ct.com/p4/it_reclass_win.cfm).

## Our President's Desk...

(Continued from page 3)

inspected. Recent stories of tainted pet food and contaminated toothpaste from China illustrate this crisis.

The Federal Aviation Administration is working with outdated equipment at airports and a shortage of air traffic controllers. Several recent near misses point to these critical shortfalls, and thankfully we have not suffered any airline disasters as a consequence.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency's initial response to Hurricane Katrina in New Orleans was a national tragedy. The continued failure to support the thousands of Americans who are displaced is a national disgrace.

Even though there has been a cabinet level Homeland Security Agency for four years, the U.S. is lagging in efforts to monitor radical activity on the Internet. As for actual enforcement, extremist groups continue to spread their hate freely online.

Perhaps if we weren't spending billions of dollars on an unnecessary war in Iraq we could literally afford to correct some of these deficiencies here at home.

There was a small article in a recent *Hartford Business Journal* about the worries felt by the rich today. It seems that many with a high net worth are considering delaying their retirement. Many feel they may never be able to fully retire because of concerns about

their health and long-term care.

The article begs a few questions; "if the rich are worried about retirement, what about the vast majority of Americans? How about those working two or more part-time jobs, or those who have no health insurance? Or are working families too busy making a living to have time to worry?"

Another recent news article pointed out that America is no longer the tallest nation in the world. The article also explained that the countries whose citizens are taller also have longer life expectancy (79 years in the Netherlands, 81 years in Sweden, and 78 years in the U.S.). According to the article, research suggests that the trend may be due to our poor dietary habits and an expensive, inequitable health care system. Poor prenatal care, early childhood disease or malnutrition can all prevent a person from reaching his or her full genetic height potential.

At least 9 million children in the U.S. have no health insurance coverage. Yet when the Senate passed a bill to begin to repair our broken health care system by expanding health care coverage for children, the President threatened to veto it, claiming it is too expensive.

Once again, our elected leaders will miss a critical benchmark because they are unwilling to invest the needed resources into what matters most.

# CSE CREDIT UNION NEWS

## High Rates Taking You For A Ride? Do a U-Turn for a Second Chance Car Loan with CSE!



If you financed a new car with another lender after July 1, 2006, you can take advantage of a better deal through CSE. Until September 30, 2007, you can refinance that loan with the credit union at the low rate of 5.85% APR.\*



Fill out an application and provide us with your payoff information and leave the rest to us. We will pay off the lender and pay the DMV title transfer cost (a \$35 value).

For an application, visit our website at [www.CSECreditUnion.com](http://www.CSECreditUnion.com) or stop by any of our offices.



\*Annual Percentage Rate. For terms up to 5 years. Maximum loan cannot exceed \$40,000. Must meet current credit union credit standards. Application must be received by September 30, 2007. Rates are subject to change without notice.

The Credit Union  
will be **CLOSED**

Labor Day .....Monday, September 3

### JUST A REMINDER

Please use our 24-hour Home Teller Service or your CSECU ATM Card to access your Savings or checking accounts when we're closed for the weekend or in observance of legal holidays.

## Dividend Rates – 2nd Quarter 2007

|                         | Dividend Rate | Annual Percentage Yield |
|-------------------------|---------------|-------------------------|
| REGULAR SAVINGS         | 4.50%         | 4.60%                   |
| SHARE DRAFTS (Checking) | 2.50%         | 2.53%                   |
| CLUB ACCOUNTS           | 3.50%         | 3.56%                   |

Minimum opening balance \$25.00. The annual percentage yield is accurate as of the last dividend declaration date. Rate may change after the account is opened. Fees or other conditions may reduce the earnings on the account.

## 7 Full-Service Offices To Serve You

### NORWICH

Uncas on Thames  
401 West Thames St.  
Norwich CT 06360  
**(860) 889-7378**

### HARTFORD

84 Wadsworth St.  
Hartford, CT 06106  
**(860) 522-5388 (Savings)**  
**(860) 522-7147 (Loans)**

### NEW HAVEN

1666 Litchfield Turnpike  
Woodbridge, CT 06525  
**(203) 397-2949**

### MIDDLETOWN

P.O. Box 2485  
Middletown, CT 06457  
**(860) 347-0479**

### STORRS

1244 Storrs Rd.  
Storrs, CT 06268  
**(860) 429-9306**

### SOUTHBURY

Southbury Training School  
P.O. Box 644  
Southbury, CT 06488  
**(203) 267-7610**

### NEWINGTON

O'Neil Plaza  
2434 Berlin Turnpike  
Newington, CT 06111  
**(860) 667-7668**

**Hours:** Main Office: Mon.-Fri. 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. • Branches: Mon.-Fri. 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.  
DRIVE-UP TELLER (Hartford only): Mon.-Fri., 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. Paydays open until 5:00 p.m.

## Classified Advertising

**Please Note:** Classified Ads which are not renewed within 2 months of date placed will be removed after 3rd consecutive month of publication. To place or renew your ad, which is free to active and retired members, send the text to CSEA News editor Matt O'Connor by mail to our Union Hall in Hartford or by e-mail to [moconnor@csea760.com](mailto:moconnor@csea760.com).

### FOR SALE

**NORTH CONWAY, NH TIMESHARE**, sleeps 12 - 14, Week #21 Sat. to Sat., annual fee \$641, \$4500 or best offer; Lehigh Acres FL half acre land, 20 min. from Ft. Myers, \$40,000.00 or best offer; maple dining rm set w/6 chairs; Broam folding 24" whole house fan w/shutters, still in box, \$100; 44" oak mantel, \$100; 44" x 28 x 77" oak armoire, \$175; 40" 5 drawers dresser, 22" night stand, 72" dresser with 9 drawers, \$300 or best offer for set or individually. Waterbury (203) 592-3220

**NEWPORT, RI TIMESHARE**, overlooking harbor, sleeps 4, week #19 in May, watch the boats sail by & Tour the fairytale mansions of the 20's, \$10,000 or best offer Willington (860) 429-2928

**OAK-N-SPRUCE RESORT**, unit #254, 1 BD, prime week #4 in January Ski Season, \$3,000 OBO. Norwich (860)-886-8319

**HOBE SOUND FL 2 BR MOBILE HOME**, 50 x 110 lot in adult community, Recent add-ons include bedroom, laundry, & office, plus add'l DR, Plants, fruit trees, large carport, paved drive, storage building, Near shopping, churches Stuart, FL (772) 545-3489.

**NAPLES, FLORIDA** upscale manufactured home, 55+ gated community, own our home and lease the land; grand views of Lake Bridget; split bedroom design, master bd on lake with sliders to lanai, guest bd in front w/priv hall & BA; den w/French doors, kit and DR have lake views; large living room, all new kitchen appliances, wood floors, a 400sq. ft. lanai w/lake views & front porch; 2 pools, 2 club houses, active social calendar and beach near. \$82,000. Naples, FL (239) 598-4259 or e-mail [tfmacmd@embarqmail.com](mailto:tfmacmd@embarqmail.com).

**RANDOLPH, VT 6.58 ACRES 24'x 30' HOUSE**, open floor plan, 1 BD (can be 2)/1 BA, artesian well, septic, electric, telephone, gas heat, VT Castings woodstove, gas hot water, gas range, ceiling fans, ceramic + wood floors, fully, furnished, plus all appliances. 14' x 30' x 16' GA, perfect for boat or camper. 40' storage/workshop container with 50-amp service. Small pond/brook. 5 Miles from I-89, 3 hrs. from Hartford. \$139,900. Randolph, VT (802) 728-3851.

**PALM BAY, FL TOWNHOUSE/CONDO**, 2/2, 1,236 sq ft. New A/C, roof, siding, courtyard fence, carpet, paint. Appliances, disposal, W/D. Minutes to beach, Nationals Spring Training, Space Center, Disney. \$119,000 or consider seasonal lease, Oct/Apr. Palm Bay, FL (321) 951-8876.

**KISSIMMEE, FL TIMESHARE**, Orange Lake Country Club, week 42. Sleeps 8. Davenport, FL (863) 420-0346.

**YAMAHA OUTBOARD MOTOR**, very low hours. Tandem Trailer VHF, 60 gal tank, selling due to illness. \$15,000. Meriden (203) 235-9934.

**1988 FORD RANGER SUPER CAB PICK-UP**, Perfect for around town, dump runs, & saving on

deliveries. \$1,000 OBO.

Woodbridge (203) 393-0143.

**8.0' LONG PICNIC TABLE**, very sturdy table sits 8-10 full-size adults. Made by retired carpenter. Better quality than tables sold at Home Depot or Lowes. \$275 Meriden (203) 235-4900

**TEAKWOOD ENTERTAINMENT CENTER**, 3-pc side by side, adjustable shelves, TV space, audio cabinet storage, desk bar, storage drawers, magazine rack, excellent condition. \$800 OBO over \$600. Storrs (860) 429-0592.

**MURRAY LAWN MOWER**, 40' cut 5-spd ex cond., original cost \$1,100 sell for \$700; SS counter top burner & hood \$50; table top microwave \$15. Newington (860) 666-9524.

**TWIN RUBBER MATTRESS**, plus bed, firm like new, perfect for an ailing back, paid \$500 now \$150; typewriter, \$99; dinnerware service for eight, pretty patterns, now \$20. Stratford (203) 378-9270

**CAMERAS FOR THE COLLECTOR**, from the past 50 years; old men's ties, collection from the 1940's and 50's; science fiction books from the 50's. Columbia (860) 228-4565

**120 BASE OLYMPIA ACCORDION**, 7 keyboard registers, excellent shape, case, best offer.

Newington (860) 667-2034

**SPORTS CARDS**, Topps complete sets of many years; current and older wax boxes and packs; late 79s and early 80s complete years of Sporting News.

Southington (860) 621-3131.

**42 ANTIQUE (ROUND) KITCHEN CABINET PULLS**, \$20.00; brass exterior lights, \$5; 4-ft. vanity light fixture \$10; brass wall lamp \$10; 3-ft. vanity light fixture, \$8; 2 plastic gas containers, 5 each of 5 gal. thru 2 gal., HP Deskjet 6c printer, large Christmas tree stand, each \$5. Burlington (860) 673-7821.

### FOR RENT

**BRYSON CITY, NC PARK MODEL MOBILE HOME**, 12' by 35' with "L" shaped 9' deck around two sides, roofed over, full kit outside on deck overlooking Tuckesegee River, bank cemented, high land and seasonal from May - Oct.

Stuart, FL (772) 545-3489.

**FREEPORT BAHAMAS**, Ocean Reef Yacht Club & Resort, 2 units avail, 2BR units sleep 6, fully equipped, avail. Aug. 4 - Aug. 11 or other week, \$900/per unit. Hartford (860) 841-3107.

**VERO BEACH FL CONDO**, 2/2, third (top) flr/w elevator, Beautiful courtyard w/pool, Newly decorated, Close to everything, 55+ and 3-month min, \$900/month, \$1,650 Dec. - Apr. Stratford (203) 378-3319.

**NAPLES FLORIDA**, 2 bedroom plus den, minutes to beaches, resort comm., available monthly \$1,500 from June thru Dec. Rocky Hill (860) 257-7929.

## Lake Compounce Get Your Discount Tickets through Our Social Activities Committee!

Regular Admission Tickets are Available for \$26.00 (regularly \$33.95)  
Each Ticket Includes a \$2.00 Contribution to Our McCusker Scholarship Fund!

Call SAC Member Sandy Brunelli at our Union Hall Toll-Free at (800) 894-9479 to order your tickets today!

Visit Our Web Site's "Our Benefits" Page for Members-Only Discounts on Products and Services Through Our Affiliation with SEIU and Union Plus!

## DEATHS REPORTED

*We regret to learn of the death of the following retired CSEA Council 400 members, as reported by the State Retirement Division.*

Aurore Adams of chapter 403 died on 5/30/07  
John Andeen, 406, 6/6/07

Lucille Angelico, 423, 5/11/07  
Patricia Armstrong, 408, 4/15/07  
Mary Arueste, 420, 5/28/07  
Richard Babbitt, 403, 6/9/07  
William Balkan, 431, 4/12/07  
Elizabeth Barrow, 426, 6/1/07  
Richard Bergeron, Sr., 412, 5/25/07  
Helen Biesadecki, 407, 5/13/07  
Shirley Bornheim, 415, 6/6/07  
Veronica Bostrom, 407, 5/10/07  
Marilyn Campbell, 410, 5/15/07  
Edward Ceccarelli, 403, 5/23/07  
Frank Celio, 408, 6/10/07  
Trilloe Colonese, 405, 5/16/07  
Ronald Dalton, 407, 5/13/07  
Mary Drega, 406, 5/4/07  
Patricia Fitzsimmons, 405, 6/5/07

Adelicia Fontan, 420, 6/3/07  
Anna Ford, 411, 3/12/07  
Enrico Francese, 406, 5/14/07  
Mario Frattaroli, 415, 5/23/07  
Jacqueline Gaddy, 410, 5/18/07  
Peter Gilchrist, 407, 5/28/07  
Ruth Gionfriddo, 406, 5/25/07  
Frederick Haddad, 408, 1/31/07  
Charles Heckler, 412, 4/8/07  
Dorothy Henry, 425, 5/23/07  
Margaret Johnson, 401, 5/24/07  
Francis Kask, 411, 5/29/07  
Ruth Keltonic, 417, 5/30/07  
John Kolega, 408, 5/18/07  
Wallace Krupenevich, 410, 6/11/07  
Vincent Lerz, Sr., 427, 6/1/07  
June Lightner, 420, 5/16/07

Virginia Maben, 417, 4/21/07  
Mildred Mahon, 406, 5/28/07  
John Maier, 404, 5/24/07  
Richard Mitchell, 401, 6/11/07  
Alice Parker, 403, 6/6/07  
Joseph Pedace, 403, 6/8/07  
Walter Pienkos, 417, 6/3/07  
Theresa Popovics, 420, 6/9/07  
William Richardson, 412, 6/4/07  
Robert Ryan, 405, 5/4/07  
Sally Sender, 405, 5/21/07  
Walter Skwarek, 411, 2/27/07  
Stanley Smith, 416, 5/27/07  
William Stanton, 403, 5/11/07  
Anne Stent, 415, 6/4/07  
Evelyn Vansoest, 415, 5/8/07  
William Wong, 412, 5/31/07

**Congressman Joe Courtney Fields Questions from Members of Connecticut SEIU Locals at Our Union Hall**



» **Organizing in Our Communities for 2008:** Our SEIU Connecticut State Council is reaching out to union members in the 2nd Congressional District to build a stronger local voice for the 2008 General Election. Our International union is directing resources to the region, which is expected to produce another close election, to ensure we keep a solid working families vote in Congress. Contact Legislative Action Committee Co-Chair Cathy Osten at (800) 894-9479 to join us, and be part of new voter registration, member issue education, or our community partner outreach.

*Our Thoughts Remain with Our Troops Overseas and their Families Here at Home*



## State of Connecticut Employees and Retirees!



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## » Update on Our Legislative Efforts for Families with Autism:

Our advocacy for a stand-alone agency to deliver birth-to-death services for children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders (ASD) raised the profile of the issue to an unprecedented level. Legislation that would create a new agency modeled on the independent board currently serving the blind and visually impaired had strong support in the General Assembly, but the Rell Administration insisted in budget negotiations that the Department of Mental Retardation (DMR) remain the lead agency for ASD, and the final budget produced a new division to serve families with ASD within the department. We will need to monitor DMR's delivery of these critical services, because the department's record as Connecticut's lead agency for Autism since 1979 has been woefully inadequate. Join our team of messengers and speak out for establishing an independent board in the 2008 session by signing-up at our website's "New Autism-Specific Agency" page at [www.csea-ct.com/action/asd\\_sign\\_up.cfm](http://www.csea-ct.com/action/asd_sign_up.cfm).



**P-3B Council and Council 760 Members Teamed Up in June and Raised Nearly \$2K for the Greater Hartford Walk Now for Autism**

» **Recognition for Saving a Life:** The State Judicial Branch recently recognized Supervising Judicial Marshal Charlie Epstein for his on-duty actions, which saved the life of a shooting victim. Nearly a year after the incident, in which Charlie rendered first aid to civilians shot



in the parking garage of the State Courthouse in Middletown, Charlie received a "Life Saving Award" from the Director of the Judicial Marshal Services. Let's all commend Charlie for rising to the occasion and delivering the sort of quick, decisive public safety protection our Supervising Judicial Marshals are committed to providing the residents of Connecticut!

## » Wishes of Good Luck in Retirement:

Congratulations to Dave Abruzzi, who recently retired from twenty years of service as a Correctional Recreation Supervisor with the State Dept. of Correction. Dave was also one of our most active P-3B Council leaders, serving as a Chief Steward, as well as a delegate to our Local's Executive Council, and his years of standing up for working families are an inspiration to all who served alongside him. Let's all recognize Dave for his commitment to public service and his fellow public service workers!

