

Clean Contracting for Connecticut

Mobilize to Win!



P-4 Council Members Lynn Coda-Klein and Vern Derbabian Testify at Hearings into the "Homeland Insecurity" Scandal at the Capitol

Pressure to reform the State's contracting-out policies are at an all time high. Newspaper Editorial Boards are calling for reform of State agencies that are over-reliant on contracted consultants. Governor Rell publicly urged legislative leaders to schedule a special session to take up and pass the historic clean contracting compromise bill late last month. Senate President Williams then reaffirmed his pledge to take up the bill this summer. House Speaker Amman followed by saying an overwhelming number of House members want to vote for the legislation.

At press time, we were waiting for an announcement on a date for a special session of the General Assembly to take up contract reform. Taking nothing for granted, our Local's "clean contracting messengers" and SEIU State Council political organizers have not let up in reaching out to opinion-leaders, decision-makers, and legislators.

Blowing the Whistle on Outsourcing

Following legislative hearings into the "Little Dig" on I-84, which we reported in the August edition of the CSEA News, our members were invited to testify just two weeks later on the State's failed contract with MAXIMUS to upgrade the Department of Public Safety's (DPS) criminal database system.

Our members first exposed the failure of private consultants to overhaul the state's Connecticut Online Law Enforcement Communications Teleprocessing (COLLECT) database. In investigating our story, the media alerted the Attorney General's

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Our Legislative Action Committee

Prisons Should Not Be the Last Avenue of Protection for State's Mentally Ill



Cathy Osten
 Correctional Lieutenant,
 CT Dept. of Correction
 President, CSC Council

(Editor's note: this Opinion-Editorial was published in the 8/26 edition of the New London Day's "Perspective" section, and was written in response to their July 29 Op-Ed, Mental Illness Clients Deserve Respect And Understanding)

As an 18-year veteran with the Connecticut Department of Correction (DOC), I read Jennifer Gross' recent opinion editorial on the criminalization of mental illness with great interest. As the elected president of the Corrections Supervisors' Council in CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, I have been very concerned about the growing number of mentally ill inmates our members in the DOC work with every day.

The opinion piece referred to legislation creating a mental-health training program for DOC professionals, which was passed by the General Assembly and signed into law by the governor in July. I supported this bill because I believe it will work to correct a great wrong.

This wrong is the criminalization of mental illness. Inmates with certain mental illnesses used to be diverted by the courts to Norwich Hospital or Fairfield Hills, which are now closed. Their closing, along with the downsizing of Connecticut Valley Hospital, has created a crisis in which we do not have enough beds for inmates whose condition requires the treatment of a medical professional.

This increase has been followed by a decrease in the number of medical and mental-health staff in the DOC. The assessment of inmates with medical and mental-health issues is now done regularly by "online staff." In particular, lieutenants serving as shift supervisors, and who have not received medical training, are carrying much of this burden.

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 CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

Our Actions...in Brief

Members' Current Issues, Meetings, & Events

»» Grassroots Support for A Strong New Contract:

Leaders of several community-based organizations are standing with our members working as school bus drivers in New Haven to help win improved health care. The unaffordable, poor quality insurance offered by their employer, First Student, leaves too many of our members and their families without critical, preventative coverage. Our partners in the Universal Health Care Foundation brought leaders of the Health Care for All Coalition, Christian Community Action, and Citizens for Economic Opportunity together with our Bargaining Team and several Chapter members to develop an action plan for building community support during current contract negotiations last month! Our website's "In Our Communities" page, www.csea-ct.com/good_works/, includes links to each of the organization's websites where you can learn more.



Council 760 Chapter 1108 Bargaining Team Members Joined by Secretary-Treasurer Patrice Peterson and Community Organizers

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

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 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, September 20, 10:00 a.m., CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

CHAPTER 401, Hartford area, Thursday, September 6, 1:00 p.m. (light lunch served at 12:00 p.m.), CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Speaker: Attorney Daniel Tully on long-term care issues. Contact: Katherine Goulet at (860) 675-4053.

CHAPTER 402, Danbury area, Wednesday, September 12, 10:00 a.m., (refreshments follow meeting), United Methodist Church, 5 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury. Speaker: 24th District CGA Senator David Capiello on the 2007 legislative session. Contact: Dawn Gallagher at (203) 748-2018.

CHAPTER 403, Norwich area, Tuesday, September 11, 1:30 p.m. (meeting room not available until 1:00, refreshments prior to meeting), Rose City Senior Center, 8 Mahan Dr., Norwich. Chapter Vice-President position open. Contact: Gail Carr at (860) 822-0788.

CHAPTER 404, Waterbury area, September 11, 10:30 a.m. (social, meeting follows), Elks Club, 758 Rubber Ave., Naugatuck. Speaker: Federal Emergency Management Agency Representative Richard Cormier. Contact: Armand Rosanelli at (203) 758-5122.

CHAPTER 405, New Haven area, Wednesday, September 12, 12:30 p.m. (social, meeting follows at 1:00 p.m.), Southern CT State University, Adanti Student Center (Building 14), 3rd Floor, Room 306, 501 Crescent St., New Haven. Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Contact: Andy Gambardella at (203) 468-7376.

CHAPTER 406, Middletown area, Tuesday, September 11, 1:00 p.m., (social, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), American Legion Post 75, 58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown. Council 400 Retiree Coordinator Hollis Block on the importance of increasing membership and retiree influence. 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, September 19; 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). Speaker: Rachel Saiga on elder law issues. Contact: Celeste McGrath at (203) 378-4576.

CHAPTER 408, Willimantic area, Wednesday, September 12; 12:45 p.m. (pizza, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), McSweeney Regional Senior Center, 47 Crescent St., Willimantic. Meeting open to the public. Speaker: Financial services consultant Michael Damon. Contact: Donna Linkkila at (860) 455-0883.

CHAPTER 410, Windsor Locks area, Monday, September 10, 1:00 p.m., VFW Post 6123, 40 Fairview St., Windsor Locks. Speaker: Healthcare Insurance Solutions Principal Shelia McNamara, RN, CLTC on long-term care benefits for retired and active State workers. Contact: Elaine Colson at (860) 623-8704.

CHAPTER 411, Rocky Hill area, Thursday, September 13, 1:00 p.m. (social follows meeting), William J. Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield St., Wethersfield. Speaker: CT Dept of Emergency Management and Homeland Security Detective Nick Sabetta on "identity theft." Contact: Florence Egan at (860) 666-0382.

CHAPTER 412, Putnam area, Tuesday, September 18, 1:30 p.m. (social follows meeting), Knights of Columbus, 64 Providence St., Putnam. Speaker: 51st District CGA House Representative Shawn Johnston. Refreshments, door prizes. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Don Gladding at (860) 564-9092.

CHAPTER 414, Torrington area, Monday, September 17, 10:00 a.m., UCONN Torrington Agriculture Building, 855 University Dr., Torrington. Speaker: Council 400 Retiree Coordinator Hollis Block on the importance of increasing membership and retiree influence. Contact: Karen Pineman at (860) 354-6727.

CHAPTER 415, Manchester area, Monday, September 24, 1:00 p.m., Elks Lodge, 30 Bissell St. Manchester. Refreshments will be served. Chapter's holiday luncheon details will be discussed. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

CHAPTER 416, New London area, Tuesday, September 11; 12:00 p.m. (refreshments, business meeting at 12:30 p.m., program at 1:15 p.m.), Waterford Public Library, 49 Rope Ferry Road, Waterford. Speaker: 20th District CGA Senator Andrea Stillman and 38th District CGA House Representative Elizabeth Ritter on accomplishments and disappointments of the 2007 legislative session and issues to be raised in 2008, with question and answer session to follow. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Les Shapiro at (860) 442-5256.

CHAPTER 417, Plainville area, Wednesday, September 12, 1:00 p.m. (social, meeting follows), Church of Our Savior Episcopal Church, 115 West Main St., Plainville. Speaker: Steve Budd on Connecticut State Employee long-term care insurance offered by MetLife. Contact: Nicholas D'Emanuelle at (860) 628-6675.

CHAPTER 418/4Cs, Thursday, September 13, 10:00 a.m., Congress of CT Community Colleges, 907 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford. Refreshments. Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Contact: Aldo Sicuso at (860) 346-3550.

FLORIDA & OTHER STATES' EVENTS

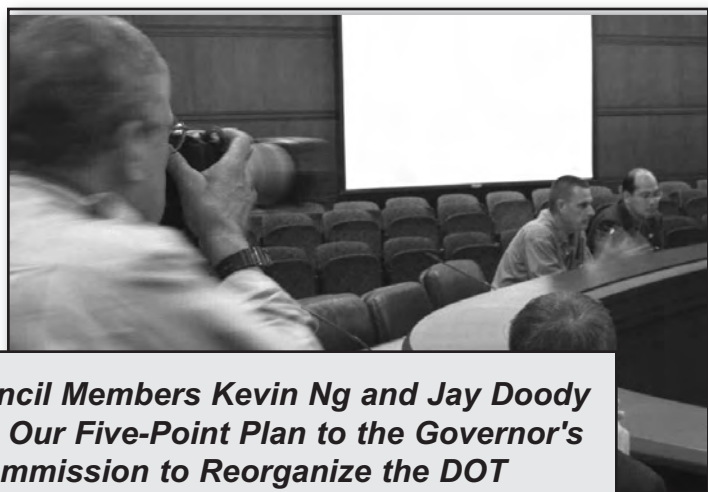
CHAPTER 425, Sun Coast Florida area, Tuesday, September 11, 11:00 a.m., Philippe Park, 2525 Philippe Pkwy, Safety Harbor, FL. "Welcome Back Picnic" with hamburgers & hot dogs. Cost: Free, members may bring salad or dessert to share. Contact: Hank Bracker at (727) 848-0089.

Chapter Secretaries and Program Coordinators:

The deadline for October meeting information is Monday, September 10.

Living Labor History

Reforming the DOT



P-4 Council Members Kevin Ng and Jay Doody Present Our Five-Point Plan to the Governor's Commission to Reorganize the DOT

Continuing the tradition of our members acting as watchdogs for the public interest, we have placed our latest efforts at passage of clean contracting in the larger context of reforming dysfunctional governmental agencies. Specifically, we have delivered a message that contract reform is a step toward ending the well-documented corruption and mismanagement in the State's Department of Transportation (DOT).

We first created this opportunity to combine our messages when Governor Rell announced the formation of a panel to reform the DOT back in April. As we reported in the May edition of the CSEA News, media coverage of the "Little Dig" on I-84 scandal was increasingly focused on the agency's failure to provide oversight on transportation projects outsourced to private consultants. Lawmakers joining our members in calling for hearings into the debacle had compelled her to act.

Urging she appoint a rank-and-file member of our union to the Commission, we saw the opportunity to change the public perception of the agency's front-line workforce. In an interview with the Associated Press' capitol bureau reporter at the time, P-4 Council member Jay Doody observed, "to reform an agency that relies too heavily on private sector consultants, does it really make sense to outsource the task to private sector consultants?"

By the time she expanded the panel in July, ahead of the first legislative hearings into the "Little Dig," we had effectively linked clean contracting to the larger debate about how to reform the culture of corruption in the agency.

P-4 Council members Monique Burns and Kevin Ng joined Jay to bring our message direct to the newly expanded panel at a public informational forum at the Legislative Office Building in Hartford on August 9. Kevin opened by reaffirming the need for our members to be part of the reform process. "Our 'insights from the inside' are essential to accomplishing the mission of restoring the public trust in the agency" he told the panel.



P-4 Council Member Monique Burns Tells Channel 8 TV's Viewers We Need Clean Contracting at the Reform Panel Hearing

The first of our proposals in our "Five-Point Plan for Reforming the DOT: 'Safety, Security, and Savings'" we presented to the panel was for the legislature to pass clean contracting, and for Governor to sign the bill when it arrived on her desk!

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Our President's Desk

Where Do We Go From Here



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

I think most of you have seen the sign or bumper sticker that reads "Plan Ahead," where the person painting the sign obviously didn't plan and started too far to the right on the available space. The result is that the last three letters in 'Ahead' are crowded together at the end or are rolling down to the next line below:



There is another saying; "If you fail to plan, you are planning to fail."

The whole point is that you need a vision of where you are going or want to go. Then you need a well thought out plan on how to get there.

Students know where they are going as early as the end of August; "Back to School," at

least for the next year. It isn't hard for them to focus on that because as soon as summer vacation started in June, the newspapers and the TV started running the back to school sales advertisements on clothing and school supplies. I'm sure retailers are already planning Holiday sales and store decorations that are sure to begin right after school.

But what about the students who are looking further down the road than just the next school year? Are they in high school and planning for where they want to go to college? Or are they already in college and planning for a career beyond that? Are they making appropriate plans and selections of their course work and getting involved in extra-curricular activities to prepare for that?

The wise ones are!

SEIU, in advance of its quadrennial convention in 2008, has been charged by International Executive Board President Andy Stern to look to the future and formulate a plan for action. The real challenge is that the plan is not just for the four years of the next convention cycle. The goal is to project out as far as twenty years. It seems like a long time but in reality it isn't. Our active and retired State

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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.

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400 LAC ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee

Reforming the Federal Drug Administration



Irv Schwartz

Co-Chair, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 405



Al Tee

Member, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 411

The Federal Drug Administration (FDA) has been walking a fine line between the safety of drugs and the speed with which new drugs are brought to the market. The relationship between speed and safety has been highlighted by the recent scandals over the diabetic drug Avandia, made by GlaxoSmithKline.

Drug companies want to rush their newest drugs quickly onto the market. On the other hand, the FDA needs the proper required time to test the safety of medicines. Those trials and experiments may take a long time and require many doctors to check the results.

In the 1980's, it took three years to approve a drug. During the height of the AIDS epidemic, many people died because breakthrough drugs were not available soon enough. Therefore, in 1992, the FDA made a deal with the devil; if the drug companies agreed to pay the millions of dollars in fees necessary, the FDA guaranteed a completed drug review of lifesaving medicine within six months to a year.

However, once a drug reached the market, the companies refused to pay for further monitoring of drug safety. Thus, the agency became dependent upon the fees, and the safety testing withered.

Obviously, the FDA needs more resources for drug-safety assessments.

A certain atmosphere exists at



Stu Fishbone

Member, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 416

the agency wherein drug safety officers have been punished. More than a year ago, Dr. Rosemary Johann-Liang, a pediatrician and expert in infectious diseases, recommended that Avandia carry the agency's strongest possible safety warning for its effects on the heart. But her boss, Dr. Mark Avigan, told her she could no longer approve strong safety recommendations without his say-so. After a seven-year career, she left the agency.

In 2003, Dr. Andrew Mosholder warned against certain antidepressants that were making children suicidal. A reporter found out about this, and the doctor was prevented from speaking to any advisory committee. The agency hired Columbia University researchers to check this out and they concluded that Dr. Mosholder was right.

In 2006, Dr. David Ross warned about serious illness and death of patients taking the antibiotic Ketek, made by Sanofi-Aventis.

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Mobilize to Win...

(Continued from page 1)

office of this latest contracting-out crisis, prompting threats of legal action against MAXIMUS, the private government services consulting firm behind the \$6 million debacle.

It took less than a week for members of the General Assembly's Public Safety and Security Committee to call for legislative hearings after the headline State May Sue Over Police Database Project appeared in the *Hartford Courant's* July 23 edition.

"We were shocked that the State contracted such an important project to MAXIMUS, the same private consultants who just a few years before had botched the Department of Social Services' program to reimburse child-care costs."

Lynn Coda-Klein

Information Tech Analyst 2,
CT Dept. of Information Technology
Co-Chair, Legislative Action Committee



Our members pressed the issue of MAXIMUS' role in another costly outsourcing scandal ten years ago in the testimony we delivered to the Committee. News media reports on the August 1 hearing included our reference to a 1998 *Hartford Courant* article on the report State Auditors released after the legislature ordered an investigation of the \$13 million debacle.



"MAXIMUS proceeded to upgrade this critical IT system without the oversight needed that would have ensured the project was completed on-time and on-budget."

Vern Derbabian

Systems Developer,
CT Dept. of Info Technology
Steward, Chapter 148, P-4 Council

Our members also pointed out the lack of oversight on the project to the lawmakers on the Committee. The contract to upgrade the DPS COLLECT system called for a project manager, a position also outsourced to an outside consultant. It appears that when DOIT terminated this individual's contract, it failed to fill the vacancy.

Several of our members working in public safety submitted testimony, providing valuable insight into how first-responders and criminal justice professionals rely on the system each and every day. Members of the Connecticut State Police Union (CSPU) and AFSCME Council 15 Local 530 joined us in speaking to the media and testifying to the Committee, as well.

» **Wins for West Hartford Town Workers:** Despite negotiating in the very difficult political climate the Federation of Connecticut Taxpayers Associations has stirred up over revaluation, our Council 760 members working for the Town of West Hartford have made significant gains in contract talks. At press time, our Bargaining Team members had reached tentative agreements with the Town on contracts for three of our six bargaining units; Grounds/Parks (Chapter 959), Building/Maintenance (Chapter 984), and Town Hall



**Chapter 959
BT Members
John Maloney and
Steve Schunder**

"We all agree that COLLECT needs upgrades, like the ability to display photographs and fingerprints. In this case, the State put the safety of the public and our public safety professionals at risk by contracting out this critical work."

Chez DiNino

Supervising Inspector,
CT Division of Criminal Justice
President, Police Inspectors Council



Our collective message to legislators was simple; the \$6 million "Homeland Insecurity" outsourcing scandal means we need clean contracting in Connecticut NOW!

Visit our website's new "Outsourcing Public Safety" page at www.csea-ct.com/action/homeland_insecurity_scandal.cfm for more on our members' role in exposing the truth behind the scandal, and for links to news coverage of the legislative hearing featuring our members' voices.

Now is the Time

There are several simple ways for each of us to play a role in winning clean contracting for Connecticut!

Our SEIU State Council organizers and our Local's political staff are working "behind the scenes" to press legislative leadership to place the bill on the call for a special session this summer. We are distributing a leaflet at State agency worksites with quick, easy instructions for contacting local Representatives and Senators by phone, e-mail, or in-person to urge them to join the call for a special session.

Visit our website's "Protecting the Public Interest" page for access to our Action Alert e-mail tool and a downloadable version of the leaflet you can print and pass out to co-workers, friends, and family. Go to www.csea-ct.com/action/clean_contracting.cfm and select "We Are Good Government Watchdogs" from the index.

Then, once the date for the special session is announced, SEIU will coordinate "patch-through" phone banking for our members to connect with local lawmakers' offices and leave a simple message; "Pass clean contracting NOW!"

This isn't just about delivering quality public services and protecting taxpayer resources. This is also about preserving strong, middle-class public sector jobs now and in the future. Be a "clean contracting messenger" and contribute more than an e-mail or a voice message to this vital effort. Contact our Communications Director Matt O'Connor at (800) 894-9479, ext 129 to sign-up today!



**Chapter 984
BT Members
Nancy Hurst and
Andre Sonnenberg**

Supervisors (Chapter 962). The five-year agreements include general wage increases averaging 3.25% annually and

improvements to pensions for members with 30 or more years of service. We look forward to being able to provide an update for our members in the three

remaining units in the October edition of the CSEA News.

**Chapter 962 BT Members Chris Dec
and John Phillip and
Chapter 959 BT Member Dane Salzarulo**



» Union Women, Getting Political About Change:

Four of our most active members attended this year's Northeast Regional Women's Summer School, hosted by the United Association for Labor Education at the National Labor College campus in Silver Spring, Maryland. P-4 Council member and LAC Co-Chair Lynn Coda Klein and Council 760 members Sharon Hagans, Ruby Reilly, and Rita Morin spent five days in July sharing strategies for building power for women in the labor movement. Ruby and Rita observed, "the knowledge we have taken in is unbelievable" and pledged to share the program with co-workers and fellow members alike!



Plainfield School Bus Drivers Rita Morin and Ruby Reilly Participating in One of Many Workshops at UALE's Summer School

Prisons Should Not Be...

(Continued from page 1)

Instead, these people are incarcerated in our agency as a last avenue of protection, both for themselves and the public.

A promise was made when the state's psychiatric hospitals were closed. Our elected officials agreed to create opportunities for supportive living environments for those who were cut off from the care these facilities once provided. We have failed to keep this promise.

That failure has put the responsibility of providing for thousands with mental disorders on our DOC work force. However, the resources needed to fulfill this obligation have been inadequate and inappropriate. The situation is worsened by the lack of supportive housing for offenders with mental illness, post-incarceration.

Currently, the DOC is responsible for more than 3,000 inmates who have been diagnosed with some form of mental illness. Though we have a dedicated facility for such inmates, it only houses about 650. Where are the other 2,350 inmates afflicted with a mental disorder? You'll find them in the

general population in our facilities all over the state.

This begs the question, "Why did we close psychiatric facilities if the need still exists?"

I can tell you firsthand that the DOC is ill-equipped to handle these needs, and that is why we supported the bill establishing mental-health training for our members who work as lieutenants, training officers, captains and counselor supervisors in the department.

Ms. Gross points out that the legislation was not fully funded. That is why our members plan to monitor implementation and urge lawmakers to increase access to resources so we can provide treatment that is more expansive for inmates with mental illness.

We will do this because the taxpayers of Connecticut need to know that inmates with mental disorders in our state's prisons will receive proper medical attention while in our custody. The public deserves to have these clients' needs met so they are not released back into society with more severe mental disorders than when first incarcerated.

»» Our Members' Labor Day Picnic Initiative:

Council 760 member Steve Dube was interviewed in July by Workers Independent News, which provides feeds on labor-related issues to stations around the nation, on his band's anti-outsourcing song, "Mad in America," which we first promoted in the June edition of the CSEA News. Along with ETx bandmate and fellow P-4 Council member Tom Reed, they have stepped up interest in the tune, providing copies to members of Congress, and recruiting labor unions around the country to promote their latest effort: to make the song #1 on iTunes' Top 100 this Labor Day. On Monday, September 3, visit the band's webpage for the song at www.madnamerica.com, click on the American Flag image to access

and download Apple iTunes software, and then purchase your own copy. For just 99 cents, you can help ignite a Labor Day "grassfire" and bring attention to the issue of off-shoring America's middle-class jobs!



Reforming the DOT...

(Continued from page 3)

"We need legislation that would require strict contract standards for all public projects, and improve contractor and consultant accountability" Monique said in a press release we issued before the forum. "I believe if a cost-benefit analysis had been performed prior to outsourcing the design of the 'Little Dig,' which the Clean Contracting bill our members support would require, it would have shown that we could have designed the project more cost-effectively" she added.

The complete "Five-Point Plan" is available at our website's "Protecting the Public Interest" page. select "Public Service Workers Committed to Reform" from the index at www.csea-ct.com/action/clean_contracting.cfm for access to the file, which you can download and print, or read online.

A new web page the DOT Reform Panel has set up at the agency's website has a link for submitting "ideas" and "comments" by e-mail. Log on to www.ct.gov/dot and select "Governor's Commission on the Reform of the Connecticut Department of Transportation," and submit any one, or all five, of our recommendations today!

STRONGER
CSEA
SEIU
 Local 2001
TOGETHER

Social Activities

Meadowlands Flea Market & Macy's Balloons

Saturday, Nov. 3

Cost: \$40.00 per person, with reservations
 Deposit deadline: Sep. 19

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

Bus pick-ups in
 East Hartford &
 New Haven!



Radio City Christmas Rockettes Spectacular

Thursday, Nov. 15

Cost: \$124.00 per person
 Reservations due: Oct. 21

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

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

Our President's Desk...

(Continued from page 3)

workers are already half way through the historic twenty-year pension and health care agreement negotiated in 1997.

The leaders of the SEIU's Public Service Division from around the country recently met to address this challenge. It is safe to say that right now there are still more questions than answers, but the results of that conference will be filtering out as we head toward the end of this year. To stimulate your thinking, here are just a few example questions:

"How can we strengthen our pension plans to ensure our current members retire securely while ensuring retirement security for future members?"

"What should the division do about the healthcare crisis for public and private sector workers?"

"What is the effect of declining union membership in the private sector on public service workers?"

With regard to that last question, we were recently reminded only too clearly by the Crandall Canyon mine tragedy of the negative impact of the decline of the United Mine Workers on the safety and working conditions in the coal industry.

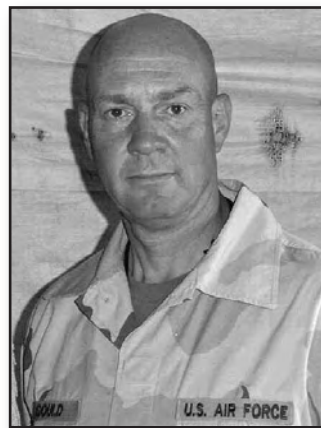
In the near future I will be appointing a "Committee of the Future" to look at these questions and formulate a plan for progress at the local level. Over the course of the next several months, we will focus our efforts on answering the one simple question that ties all the rest together:

"What do we want from our union in the future?"

If you were to have control of the union steering wheel, what direction would you take us? The upcoming Labor Day holiday weekend is a time that we should use to reflect on some of these issues in addition to enjoying the last official weekend of summer.

»» Welcome Home from Military Duty:

State Police Council Vice-President Ed Gould, who works as a Lieutenant for the Department of Public Safety, has recently returned from a tour of military duty overseas. Prior to deployment late last year, Ed was very active in historic efforts to organize fellow captains and lieutenants in the agency to unite for a voice on the job. Serving with the Connecticut Air National



Guard in Afghanistan, Ed was away in February when the Labor Board certified the results of their unanimous election to join our union. In July, the Board handed down another ruling ordering the State to begin negotiations, and if the Administration does the right thing and abides by its own Labor Board, Ed will soon join fellow Council leaders at the table and bargain collectively with DPS. Welcome home, Ed!

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 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

Share Your Credit Union Membership!

As a credit union member, you're already aware of the savings and convenience we have to offer...But did you know your family members and co-workers could also join?

If you have eligible family members or co-workers who are tired of paying the high fees, interest rates, and service charges at banks, ask them to call or stop by the credit union for information on how to join.

When they compare our financial products and services with what they have been paying, they'll wonder why they didn't join sooner and will thank you for telling them about us.

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

The Credit Union will be **CLOSED:**

Labor DayMonday, September 3

**Invite someone to
JOIN
the Credit Union!**



JUST A REMINDER

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

Dividend Rates – 2nd Quarter 2007

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

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

7 Full-Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH

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

HARTFORD

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

NEW HAVEN

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

MIDDLETOWN

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

STORRS

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

SOUTHBURY

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

NEWINGTON

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

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

Classified Advertising

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

FOR SALE

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.4palmbayhomes.com/mls458362

Palm Bay, FL (321) 951-8876.

NORTH CONWAY, NH TIMESHARE, sleeps 12 – 14, Week #21 Sat. to Sat., annual fee \$641, \$4500 or best offer; Lehigh Acres FL half acre land., 20 min. from Ft. Myers, \$40,000.00 OBO;

Maple dining rm set w/6 chairs; Broom folding 24" whole house fan w/shutters, still in box, \$100; 44" oak mantel, \$100; 44" 28 x 77" oak armoire, \$175; 40" 5 drawers dresser, 22" night stand, 72" dresser with 9 drawers, \$300 or best offer for set or individually.

Waterbury (203) 592-3220

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

Willington (860) 429-2928

WATERSEdge RESORT, sleeps 6, unit #366, week 48, asking \$7,000.

www.watersedge-resort.com.

Plainfield (860) 963-9030 or stevecorral@sbcglobal.net

OAK-N-SPRUCE RESORT, unit #254, 1 BD, prime week #4 in January Ski Season, \$3,000 OBO.

Norwich (860)-886-8319

HOBE SOUND FL 2 BR MOBILE HOME, 50 x 110 lot in adult community, add-ons include bedroom, laundry, & office, plus add'l DR, plants, fruit trees, large carport, paved drive, storage building, near shopping centers, churches.

Stuart, FL (772) 545-3489.

MURRAY LAWN MOWER, 40' cut 5 speed ex cond., original cost \$1,100 sell for \$700; SS counter top burner & hood, \$50; table top microwave \$15.

Newington (860) 666-9524.

YAMAHA OUTBOARD MOTOR, very low hours, tandem trailer VHF, 60 gal tank, selling due to illness. \$15,000.

Meriden (203) 235-9934.

8' LONG PICNIC TABLE, very sturdy sits 8-10 full-size adults, made by retired carpenter, better quality than Home Depot or Lowes. \$275.

Meriden (203) 235-4900.

OAK CORNER ENTERTAINMENT CENTER, fits 32" TV, 3 adjustable shelves on each side, top shelf in center, bottom storage, 3-yr. old, ex cond, paid \$800 asking \$375.

Bozrah (860) 859-1952 or jcmcardle@yahoo.com.

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

Storrs (860) 429-0592.

TWIN RUBBER MATTRESS, plus bed, firm like new, perfect for an ailing back, paid \$500 now \$150; typewriter, \$99; dinnerware service for eight, pretty patterns, now \$20.

Stratford (203) 378-9270
CAMERAS FOR THE COLLECTOR, from the past 50 years; old men's ties, collection from the 1940's and 50's; science fiction books from the 50's.

Columbia (860) 228-4565

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

Newington (860) 667-2034

FOR RENT

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

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

Stuart, FL (772) 545-3489.

FREEPORT BAHAMAS, Ocean Reef Yacht Club & Resort, 2 units avail, 2BR units sleep 6, fully equipped, \$900/per unit.

Hartford (860) 841-3107.
VERO BEACH FL CONDO. 2/2, third (top) flr/w elevator, beautiful courtyard w/pool, newly decorated, close to everything, 55+ and 3-month min, \$900/month, \$1,650 Dec. - Apr.

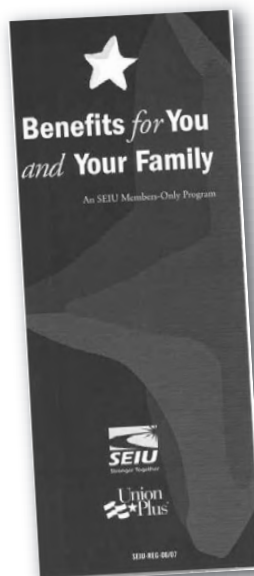
Stratford (203) 378-3319.

WANTED

OLD PHOTOS OF NORWICH, the Norwich hospital, and WWII submarines.

Norwich (860) 887-7566.

An Updated SEIU Union Plus Brochure with Current Members-Only Discounts on Products and Services is Available at Our Union Hall and Our Web Site's "Our Membership Benefits" Page!



Lake Compounce
NEW ENGLAND'S FAMILY THEME PARK

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!

DEATHS REPORTED

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

Leon Baldewicz of chapter 405 died on 5/28/07
Leroy Barnes, 420, 7/10/07
Claire Bennett, 405, 4/04/07
Aaron Bloom, 406, 6/10/07
Joseph Canale, 402, 7/3/07
Thomas Cooney, 421, 7/4/07
Anne Corey, 416, 4/13/07
Margaret Dziubinski, 405, 6/18/07
Katharine Farina, 408, 5/26/07
Nellie Federkiewicz, 401, 6/9/07
Norris Flagg, Jr., 406, 6/03/07

Shirley Florio, 406, 7/15/07
Lucy Guarino, 406, 2/23/07
George Hamilton, 420, 6/29/07
William Hammel, 423, 7/13/07
Kathleen Havranek, 406, 5/24/07
Marie Johnson, 411, 6/21/07
Edward Kostoss, 406, 6/22/07
Teofila Labant, 403, 5/09/07
Marcia Lattime, 406, 5/23/07
Alexander MacNeal, 410, 6/19/07
James Mellom, 401, 6/13/07
Marie Mikosky, 422, 6/07/07
Mary Moriarty, 401, 6/10/07
Regina Nero, 408, 6/11/07
Stella Nowosadko, 420, 6/28/07
William O'Connor, 420, 6/4/07
Theresa Orszulak, 412, 7/06/07
Barbara Osborn, 408, 4/28/07
Johanna Randmaa, 420, 6/23/07
Lois Reichelt, 401, 5/20/07
Ellen Ryder, 406, 7/5/07
Earl Robinson, Jr., 420, 7/10/07
Merrill Robinson, 402, 7/08/07
Emma Tilford, 401, 5/20/07
Arno Wagner, 410, 5/31/07

Reforming the FDA...

(Continued from page 4)

The agency failed to listen. He then privately complained to Congressional investigators, and articles appeared in the *Wall Street Journal* and *The New York Times*. The manufacturer then took action.

Senator Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) has said Drs. Johann-Liang, Mosholder and Ross were part of a pattern demonstrating the need for reforms at the FDA.

Congress should require the FDA to make regular public assessments of the safety of approved medicines, act on reports of drug problems within a month or two, and

require regular reports on the agency's adherence to these goals. The FDA has to strike the right balance between speed and safety (G. Harris, *Potentially Incompatible Goals*, *New York Times*, June 11, 2007).

Attend your Chapter's regular monthly meetings, which resume this month, to meet and hear from your delegates to the Council 400 Legislative Action Committee. Learn about how we are working with local and state community advocates, SEIU, and our national labor partners to protect the health and well being of public service retirees here in Connecticut and across the nation!

»» **Our Choices in the Municipal Primaries:** Our SEIU State Council, which represents 55,000 Connecticut workers and retirees in the public and private sectors, has held "candidate forums" in Bridgeport and Hartford to interview the candidates seeking our endorsement in the 2007 Municipal Primary Elections, scheduled for Tuesday, September 11. At press time, members who attended the Bridgeport meeting in late-June had voted to endorse 126th House District Representative Chris Caruso in his bid for the Democratic Party's nomination. A consensus in the hotly contested race for the Democrats' nominee for Mayor of Hartford could not be reached, however, and the State Council was unable to make an endorsement. New Haven Mayor John DeStefano had requested an endorsement prior to the disqualification of his only challenger in the Democratic Party's primary election, so at its July State Council meeting, delegates from our five affiliated unions voted to recommend members re-nominate the incumbent.

Bridgeport Mayor: Connecticut State Representative Chris Caruso

New Haven Mayor: Incumbent Mayor John DeStefano



Respects for a Long-Serving Activist

Sebastian "Mike" Marino (1905 - 2007)



Mike Marino and Fellow Council 400 Retirees on the Floor of the General Assembly for the "100% Healthcare" Campaign in 1987

One of our union's oldest members, Sebastian "Mike" Marino passed away July 3 at the age of 102. After retiring from thirty-five years of service with the State of Connecticut in 1969, Mike remained active in building and strengthening our Council 400. His ability to organize fellow retirees was perhaps best demonstrated during our 10-year campaign to win 100% health insurance coverage for retired State workers and their families.

In addition to his union activism, Mike committed much of his time in retirement to community service as a member of the Sons of Italy, the Knights of Columbus, and the Middletown Democratic Town Committee. Owing to his civic participation, in 1990 the Mayor of Middletown proclaimed Mike's 85th birthday as a day to honor his role in the community.

Let us all commit to never forget Mike for his many, many years of dedicated service to the labor movement.

State of Connecticut Employees and Retirees!



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