

## Clean Contracting for Connecticut

### Moving Elected Officials to Act



**Our Local's President Mike O'Brien Tells Steve Kotchko How We Moved Governor Rell to Sign Clean Contracting on "Dialogue"**

October 6 was a historic day for state taxpayers, good government advocates, and public sector workers in Connecticut. After vetoing similar legislation three times since taking office, Governor Rell finally signed the comprehensive contract reform bill we reported the General Assembly had passed in their September special session into law. Public Act 07-1, "An Act Concerning Clean

*(Continued on page 5)*

## Making Politics Work

### Persistence Pays in Politics



**Ed Daly**

President, Council 400  
 Member,  
 Legislative Action  
 Committee

Over the years, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 has worked diligently on a political program that stresses improving the economic standards and security for our publicly funded members, whether they work for the state, a town, a school system, a quasi-public agency, a non-profit agency, a bus company, or are retired. That effort continues to bear fruit with recent passage of bills to help State retirees and bills that address clean contracting.

*(Continued on page 4)*

## Another Win in Our Struggle

### State's Top Lawyer Joins Call for Negotiations



**CSPCOA Council President Bob Tolomeo Applauds the Attorney General's Support for State Police Captains and Lieutenants on Channel 3 News**

Members of our CT State Police Command Officers Association (CSPCOA) Council received a huge boost on October 12 when the Attorney General publicly announced his support for the State Labor Board's rulings on our union rights. Saying, "I believe very strongly that the captains and lieutenants should have the right to unionize and bargain collectively," Richard Blumenthal's opinion should have sent a clear message to the Rell Administration's Office of Policy and Management (OPM) that it was time to end its foot-dragging.

Breaking the news that evening, Channel 3 aired a report on the Attorney General's decision not to represent the Administration in their appeal of the Labor Board's latest ruling, and featured the comments of Council President Bob Tolomeo, a captain in the Department of Public Safety's (DPS) State Police Division. "We expect the Administration and the agency to respect the Attorney General's decision, and look forward to an announcement that they are ready to sit down at the table with us" he said optimistically.

OPM has consistently claimed DPS captains and lieutenants are 'managers', and therefore barred from working collectively to improve their working and economic conditions. The Administration's appeal, filed in September in Hartford Superior Court, was an attempt to overturn the Labor Board's July decision

*(Continued on page 5)*

### **In this General Election Edition:**

<b>Council 400 Retiree Chapter Meetings &amp; Events</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>Our Actions...in Brief</b>	<b>Page 2</b>
<b>P-4 Council Holiday Party</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Outsourced Jobs Are No Bargain</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Our President's Desk: Improving Our Image</b>	<b>Page 3</b>
<b>Recommended Candidates for November 6th General Election</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Council 400 LAC: Universal Health Insurance NOW!</b>	<b>Page 4</b>
<b>Social Activities Committee</b>	<b>Page 6</b>
<b>Classified Advertising</b>	<b>Page 7</b>
<b>In Our Communities</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<b>Deaths Reported</b>	<b>Page 8</b>
<b>Saying Goodbye to a Friend</b>	<b>Page 8</b>

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:

CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

## Council 400 Retiree Chapters' Meetings & Events



This information will also be posted at our website's "Events Calendar" as well. Visit [www.csea-ct.com/calendar](http://www.csea-ct.com/calendar) and select the date and the meeting for further details, such as guest speaker, and the time, location, and Chapter's contact information.

### CONNECTICUT EVENTS

**COUNCIL 400** Delegates Meeting, Thursday, November 15, 10:00 a.m., CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

**CHAPTER 401**, Hartford area, Thursday, November 1, 1:00 p.m. (light lunch served at 12:00 p.m.), CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Speaker: Dan Mercado on Connecticut State Employee long-term care insurance offered by MetLife. Reservations for December 6 holiday luncheon may be made. Contact: Katherine Goulet at (860) 675-4053.

**CHAPTER 402**, Danbury area, Wednesday, November 14, 10:00 a.m., (refreshments follow meeting), United Methodist Church, 5 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury. Speaker: Anthem & Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance Representative Diana Manzo. Contact: Dawn Gallagher at (203) 748-2018.

**CHAPTER 403**, Norwich area, Tuesday, November 13, 1:30 p.m. (meeting room not available until 1:00, refreshments prior to meeting), Rose City Senior Center, 8 Mahan Dr., Norwich. Speaker: Anthem & Blue Cross/Blue Shield Insurance Representative Diana Manzo. Contact: Gail Carr at (860) 822-0788.

**CHAPTER 404**, Waterbury area, Tuesday, November 13, 10:30 a.m. (social, meeting follows), Elks Club, 758 Rubber Ave., Naugatuck. Speaker: At press time, a MetLife representative on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance was scheduled. Door prizes. Contact: Armand Rosanelli at (203) 758-5122.

**CHAPTER 405**, New Haven area, Wednesday, November 14, 12:30 p.m. (social, meeting follows at 1:00 p.m.), Southern CT State University, Adanti Student Center (Building 14), 3rd Floor, Room 309, 501 Crescent St., New Haven. Speaker: Representative from United Illuminating on energy conservation. Contact: Andy Gambardella at (203) 468-7376.

**CHAPTER 406**, Middletown area, Tuesday, November 13, 1:00 p.m., (social, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), American Legion Post 75, 58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown. Speaker: Steve Budd on Connecticut State Employee long-term care insurance offered by MetLife. Door prizes. Members asked to donate non-perishable or canned food for local Amazing Grace Food Bank. Contact Elizabeth Harvey at (860) 917-3740.

**CHAPTER 407**, Bridgeport area, Wednesday, November 21; 12:15 p.m. (social, meeting at 1:00 p.m.), St. Joseph's of Stratford National Catholic Church, 1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford (on Rt. 113 toward Sikorsky Airport). Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Contact: Celeste McGrath at (203) 378-4576.

**CHAPTER 408**, Willimantic area, Wednesday, November 14; 1:00 p.m. (coffee, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), McSweeney Regional Senior Center, 47 Crescent St., Willimantic. Speaker: Council 400 Retiree Coordinator Hollis Block on the importance of increasing membership and retiree influence. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Donna Linkkila at (860) 455-0883.

**CHAPTER 410**, Windsor Locks area, Monday, November 12, 1:00 p.m., VFW Post 6123, 40 Fairview St., Windsor Locks. Speaker: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Executive Director Bob Rinker on issues affecting our union and our retirees. Contact: Elaine Colson at (860) 623-8704.

**CHAPTER 411**, Rocky Hill area, Thursday, November 8, 1:00 p.m. (social follows meeting), William J. Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield St., Wethersfield. Speaker: AT&T External and Legislative Affairs representative Kinsey Perry on "AT&T Today." Contact: Florence Egan at (860) 666-0382.

**CHAPTER 412**, Putnam area, Tuesday, November 20, 1:30 p.m. (social follows meeting), Knights of Columbus, 64 Providence St., Putnam. Speaker: WINY-AM 1350 owner Gary Osbrey on the history of the station and his career in radio. Refreshments, door prizes. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Don Gladding at (860) 564-9092.

**CHAPTER 414**, Torrington area, Monday, November 19, 10:00 a.m., UCONN Torrington Agriculture Building, 855 University Dr., Torrington. Program: Bill and Jean Barber to present Scotland travel slideshow. Contact: Karen Pineman at (860) 354-6727.

**CHAPTER 415**, Manchester area, Monday, November 26, 1:00 p.m., Elks Lodge, 30 Bissell St. Manchester. Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Refreshments will be served. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

**CHAPTER 416**, New London area, Tuesday, November 13; 12:00 p.m. (luncheon, business meeting at 12:30 p.m., program at 1:30 p.m.), Waterford Public Library, 49 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford (NOTE LOCATION CHANGE). Speaker: CSC Council President Cathy Osten on state and federal legislative issues. Reservations for December 11 Holiday Party may be made. Contact: Les Shapiro at (860) 442-5256.

**CHAPTER 417**, Plainville area, Wednesday, November 14, 1:00 p.m. (social, meeting follows), Church of Our Savior Episcopal Church, 115 West Main St., Plainville. Speaker: State Department of Labor Economist & Director of Job Development John Tirinzonie on the state of the state economy. Contact: Nicholas D'Emanuelle at (860) 628-6675.

**CHAPTER 418/4Cs**, Thursday, November 8, 10:00 a.m., Congress of CT Community Colleges, 907 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford. Speaker: MetLife representative on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance. Refreshments. Contact: Aldo Sicuso at (860) 346-3550.

**"DAY AT THE MAGANINI WINERY & RESTAURANT,"** Sunday, November 18, 8:30 a.m., bus pick-up at Divine and State St. Municipal Lot, New Haven. Cost: \$78 per person (includes bus transportation). Reservation deadline: November 8 (see flyer at website "Events Calendar" for reservation form). Contact: Andy Gambardella at (203) 468-7376.

### FLORIDA & OTHER STATES' EVENTS

**CHAPTER 421**, Northeast Florida area, Thursday, November 1, 11:30 a.m. (luncheon meeting follows), Country Harvest Buffet, 2400 South Ridgewood Avenue (U.S. Rte 1), South Daytona, FL. Cost: members responsible for buffet (no reservations needed). Contact: Pat Albert at (386) 615-6805.

**CHAPTER 425**, Sun Coast Florida area, Tuesday, November 13, 11:00 a.m., Philippe Park, 2525 Philippe Pkwy, Safety Harbor, FL. Picnic with hamburgers & hot dogs. Cost: Free, members may bring salad or dessert to share. Contact: Hank Bracker at (727) 848-0089.

**CHAPTER 431**, Carolinas area, Tuesday, February 26, 10:00 a.m., (full buffet brunch, meeting at 11:30 a.m.), Alisa Pub at The Legends Resort, 1500 Legends Drive, Myrtle Beach, SC. Reservation and payment deadline: February 1. Program: Presentation by health and dental care representatives, election of 2007 – 2008 Officers. Contact: Lyle Chichester at (864) 328-9419.

## Chapter Secretaries and Program Coordinators:

The deadline for meeting information to be included in the December edition is Friday, November 15.

## Our Actions...in Brief

### Members' Current Issues, Meetings, & Events

»» **Defining Our State Retirement:** In late September, the State Supreme Court ruled in the so-called "Longley Case," and issued two unanimous decisions on the question of how accumulated vacation time is credited towards State employees' retirement. The State Employees Retirement Commission (SERC)'s actuaries had estimated that recalculating pensions in the manner the defendants were seeking could increase the unfunded liability of the State's Pension Fund by over \$1 billion, and increase annual payments by

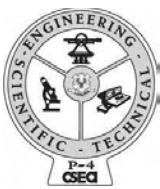
## Supreme Court Rules on Unused Vacation

Hartford Courant, September 27, 2007

several \$100 million. The high court reversed a lower court's decision on accrued vacation time and affirmed an Appellate Court's decision on longevity payment. Learn more about the minimal impact the decision will have on our members' retirement security at the "Defining Our State Retirement" page at our website at [www.csea-ct.com/retirees/longley\\_case.cfm](http://www.csea-ct.com/retirees/longley_case.cfm).

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

# P-4 COUNCIL Holiday Party



Thursday, December 13

12:00 P.M. to 4:30 P.M.

Farmington Club

162 Town Farm Rd., Farmington, CT

P-4 Council Members: \$23 \*

\*If purchased before December 6 ■ \$28 after December 6.

Guests: \$28 Children: 5 and under Free ■ \$28 Ages 6-20

A downloadable flyer with more info is posted at our website's Events Calendar for the date, at [www.csea-ct.com/calendar/](http://www.csea-ct.com/calendar/).

## Voices for Reform

### Outsourced Jobs Are No Bargain



**Lynn Coda-Klein**

IT Analyst, CT Dept. of Information Technology  
Legislative Action Committee  
Co-Chair

Stringent federal and state contractor review is the answer to stop companies such as Accenture, which have a record of playing fast and loose with our data, from being awarded lucrative public projects.

My fellow members and I in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 have, for more than a decade, supported contract reform legislation that would protect public resources and private information from this kind of private-sector profiteering and abuse. Sadly, I was not shocked to learn that Accenture, a Bermuda-based IT consulting company, had shipped Connecticut residents' personal data and state agencies' accounting information to Ohio, where it was stolen.

Accenture's record on public IT projects across the country is alarming. It has failed to deliver satisfactory results for six other states and two federal agencies in the past five years. Connecticut taxpayers have paid Accenture about \$100 million over the past four years to manage our state accounting system, a project that has been rife with cost overruns and missed deadlines.

The General Assembly passed a compromise clean contracting bill in last month's special session that would safeguard our tax dollars and private information. The Senate attached an earlier start date for these reforms to its version of the state bonding bill. The governor should sign both immediately to stop companies such as Accenture from jeopardizing more of our private information.

*(Editor's note: this Letter to the Editor was published in the October 6 edition of the Hartford Courant, in response to an editorial which missed the real solution for stopping the abuses of off-shore information technology consulting companies)*

As an information technology analyst working for the state of Connecticut for more than 20 years, I join *The Courant* in calling on our elected officials to end the blame game in the latest contracting-out crisis [editorial, Sept. 27, "Data Firm Invites Sanctions"]. However, I take issue with *The Courant's* assessment that our court system appears to be the only deterrent to the kind of sloppy, irresponsible conduct that Accenture, an offshore information technology corporation, engaged in.

Although swift action by our attorney general and stiff penalties by our judicial branch are remedies we need for punishing private consultants that put sensitive personal information at risk, what Connecticut residents really need is for this kind of questionable conduct to be prevented in the first place.

## Our President's Desk

### Improving Our Image



**Michael J. O'Brien**

Supervising Sanitary Engineer,  
CT Dept. of Environmental Protection  
Executive Council President

What came first, the chicken or the egg? In the case of the labor movement, what came first, the low opinion/poor perception of union workers or the decline in union membership/density to historic low levels?

Public views often are not favorable toward unions. In SEIU opinion polling in five states, voters said they believe that unions protect workers who don't work hard or perform good services, and that unions are an obstacle to quality and efficiency. I don't need a national poll to tell me that. I have a recent example of poor union perception from my own experience.

I was flying in to Bradley Airport late in the evening last week and overheard the conversation in the seats behind me as we were taxiing

to the gate. A woman passenger said that she never checks her bags and crams everything she needs into her two allowed carry-on bags. The reason is that you have to wait too long for your bags to show up in the baggage claim area at Bradley, especially later in the evening.

The man in the seat next to her said something like 'the union baggage handlers are always on a coffee break.' Not wanting to get into an over-the-seat confrontation on an airplane where no one has a sense of humor anymore, I decided to let the comment slide. Many of you may have had your own similar experience.

What happened to the good will felt for public employees after the sacrifices of September 11th – mostly by fire fighters, police officers, and emergency medical technicians? The sacrifices continue as more information comes out about the health effects on the rescue/recovery workers who were told they were working in safe conditions. Do the American people have a short memory or was the good will squandered away along with the national attitude toward an unnecessary war in Iraq?

What is the solution? As part of that same SEIU opinion

*(Continued on page 6)*



The Voice of  
Connecticut's Public  
Service Workers &  
Retirees

USPS # 224-100 ISSN # 0273-6055

Published Monthly by

**CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION**  
Local 2001, Service Employees International Union, CTW, CLC  
Michael J. O'Brien.....President  
Patrice Peterson.....Secretary/Treasurer  
Robert D. Rinker.....Executive Director  
Matt O'Connor.....Communications Director  
Jason P. Webster.....Graphic/Technical Assistance

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106; PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free in Connecticut: (800) 894-9479, toll-free in Florida: (800) 437-5630; FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET: [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com).

"CSEA NEWS" (USPS 224-100, ISSN 0273-6055) is published monthly for \$2.80 per year members, \$5.00 per year non-members, by CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106-1263. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. Postmaster: Send address changes to "CSEA NEWS," 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106-1263.

Recycled Paper



# 400 LAC ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee

## Universal Health Insurance NOW!



**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

Everyone decries the plight of the 49 million Americans who have no health insurance, and this is the group that has to go to the emergency room for treatment, thus hiking the cost of healthcare for the rest of us. Under the crazy-quilt healthcare system for profit that we have now, we could not possibly afford to cover everyone. But if we strengthen and improve the Medicare single-payer system, the goal of universal health insurance is reachable.

Costs could be kept low if we bargain with providers for a universal price. That method alone would eliminate the millions spent by drug manufacturers and insurance companies on marketing and screening people in or out. It takes an army of clerical workers, administrators and offices to keep up with the

paperwork. By improving the one public system that works, we thereby eliminate any doughnut holes or even bonuses paid to insurance companies, since they would be replaced.

France spends 10.7 percent of gross domestic product to cover healthcare for everyone. The United States spends 15.3

*(Continued on page 8)*

### »» New Haven's School Bus Drivers Coming Together:

After seven months of mobilizing for strength at our worksites, and reaching out for solidarity from the community, our members working as school bus drivers in New Haven have a strong new 5-year contract. On October 13, the agreement with First Student, Inc., the multi-national transportation corporation contracted to the local district, was ratified in a membership vote that ended a tense and difficult struggle we have reported on in the last five editions of the CSEA News. Our Bargaining Team secured an agreement that raises economic standards for our members, including pay raises that average \$1.00 per hour for each year of the contract, expanded health care coverage for drivers, and increased compensation of premiums by the employer. Let's all congratulate our Chapter 1106 members, who overcame enormous workplace challenges to win this new contract!



**New Haven Bus Drivers Celebrate After Voting to Ratify Our New Contract**

## Our Political Action Committee

### Recommended Candidates for the November 6th General Election

<b>Mayor</b> Bridgeport New Haven Hartford	Bill Finch John DeStefano Eddie Perez
<b>Town First Selectman</b> Sprague	Catherine Osten *
<b>City/Town Council</b> Norwich West Hartford	Jackie Caron Tim Brennan
<b>Representative Town Meeting</b> Groton	Nancy Driscoll *
<b>Constable</b> Manchester	Warren Packer *
<b>Town Boards</b> Bloomfield Planning/Zoning Board Chaplin Board of Finance Enfield Board Of Education	Byron Lester * Donna Linkkila * Joyce Hall *

\*CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Member

*(Editor's note: take this month's edition with you to the polls on Election Day and vote for our member-endorsed candidates)*

### Persistence Pays in Politics...

*(Continued from page 1)*

Much work remains to be done on issues involving improving the quality of services we provide to the citizens of Connecticut in areas like child care, autism, and education; but it's also important to take a moment to realize not just how impressive our successes have been, but how those successes came about.

Those wins are made possible not by a few people doing a lot, but by a lot of people each doing their small bit to move the program forward: things like going to a meeting, calling a

legislator or sending them an e-mail or postcard, contributing a few dollars to our political program, or supporting candidates that support us.

This year our union has endorsed a number of candidates running in municipal elections, many of whom are themselves CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 members. We thank them for their dedication to issues that are important to all of us, commend them for their service to our communities, and urge all our members to support them on Election Day, Tuesday November 6.

### »» Another Win in West Hartford:

As we reported in the September edition of the CSEA News, members of our six Chapters representing West Hartford Town workers' bargaining units were moving forward with



negotiations on the three contracts where we had not yet reached an agreement. On September 26, Town professionals in Chapter 960 voted overwhelmingly to ratify a new 5-year agreement that makes significant economic improvements and maintains our members' health care plan. Let's all thank Bargaining Team members Chuck Guarino, Claudette Labbe, Susan Hansen, Joe Mercieri, and Tom Silva (pictured above, left to right) for their diligent work through a difficult summer, standing up for all of us during a high profile battle between free-market radicals and public service advocates over the Town's budget.

## Moving Elected Officials to Act...

(Continued from page 1)

Contracting Standards," marks the culmination of a fourteen-year collaborative effort by our International union and our Local to protect the public interest in Connecticut, and raise the standard for success in critical efforts at the federal level.



"With 'clean contracting,' engineering, scientific, and technical professionals working for the State, not costlier, unaccountable consultants, will be empowered to perform critical public safety functions on a wide variety of projects."

### Jay Doody

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

Though it was overshadowed in the press by her highly publicized veto of the legislature's bonding package the same day, the state's news media picked up on the Governor's signature later in the week. The stories stayed focused on the high-profile crises involving incompetent consultants that kept contract reform in the headlines in the three weeks since legislators voted overwhelmingly to pass the bill, and made clear that the Governor was responding to enormous public pressure to act.

The resources and support SEIU has poured into this effort, combined with the courage and conviction of our "clean contracting messengers," paid off over the past year. News accounts of the bill becoming law cited the campaign we have carried out in the press, crediting our members for blowing the whistle on the waste, fraud, and abuse of several recent scandals. The new law establishes contracting standards that will help protect taxpayers from fiascos like the "Little Dig" on I-84 construction mess, the "Homeland Insecurity"



**P-4 Council President John Vitale and State Senator Don DeFronzo Discuss Clean Contracting on NBC-TV Channel 30's "Connecticut Newsmakers" in July**

criminal database failure, and the "Data-gate" personal ID breach, which we have played a critical role in helping expose.

Several print and radio news reports on the

### Rell overhauls award process on state contracts

New Haven Register, October 9, 2007

bill's signing which quote and credit our members are linked to our website's page where clean contracting media available online is posted. Visit [www.csea-ct.com/action/clean\\_contracting.cfm](http://www.csea-ct.com/action/clean_contracting.cfm) and select "Public Service Workers Committed to Reform" from the menu to access the coverage.

As our Local President Mike O'Brien, told reporter Steve Kotchko for an extended interview on the radio program Dialogue, which aired on stations all over Connecticut the week after the bill was

signed, "the urgency for these reforms is great." The version of the legislation the Governor signed delays the start of the new State Contracting Standards Board until 2009, so we must continue speaking out to move our elected officials to put the law's new provisions in place sooner, rather than later.

Considering how effective we have been at moving the Governor, legislators, and non-profit service providers to work together after nearly four years of division and disagreement, we ought to be able to bring these parties together in the same spirit to fix timetable issues. Our Legislative Action Committee is where we will work to accomplish this goal – and establish our Local's role in national efforts to pass critically-needed federal contract reforms.

### » A New Way Forward for the Presidential

**Primaries:** As we reported in the September edition of the CSEA News, SEIU members from around the nation had just heard from five of the candidates in the presidential primary race at the annual Member Political Action Conference (MPAC). Gathered members held a straw poll that would serve as an indicator for a single endorsement by our International union on the final day, but it produced no clear consensus. When International Executive Board members met in early October, similar split results were achieved, and they voted to empower SEIU State Councils to decide on endorsements on a state-by-state basis. At press time, our Connecticut State Council had voted to postpone any primary candidate endorsement until November at the soonest. Visit the "Walk a Day in My Shoes 2008" website, linked to our Local website's homepage at [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com), for the latest national news and updates in the presidential primary election.



**Secretary-Treasurer Patrice Peterson Addresses the SEIU MPAC Conference on Behalf of Our Connecticut State Council Delegation**

## State's Top Lawyer Joins Call...

(Continued from page 1)

ordering OPM to allow these command officers who voted unanimously to join our union last year to negotiate their first-ever contract.

### Union Lacks Agency's Recognition; OPM Fights Organizing Effort by State Police Captains, Lieutenants

Hartford Courant, October 16, 2007

At press time, the *Hartford Courant* had published a news article on our members' – and the Administration's -- reaction to the Attorney General. The reporter interviewed OPM Secretary Bob Genuario, and got him on the record announcing the Administration's intention to stay the course, regardless of the opinion of the State's top lawyer. He also revealed the real reason the Administration has refused to accept the Labor Board's rulings, and now rejects the Attorney General's opinion; they believe unionization equals disloyalty.

The outrageous comments of the Governor's budget chief questioning the "loyalty" of our captains and lieutenants will not go unchallenged. Visit the new "CSPCOA Council" page at our website, at [www.csea-ct.com/cspcoa/](http://www.csea-ct.com/cspcoa/) where we will link our public response to the Administration. You can also access news coverage available online since the Labor Board certified last year's election, including video of Channel 3's report and the *Courant's* latest article.

»» **New Leadership in New London, Waterford, and East Lyme:** Our members who work as school bus drivers and aides for Laidlaw Transit, Inc., the private contractor to three districts in the Southeast part of the state elected new leadership just before the end of the school year in June. Our Chapter 1103 leaders, Steward Patty Kovalik, Secretary Kelli Tomlinson, and President Richard O'Hara (pictured left to right



above), Steward Sheri Burgess (left), and Vice-President Marie Rodriguez (right) have committed to "Drive Up Standards" for the children they transport each and every day. Congratulations to our newly elected officers on winning the confidence of their co-workers!



»» **Group Gains in Granby:** Our Bargaining Team brought a hard-won tentative agreement on a 5-year contract to our members working as secretaries for the Town of Granby's Board of Education. Members (pictured here) voted unanimously to make the gains won through months of mediation with the Board binding, bringing real economic improvements, such as wage increases for each year of the agreement. The new contract also protects health insurance coverage, which was kept intact despite fears that it would be lost, as it has for so many workers in municipal agencies and Boards of Education across Connecticut. Members also made concrete workplace improvements, such as securing the right to use vacation on snow days when the majority of the schools' workforce is off. Congratulations to all our Chapter 1101 members for winning by working together!



## Our President's Desk...

(Continued from page 3)

polling, it was learned that voters overwhelmingly want change to improve service quality. Many of the changes that voters support – such as giving public employees the tools they need or providing more and better training for public employees – could provide opportunities for public workers. People like services but they don't necessarily like to pay for benefits for public servants that they don't have themselves – like health care and secure pensions.

Right now there are more questions than answers, but our union will be seeking those answers with as much member input as you are willing to give as part of the 20-year vision process that SEIU International President Andy Stern has challenged us to undertake.

In addition to negotiating pay and benefits for our members, do unions become a mechanism for quality improvements in the services we deliver? Do we advocate

for more money for employee training and for more resources to do our jobs the way we know they should be done if we had the tools?

A big part of the political solution to the problems we face is the passage of EFCA – the Employee Free Choice Act – on a national level. We need to achieve health care for all and SEIU has required all candidates for president seeking our endorsement to propose a universal health care plan – and the all the Democrats have. We also need to strengthen Social Security and advocate for secure pensions for all workers. All these things tie in to the 2008 presidential election and the need to elect a working family-friendly administration!

If we are successful in all or most of this, then maybe the 70% of non-union workers, who say they would join a union if given the opportunity, will change their perceptions of unions. And that would be good for all working families in our country.



**SEIU IEB President Andy Stern with Executive Council Members Lynn Coda-Klein, Mike O'Brien, Cathy Osten, Patrice Peterson, and Mark Lucey**

**STRONGER CSEA SEIU Local 2001 TOGETHER**

# Social Activities

★ **Build a Stronger Network Together:** Our Social Activities Committee (SAC) has an ambitious agenda planned for next year -- and we want you to be a part of the fun! There are lots of ways to get involved, from planning events to simply helping to distribute flyers and other information to fellow members in our worksites and at chapter meetings. Contact our Local's President Mike O'Brien at the union hall at (800) 894-9479, ext. 112, to request appointment, or recommend a fellow member, to serve on our Committee in the new year!

## Radio City Christmas Rockettes Spectacular

Thursday, Nov. 15

Cost: \$124.00 per person  
**CALL FOR AVAILABILITY**  
**Bus pick-ups in East Hartford, Waterbury, & Danbury**  
 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

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

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

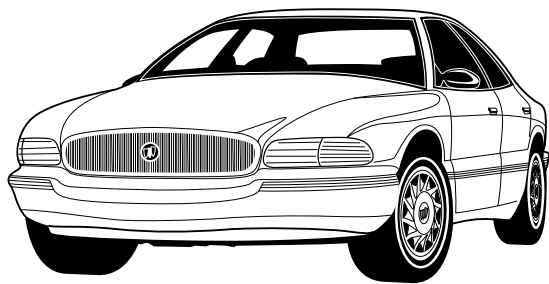
Name of Trip _____		Date of Trip _____
Name _____		
Address _____		
City _____	State _____	Zip _____
Home Phone _____	Work Phone _____	
Number of Tickets _____	Amount Enclosed _____	Cancellation Insurance Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>
Pick-up Place _____	Traveling with _____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

# CSE CREDIT UNION NEWS

## Low Rates On All Car Loans

Finance the purchase of your next car at rates as low as 5.85% APR\*. Choose a term that's right for you. Up to 6 years on a new car and 4 years on a used car.

Finance up to 100% cost of the vehicle including Tax, Title, Warranty and Conveyance Fee.



Sign up for direct payment from your State pay or pension for worry free payments.

Go to [www.CSECreditUnion.com](http://www.CSECreditUnion.com) to print a Loan Application and mail or deliver it to any branch location before you shop. Receive your pre-approval and then negotiate your best price.

\* Annual Percentage Rate.

Used cars: Up to six model years old and total financing cannot exceed book value.



**Visit our Web Site...** to find all the essential information about the products and services we have to offer. You can even print a loan application online! Best of all, it's accessible from your personal computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

[www.CSECreditUnion.com](http://www.CSECreditUnion.com)

The Credit Union  
will be **CLOSED:**

Veterans Day .....Monday, November 12  
Thanksgiving Day .....Thursday, November 22

### 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 – 3rd Quarter 2007

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SAVINGS	4.75%	4.86%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	2.75%	2.79%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	3.75%	3.82%

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	HARTFORD	NEW HAVEN
Uncas on Thames 401 West Thames St. Norwich CT 06360 <b>(860) 889-7378</b>	84 Wadsworth St. Hartford, CT 06106 <b>(860) 522-5388 (Savings)</b> <b>(860) 522-7147 (Loans)</b>	1666 Litchfield Turnpike Woodbridge, CT 06525 <b>(203) 397-2949</b>
MIDDLETOWN	STORRS	SOUTHBURY
P.O. Box 2485 Middletown, CT 06457 <b>(860) 347-0479</b>	1244 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268 <b>(860) 429-9306</b>	Southbury Training School P.O. Box 644 Southbury, CT 06488 <b>(203) 267-7610</b>
NEWINGTON		
O'Neil Plaza 2434 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111 <b>(860) 667-7668</b>		

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

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), and include "Classified Advertising" in the subject line.

### FOR SALE

**PORT CHARLOTTE, FL**, beautiful sailboat property 3 BR, 2 BA, LR, great rm, DR, kitchen, FL rm and tool rm attached to 1 car GA, with living space 1,574 sf, total area 2,307 sf, situated on water at the end of intercoastal canal, quiet neighborhood, on cul-de-sac, easy access to Gulf, includes boat dock with seawall, also avail to rent – call for details. Mansfield (860) 487-1640.  
**NEWPORT, RI TIMESHARE**, Overlooks harbor, sleeps 6 with lockout, flex time Nov. – May, \$2000 OBO. Kensington (860) 828-5632.  
**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. \$109,900 or seasonal lease, Oct - Apr.

[www.4palmabayhomes.com/mls458362](http://www.4palmabayhomes.com/mls458362)

Palm Bay, FL (321) 951-8876.  
**KISSIMMEE, FL RESORT, 2 BR, 2 BA**, top notch with many amenities, close to Disney. 1 floating wk, season – RED. \$4,700. Old Saybrook (860) 388-6089.  
**WEST KENNEBUNK, ME 35' FIFTH WHEEL**, Mousam River Campground, 2 S/O, central water/sewer, fully furnished, decorated, oak cabinets throughout, sunroom, double gravel driveway, landscaped, shed, '06 mower, grill, pool, wooded trails to river and beaches, enjoy May to Oct. Beverly Hills FL (352) 527-8978.  
**WESTBROOK WATER'S EDGE RESORT**, sleeps 6, unit #366, week 48, asking \$7,000.

[www.watersedge-resort.com](http://www.watersedge-resort.com).

Plainfield (860) 963-9030 or [stevecorrao@sbcglobal.net](mailto:stevecorrao@sbcglobal.net).

**AIRPLANE**, wood and fabric 2-passenger "Cavalier," built by master craftsman & engineer, white with blue & black trim, tip tanks, flying for 2+ years. Simsbury (860) 653-3896.

**2004 HARLEY DAVIDSON ULTRA GLIDE**, red/silver, many extras, security w/remote, heated grips, jackets, encl 5' x 8' cargo trailer, brand new tires and brakes, factory warranty to 2011, 10,500 mi, professionally maintained. Great for winter excursions, best over \$18,000. West Hartford (860) 521-3487.

**1993 RED BUICK RIVIERA**, runs great, no rust, beautiful, white leather, lots of extras, cassette & CD, 109k mi, \$2,000. Woodbury (203) 263-3905

**DOUBLE PANE WINDOWS**, 24" x 72" x 1" insulated, tinted very heavy commercial quality, great for sunroom or similar, 18 avail, not framed. \$50/each. Bristol (860) 589-6195.

**ANTIQUO OAK DINING TABLE**, exc. cond., 42" x 36" plus 2 12" leaves, 6 matching reconditioned chairs. \$400. Windham (860) 423-9456.

**ANTIQUO 1930 6.5 TUXEDO COUCH**, carved wood trim, cut velvet upholstery, \$650 OBO; two leather-top tables, drawer and shelf, \$120/each; 6' blonde executive desk, \$50 OBO; matching chair, \$10; handpainted king-size bedspread, \$50; 3 matching balloon headers, \$10/each. Hebron (860) 228-9815.

**SLEEPER SOFA**, exc cond, \$75 OBO; several collector cameras. Newington (860) 665-9128.  
**PRO-FORM ELLIPTICAL MACHINE**, Model PFEL2605, exc cond., 1-1/2 ys old, \$200 (\$450 new). East Hartford (860) 569-4717.

**GE REFRIGERATOR**, 21.1 cu ft, less than 1 yr old, \$1,200 new - \$600 OBO. East Hartford (860) 568-2420.

**CARVED NATIVITY PIECES**, signed by Jim Shore, exc cond. \$55. Braun blender, exc cond. \$80. Kitchen Aid food processor, 11 cup, exc cond, \$110. North Franklin (860) 642-7054.

**1955 WORLD SERIES MVP JOHNNY PODRES SIGNED GLOVE**, Mark Grace professional first base glove, \$175. 1945 autographed Buskewicks League baseball, \$150. Queensbury NY

[adironackjim@adelphia.net](mailto:adironackjim@adelphia.net).  
**WOOD/COAL STOVE**, Fuller & Warren crown ca.1907, used, very good cond., \$500 OBO. Farmington (860) 673-9807 or [Angels4at150@aol.com](mailto:Angels4at150@aol.com).

**ROOF LADDER BRACKETS**, staging pole brackets, all good cond. Newington (860) 594-8955.

**UNIQUE GUN CABINET**, hand built with wood tiles. 2 glass doors. 2 storage drawers, \$350. Southington (860) 747-3456.  
**CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS**; 2 gold oval mirrors; 2 wooden cigarette stands; goose neck lamp; metal floor lamp; 3-shelf wall rack; 50-cup electric coffee pot w/urn. West Hartford (860) 561-2481.

### FOR RENT

**MESA, AZ**, 1 BR park model w/add'l sleeper sofa, w/d, all furnishings, updated, very clean, active vacation resort, 5-star rating, avail. Nov - Apr, \$1,800/month. Photos avail at

[www.montevistaresort.com](http://www.montevistaresort.com). New Haven (203) 823-9912.

**THE VILLAGES, FL**, 2 BR, 2BA brand new ranch, completely furnished, golf cart. Jan., Feb., and Mar. \$2,750/month, other months at discounted rate. Danbury (203) 790-0797.

**DAYTONA BEACH, FL**, winter rental, 2BR fully furnished condo directly on intracoastal waterway, 5-min walk to Atlantic Ocean, "Best Beach in the World", and shopping, \$1,100/mo includes utilities (not phone), cable, avail Nov- Apr, three month minimum, photos available.

Daytona Beach Shores FL (386) 672-0398.

**FL LAKE FRONT RENTAL**, 2 BR, 2 BA, den, new furniture, great mattresses, minutes from Gulf. \$1,500 to \$2,000/month plus tax, depending on dates, pick now and let's make a deal. Plantsville (860) 621-1377.

**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. Vero Beach, FL (772) 234-7070.

### WANTED

**OLD PHOTOS OF NORWICH**, the Norwich hospital, and WWII submarines. Norwich (860) 887-7566.

## 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 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!

## In Our Communities

### Highlights of Our Members' Local Involvement

► **Paraprofessionals Help Win Honors:** Congratulations to our members – and the entire workforce – at Mansfield Middle School for being selected among as the Connecticut Association of Schools' "Middle School of the Year" for 2007-2008! Our Council 760, Chapter 1112 members working as instructional assistants at MMS (pictured below) were on hand for the September 27 ceremony, which was covered in the *Hartford Courant* and the *Willimantic Chronicle*. As member Ann Scalley, a paraprofessional on the 8th-grade team observed, "a collaborative approach was used throughout the entire process of applying for the CAS award and our input was valued." Way to go, Mansfield Board of Education paras!



►► **Get Your Flu Shots at the Union Hall:** Our union will be hosting a Visiting Nurse Association flu-shot clinic on Tuesday, November 27 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m. at our Local hall in Hartford. The clinic is open to all members, staff and guests. The only health insurance plans that will be accepted in lieu of \$30 payment, by cash or check only, are Anthem, Bluecare, and CTCare. Please RSVP to our Local's Administration Director Mike Nortz at (800) 894-9479, ext. 116, or by sending e-mail to [mnortz@csea760.com](mailto:mnortz@csea760.com) so he can make sure enough doses are available for all.



## State of Connecticut Employees and Retirees!



### 5 reasons to switch your auto insurance carrier to MetLife Auto & Home®:

- Special Group Rates
- Better Coverage
- A Company You Know And Trust
- Convenient Payment Options
- Superior Service

Call or log on today for a free insurance review and no-obligation quotes!  
1800 GET-MET 8 (1-800-438-6388)

Guarantees for the **if** in life.™

**MetLife**®

Broker: Kronholm & Associates, Inc.

MetLife Auto & Home is a brand of Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company and its affiliates: Metropolitan Casualty Insurance Company, Metropolitan General Insurance Company, and Metropolitan Group Property and Casualty Insurance Company, all with administrative home offices in Warwick, RI. Coverage, rates, and discounts are available in most states to those who qualify. Guarantees apply to certain insurance and annuity products (not securities, variable or investment advisory products) and are subject to product terms, exclusions and limitations and the insurer's claims-paying ability and financial strength. PEANUTS © United Feature Syndicate, Inc. 1900029982(0307) Printed in U.S.A. 0610-2756 103074146(exp0310)

## DEATHS REPORTED

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

Manuel Aguiar of chapter 421 died September, 3, 2007  
Albert Alissi, 410, 8/21/07  
Leonard Bayliss, 408, 8/13/07  
Justus Beach, 417, 8/10/07  
Robert Bohman, 431, 8/19/07  
Shirley Boyce, 405, 8/20/07  
Earl Carini, 401, 8/15/07  
Edythe Cubeta, 423, 9/12/07  
Linda Devito, 402, 8/23/07  
Arline Dilts, 420, 8/12/07  
Margaret Eichner, 403, 9/1/07

Salvatore Guzzardi, 401, 9/11/07  
Eugene Hubbard, 406, 8/18/07  
George Hughes, 411, 9/9/07  
Laura Kaminski, 422, 8/22/07  
Creighton Kay, 403, 8/11/07  
Andrew Kennedy, 423, 8/29/07  
Diana Kirby, 420, 8/26/07  
Rose Lazarus, 407, 9/2/07  
William Lynch, 420, 8/29/07  
Anthony Mangiafico, 421, 8/3/07  
John Maurer, 404, 8/22/07  
Curtis Mellen, 420, 9/11/07  
Elaine Modean, 408, 8/30/07  
Daniel O'Flaherty, 411, 9/5/07  
Jeanne Pepin, 403, 9/9/07  
Phyllis Reeve, 411, 8/28/07  
Virginia Richardson, 403, 8/4/07  
William Siering, 411, 8/30/07  
Francis Strekel, 403, 8/24/07  
Bartholomew Sullivan, 405, 8/11/07  
Dorothy Sweet, 402, 9/11/07  
Norman Tasker, 403, 8/23/07  
Lawrence Urbon, 410, 8/22/07  
William Winter, 420, 8/5/07

## Saying Goodbye to a Friend

### Geraldine Ann Morales (1959 – 2007)

On August 24, one of our own lost her long battle with leukemia. Our deepest sympathies are now with Geraldine Ann Morales' two devoted children and large extended family, who will no doubt miss the kindness, patience, and caring we all knew her so well for.



Geraldine's many fellow P-3B Council members, who were looking forward to her recovery and return to work, are mourning the loss of a respected co-worker and dear friend. Geraldine's commitment to quality education for the children she served as a State School Teacher with the Connecticut Department of Children and Families at Riverview Hospital will surely continue to serve as an inspiration to all who were privileged to work alongside her.

## Universal Health Insurance...

(Continued from page 4)

percent, and we have a patchwork mess, which leaks money daily. Furthermore, only some of us are really covered.

Medicare's overhead is just 1.5 percent, compared with 13 to 16 percent in the private sector. Health insurers' overhead came to \$120 billion last year, of which \$40 billion was sheer profit. We could cover all the uninsured for \$54 billion.

You might say that taxes would go up. If we could insure everyone for about the same money we are spending now, the costs for Medicare -- the premiums and the medicinal costs -- would decrease, counterbalancing any rise in taxes.

You could say that we get superior care in this country.

But so do people in single-payer countries, who pay less for it. On most measures of healthcare and mortality, we lag behind Canada and Europe.

You might say that there may be longer waiting times. It's true that the United States has shorter waits than Canada and England for elective surgery. No advanced country has waiting periods for emergency surgery or procedures that are urgently needed (J. Quinn, *We Can All Be Insured*, Newsweek, July 30, 2007).

In a CNN poll, 64 percent of Americans said they believe our government should guarantee and provide a national insurance program for all, even if this would require higher taxes.

Stay tuned, and more importantly, get engaged!