



# CSEA

# NEWS



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



New & Expanded  
CSEA/Web Site: [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com)

JUNE, 2006

CSEA's News of Government and Its People

VOL. 39, NO. 6



Retired CSEA members get answers to their questions May 17 at Council 400's Hartford "health fair," the first of four being held around Connecticut during the open-enrollment period.

Speaking with plan representatives, clockwise from top left: Sherrill Stott; Lynn Traiger (on right), Joe Risigo and Florence Bourque (left side of table).

Representatives from all plans were available to offer assistance and provide material.

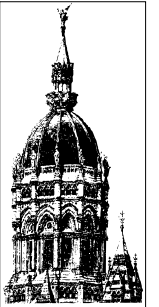
## –Legislative Wrap-Up– All CSEA Unit Contracts in Effect CSEA/SEIU Support Wins Passage for Pro-worker Bills

The 2006 General Assembly adjourned May 3 without taking up the P-3B (Education Professions) unit contract. Under state statute, the contract went into effect May 4.

Contracts for all other CSEA units had been approved by the legislature or became effective under the 30-day provision. (Please see previous issues

or CSEA's web site for summary highlights of the contracts.)

We expect it will take approximately two months to print the contract booklets. Copies will be mailed to all members and also posted on CSEA's web site.



### Retirement Credit for Judicial Marshals

Substitute Senate Bill 219 sets up a process for unions representing Judicial Marshals (former special deputy sheriffs) to meet with State Comptroller's Office representatives to discuss the purchase of retirement credit for prior service as special deputy sheriffs.

CSEA is the exclusive representative for the Supervising Judicial Marshals Unit. "CSEA recently negotiated hazardous duty retirement-credit back to 1999 when they went from the County Sheriff system into state service and the state pension system," said CSEA Executive Director Robert D. Rinker. "The service they rendered before and after" (See "Legislative," Page 5)

### HEALTH INSURANCE OPEN-ENROLLMENT DEADLINES:

**State Employees:** May 16 – June 16 ■ **State Retirees:** May 15 – June 9

"Health Care Options Planners" which provide a comparison of the carriers and applicable premiums, were mailed to State Retirees by the Comptroller's Office. If you did not receive one, please contact the Retirement & Benefit Services Division, Health Care Unit, at (860)702-3533.

More information and links to the Comptroller's web site are available at CSEA's web site: [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com), or go directly to the Comptroller's web page at: [www.osc.state.ct.us](http://www.osc.state.ct.us).

## Arbitrator's Ruling: Grievant's Reemployment Rights Were Violated

One missing form in a packet distributed to a laid-off state worker was enough to convince an arbitrator that the grievant had been denied her reemployment rights under the SEBAC (State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition) III agreement.

Heather Branco-Ferrando was one of three Property Agents I laid off from the Dept. of Transportation in January of 2003.

At that time, more than 2,800 employees in nearly every state agency received layoff notices as then-Gov. Rowland used the elimination of state jobs to address the budget deficit.

At a DOT meeting attended by approximately 200 laid-off workers, two sets of forms were handed out – one pertaining to the employee's SEBAC rights to be filled out at the meeting, and the others to be completed at home and

then returned.

According to Branco-Ferrando, the SEBAC forms were uncollated and unstapled. A page missing from her set contained a map of locations on which she was to choose the areas where she would consider working.

The PLD-1 forms she completed and returned later did have a geographic preference page and she did indicate Hartford as one of her preferences.

At the hearing, Branco-Ferrando testified that a staff member from the DOT personnel office told her that page 7 (the map) was missing from some of the SEBAC forms returned by employees, and that the department transferred geographic preferences from the PLD-1 forms to the SEBAC packet.

The grievant's SEBAC forms do include the map, however it is signed with her name but not in her

handwriting, and it does not include Hartford as a geographic preference.

As a result, the grievant was not considered for one of two Dept. of Public Works Property Agent II positions in Hartford which were filled in August 2003.

Branco-Ferrando was hired back by DOT into a Property Agent I position in December 2003, and was promoted to Property Agent II in April 2004.

When she was rehired, she found out that the other two employees laid off with her had been hired back as Property Agents II in DPW months earlier.

CSEA Staff Representative David Glidden argued that Branco-Ferrando:

- was denied her SEBAC III rights to fill a vacant position in a classification that she was qualified for.
- (See "Arbitrator's," Page 6)

### WELCOME:

### Substitute State School Instructors

By a vote of 12-1, Substitute State School Instructors have joined CSEA/SEIU Local 2001.

The approximately 20 statewide positions will become part of the P-3B (Education Professions) bargaining unit.

As substitute instructors, they receive a per diem wage but no health insurance or pension credit. "Many work a full-time schedule without the benefits of full-time employees," said CSEA Executive Director Robert D. Rinker.

CSEA filed a petition to represent the workers, and, following a hearing before the State Board of Labor Relations (See "Welcome," Page 4)

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 JUNE 7

#### OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Environmental Protection Radiation Control Physicist ES 23

### 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  
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  
Public Safety Dispatcher Trainee CL 14  
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 Supervisor SH 23  
Lead Children Services Worker HN 20  
Office Assistant CL 13  
Processing Technician CL 16  
Secretary 2 CL 16

**Jobs @ UConn**

**(860)486-2466**

**UConn Health Center**

**[www.uhc.edu/](http://www.uhc.edu/)**  
(click on Education)

## Luncheons, Picnics, Installation of Officers Highlight Retiree June Events

CSEA Retiree Council 400 and its Connecticut Chapters will wind up their meeting schedule for the summer months with the June events listed below. Chapter Officers elected in May will be installed.

Many have scheduled luncheons or picnics in addition to the usual fare of speakers, information, and camaraderie.

Spouses are always welcome, and in fact, may join Council 400. Please note that some chapters subsidize the luncheon cost for members as well as other events throughout the year. Those who sign up now and attend the Council picnic in August (see box at right) will pay the reduced "Member" rate (Picnic Cost: Spouse \$20; Member \$10).

(For more information about joining, please contact the CSEA office, toll-free, at 1-800-894-9479.)

**COUNCIL 400** meets Thursday, June 15, 10 a.m. at CSEA Headquarters, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. The agenda will include Election of Officers.

**CHAPTER 401 (Hartford area):** Luncheon Thursday, June 1, Chowder Pot IV, Promenade Ballroom, 165 Brainard Rd., Hartford. Social: 11 a.m.; Meeting: 11:30 a.m.; Luncheon: 12:15 p.m. Choice/cost: slow roasted prime rib of beef (\$22 Ch. 401 member, \$25 non-member), stuffed breast of chicken supreme (\$18 member, \$21 non-member), broiled salmon filet w/honey mustard glaze (\$19 member, \$22 non-member). Reservations and pre-payment required. (See flyer mailed to members.) For information contact Chairperson Al Marotta, 296-0755, or President Katherine Goulet, 675-4053.

**CHAPTER 402 (Danbury area):** Luncheon Wednesday, June 7 (note change to first Wednesday), 12 noon, at The Hearth, Brookfield. Cost: \$12. Choice: fish, beef, chicken. For reservations, please call Clare, (203) 312-0835 before June 2 with menu selection. Pre-payment required.

**CHAPTER 403 (Norwich area):** Luncheon Tuesday, June 20 (please note change to third Tuesday), Norwich Economy Inn (formerly Ramada Inn), 10 Laura Blvd., Norwich. Social (cash bar) 11:30-12:30 (vegetables/dip, fruit, cheese & crackers); Luncheon 12:30. Cost: Chapter 403 member: \$20; Guest: \$25. Choice: lemon garlic chicken, baked stuffed scrod, petite center-cut prime rib - served with tossed salad/dressing, rice pilaf, broccoli crowns, rolls/butter, ice cream berry parfait, coffee/tea/decaf. Reservation deadline: June 3. For info contact co-chair Gail (860)822-0788, or Norm (860)886-5937. (Please see flyers mailed to members for details.)

**CHAPTER 404 (Waterbury area):** Tuesday, June 13, Hometown Buffet (next to "Toys R Us" in Brass City Commons Mall), 10:30 a.m. meeting, followed by lunch. Chapter 404 members free, \$6 guests. Speaker: State Sen. Christopher Murphy, Democratic candidate in the 5th Congressional District.

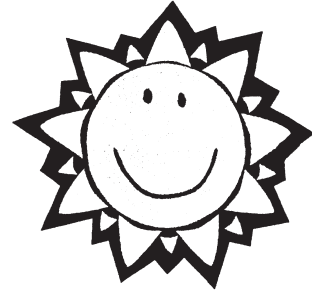
**CHAPTER 405 (New Haven area):** Buffet Luncheon Wednesday, June 14, 12-4 p.m., American Legion Hall (PLEASE NOTE DIFFERENT LOCATION AND EARLIER TIME), 20 Church St. North Haven (across from No. Haven Green). Cost: Chapter 405 members free, \$6 guests. Buffet will include: tossed salad, baked ziti, veal & mushrooms, meatballs, oven-baked chicken, eggplant rotolini. Reservation deadline for guests only: June 5. Please call Chapter President Andy Gambardella (203)468-7376, or Acting Treasurer Jan Smith: (203)287-0617.

**CHAPTER 406 (Middletown area):** Catered Cookout Tuesday, June 13, 12 noon (PLEASE NOTE EARLIER TIME), American Legion Post #75, 58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown. Cost: Free for Ch. 406 members. Hot dogs, hamburgs, potato salad, tossed salad. Raffle and door prizes.

**CHAPTER 407 (Bridgeport area):** Luncheon Wednesday, June 21, Augustyn's Blue Goose Restaurant, 326 Ferry Blvd. (Ct. Turnpike, Exit 32), Stratford. Social: 12:15 p.m., Luncheon: 1 p.m. Cost: \$12 Ch. 407 member; \$15 guest. Door prizes. Advance reservations and payment required by June 16. Contact Celeste (203)378-4576, or Mary (203)374-1220.

### SAVE THE DATE

**CSEA COUNCIL  
400  
ANNUAL OUTING**  
Wednesday, August 30  
9 A.M. - 4 P.M.



(Watch for further details.)

### CHAPTER 402 ANNUAL PICNIC (Danbury area Retirees)

**FREE  
for Members  
& Spouses**

Wednesday, July 12  
10 A.M. - 4 P.M.  
Bennett Park, Payne Rd., Bethel

(Watch for more information.)

**CHAPTER 408 (Willimantic area):** 14th Annual Picnic Wednesday, June 21 - rain or shine, 11 a.m.-3:30 p.m., Fin, Fur & Feather Club, Chewink Rd., Chaplin. Cost: \$10 Chapter 408 members, \$13 Guests. Menu: clam chowder, hamburgers, hot dogs, pasta salad, potato salad, corn-on-the-cob, watermelon, potato chips, cookies, coffee/tea (hot/iced), soda, cash bar. Reservation deadline: June 14. For info contact Clarence Sylvester, 423-2954, or Donna Linkkila, 455-0883. (Please see flyers mailed to members for details, directions.)

**CHAPTER 410 (Windsor Locks area):** Chicken Barbeque Monday, June 12, noon, VFW, Fairview St., Windsor Locks. Cost: \$7 per person. Contact Carm Wopschall (745-7017) by June 5 to make reservation and payment.

**CHAPTER 411 (Rocky Hill area):** Luncheon Thursday, June 8, Chowder Pot IV, 165 Brainard Rd., Hartford. Social: (cash bar, hors d'oeuvres), 11:30; Luncheon: 12:30. Choice/cost: slow roasted prime rib of beef (\$17 Ch. 411 member, \$27 non-member), baked scrod (\$14 member, \$24 non-member) chicken Florentine (\$14 member, \$24 non-member) - served with garden salad, penne pasta w/meat sauce, baked potato, vegetable of the day, New York style cheesecake w/strawberry topping, coffee/tea. Deadline for reservation and payment: June 5. Contact Chairperson Doris Roche (828-4615) or Co-chairperson Al Tee (677-7254). Door prizes.

**CHAPTER 412 (Putnam area):** Buffet Luncheon (G-7 Caterers) Tuesday, June 20, 1 p.m. (please note earlier time), Knights of Columbus, Providence St., Putnam.

**CHAPTER 414 (Torrington area):** Picnic Monday, June 19, on the UConn Campus grounds. Coffee and doughnuts at 9:30 a.m. followed by fellowship and lunch. Speaker: State Sen. Christopher Murphy, Democratic candidate in the 5th Congressional District. Please RSVP by June 12 to Karen Pineman (860)354-6727 or Dottie Soden (860)283-0034.

**CHAPTER 415 (Manchester area):** Monday, June 26, 1:15 p.m., Eighth District Office, 18 Main St., Manchester.

**CHAPTER 416 (Groton/Waterford area):** Luncheon Tuesday, June 13, 12 noon, Seamen's Inn Restaurant & Pub, 105 Greenmanville Ave., Mystic (at the Seaport). Choice: Rosemary chicken (\$14 Ch. 416 member, \$24 non-member), grilled filet of salmon (\$15 member, \$25 non-member), petite filet mignon (\$20 member, \$30 non-member), - served with garden salad, starch, fresh vegetable, rolls/butter, warm apple strudel, coffee/tea/decaf. Reservation deadline: June 6. Contact Chairperson Marion Lowe (860)536-2968. Door prizes. (Please see flyer mailed to members for details.)

**CHAPTER 417 (Plainville area):** Picnic Wednesday, June 14, 11:45 a.m. (please note earlier time), Church of our Savior Episcopal Church, 115 West Main St., Plainville. Cost: \$8 per person (members and guests). Reservation deadline: June 7. (See flyer mailed to members.) Speaker: State Sen. Christopher Murphy, Democratic candidate in the 5th Congressional District.

# EDITORIAL

# President's Desk The Maximum Wage

## So Long!



By Frances C. Messenger

It's amazing what you come across when cleaning out your office of the last 45 years. (That old photo of me, for one!)

It was a long ride that has finally come to an end. This is my last issue of CSEA News as I will be retiring June 1.

I'm not one who is usually at a loss for words (my husband will attest to that), but facing this juncture in life has me somewhat subdued and a whole lot apprehensive about what the future holds. I'm sure CSEA retirees can relate to these feelings.

Working alongside wonderful CSEA officers, members and staff all these years has been truly rewarding. We've fought and won great battles, good wages and benefits, and legislation that has benefited working families. But it's a never-ending struggle against a constant threat.

I have the radio on in the background, and ironically, as I write this, the daytime conservative talk-show aired on a Hartford radio station is playing, and poking fun at, the song, "Look for the Union Label." Funny, I always thought it was the working class and union members who built this country and fought and died in several wars to preserve our freedoms.

Not to belabor the point, but it is the union and its members who have been directly responsible for the quality of life we experience as Connecticut state employees and retirees. CSEA's list of victories over the last 65 years is a history book of state service. And it is all chronicled in the CSEA News archives.

Our union has changed over time. We affiliated with the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) nearly five years ago. SEIU's 1.8 million members will play a large part in helping our members here in Connecticut face the challenges of working people in today's world and global economy.

For me, the years have really flown by, with the only real evidence being the piles of clutter in my office. As a CSEA retiree member, I plan to be a part of the ongoing battle to keep the benefits CSEA has won and I have had the pleasure of reporting to you in the pages of CSEA News. I hope you will be right there with me, and will convince other state retirees to join Council 400.

I'd like to end this with a quote from Benjamin Franklin: "If you would not be forgotten, as soon as you are dead and rotten, either write things worth reading, or do things worth the writing."

See you around the Union, and God Bless!

Last month I wrote part of this column on the extreme value of CEO pay when compared to the pay of the average worker at many large companies in this country.

CEOs in the United States are far ahead of CEOs anywhere else in the world by an order of magnitude. We have all heard of the minimum wage; I like to call this the maximum wage!

Not only do these people make extremely high pay but their percentage raises also are higher than the average line worker; that accelerates the delta between the low-wage workers and the highest paid.

The average CEO of a large American company received a raise of about \$150,000 and made \$2.4 million last year, according to a nationally-known human resources consulting firm.

The gap also follows these folks into retirement as well.

While half of all American workers receive no retirement benefit plan, and those who do (or did) have a pension plan have seen the defined benefit plan be replaced or threatened by defined contribution plans, CEO pensions have grown more lucrative.

Not only do these multi-millionaire captains of industry lead the pack on executive compensation,

they have also been the biggest beneficiaries of most of the tax-cut packages passed by the Bush administration, including the most recent one passed last week.

I find it hard to believe that the Republican-led Congress passed yet another tax cut package - this one worth \$70 billion - at a time of record deficits.

Very little of it will have any immediate effect. The major portion was the two-year extension (to 2010) of the 15 percent tax rate for capital gains and dividends that was set to expire in 2008. These breaks were passed while they let tax breaks on college tuition that expired in December stay lapsed!

The GOP is living up to the definition that I believe Harry S. Truman gave them as the "Guardians Of Privilege."

Let's talk about the minimum wage for a while. The federal minimum wage has been stuck at \$5.15 per hour since 1997! The Republican leadership in Congress is blocking legislation to increase it from coming to a vote.

However, since 1997, the Congress has voted six times to raise its wages by a total of \$31,600. That raise amount is almost three times the total of what someone earns in a year who is paid the minimum wage for 40 hours a week. How's that for chutzpah?!

SEIU and other unions are leading the charge to raise the minimum wage. Only by raising up those



Michael J. O'Brien

at the bottom of the work force can we hope to raise or maintain the standards for all working people and give hope to the lowest-paid workers of having a chance at achieving the American dream.

U.S. Sen. Hillary Clinton has introduced The Standing with Minimum Wage Earners Act of 2006 (S.2725). This legislation would raise the minimum wage from \$5.15 to \$7.25 per hour, and here's the kicker, it would require that each time Congress gives itself a raise, the minimum wage would receive an automatic increase.

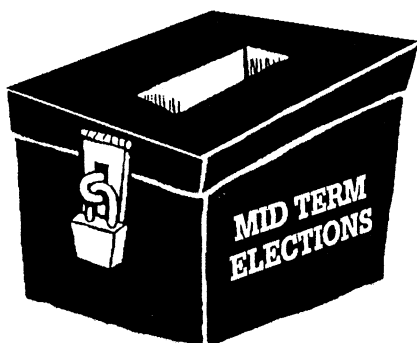
The idea for this legislation is one that came out of the "Since Sliced Bread" contest sponsored by SEIU last year and was introduced at the request of SEIU President Andrew Stern and Secretary-Treasurer Anna Burger. We are asking everyone to call or send a letter to our senators asking them to co-sponsor this bill. Maybe the born-again Democrat Joe Lieberman from Connecticut will even agree to sign on

(Continued on Page 8)

### ROUND PEG SQUARE HOLE...



TAX CUTS FOR THE RICH



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CONNECTICUT State Government And Its People

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- Patrice Peterson.....Secretary/Treasurer
- Robert D. Rinker.....Executive Director
- Frances C. Messenger.....Editor
- Jason P. Webster .....Graphic/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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# 400 LAC ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee (LAC)

## Seniors, Wake Up!

By: Irving Schwartz, Alfred Tee and Stuart Fishbone

Now that the government has wrecked Medicare, along with other programs, people have to stop and think whether we have to vote for a change.

Someone new at the helm could push for changes in the bad prescription drug plan by giving more control to Medicare and less to private business, such as the insurance and pharmaceutical industries, and eliminating the donut hole.

The government *should be allowed* to negotiate drug prices and import cheaper drugs from countries that have safe standards.

What about the other blunders, such as the failed attempt to destroy Social Security, the ethics scandals, the runaway spending, the non-response to hurricane Katrina, the skyrocketing gasoline prices, the lack of security and almost selling our ports to Dubai, the non-response to environmental dangers, and the lingering unpopular war in Iraq?

Even Newt Gingrich himself, the former Speaker of the House, realizes his party has bungled the job, and he said that the best campaign slogan for the opposition could be boiled down into just two words: "Had enough?"

(K. Tumulty and M. Allen, Republicans on the Run, *Time* magazine, April 3, 2006)

There are probably other scandals that we do not even know about because of the government's secretive dealings. There is no transparency, nor honest reporting to the public. We are being treated like fools. This administration has no credibility.

You would think everyone should be covered for some type of health insurance in this country. That is not quite true.

There are about 40 million people without any insurance whatsoever.

Then there are the 43 million Medicare beneficiaries, of which 30 million have prescription coverage. That includes 8.1 million enrolled in free-standing drug plans, 5.8 million low income persons automatically enrolled, 5.8 million in HMOs and 6.8 million with employer coverage.

(R. Pear, Deadline Near, *New York Times*, April 24, 2006)

The price for cancer drugs has outdistanced the prices for any of the other drugs.

About 60 years ago, doctors discovered that nitrogen mustard, which was originally used as a chemical weapon, could be used for cutaneous T-cell lymphoma, a skin cancer. Pharmacists had to blend it into an ointment and you would rub it on your skin.

The medicine was slow selling and did not command an outrageous price, until the rights to make it was purchased by Ovation Pharmaceuticals and marketed as Mustargen. They raised the price tenfold.

Dr. Len Lichtenfeld, deputy chief medical officer of the American Cancer Society said, "Nitrogen mustard has been around forever... There's nothing that I am aware of in the treatment environment that would explain an increase in the cost of (Mustargen)." The price increase had no relation to the cost for developing the drug.

Once a company sets a price, the government, insurers and patients have no choice but to pay it. The FDA does not regulate prices. So, whereas the cost for a two-week supply was \$77.50 before Ovation marketed it, now it costs \$548.01. That would have to cost an ordinary senior couple about \$7,000. a year.

Genentech says it will double the price of its colon cancer drug Avastin to \$100,000 because its use is now expanded to breast and lung cancer.

Abbott Labs raised the price of Norvir for AIDS from \$54 to \$265 a month. Bristol-Myers Squibb used to charge \$4,000 a year for Taxol for breast cancer. Now, most cancer treatments are priced at \$25,000. to \$50,000. annually.

Last year, Genentech raised the price of Tarceun for lung cancer by about 30 per cent, to \$32,000 a year, simply because the drug worked better than anticipated.

In 2003, Ovation bought Panhematin, a drug for enzymatic disease called porphyria, from Abbott Labs and raised the price

## DEATHS REPORTED

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

- Olympia Ballassi of Chapter 416 died March 25.
- Joseph Bangasser, 415, March 25
- Francis Bart, 410, Jan. 11
- Sinai Bordeleau, 403, March 20
- Beverly Boseman, 407, Feb. 2
- John Breyan, 405, March 20
- Elizabeth Burrell, 407, March 16
- Ruth Byler, 423, March 7
- Sara Cohen, 405, March 12
- Mary Curbello, 404, Feb. 11
- Francis Daddona, 404, April 5
- Armand Danis, 412, March 16
- Charles Darling, 408, Feb. 15
- Eddie Doherty, 410, April 2
- Milton Eccleston, 416, April 1
- Toini Erick, 403, March 10
- Winifred Flint, 416, April 12
- Lionel Fortin, 406, April 12
- Louis Galullo, 404, Feb. 4
- Gilbert Griffin, 421, Feb. 14
- Faust Hodio, 406, April 4
- Beatrice Howell, 405, Jan. 21
- Nancy Jackson, 403, Jan. 8
- Cecil Killourey, 408, March 25
- Nathan Knobler, 420, Feb. 3
- Theodore Kumiega, 403, April 7
- Camilla Laraia, 401, April 5
- Eileen Marcham, 420, Feb. 24
- Joseph Mastronardi, 407, March 15
- Glenice McCormick, 414, March 19
- John McGill, 403, March 14
- Theodore McGiveron, 406, April 4
- B. Vincent McKelvey, 407, Feb. 11
- Thomas McNally, 408, April 8
- Thomas Noonan, 404, Feb. 12
- Alfonso Passero, 427, March 22
- John Puglisi, 411, March 20
- Meryl Rosienski, 410, March 22
- Josephine Sagan, 415, March 26
- George Salaris, 421, March 29
- Robert Shepherd, 404, March 14
- Maurice Smith, 426, Feb. 18
- Charles Washburne, 408, March 13

from \$230. a dose to \$1,900.

This manipulating by drug companies leaves patients in a bind because even while they may have the Part D program and supplemental insurance, none of the plans cover a majority of the cancer drugs. (A. Berenson, *Cancer Drugs*, NYT March 12, 2006)

All of which shows that this administration did nothing to help the seniors. In fact, it made their situation worse. So, just ask yourselves, haven't we had enough? Let's throw the scoundrels out!

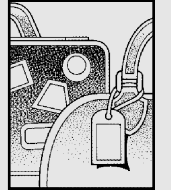
(Irving Schwartz of New Haven-area Chapter 405 is co-chair of the Retiree Council 400 Legislative Action Committee. He, Alfred Tee of Rocky Hill-area Chapter 411, and Stuart Fishbone of Groton-Waterford Chapter 416 are members of the Council 400 Political Action

## Welcome...

(Continued from Page One) tions, a mail ballot was conducted in early May.

At press time CSEA was awaiting certification from the Labor Board. The employees will then meet with union representatives to develop contract proposals.

# 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!

### SUFFOLK DOWNS

Bus Pick-up: East Hartford



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.

## Pinegrove Dude Ranch

In the Catskill Mountains



Sept. 25-29, 2006 (5 Days, 4 Nights, 12 Meals)

**\$442 per person Twin/Triple; \$562 Single**  
**\$200 p.p. deposit by 5-22 final payment due 8-7-06**

Bus Pick-up: East Hartford

Trip Insurance available @ \$49-78 p.p. Payment due with initial deposit (see flyer).

**Includes:** Deluxe motorcoach; 4 nights at ranch; 12 meals; daily cocktail party; entertainment nightly; full range of activities, including horseback riding, boating, bocci, mini-golf, nature walks, exercises, dance classes, bingo, arts & crafts, pool, shopping trip - lots to do; driver gratuity.

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



## 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.

## MORE UPCOMING TRIPS and ACTIVITIES for 2006:

**RADIO CITY CHRISTMAS SHOW: Nov. 10**

**IRELAND: Nov. 10-15**

**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)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking		CSEA Chapter # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member

## Convention Call

CSEA/SEIU Local 2001/760 will hold its 65th Anniversary Convention Friday, Sept. 8, at the Central Connecticut State University Student Center in New Britain.

Officers and delegates representing the union's active and retiree chapters will attend.

In addition to electing the Union's President, Secretary/Treasurer and McCusker Scholarship Fund Trustees, delegates will also act on any Constitutional amendments which are submitted.

Chapters are requested to submit the names of delegates and alternates to union headquarters as soon as possible to expedite clearance of time-off, where applicable, and mailing of credentials.

The union has held its convention biennially since 1994.

### AMENDMENT DEADLINE

In accordance with Article 9 of the CSEA Constitution, proposed Constitutional amendments must be submitted in writing to the CSEA Secretary/Treasurer by Monday, July 10 (60 days prior to the convention).

Proposed amendments will be submitted to the Constitution and By-laws Committee which will make recommendations to Convention delegates.



Members who have telephoned the office to change their address when moving, or snowbirds who have their CSEA News mailed to a more favorable climate several months each year, have probably spoken with Ernie Colson, who is in charge of the union's membership records.

Ernie is retiring June 1 after more than 35 years at CSEA. She will be missed, but we want to wish her many happy and healthy years of retirement. (Rumor has it Ernie will be popping up at Retiree Chapter 410 meetings along with her two sisters and sister-in-law.)

## Legislative Wrap-up...

(Continued from Page One)  
1999 was the same and it should be considered state service. This bill allows us to discuss the cost of acquiring additional coverage for them in the state pension plan."

### Collective Bargaining Restored in Waterbury

Senate Bill 20 removes the Waterbury Financial Assistance Board's authority as the final arbitrator over labor contracts effective Jan. 1, 2007.

CSEA/SEIU Local 2001/760 and other unions representing Waterbury municipal employees will once again be regulated by the

collective bargaining and interest arbitration process established under the Municipal Employee Relations Act.

### Social Security Offsets Under Workers Comp.

Substitute Senate Bill 25 eliminates the requirement that workers' compensation benefits be reduced by an amount equal to any Social Security retirement benefits to which the injured worker is entitled.

Prior to this bill's passage, workers age 62 and over who were injured on the job would have their workers' compensation benefit reduced by the amount of their Social Security - *whether or not they were not collecting Social Security.*

### Accrued Leave During Military Service

Substitute Senate Bill

459 applies to state employees called up to active military service in the National Guard or the military.

It allows vacation and sick leave accrual for the entire period of active service rather than just the first 30 days.

### Family and Medical Leave

Substitute House Bill 5011 expands the family and medical leave provisions by entitling state employees to unpaid leave (maximum of 24 weeks in a two-year period) to care for certain seriously ill non-biological children.

The bill adds the following definition for "child" in the state employee family and medical leave act (FMLA): a biological, adopted, or foster child;

stepchild; child of a person who has legal guardianship or custody; or child of a person standing in *loco parentis* (i.e., in place of a parent).

The law previously allowed leave for the adoption of a child, but did not specify leave for the illness of a non-biological child.

### Eligibility Requirements for Unemployment Comp. Claimants with a Disability

Substitute House Bill 5647 permits an unemployed person to be exempt from the standard unemployment compensation requirements and qualify for benefits.

The bill would exempt an unemployed person with a disability for the requirement of looking for full-time work upon proper documentation from a physician.



## RELL: On the Record

How M. Jodi Rell has acted on key workers' issues since she became Governor in July 2004:

- 1.) **Clean Up State Contracting**  
Vetoed three bills to eliminate corruption in awarding state contracts, avoid ineffective privatization of state services. Wages for private-sector workers providing public services would have been raised to the applicable state workers' Step 1 hourly pay under first bill.  
*(SB #94 vetoed 6/30/05, SB #2101 vetoed 11/16/05, SB #5684 vetoed 3/16/06)*
- 2.) **Protect Public Services from Layoffs, Cuts**  
Vetoed bill to require impact statements prior to major state layoffs/dismissals, advanced legislative approval for reductions in state programs.  
*(SB #846, vetoed 6/4/05)*
- 3.) **Keep Jobs in Connecticut & USA**  
Opposed bill allowing state contracts to give preference to jobs located in Connecticut and goods made in USA.
- 4.) **Hold Corporations Accountable for Health Insurance**  
Opposed bill to require retail companies with 5,000+ employees (e.g., Wal-Mart, Stop & Shop) provide health coverage or else reimburse cost of taxpayer-funded HUSKY insurance.
- 5.) **Require Wealthy Pay Their Fair Share**  
Opposed "Millionaire's Tax" 0.5% increase on incomes over \$250,000. Proposed to eliminate tax on estates worth \$2 million. Opposed Earned Income Tax Credit for low-income working families. *(Public Act #05-32, signed 5/17/05)*
- 6.) **Fund Nursing Homes To Provide Stable, Quality Care**  
Agreed to enact "Provider User Fee" securing \$120 million to stabilize nursing home industry, but redirected \$55 million to other programs.  
*(Public Acts #05-251 & 05-280)*
- 7.) **Stabilize State Services for Developmentally Disabled**  
Signed two-year moratorium prohibiting sale, lease, or transfer of Dept. of Mental Retardation (DMR) residential facilities until July 2007.  
*(Public Act #05-70, signed 6/2/05)*
- 8.) **Increase the Minimum Wage**  
Signed bill raising state's minimum wage to \$7.40/hour and set regular increases in future. *(Public Act #05-32, signed 5/17/05)*
- 9.) **Provide Cost-of-Living Raises for Community Programs**  
Declined to provide annual funding increases for private providers of state MR/MH services to stop growing gap in wages & benefits; agreed only to small one-time increases. *(FY 2006, 2007 state budgets)*
- 10.) **Fund Nursing Homes To Improve Wages, Benefits**  
Refused to set aside \$10 million to improve wages/benefits in new union contracts, as already allowed by law. *(2006 state budget)*



## TOTAL SCORE:

SCORE = 2.5 OUT OF 10 • VOTE RECORDS AS OF MAY 2006

25%

Please see more detailed information on the CSEA web site: [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com)

The CSEA Good Works Committee CAN OF THE MONTH IS **CARROTS**

## Buick Open Volunteers Needed



CSEA's Good Works Committee is seeking volunteers to work at the Buick Championship golf tournament.

State employees and retirees will staff a food tent on **Saturday, July 1.**

About 75 volunteers are needed for two- to three-hour shifts, morning or afternoon, after which you may watch the golfers.

To volunteer, contact John Hanifin (594-2899), Roger Levesque (594-3339), or CSEA headquarters (951-6614, toll-free 1-800-894-9479). We will need to know your name, address, home and work phone numbers, and the hours you would like to work. You may also sign up online at the CSEA web site: [www.csea-ct.com](http://www.csea-ct.com).

The Buick Championship will be held at the Tournament Players Club, Cromwell from June 26 through July 2.

# Arbitrator Rules: Employee's Rights Were Violated

(Continued from Page One)

fied to fill;  
 • did not have to wait for a Property Agent I job to open to get back into state service, and  
 • carefully filled out and submitted a packet showing Hartford as a geographic preference.  
 Despite this, DOT and DAS (Dept. of Administrative Services) processed her paperwork in a way that deprived her of her right to any job in Hartford.

Although there were only two vacant positions, Glidden said it is likely that Branco-Ferrando would have been selected for the job over one of the two males. The three candidates had similar state service seniority and prior experience in the field of real estate. However, DPW had fallen short of its affirmative action goal of hiring nine white females into professional titles.

Arbitrator David R. Bloodsworth agreed that

the state did violate the grievant's rights under SEBAC III.

As a remedy, he ordered the state to pay Branco-Ferrando at the Property Agent II level for the period of time between when the DPW jobs were filled in August of 2003 to the date she was promoted to Property Agent II in April 2004.

## CSEA 2006 McCusker Scholarships



At press time, the June 1 deadline to apply for a 2006 CSEA McCusker Scholarship was fast approaching.

**Has your  
Chapter  
Donated to the  
McCusker  
Scholarship Fund?**

## McCusker Fund Scholarship Donations



Recent donations received by the CSEA McCusker Memorial Scholarship Fund:

P-4 Chapter 33 Dept. of Social Services Data Processing	.....\$100
P-4 Chapter 56 DOT District #1, United Engineering Technical Employees	.....\$100
P-4 Chapter 75 Dept. of Labor	.....\$50
P-4 Chapter 148 Data Processing Center, Hartford	.....\$300
Chapter 410 Windsor Locks area Retirees	.....\$200
Chapter 421 Northeast Florida Retirees	.....\$300
Michael and Mary O'Brien Mike is CSEA/SEIU Local 2001/760 President and his wife is a P-3B member.	.....\$100
Audrey Thomas Member of Retiree Chapter 405	.....\$25



Caterer Andy Calvanese serves up corned beef and cabbage to Chapter 410 members Jan Bartholomew (left) and Mary Franciamore.

The luncheon, held April 10, has been an annual event for the North Central Retiree Chapter for several years.



Enjoying the repast and the day are Beatrice Daly and Tom Healey ...



...as well as Rose Cavanaugh.

Serving State of Connecticut Employees & Retirees for over 60 years.

**It's no accident that you'll feel better with Anthem.**  
 It's the fourth quarter. The game is going your way. Then your son is sacked. Next thing you know, you're on the sidelines at the ER.

**Painless coverage.**  
 Thanks to your Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield health plan, you pay *nothing* for emergencies. *Nothing* for the ambulance. *Nothing* for the doctors at the hospital. And if he's admitted, you pay *nothing* for covered services. Even when it's not an emergency, you pay *nothing* for covered services at participating urgent care facilities.

**Thousands of doctors.**  
 If he needs care afterwards, our extensive statewide network includes thousands of participating doctors and other health professionals – plus every Connecticut general hospital.

And if the big game is out of state, you have access to thousands of participating doctors and hospitals all over the country – even the world.

**Now that's a health plan worth rooting for.**

### We're by your side:

- State Dedicated Member Services Unit in North Haven
- State Dedicated Web Site
- Extensive Connecticut Provider Network
- Out-of-State and Worldwide Coverage
- 24/7 Nurseline



In Connecticut, Anthem Blue Cross and Blue Shield is the trade name of Anthem Health Plans of Connecticut, Inc., an independent licensee of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association. © Registered marks of the Blue Cross and Blue Shield Association.

6752CT C (3/06)

Visit us at an upcoming State of Connecticut open enrollment fair.

# We're by your side

When he takes a hit,  
your wallet doesn't have to.



Dr. Eleanor S. Seiler  
Director of Medical Policy



# CREDIT UNION NEWS

**CSE CREDIT UNION  
CONSOLIDATION LOAN 9.90% APR\***

**For a limited time, pay off high interest rate debt<sup>†</sup> with a low interest rate loan.**

**Lower the interest rate on:**

- CREDIT CARDS
- PERSONAL LOANS

**YOU'LL BE GLAD YOU DID.**

**CONTACT ANY BRANCH  
OR THE HARTFORD OFFICE.**

\* Annual Percentage Rate. † Proceeds made payable to creditor.  
Not available to pay off CSE personal loans.  
Offer good on applications received by September 1, 2006.

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 – 1st Quarter 2006**

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SAVINGS	3.50%	3.56%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.75%	1.77%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	2.75%	2.79%

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**

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

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

**CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING**

**FOR SALE**

**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](mailto: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](mailto:Audrey736@webtv.net).

**ROLL-TOP DESK,** solid oak, \$450. Office Desk, 30"x50"x29½" (metal frame, plate-glass top), \$100. 2 potted ficus plants, 7' tall, \$65/ea. Christmas cactus, 2½" diameter, lavender blooms, \$60. Croquet set, \$15. Windsor (860)683-8943.

**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 applianced, 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.

**17' TRAVEL TRAILER,** 2004 Trail-Lite, sofa & dinette convert to beds, pull-out tent bed, sink, removable stove, refrig-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.

**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, pri-

**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

vate 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](mailto: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](mailto: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.montevisaresort.com](http://www.montevisaresort.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](http://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](mailto: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](http://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: [kennyemail@snet.net](mailto:kennyemail@snet.net).

**WANTED**

**I COLLECT & BUY** hunting, trapping licenses, hunting permits or tags. Old or new. CT or out-of-state licenses. Chester (860)526-5921.

**LUNCHBOXES,** kids' metal character lunchboxes/thermoses, 1950s-1985. 1950s top-value stamp items. Also, kids' older metal pedal cars. Top prices paid. Newington (860)521-7422.

**FLORIDA ART.** Buying Florida subject art or art by Florida painters. East Hartford (860)528-8508.

**OLD U.S. CURRENCY & Gold Coins.** Lg. size, small size, Fractional & National Bank notes, and gold coins wanted by collector. Fair price paid. West Hartford (860)561-7546 (days), Glastonbury (860)659-9409 (evenings).

**MAGAZINES,** "Saturday Evening Post," 3-24-45 & 9-20-58 issues. FL 1-941-480-1946, email: [tmcmullen4@home.com](mailto:tmcmullen4@home.com).

**POSTCARD COLLECTIONS;** Norwich memorabilia; World War II submarine pictures. Norwich (860)887-7566.

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

since he is facing a potential primary challenge!

High oil and energy prices have been on everyone's mind a lot lately. Even 'W' said that high gasoline prices are a "wake-up call" for the American driving public.

Look who's talking! He has been hitting the snooze button on a comprehensive energy plan for over five years now. He has been wide-awake though protecting the oil industry and holding off increasing fuel efficiency standards for autos.

Ten states, including Connecticut, sued the federal government to try to force the Bush administration to strengthen gas mileage requirements for sport utility vehicles and pickup trucks.

The 50 percent of Americans who voted for this administration shouldn't be complaining about high gas prices, I don't want to hear it. What do you expect when you elect two oilmen to run the country?

I said that Bush has been asleep at the wheel on an energy policy but maybe I'm wrong. Maybe what is happening now is exactly what VP Cheney and his energy industry cronies cooked up in their double secret meetings to develop an energy policy early-on in the first term. That is probably why they don't want anyone to know who was in attendance, let alone what was talked about.

Closer to home, the scandals continue to unfold around the Rell administration. The seeds of corruption investigation that were sown under the Rowland-Rell administration are beginning to bear fruit during the Rell era. Peter Ellef and William Tomasso will soon begin to serve their prison sentences.

Governor Rell has successfully distanced herself from this part of the corruption scandal by pleading blissful ignorance.

After former DCF Commissioner Ragaglia's role in this was outed, the two Democratic candidates running for governor called for Rell to clean house of all the old Rowland holdovers in her administration, but so far she has refused.

Rell likes to give the appearance of taking decisive action after corruption becomes public as in the case of her removing of Ragaglia's fraud oversight duties at the Depart-

ment of Social Services. She took prompt action all right, but not as soon as she knew. She took action only after other people found out that she knew.

At that, Ragaglia was not put on administrative leave like any other state employee would have been, she only had her duties related to the fraud investigation removed, not from the collection part of her job.

In addition, taxpayers

will spend, through DSS, a minimum of \$30,000 on an outside attorney to investigate her. You would think with all the personnel people in the state and at DSS they could conduct the investigation and determine the appropriate discipline.

Maybe one of the big reasons that it is hard to get business to expand or relocate in Connecticut is because of the corrupt reputation that we now

## \$ UNION WAGES WORK for CONNECTICUT'S ECONOMY

have because of the policies of the Rowland/Rell and now the Rell administrations!

The scandal over her appointment of Justice Peter T. Zarrella to succeed retiring chief justice William J. Sullivan at the state Supreme Court is even painted as being related back to Rowland and not Rell. This "see no

evil, hear no evil" excuse should be wearing a little thin with the electorate by now.

The refrain from a Watergate era protest song written by Arlo Guthrie hits the nail right on the head: I ask you governor, "If you don't know about that one, well then what else don't you know?"

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