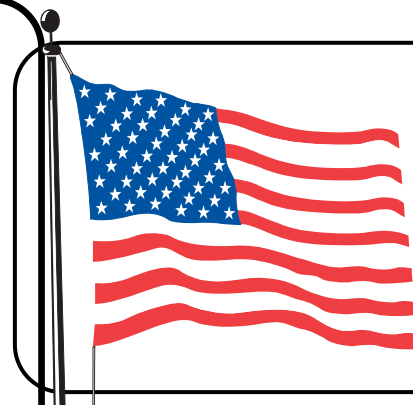




CSEA

NEWS



Our thoughts and prayers remain with our troops and their families.

CSEA Web Site: www.csea-ct.com

JULY, 2006

CSEA's News of Government and Its People

VOL. 39, NO. 7



P-4 Council President, Ned Statchen (left) and CSEA President, Michael O'Brien greet delegates to the Democratic Convention and spoke to them about issues affecting CSEA membership.

Yale that he was obstructing the construction of its new cancer center shows his seriousness and dedication to working people. He also is a municipal leader in the effort to sign project labor agreements with construction unions so that employees who build public buildings in New Haven get a fair wage and benefit package. DeStefano is also one of the most prominent advocates of Property Tax Reform which is vital to state residents and municipal employees. As this issue of the CSEA News goes to press, the CT AFL-CIO is in the process of deciding whether to endorse John DeStefano in the Democratic Primary which requires 2/3rds of the union delegates to its convention to vote in favor. For more information on how to help Mayor DeStefano win the August 8th primary, please contact Paul Filson at the SEIU State Council: 251-6091.

Extremely Close Fight at Democratic State Convention Leads to August 8th Primary

On May 20th, Mayor Dannel Malloy of Stamford narrowly edged out Mayor John DeStefano of New Haven to be the endorsed candidate of the Democratic Party to go up against M. Jodi Rell in the November 7th election. CSEA, along with most of the public and private sector unions which have endorsed candidates for Governor, has chosen DeStefano as the best candidate for the issues we care about. Mayor DeStefano has a comprehensive plan to address the health care crisis in Connecticut and has been a strong advocate for

both private and public sector unions during his tenure as New Haven's Mayor. In particular, his active involvement was instrumental in getting an anti-Labor Yale University to agree on a fair process for its workers at Yale-New Haven hospital to determine whether to join a union. Our sister local, the New England Health Care Employees Union / District 1199 has spent years trying to crack the vociferous opposition of Yale. DeStefano's willingness to stick with the employees against a strong media attack campaign by

State Police Managers Can Unionize

On June 13th, CT State Board of Labor Relations issued an order for a union election for Department of Public Safety state police lieutenants and captains. CSEA has been actively working with these state police supervisors to join our union. The election will be by secret ballot from July 5th to July 19th. In February, the majority of the Department of Public Safety's 44 state police supervisors signed intent cards authorizing CSEA to be their collective bargaining representative. The State had tried to block the vote arguing that the petition should be dismissed for the captains because they were not included in the law allowing for collective bargaining that was enacted the

1980s. The State also argued that captains and lieutenants are prohibited from unionizing because those positions are "managerial employees" not covered under the State Employees Relations Act. Assistant Labor Agent Kenneth A. Hampton of the State Labor Board rejected these arguments. The Board, using an earlier decision that allowed lieutenants and captains from the Corrections Department to unionize (who are now in CSEA), said that state police supervisors do not meet all the criteria of managers, partially because they "may not resolve grievances nor issue discipline independently." Lt. Edward Gould said, "the biggest concern is a pay situation that has

CSEA News Has A New Look

This edition of the CSEA News has a different look than normal. As you know, our long time editor Fran Messenger retired last month, so CSEA staff Jason Webster and David McCluskey are filling in until the new editor, Matt O'Connor, from SEIU Local 2028 in San Diego, California, comes on staff in September. We expect he will bring his own thoughts and ideas on making the CSEA News an even better publication.

been going on for years that is unfair... We think that the only way we can get relief is to organize... There are (also) other personnel issues that we think collective bargaining would help us address."

McCusker Night - A Success

On June 21st, CSEA celebrated our 2006 McCusker Scholarship winners with a ceremony in our Union Hall. This year, 41 scholarships were given out to the children and grandchildren of CSEA members. Next issue of the CSEA News will have a list of the winners and more photos.



College winners of the 2006 McCusker Scholarship (above) and high school McCusker Scholarship winners (below)



CSEA Wins Layoff Arbitration

On June 9th, Arbitrator Tim Bornstein ruled that the State of Connecticut violated the P-4 Contract, Article 13 when it issued a layoff notice to one of our Department of Public Work members, Homesh Sharma. The State now must make Sharma whole for his lost pay and bene-

fits. Representing Sharma in the arbitration were David Glidden, Staff Representative, Tom Lowell, Architect, Joseph Cassidy, Supervisor - Technical Services and George Nakos, Supervisor -Engineering.

This case is significant to all CSEA state members,

(Continued on Page 3)

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:

CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

JOBS

The state of Connecticut has announced application closing dates for the positions listed below.

For information contact the offices of the Connecticut State Job Centers (see blue pages of your telephone directory), or call the state Dept. of Administrative Services at Hartford (860) 713-5205, toll-free 1-800-528-7442, TDD (860) 713-7463, for applications and announcements.

Applicants may also obtain copies of job announcements/descriptions, salary information, examination dates, and application forms on the Internet by accessing the DAS World Wide Web address: <<http://www.das.state.ct.us/exam>>

EXAM ANNOUNCEMENTS

CLOSING DATE July 5

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Architectural Design Reviewer 1	ES 22
Architectural Design Reviewer 2	ES 25
Correctional Industries Supervisor 2	CO 12
Environmental Protection Resource Technician (Boating)	ES 17
License & Applications Analyst	AR 20
Parole Officer	CP 12
Supervising Clinician	HC 28

CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Asst. Economic and Community Development Agent	AR 19
Behavioral Health Community Monitor	HC 24
Behavioral Health Program Manager	MP 63
Behavioral Health Unit Supervisor	HC 28
Children & Families Program Director (Administrative Support/Program Services)	MP 66
Community Clinician	HC 22
Criminalist (Laboratory Physical Evidence)	FP 22
Data Processing Technical Analyst 1	EU 25
Data Processing Technical Analyst 2	EU 27
Data Processing Technical Analyst 3	EU 29
Data Processing Technical Analyst 4	EU 31
Data Processing Technical Specialist 1	EU 20
Data Processing Technical Specialist 2	EU 23
Environmental Analyst 1	ES 19
Environmental Analyst 2	ES 22
Epidemiologist 1 (Toxic Hazards) (Infectious/Chronic Diseases)	HC 20
Epidemiologist 2 (Toxic Hazards) (Infectious/Chronic Diseases)	HC 23
Epidemiologist 3 (Toxic Hazards) (Infectious/Chronic Diseases)	HC 28
Health Program Assistant 1	HC 19
Health Program Assistant 2	HC 21
Health Program Associate	HC 24
Mental Retardation Case Manager	HC 24
Motor Vehicle Examiner	CL 15
Nutrition Consultant 2	HC 24
Payroll Clerk	CL 15
Primary Prevention Services Coordinator	AR 26
Program Supervisor-Social Work (Adm. Support/Program Services)	MP 62
Rehabilitation Therapist 1 (Therapeutic Recreation)	HC 19
Rehabilitation Therapist 2 (Therapeutic Recreation)	HC 23
Research Analyst	AR 22
Safety Education Instructor	HC 19
Sanitary Engineer 1 (Environmental Protection)	ES 19
Sanitary Engineer 2 (Environmental Protection)	ES 22
Sanitary Engineer 3 (Environmental Protection)	ES 26
Secretary 1	CL 14
Social Work Supervisor	SH 26
Social Worker	SH 23
Systems Developer 1	EU 23
Systems Developer 2	EU 25
Systems Developer 3	EU 27
Systems Developer 4	EU 29
Transportation Engineer 1	ES 20
Transportation Engineer 2	ES 22
User Support Specialist	EU 17
OPEN TO AGENCY EMPLOYEES	
Children & Families Program Dir. (Children's Protective Services)	MP 66
Children Services Consultant	SH 25
Children Services Unit Supervisor	HN 25
Labor Dept. Associate Community Services Representative	SH 21
Labor Dept. Comm. Services Rep.	SH 19
Labor Dept. Resource Associate	SH 20
Labor Dept. Programs & Services Coordinator	SH 23
Mental Health Assistant 2	HN 18
Mental Health Associate	HN 20
Program Supervisor - Social Work (Children's Protective Services)	MP 62
OPEN TO STATE EMPLOYEES	
Administrative Assistant	CL 19
Eligibility Services Specialist	SH 20
Eligibility Services Supervisor	SH 23
Lead Children Services Worker	HN 20
Office Assistant	CL 13
Processing Technician	CL 16
Secretary 2	CL 16

Ned Lamont Addresses Retirees Council



Ned Lamont addressing the Retirees Council last month at CSEA headquarters

Democratic Candidate for United State Senate, Ned Lamont addressed the CSEA Retirees Council on May 18th, just days before the State Party

gathering. He stunned the political pundits by receiving over a third of the delegate votes at the convention. Three term incumbent Senator Joseph Lieberman received the remaining two thirds of the vote and the Democratic Party's endorsement. The Republican challenger to Lieberman is Alan Schlesinger, who is the former two term Mayor of Derby and former State Representative from 1981

-1993. Ned Lamont's candidacy was initiated in response to Senator Lieberman's steadfast support of the Iraqi War. However, as the country has become more polarized in its politics and opinion of President Bush, other issues in which Senator Lieberman has not supported the majority of the Democratic Party's elected representatives and rank & file members has energized many Connecticut Democrats to sup-

port Ned Lamont. Lieberman has a good labor record in his tenure as Senator despite flirting with privatization of Social Security and his strong support of trade agreements that do not have labor protections. CSEA as part of the SEIU State Council has invited both candidates to participate in endorsement forum. Lamont has agreed to participate, Lieberman has not responded to our requests.

\$ UNION WAGES WORK

for CONNECTICUT'S ECONOMY

CSEA P-4 (ES&T) COUNCIL SUMMER PICNIC

Friday, July 21, 2006

12 Noon to 5 P.M.

Farmington Club

162 Town Farm Rd., Farmington

Sign up for Friendly sports competition among the Chapters. Winners will receive Chapter Trophies.

Basketball*

Volleyball*

Horseshoes*

Tennis*

** Trophy Events*

Plus Swimming

Softball (bring gloves)

Shuffleboard • Bingo

Egg Toss • Pool Relays

Plenty of Games and a Playground for the Kids!

ALL-YOU-CAN-EAT LUNCH BUFFET

Hot Dogs • Hamburgers

BBQ Chicken • Baked Beans

Corn on the Cob • Sauerkraut

Fried Peppers & Onions • Sauerkraut

Salads (Egg, Potato, Tossed)

Beverage and Sundae Bar

12:30-3:30 P.M.

OPEN BAR (Beer & Wine)

COST:

Members: \$25 until July 14 • \$31 thereafter**

** includes \$6 Council rebate. All CHAPTERS are encouraged to give an additional \$5.00 (minimum) rebate, which would lower the cost to \$20 for tickets purchased by July 8th.

(Please note that tickets must be purchased by July 8 to obtain Council rebate. Price will be \$31 after July 8.)

GUESTS: \$31

CHILDREN: Age 10 and under: Free • Age 11-20: \$28

Remember to purchase your ticket before July 8th to get the \$6 Council rebate. Chapters may further subsidize the cost.

Purchase Tickets from P-4 Council Officers, Stewards and at CSEA.

Any Questions, please contact:

Linda King-Corbin, (860)827-2817

Fredrena Degraffenreaidt, (860)692-7762

Denise Eaton, (203)389-3187

Linda Coda-Klein, (860)622-2282

The P-4 (Engineering, Scientific & Technical) Contract allows one-half day off to attend the picnic.

Mailbag

Dear President Mike O'Brien,
This is to notify you of my resignation as chairman of the CSEA Social Activities and Benefits Committee, effective October 1, 2006. On August 31, 2006, I will have put in 5 years on this committee, including the last 3 years as its chairman. I feel it is time to move on to other challenges. I will be bringing this letter up at the June meeting of the Social Activities Committee and/or at the June meet-

ing of Council 400 in the hope that someone else will step up as new chairman of the committee. In July and August, most tour companies have trade and travel shows, and in September a new chairman should start thinking about 2007 trip schedule. For me, it has been a rewarding experience these last 5 years,

Yours truly,
Richard Pakenham

CSEA is very grateful to Richard for his years of hard working making the Social Activities Committee so successful. All the best in your new challenges!

(Continued from Page 1)

and state workers in general, because once again in a layoff case an arbitrator has ruled that the State can't just claim economic necessity when it lays off workers. It must prove it. Normally, the decision to lay off union members is not arbitrable; however, arbitrators, in a series of cases that CSEA has brought forward, have affirmed that the State has to justify its claim of financial stress.

Mr. Sharma worked for the Department of Public Works spending 85-90% of his time on Energy Conservation Fund work. This program was a stand-alone, insulated one funded by the utility ratepayers - NOT from taxes and fees from the General Fund.

One DPW manager testified that there were monies in the Energy Conservation Fund to pay Sharma's wages and that the money in the Fund was left unexpended after Sharma was laid off.

The arbitrator in his opinion stated that "respectfully, the State's argument is unconvincing... (and)... I find that his (Sharma's) lay-off was not the result of "economic necessity" within the meaning of the contract and was improper." If in the future another Governor decides to pink slip state workers without economic justification, CSEA's series of arbitration awards winning jobs and compensation against John Rowland's 2003 layoffs will be an invaluable weapon.

President's Desk

In Sickness and in Health

There have been a lot of news articles lately about various aspects on the subject of health care or health in general. It's an important subject. I frequently hear the Connecticut Business & Industry Association (CBIA) radio ad for their Health Connections insurance program that they run for their members. They start the advertisement by asking 'What is the most important factor facing business today?' The answer of course is the rising cost of employee health care coverage and they have the answer with their program. It's too bad that they don't turn some of their lobbyists loose during the legislative session to work for health care coverage for all. That would help most of their members I am sure, but would certainly cut the royalties they get from running the Health Connections program.

I went to a family member's wedding ceremony recently. At the point in the ceremony that the couple exchanges their vows to each other, the vow which is the title for this month's column got me thinking about the importance of health care coverage. Unfortunately, due to the state of, or the lack of, health care in this country today, many people end up fulfilling the second half of that vow by dying prematurely.

This is backed up by an article that I remember seeing about life expectancy that ranked nations of the world where data is available. I

couldn't find the original article when I sat down to write this column, so I did an internet search on life expectancy. There were several ratings by different organizations including the World Health Organization and the CIA that used somewhat different twists on their analysis. But the point of it all was that the United States ranked as high as 24th in one survey and 42nd in another.

With all the focus in this country on the rising cost of health care you would think that we would do better on life expectancy. There are several reasons, I believe, why we rank so low. First and foremost is the number of people in this country who have no health insurance at all - somewhere around 43 million people nationwide including 356,000 in Connecticut. There are millions more who have inadequate coverage or have only catastrophic care coverage. Of the 43 million people without any coverage at all, somewhere around 80% of these are workers or children of workers. The Institute of Medicine, part of the National Academy of Sciences, estimates that lack of health insurance leads to 18,000 unnecessary American deaths a year. The United States is unique among the wealthy nations of the world in failing to guarantee health insurance to all.

Another reason that contributes to lower American life expectancy is our lifestyle. I am not



Michael J. O'Brien

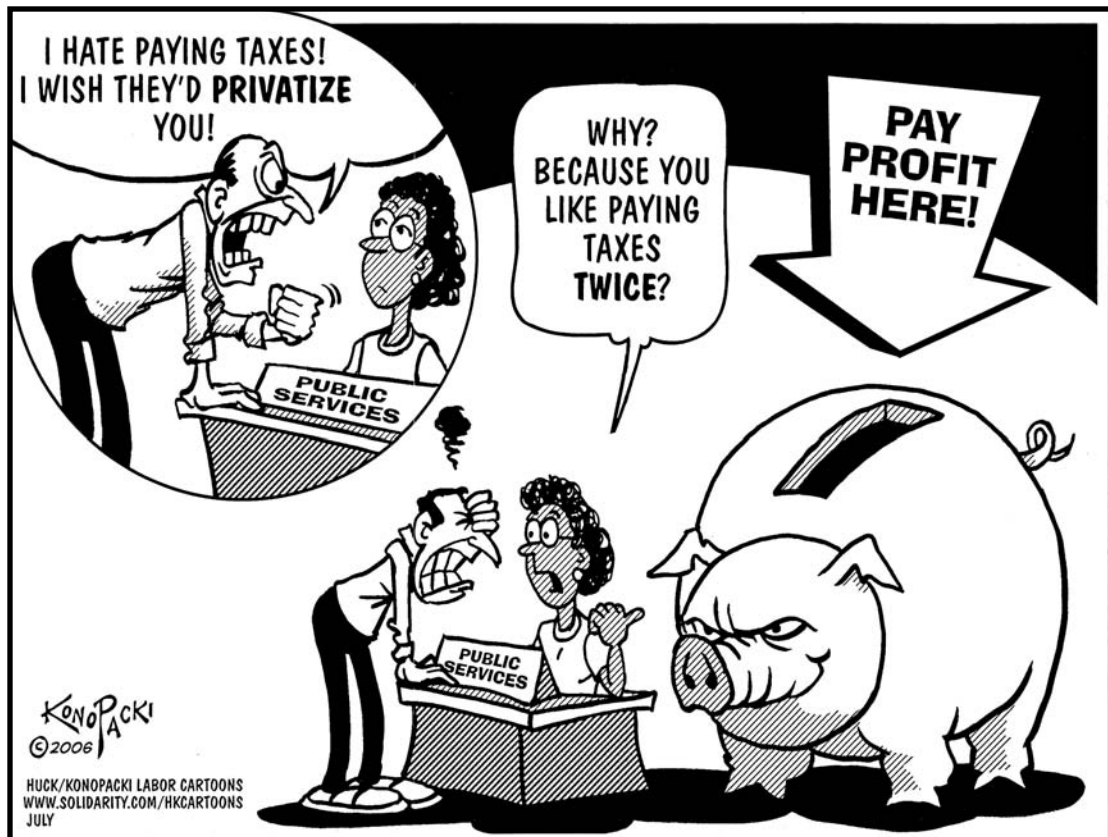
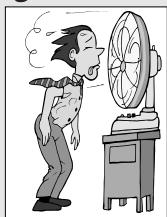
even talking about our eating habits here either. Americans have been pushed in the work place to increase productivity so much that we now work more hours in a year than most other countries. This is backed up by a survey compiled by the World Tourism Organization that compared the average number of vacation days taken by full-time workers. In the United States it was 13 days. Japan was 25, Canada 26, France 37 and Italy 42.

Having health insurance is a good thing but it is not a guarantee that you will receive quality care when you need it. A New York Times report on diabetes pointed out that insurance companies are generally unwilling to pay for care that might head off the disease, even though they are willing to pay for the extreme measures like amputations, that become necessary when prevention fails. The richer you are in this country, the more likely you are to have health

(Continued on Page 8)

No Retiree Meetings In July and August

- Council 400 and retiree Chapters around the state will not meet in July and August.
- Regular meetings will resume in September.
- Council 400's Annual Outing will be held Wednesday, Aug. 31st, at Holiday Hill in Cheshire. Please see page 5 of this issue for details.



CONNECTICUT State Government And Its People

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CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION
Local 2001, Service Employees International Union, CLC

Michael J. O'BrienPresident
Patrice Peterson.....Secretary/Treasurer
Robert D. Rinker.....Executive Director
Jason P. WebsterGraphic/Technical Assistance

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: Connecticut State Employees Association, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. PHONES: (860) 951-6614; toll-free in Connecticut: 1-800-894-9479; toll-free in Florida: 1-800-437-5630; FAX: (860) 951-3526. INTERNET: www.csea-ct.com.

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Recycled Paper

Questions & Answers

Questions repeatedly arise at retiree chapter meetings with regard to the following issues:

- what to do in the event of the death of a retiree, and
- Medicare Part B premium reimbursements and your responsibilities.

IN THE EVENT OF THE DEATH OF A RETIREE, the surviving spouse/partner or relative should immediately contact the Retirement & Benefit Services Division Payroll Department (860-702-3528). They will instruct you on how to proceed.

Generally, the pension check for the deceased retiree is to be sent back to the state. Pension benefits for that month will be recalculated and the final payment made to the estate.

If the retiree elected a spousal option, the spouse/partner will begin receiving pension checks in his/her own name the following month. Future pension and health plan benefits are based on which option the retiree chose at the time of retirement. This option can not be changed once the employee has retired.

The Retirement & Services Benefit Division needs two (2) signed death certificates, one of which must be an original. One (the original) is for the Group Life Insurance Unit and the second is required for the Payroll Unit to prevent future pension checks from being issued in the deceased retiree's name.

The health insurance benefits are tied to receipt of the state pension. Upon the death of a retiree who had elected a spousal option, the spouse/partner will have the same health insurance benefits as the state retiree as long as he/she receives a state pension. This includes the opportunity to change plans during the annual open enrollment period.

In the case where there is no spousal option, the state will no longer pay for the health insurance of a spouse/partner. The spouse/partner, however, has the option for continuation of the group health insurance for three (3) years - at his/her own cost - under COBRA (Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act - the federal law which allows workers and their families who have lost their health benefits to choose to continue in a group plan for a specified amount of

Notes to Retirees

by
Hollis Block
CSEA Retiree Coordinator

time).

Once the state is notified of a retiree's death, the state is required to notify the surviving spouse/partner about his/her option to continue the health insurance. After three (3) years, the health plan must offer the spouse/partner an opportunity to convert out of the group plan to an individual plan, if available.

If you are a new retiree or spouse/partner of a deceased retiree and need medical care in the month immediately following your retirement, you should advise your medical provider to submit your claim(s) at the end of the month. This is because it takes time for your paperwork to be processed through the Retirement & Benefit Services Division and the health plan. Save all receipts for later reimbursement by the health plan, if applicable. **THERE IS NO LAPSE IN COVERAGE.**

MEDICARE PART B PREMIUMS PAID BY THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT.

Retirees and their spouses/partners who are eligible for Medicare should enroll in Medicare Parts A (hospital) and B (medical/surgical). The Social Security Administration will send the retiree information several months before the retiree's/spouse's/partner's 65th birthday.

Since most people do enroll in Medicare, they make it easy: if you don't respond, you will be enrolled. Medicare becomes the primary payer. This means that Medicare makes payment directly to the provider/vendor, the bill is then submitted to the health plan either by the provider or yourself (depending upon where you live). The health insurance benefits do not change.

The Medicare Part B premium is deducted from your Social Security check and added to the state pension check. (Reimbursement for the Part B premium is indicated by a minus (-) sign on the pension check stub.) If you are not in receipt of Social Security, you will be responsible to pay the premium directly

DEATHS REPORTED

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

- Victor Allan of Chapter 404, died February 13th.
- Caroline Baskin, 416, April 23
- Edith Boucher, 415, April 21
- Robert Casey, 414, March 29
- Edward Collins, 423, April 25
- Ethel Cook, 401, April 12
- Mary Coons, 402, April 12
- Margaret Davis, 411, May 10
- Grace Dole, 420, March 9
- Gilbert Dortiz, 410, March 31
- Ethel Erickson, 401, March 31
- John Fearn, 403, April 19
- Charles Gifford, 427, April 6
- John Hadden, 407, April 18
- Ralph Hill, 420, April 7
- Beatrice Howell, 424, January 31
- Ann Kycia, 411, March 22
- Frederick Leffingwell, 403, May 2
- Daniel Leggo, 411, April 1
- Rose Jameison, 401, April 1
- Barbar Manion, 415, April 18
- James Martin, 405, May 4
- Vere Patterson, 425, April 8
- Joseph Piontek, 405, April 23
- Anna Puglisi, 411, April 19
- Robert Randall, 401, April 17
- Evelyn Robinson, 420, April 3
- Rev. M. Shanley, 405, March 28
- Willard Sherrer, 420, May 6
- Rita Slattery, 411, April 25
- William Smalarz, 427, April 29
- Joseph Sparaco, 406, April 6
- Thomas Sullivan, 414, April 16
- Stella Tercyak, 403, May 3
- Gene Tito, 404, April 14
- Mary Ukers, 402, April 15
- Henry Ward, 402, April 22
- Anne Wilkinson, 407, March 14
- Rose Wilkosz, 411, April 25
- Sophie Zdanis, 415, April 22
- Edna Zusman, 401, April 24

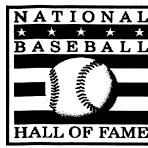
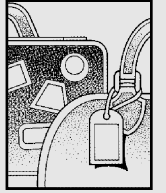
to Medicare. Again, you will receive reimbursement in your pension check. (Active state employees working past age 65 should apply for Medicare Part B and will receive the premium reimbursement in their paychecks.)

The basic monthly premium in 2006 is \$88.50 for an individual and \$177.00 for a couple. This premium changes yearly in January.

Retirees and their spouses/partners are eligible for reimbursement of the basic monthly Medicare Part B premiums. You must be enrolled in the state health plan to receive this benefit.

As outlined in state statutes, **it is the responsibility of the health plan participant (employee, retiree and spouse/partner) to make a copy of the Medicare card when received and send the copy immediately to the Payroll Department of the Retirement & Benefit Services Division (55 Elm Street, Hartford, CT 06106-1775).** If you do not send a copy of the Medicare card to the Payroll Department you will not receive reimbursement for the Medicare Part B premium.

CSEA Social Activities



Baseball Hall of Fame & Museum

Cooperstown, NY

Saturday, August 12, 2006

From Hartford and Waterbury

\$62 per person (\$57 pp 7-18 yrs.) (full payment by 7-7)

Includes: Motorcoach, Hall of Fame admission, driver gratuity.

DEPART: Hartford, State Office Bldg., 165 Capitol Ave.; Waterbury, Commuter Parking Lot, Chase Pkwy. (Exit 17 off I-84). (Times TBA)

Let's go to the races!

Bus Pick-up:
East Hartford

SUFFOLK DOWNS

Wednesday, September 6, 2006

\$48 per person (full payment by 8-3)

Includes: Motorcoach, Luncheon Buffet in Topsider Room, Clubhouse admission & racing program, race named for group & group photo with winning jockey, driver gratuity.



DEPART: East Hartford, Sheraton Hotel, 100 East River Dr. (Time TBA)

Penn Dutch/Gettysburg

Sept. 14-17, 2006 (4 Days, 6 Meals)

\$419 per person Twin; \$409 p.p. Triple; \$529 Single

\$329 Child (age 5-17 sharing with 2 adults @ Twin rate

\$50 p.p. deposit by 6-1, final payment due 7-6-06



Trip Insurance available @ \$25 p.p. Payment due with initial deposit (see flyer).

Includes: Motorcoach, 3 nights hotel, 6 meals (3 breakfasts, 3 dinners, including Dutch Apple Dinner Theater), Tours, including Amish farmlands, Gettysburg Battlefield, Hershey "Chocolate World," driver gratuity.



The Bewitching Seaport Salem, Massachusetts

Tuesday, October 17, 2006

\$68 per person (full payment by 9-17)

Bus Pick-ups:
East Hartford
Coventry

Includes: Motorcoach, admission/guided tour of The Salem Witch Museum, sit-down lunch at "Red's" - choice: baked haddock, chicken marsala, home-made meatloaf (if using reservation form below, please indicate meal choice/s), narrated trolley tour through historic Salem, all taxes/gratuities including driver.

6:00 a.m.-depart East Hartford, Sheraton Hotel, 100 East River Dr.

6:30 a.m.-depart St. Mary's Church, Coventry

Return approx. 7:30 p.m.

Bus Pick-ups:
East Hartford
North Haven
Stratford
Darien

Radio City Christmas Spectacular Lunch at Connolly's Restaurant

Friday, November 10, 2006

COST: \$105 per person; Full payment by Oct. 10

Includes: Round-trip transportation; Orchestra tickets for 2:30 show; Sit down lunch at Connolly's Restaurant - choice: fish-n-chips, home-made meatloaf or baked turkey (if using reservation form below, please indicate meal choice/s); all taxes & gratuities, including driver.

7:45 a.m.-depart East Hartford, Sheraton Hotel, 100 East River Dr.; **8:30 a.m.**-depart North Haven, Holiday Inn (Exit 12); **9:00 a.m.**-depart Stratford, Ramada Inn (Exit 30); **9:30 a.m.**-depart Darien, Howard Johnson's (Exit 11).

(ETA: Hartford, approx. 8:00 p.m.)

MORE UPCOMING TRIPS and ACTIVITIES for 2006:

IRELAND: Nov. 10-15 (wait list only)

INDIAN HEAD CHRISTMAS: Dec. 4-6

AND MORE! Watch "CSEA News" for announcements.

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

Trips sponsored by CSEA Social Activities Committee. For information/flyers call CSEA, Hartford (860) 951-6614, toll-free 1-800-894-9479, or Chair Richard Pakenham, Willimantic (860) 456-2939. **Make checks payable to CSEA 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 date. 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 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 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	
Meal Selection(s) (Salem/Radio City)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking		CSEA Chapter # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member

DIRECTIONS TO HOLIDAY HILL

FROM DANBURY

Take I-84 East to Exit 23 (Rt. 69 South). 6.8 miles to Rt. 42. Turn left onto Rt. 42 and follow signs to Holiday Hill Parking.

FROM BRIDGEPORT

Take Wilbur Cross Parkway East to Exit 59. At end of ramp turn left. This is Rt. 69.

Follow Rt. 69 to Rt. 42 (there is a traffic light at this intersection). Turn right onto Rt. 42.

Follow Rt. 42 and turn left onto Candee Rd. Holiday Hill is approximately 150 feet on the right.

FROM HARTFORD

Take I-84 West to Cheshire Exit 26 (Rt. 70). Turn right at the end of the Exit.

Travel Rt. 70 to third traffic light and take a right onto Rt. 68. Travel approximately 3 miles to crest of the hill and turn left onto Cook Road. Follow the signs.

FROM SHORELINE

Take I-95 North to I-91 North. Take Exit 10 (Rt. 40) to Rt. 10 North.

Follow Rt. 10 North to Cheshire to the 8th traffic light (just past McDonald's). Take a left onto Rt. 42.

Follow Rt. 42 to Candee Rd. Holiday Hill is approximately 150 feet on the right.

FROM ROUTE 8

Take I-95 to Exit 27A and get onto Rt. 8 North.

Take Rt. 8 North to Exit 26. Take a right at the end of the Exit onto Rt. 63 South.

Follow Rt. 63 South for 4.2 miles and take a left onto Rt. 42 East.

Follow Rt. 42 for 1.9 miles and take a left onto Candee Road. Holiday Hill is just down the street on the right.

CSEA Retiree Council 400

Annual Outing

Open to Members, Spouses & Guests – Rain or Shine
– Handicap access and facilities available –

Wednesday, August 30, 2006

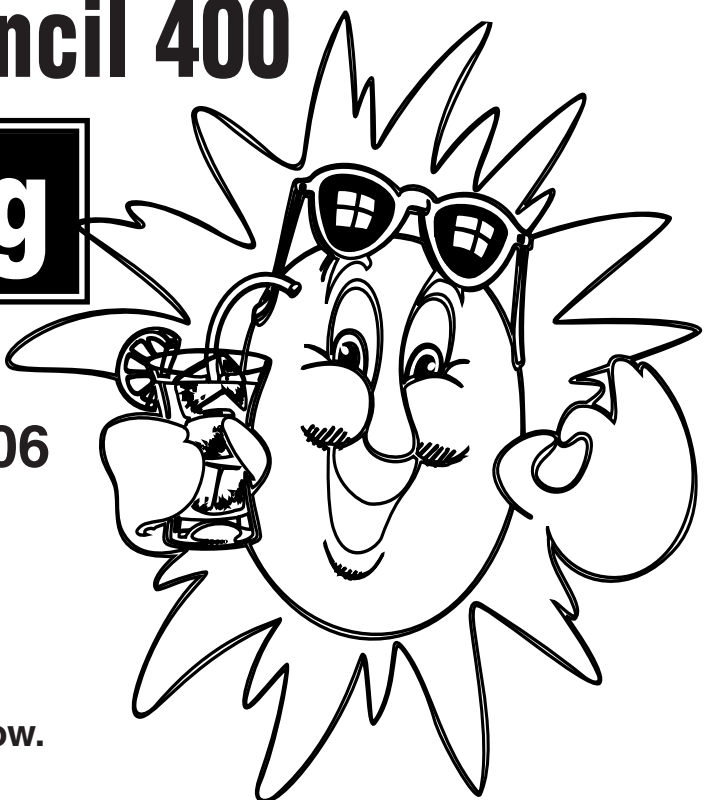
9 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Holiday Hill
CHESHIRE/PROSPECT LINE

Please see directions at left and map below.

Member: \$10 Spouse: \$20 Guest: \$37 (includes tax and gratuity)

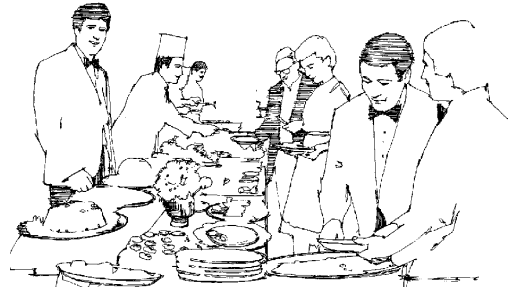
NOTE: CHAPTERS MAY FURTHER SUBSIDIZE COST TO MEMBERS OR PROVIDE TRANSPORTATION.



MENU #1: 9-11 A.M.

(Unlimited Buffet)

Assorted Donuts (cinnamon, powdered, glazed); Assorted Danish (fruit, cheese, butter); Assorted Muffins (corn, blueberry, bran-raisin); Bagels (butter, cream cheese)



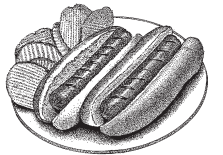
MENU #2: 11 A.M.-2 P.M.

(Unlimited Buffet)

New England Clam Chowder with oyster crackers; Giant Cheese Blocks (Havarti, Cheddar, Muenster); Assorted Crackers

MENU #3: 12 Noon-3 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 • Assorted Breads & Rolls with butter (rye, onion, hard, pumpernickel, Vienna) • Chilled Watermelon Wedges • Fresh Strawberry Shortcake • Decorated Sheetcake



BEVERAGES and SNACKS

(available throughout the day)

**Coffee, Tea, Sanka, Milk
Assorted Soda
Fruit Punch
Potato Chips
and
Pretzels**



ACTIVITIES

Two Adult Swimming Pools (showers and dressing facilities available) • Bingo (Prizes!) Dancing (Music provided by a Disc Jockey)



Also Available: Tennis, Boccie, Shuffleboard, Horseshoes, Badminton, Volleyball, Softball, Basketball, "Chip-to-the-Pin" Golf, Boating and Canoeing

DISCLAIMER: Council 400 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 this event.

RESERVATION DEADLINE: August 23, 2006 (no refunds after August 23rd). Please complete this coupon and mail with check (payable to CSEA Council 400) to:

CSEA 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 30th.)

✂

CSEA Council 400 Annual Outing
August 30, 2006

Name of Member _____

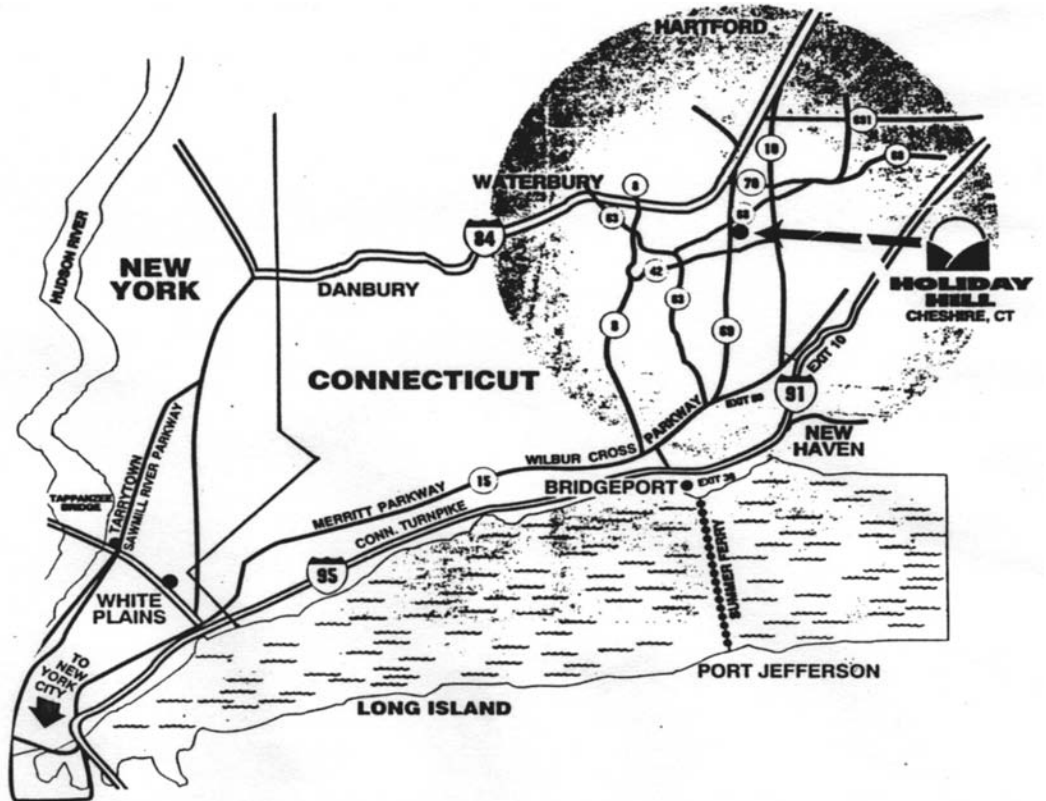
Name of Spouse _____

Address _____

Name of Guest(s) _____

Address _____

Amount Enclosed _____ Phone Number() _____ Chapter Number _____



U.S. Supreme Court rules 5-4 to Limit Protection for On-the-Job Speech by Public Employees

Late in May, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled that public employees who make statements as part of their official job duties are not protected by the free speech safeguards of the First Amendment and are not immune from employer discipline. Writing for the majority, Justice Anthony Kennedy said, "We hold that when public employees make statements pursuant to their official duties, the employees are not speaking as citizens for First Amendment purposes, and the Constitution does not insulate their communications from employer discipline."

This decision does not affect whistleblower protections under Connecticut state law or any protections which may exist under state case law, State Labor Board decisions or state employee contracts.

What this Supreme Court case does show is that elections matter.

This case was reargued after Judge Samuel Alito was appointed to the bench by President Bush replacing Sandra Day O'Connor. The lead dissent in the case made by Justice David Souter argued that the majority's decision was sending employees into a morass of whistle-blower laws that provided inconsistent protection and inconsistent results: "individuals doing the same sorts of things addressed to civic concerns will get different protection depending on the local, state, or federal jurisdiction that happened to employ them." He also wrote that "I would hold that private and public interests in addressing official wrongdoing and threats to health and safety can outweigh the government's stake in the efficient implementation of policy, and when they do public employees who speak on these matters in the course of their

duties should be eligible to claim First Amendment protection." He and the dissenting judges argued for a balancing test that is often used by the court in difficult areas of the law that would not be overly burdensome or intrusive to public employers.

The State Employee Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC) met on June 20th to discuss the ramifications of the decision on state employees. While public employees under a collective bargaining agreement have protections against discipline known as just cause and have the right to appeal any discipline, the same cannot be said for those state and public employees not covered under collective bargaining.

CSEA Executive Director, Robert Rinker, stated, "Following the corruption of the Rowland administration and recent controversy over the funding raising by the Rell administration, we are going to carefully review the whistleblower statutes and raise this issue with Attorney Richard Blumenthal."

of this ambitious effort to break the gridlock on our highways and to better link our rail, air, sea and highway systems. CSEA is committed to advocating for more engineers to design and supervise these expensive, vital projects.

The Governor also signed into law the right for Waterbury public employees to regain collective bargaining rights under the Municipal and Teacher bargaining laws. These rights were suspended by the General Assembly and the contracts for these employees since 2001 were dictated by the Rowland appointed oversight board.

The Governor signed a public act that will allow the unions representing Judicial Marshals to study with the Comptroller's office the ability to buy back previous state service before July 1, 1999. While Judicial Marshal, then known as Deputy Sheriffs performed a state function of providing security for the State's courts, manning their lock up facilities and transporting and guarding prisoners in the court system, they were not covered under the State pension system until July 1, 1999. CSEA represents the Supervising Judicial Marshals and is negotiating a first contract for them.

The Governor signed a

CSEA Has A Very Successful General Assembly Session

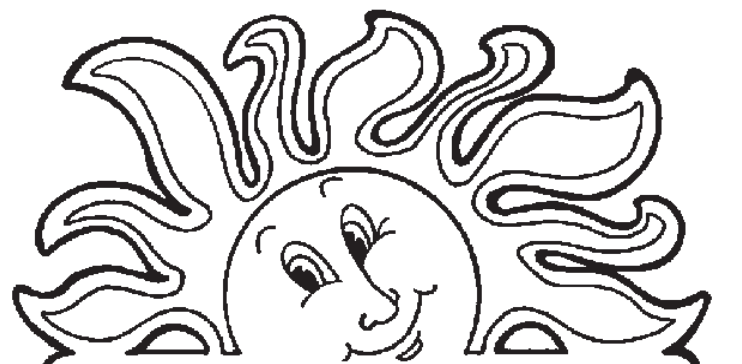
This year, CSEA and labor unions in general had a much more rewarding session than in the past several years despite it being the shortest session possible under our state's constitution. Public and private sector unions worked even closer together to advance common agenda items and defeat bills we all opposed. In particular, CSEA and other municipal unions worked on passing Senate Bill 16, Public Act 06-123, An Act Protecting Municipal Retiree Health Insurance Benefits. This new law will bar municipalities, housing authorities, and other municipal subdivisions from eliminating or reducing group health insurance benefits to municipal retirees in violation of a union contract. It applies to municipalities that arrange for health insurance on their own or through the state-sponsored Municipal Employee Health Insurance Program. CSEA pushed for this bill in response to the reductions in retiree health benefits imposed by the Waterbury Takeover bill.

With any legislative ses-

sion there were disappointments. The biggest was the failure of the General Assembly to override Governor Rell's veto of comprehensive contract reform. Without law on the books, the Executive Branch agencies are still susceptible to corruption, fraud and nepotism in the awarding of contracts. In particular, privatization schemes which purport to save the taxpayers money without sacrificing the quality or quantity of service will not be subject to serious scrutiny. CSEA also tried to enact a modest contract reporting standards bill for non-profits separate from the Clean Contracting bill, but that was defeated on the last day of the legislative session by the strong hand of the Governor's Office and vigorous lobbying by the CT Community Providers Association. In addition, the General Assembly in passing a historic Transportation Bonding Initiative did not address the serious shortage of engineers in the Department of Transportation. This will seriously undermined the quality and efficiency

SEIU Agenda for Health Care Reform

1. It is time for our nation to guarantee affordable health care coverage for all Americans; incremental reform is not a solution.
2. The current employer based health care system is not the foundation for 21st century health care reform, particularly given the competitive challenges of a global economy.
3. A universal health care system must insure a choice of doctors and health care plans.
4. A universal health care system must insure a core health care benefit.
5. Preventive care must be made available as part of any basic benefit plan to promote health and control costs, while eliminating economic and racial disparities.
6. Any reform must control costs.
7. Electronic medical records that patients control are a necessary immediate reform to increase quality, and reduce costs.
8. Hospital, and physician quality, outcome, and cost data must be available to consumers.
9. Integrating long term care services and costs into the system to maximize people's opportunities to stay out of nursing homes and hospitals, and control costs is necessary.
10. Employers, employees, and government must share in the financing of the system.



Danbury Retirees Plan Picnic

FREE TO MEMBERS AND GUESTS!

Chapter 402 will hold its annual picnic:

Wednesday, July 12, 2006

10 A.M. to 4 P.M.

Bennett Park
Shelter Rock Rd., Bethel

FOOD
SODA COFFEE TEA

*Elected Area
Officials have been
Invited to Attend*

This is a great opportunity for non-members to meet and mingle with their colleagues, so if you know any state retirees who haven't joined our Chapter, **please invite them to the picnic!**

If you plan to attend, please call Clare Erickson, (203)312-0835, or Linda Long (203)264-6494, so that we may have an accurate head count for food. They can also furnish you with directions to Bennett Park.

law allowing members called up into active military service to accrue vacation and sick leave while in such service. The bill will apply these benefits retroactive to our military's involvement in the Afghanistan and operation Iraqi freedom.

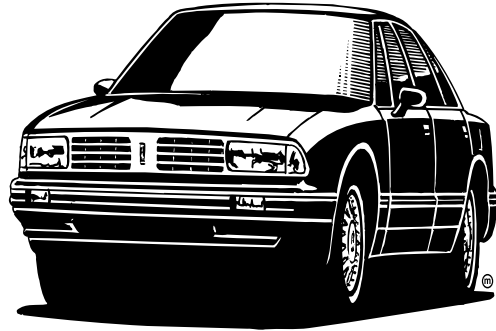
Correction Supervisor Council President Cathy Osten, stated, "It is only fair that these state employees who put their lives on the line and can come back from military service should get some time with their families and readjust to civilian life."



CREDIT UNION NEWS

Impaired Credit Auto Loans

Searching for a new car but you think you can't finance it through the credit union because you have damaged credit?



We would like to help.

Avoid the high rates charged by dealers. We will do our best to qualify you for a loan at a fair rate of interest. **9.50% Annual Percentage Rate.**

New or Used Car Financing ...
Same Great Rate!*

*Rate subject to change without notice.

The Credit Union will be



Independence Day Tuesday, July 4
Labor Day Monday, September 4

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 2006

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SAVINGS	4.00%	4.08%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	2.25%	2.28%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	3.25%	3.30%

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

FOR SALE

ROUND TOP STORAGE TRUNK, (17"Wx19"Hx28"L). Black, clean, gd. cond. \$25. Windham (860)423-9456.

HOUSE, Central VT. Randolph summer house w/6.58 ac. Can be yr. round. Open floor plan, 2 BR, 1 BA, fully furn. incl. all appliances, wooded land w/brook, 200' well, sewer, elec., phone, 40' workshop, container w/50 amp. elec. serv., 1 1/2 mi. to shopping & hosp.; 5 mi. to I-89; 3 1/2 hrs. to Htfd. \$128,900. VT (802)728-3851.

AIR CONDITIONERS: Hampton Bay 24,000 BTU, 26"Wx28"Lx17 1/2"H, cools 1,072 sq.ft. (8 rms.), \$250. Panasonic 11,500 BTU (remote cont.), 22"Wx23"Lx 15 1/2" H, cools 640 sq.ft. (4 rms.), \$175. Panasonic 8,000 BTU (temp. control & timer), 21"Wx20"Lx14"H, cools 350 sq.ft. (2 1/2 rms.), \$125. Also, **outdoor heater,** Reddy Heater, 55,000 BTU, instant heat for 32'x40' area, forced air kerosene heater, runs up to 12 hrs. on 1 filling, clean burning/nearly 100% energy efficient, \$100. Bloomfield (860)416-5480.

2002 TRAILER, Park Model Deluxe (42x12x9), Sun Valley Resorts, Stafford Springs, CT—site 103 on brook w/view of lake (land not incl.). Queen bed, sleeper sofa, many cabinets, 14" fridge, ceramic BA, cable, A/C, heat, propane, ceiling fans, blinds, vinyl siding, asphalt roof, shed, deck (38x10) w/awning, table, chairs. Beautifully decorated, Hitchcock furn. \$20,500. (860) 670-3382, email: cotsdon2@aol.com.

HOUSE, St. Petersburg, FL. 2 BR, 1 BA w/in-law apt., hardwood floors, new roof, shed, fenced yard, convenient location, non-flood zone. \$159,000. FL (727)898-0210, email: Audrey736@webtv.net.

TRACTOR, Massey-Ferguson, MS10-1967 garden tractor w/lawnmower attachment, chains. \$250. Monroe (203)268-4218 or 615-1964.

CONDO, Lake Worth, FL. 2 BR, 2 BA, ample storage, newer carpet & soon a new roof, fully appliance, in 55+ active community w/private busing to shopping & medical appointments avail. Constant security surveillance, several pools & club house. Immediate occupancy. Asking \$110,000. New Britain (860)229-9569.

1999 VIKING POP-UP CAMPER. Sleeps 8; 1 full-sz. bed, 1 queen bed; heat, running water & fridge; propane stove inside & out; like-new cond.; used 1 season. \$3,000. So. Windsor (860)432-0807.

TIMESHARE, Berkshire Mtns., deeded ownership at Silverleaf Resorts, Oak N' Spruce, South Lee, MA. Wk. 40 (foliage). 1 BR, 1 BA, can be used this Oct. or exchanged. Many resort activities, near Tanglewood, Norman Rockwell Museum, quaint town of Stockbridge. Bonus time included. Exchange w/ Silverleaf Resorts or through RCI or II. Selling onsite for \$14,500; asking \$11,000. West Haven (203)932-6112.

HARLEY DAVIDSON '93 Sportster XLH883, candy red, fwd. controls, engine guard, sissy bar, saddlebags, other extras. Nice bike; must see. \$4,500/B.O. ALSO, ladies 14k yellow gold diamond engagement ring, cut: round, brilliant approx. 5.76-5.74x3.50mm., color: F-G, clarity: VVS1, carat wgt.: approx. 0.71 carat, replacement value: \$5,500. \$3,500/B.O. West Hartford (860)521-3487.

BIG ANTIQUE TRUNK, 43"Lx25"D, perfect for storing quilts/blankets, gd. cond. Asking \$100. ALSO, Costume Jewelry, approx 300 pieces: necklaces, earrings, pins. Gd./excel. cond. Asking \$150. Middletown (860)346-1297.

FLORIDA RESORT TIMESHARE, Destin (Gulf of Mexico), 1 BR, exchanges avail., point system. Value over \$7,000, asking \$5,500. Danbury (203)791-9291.

17' TRAVEL TRAILER, 2004 Trail-Lite, sofa & dinette convert to beds, pull-out tent bed, sink, removable stove, refig-freezer, AC, shower, toilet, heat, hot water, awning, lots of storage, lightweight, hardly used, ready for camping fun, loaded. Asking \$9,695. Montville (860)848-7495.

HP 7915 PAVILION COMPUTER, \$550. Lawnmower, 6.75 hp., 2 years old. \$250. Prices reduced! Enfield (860)741-2950, M-F before noon or after 7 p.m.

11' DELRAY CAMPER, self-contained, very gd. cond., cabover converts to lounge, not smoked in. \$2,500. Bridgeport (203)335-3951.

Naples • Ft. Myers Bonita Springs

Buying or selling in SW Florida?
If so, call Al Salafia
FL (239)898-4257
Toll-free 1-800-741-1566
Your Connecticut Connection
To Florida Real Estate
As a former DOT employee w/27 years of State Service, how can I help you?
Century 21 • J.B. Novelli

1964 MERCEDES 220 SE SEDAN, blue/gray, 6 cyl. fuel injection, owned by German-trained Mercedes mechanic, gd. cond., looks great. Rocky Hill (860)513-1172.

1969 MERCEDES 280 SE SEDAN, blue, blue leather, PS, PW, PB, 145k mi., cream puff. Hartford (860)956-6861.

ALPINE CD PLAYER, trunk-mounted 6-disc, Honda compatible. \$160. Southington (860)628-9567.

SPORTS CARD BOXES (2004 & before), complete sets: baseball, football, basketball, hockey, Yu-Gi-Oh! unopened factory boxes/sets. Make great gifts! Call Ned: Southington (860)621-3131 (eves./wk.ends); West Hartford (860)236-1229 (days).

FOR RENT

POMPANO BEACH, FL. Right on ocean! Won't last long! 2 BR condo, 2 full BA, fully-furn., heated pool, private parking & more. Avail. 1/1/07-3/31/07 @ \$1975/mo. East Haven (203)469-6248.

OLD LYME. 3 BR private beachfront bungalow, Hawk's Nest Beach. Avail. mo. of July or by the week. Lyme (860)434-1695.

MAINE, Mt. Desert Island, Southwest Harbor: 3 BR, 1 1/2 BA. ocean view, wkly. or longer. ME (207)244-0141, or email VRFROST@aol.com

TIMESHARE, Home Base: Westgate, Kissimmee, FL but may be used at other locations subj. to avail. 1 or 2 BR units avail. all year. Michael at spagnolimi@sbcglobal.net

VACATION RENTAL, Monte Vista Village Resort, Mesa, AZ. 5-star adult resort: 8 tennis cts, 2 pools, spa, fitness ctr. 1 BR a.c. park model w/patio. Clean, bright, fully-furn. inc. sleeper sofa, linens, kit, supplies, W-D. No pets. \$400/wk. inc. util./amenities. Avail. May-Oct. New Haven (203)389-4580. For more info, visit www.montevistaresort.com.

SUMMER COTTAGE, Highland Lake, Winsted (Litchfield Hills), 2 BR, shorefront/dock, immaculate. Newington (860)666-9524 or Bristol (860)582-0021.

FT. MYERS BEACH, FL. Direct beach-front condo, LR, dinette, fully-equipped modern kit., king bed, enc. balcony overlooks water/beach. View at www.Smuggler'scovecondo.com, call toll-free 1-888-251-2394. Ask for unit 2A3 (2nd fl.) or 5B3 (5th fl. view). 10% off published rates to state emps. Call to confirm: Meriden (203)235-2091.

CAPE COD-CHATHAM CREST. Peaceful paradise. 2 BR, 2 BA cottage & studio cottage, fully equipped, A/C, cable/VCR, walk to beach & bike trail, sleeps 6&3. Avail. May-Oct. Trumbull (203)261-0113, e-mail: scpatmos@juno.com.

DISNEY/ORLANDO, Come see Mickey & the gang @ "Minnie" prices. Luxury 3 BR, 2 BA condo in Kissimmee, FL, 5 mi. to Disney World. From \$60/night. John, Broad Brook (860)627-5052, toll-free 1-877-627-5022. See us at <http://vacationrentals.com/vacation-rentals/15395.html>. or www.sweetwaterassociation.com.

TIMESHARES, Kissimmee, FL & other locations. Condo, sleeps 4-12 (1 or 2 BR), indoor/outdoor pools, clubhouse, fine dining, shopping, FL location 5 min. from Disney & Animal Kingdom. Various dates/locations avail. throughout the yr. Oakdale (860)887-5557.

CONDO, LOON MTN., NH. Enjoy summer vac., fall foliage, or winter skiing at our clean, non-smoking condo. Sleeps 4-12, w/sports club, pool, jacuzzi, tennis, much more. Ellington 875-1809, eves; e-mail: kennymail@snet.net.

President's Desk... (Continued from Page 3)

insurance but it is no guarantee you will be healthier.

England is a country where the people have similar unhealthy eating habits and lifestyles when compared to us. Yet they pay far less on health care per person (only about 40%) than we do here and middle age Americans are twice as likely to suffer from diabetes as the English. The health care system in the United States clearly needs some work.

One of the reasons why we pay more for health care here is that we don't cover everyone with universal coverage. The people without preventive health care frequently use the emergency rooms in our hospitals as their primary health care facility. This results in overcrowding and long waits or ambulances being diverted to another facility. And we all know that emergency room treatment is expensive. This is not health care either, it is sick care. We pay for the cost to treat the uninsured by higher premiums for us who are insured as well.

The answer clearly is some system that guarantees affordable, quality health care coverage for all Americans. Thankfully some states are looking at ways to cover all their citizens. The Massachusetts plan announced this year is not perfect but it is a place to start. Lawmakers in Connecticut are giving thought to this as well.

I said at the beginning that there has been a lot of recent news coverage on the issue of health care. There should be! It is such an important topic and concern of most people - most people excluding our leaders in Washington. It is too bad that we can't get our national elected officials to spend even a little time thinking on the subject. It must be too much of a strain.

SEIU has a National Agenda for Health Care Reform with ten principles that are printed elsewhere in this issue. Included among these ten principles are the following that we believe a comprehensive solution must:

- Provide affordable coverage for all Americans
- Control costs
- Allow for a choice of doctors and plans
- Expand preventive care

- Include financing responsibility that is shared between employers, individuals and government

The Democratic candidates for governor have made affordable health care an issue in this campaign. Let's see how or if Governor Rell responds on this issue. If not, the Democrats in control of the state house and senate have to force the issue in a special session or next year.

JOBS At UConn

Job Information Line

The University of Conn. now has a Job Information Line for employees and other individuals to call and inquire about available positions. The message is updated every Friday and may be accessed 24 hours a day by calling:

486-2466
(from a touch-tone phone)

PRESS 1 for Job Openings, then select an option:
For Clerical, PRESS 1 • For Maintenance, PRESS 2
For Faculty/Non-teaching • Professional openings, PRESS 3
For other Classified jobs, PRESS 4

UConn Health Center

For current listing, visit the University of Connecticut Health Center online at:

www.uchc.edu/
(click on Education)

Get More Mileage From Your Auto Insurance With METPAY

Fortunately, you don't have to travel far to find quality auto insurance. With METPAY, a voluntary benefit for active and retired State of Connecticut employees, quality auto insurance is right around the corner. METPAY advantages include:

- Special group rates*
- Money-saving discounts*
- Convenient payment options — payroll deduction for active employees, checking account deduction for retirees

Insurance consultants are available at these times (ET):

- Monday through Thursday, 8:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Saturday, 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
- 24 hour claim reporting

For more information about METPAY and a free, no-obligation premium quote on your auto insurance, call the METPAY Hotline at:

1 800 GET-MET 1
(1-800-438-6381)

Please have your current policy on hand when you call for a quote.

Broker:
Kronholm, Kronholm & Associates, Inc.



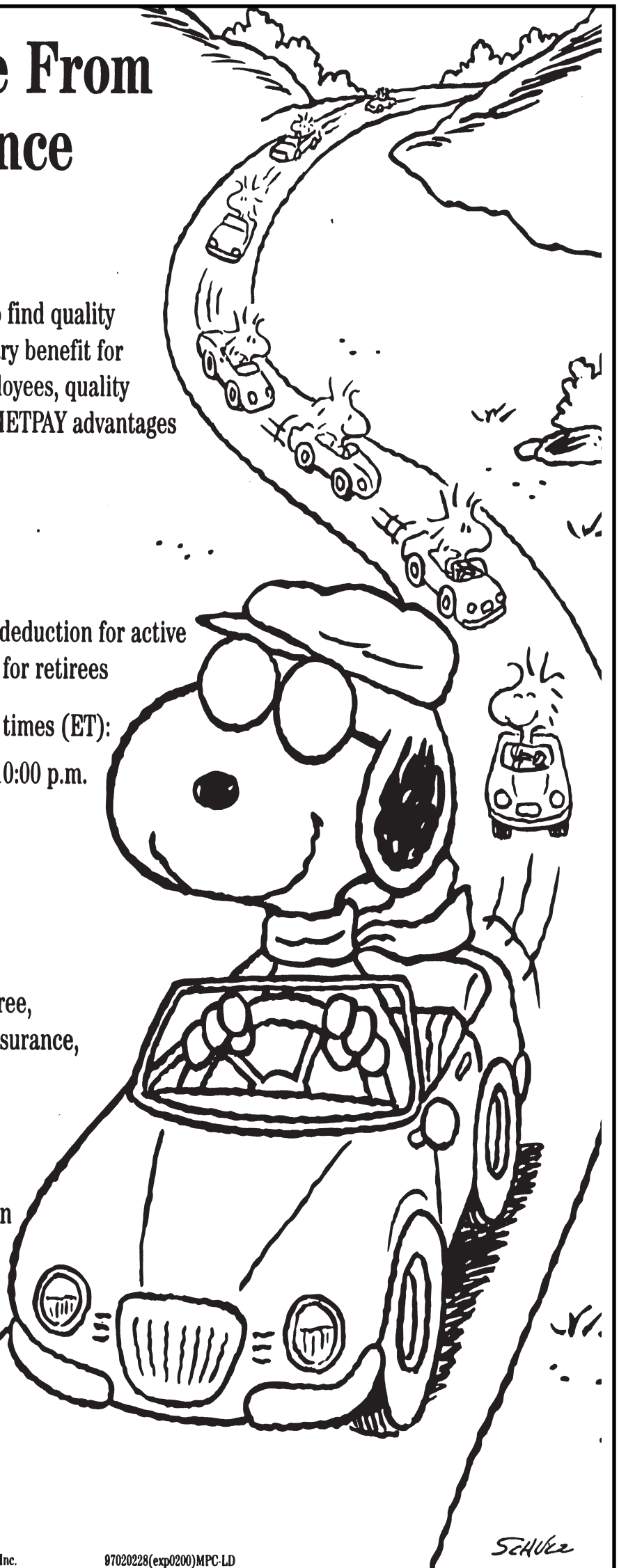
Metropolitan Property and Casualty Insurance Company and Affiliates, Warwick, RI

ART00202868

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Has your Chapter Donated to the CSEA McCusker Memorial Scholarship Fund?



SCHUEZ