

Clean Contracting for Connecticut

A Win for Public Service Workers and the Public We Serve

General Assembly approves \$3.2B bond package, contracting reforms

Associated Press
 September 21, 2007

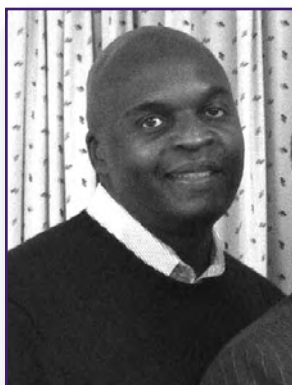
Thanks to the tremendous efforts of our "clean contracting messengers," and the diligent behind-the-scenes work by our SEIU State Council and SEBAC partners, both chambers in the Connecticut General Assembly overwhelmingly passed contract reform legislation in its Thursday, September 20 special session! The tally in the Senate was 33 to 2, and 81 to 42 in the House, and at her press conference the following morning, Governor Rell pledged to sign it into law.

As we have reported in the CSEA News for the past year, several high profile outsourcing scandals set the stage for legislative leaders from both parties, key officials in Governor Rell's Administration, and non-profit service advocates to come together with members of State public service workers unions for the first time in fourteen years.

(Continued on page 4)

Living Labor History

The Story of "Clean Contracting"



Byron Lester

Information Technology Professional,
 CT Office of the Comptroller Treasurer, P-4 Council

(Editor's note: this Opinion-Editorial was published in the September 2 edition of the Journal Inquirer's "Reader's Page," as their selected union's Labor Day holiday submission)

This Labor Day may prove to be a historic one for the state of Connecticut. An announcement that a special session to pass contract reform legislation advocated by unionized public sector workers for more than a decade is expected any day now.

Labor Day is also a good time to

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Driving Up Standards

Unity for School Bus Drivers and Our Schoolchildren



Council 760 Chapter 1108 Bargaining Team Member Ivy Elliot-Delgado Updates Fellow Member Joanne Martinez on Contract Talks at the Worksite

As we have reported in the past four editions of the CSEA News, our New Haven Public Schools' bus drivers have been working to win a new contract with First Student, Inc., the Board of Education's transportation contractor, since May. The employer has shown a tremendous amount of disrespect for our members, delaying the start of talks until June, with less than thirty days until the contract expired. Worse, they have consistently objected to our proposals to improve wages and workplace conditions at the two New Haven bus yards where our members work.



One of our Bargaining Team's top priorities has been to improve communication with and among all members. In addition to issuing regular "Negotiations Update" leaflets since June, they put together a first-ever Chapter newsletter, "Bus Yard Briefs" last month to unite more members in the effort to win a strong new contract.

Bargaining Team members spent the summer discussing the issues important to all of our members during house visits, at several membership meetings, and in direct talks with First

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Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:

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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, October 18, 10:00 a.m., CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

COUNCIL 400 Membership Committee Meeting, Friday, October 12, 10:00 a.m., CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Retiree Recruitment Drive and organizing targets to be discussed. Contact: Nancy Driscoll or Donna Linkkila at (800) 894-9479.

CHAPTER 401, Hartford area, Thursday, October 4, 1:00 p.m. (light lunch served at 12:00 p.m.), CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Speaker: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Political Director Rick Melita on 2007 legislative session victories and SEIU national political efforts. Reservations for October 16 Mohegan Sun event may be made. Contact: Katherine Goulet at (860) 675-4053.

CHAPTER 402, Danbury area, Wednesday, October 10, 10:00 a.m., (refreshments follow meeting), United Methodist Church, 5 Clapboard Ridge Road, Danbury. Speaker: 5th CD US House Representative Chris Murphy's District Manager Robert Michalik. Contact: Dawn Gallagher at (203) 748-2018.

CHAPTER 403, Norwich area, Tuesday, October 9, 1:30 p.m. (meeting room not available until 1:00, refreshments prior to meeting), Rose City Senior Center, 8 Mahan Dr., Norwich. Contact: Gail Carr at (860) 822-0788.

CHAPTER 404, Waterbury area, Tuesday, October 9, 10:30 a.m. (social, meeting follows), Elks Club, 758 Rubber Ave., Naugatuck. Speaker: Randi Oster on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance offered by MetLife. Door prizes. Contact: Armand Rosanelli at (203) 758-5122.

CHAPTER 405, New Haven area, Wednesday, October 10, 12:30 p.m. (social, meeting follows at 1:00 p.m.), Southern CT State University, Adanti Student Center (Building 14), 3rd Floor, Room 309, 501 Crescent St., New Haven (NOTE CHANGE IN ROOM LOCATION). Chapter December Holiday party will be discussed. Reservations for November 18 Maganini Winery event may be made. Contact: Andy Gambardella at (203) 468-7376.

CHAPTER 406, Middletown area, Tuesday, October 9, 1:00 p.m., (social, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), American Legion Post 75, 58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown. Middletown DPW Recycling Coordinator Kim O'Rourke to discuss local environmental issues. 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, October 17; 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: Jewish Home for the Elderly's Dr. Kenneth Fine on memory lapses. Contact: Celeste McGrath at (203) 378-4576.

CHAPTER 408, Willimantic area, Wednesday, October 10; 12:45 p.m. (pizza, meeting at 1:30 p.m.), McSweeney Regional Senior Center, 47 Crescent St., Willimantic. Speaker: MetLife representative on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance scheduled at press time. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Donna Linkkila at (860) 455-0883.

CHAPTER 410, Windsor Locks area, Monday, October 8, 1:00 p.m., VFW Post 6123, 40 Fairview St., Windsor Locks. Pizza will be served. Contact: Elaine Colson at (860) 623-8704.

CHAPTER 411, Rocky Hill area, Thursday, October 11, 1:00 p.m. (social follows meeting), William J. Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield St., Wethersfield. Speaker: Wethersfield PD Chief James Cetran on "protecting yourself and your property." Contact: Florence Egan at (860) 666-0382.

CHAPTER 412, Putnam area, Tuesday, October 16, 1:30 p.m. (social follows meeting), Knights of Columbus, 64 Providence St., Putnam. Speaker: Lisa Krawczyk on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance offered by MetLife. Refreshments, door prizes. Meeting open to the public. Contact: Don Gladding at (860) 564-9092.

CHAPTER 414, Torrington area, Monday, October 15, 10:00 a.m., UCONN Torrington Agriculture Building, 855 University Dr., Torrington. MetLife representative on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance scheduled at press time. Contact: Karen Pineman at (860) 354-6727.

CHAPTER 415, Manchester area, Monday, October 22, 1:00 p.m., Elks Lodge, 30 Bissell St. Manchester. Program to be announced; check website "Events Calendar" for details. Refreshments will be served. Contact: Ed Daly at (860) 871-9482.

CHAPTER 416, New London area, Tuesday, October 9; 12:00 p.m. (luncheon, business meeting at 12:30 p.m., program at 1:15 p.m.), Groton Public Library, 52 Newtown Road (Route 117), Groton. Speaker: MetLife representative on Connecticut State employee long-term care insurance. Contact: Les Shapiro at (860) 442-5256.

CHAPTER 417, Plainville area, Wednesday, October 10, 1:00 p.m. (social, meeting follows), Church of Our Savior Episcopal Church, 115 West Main St., Plainville. Speaker: Plainville Senior Center Director Shawn Cohen on services offered by the center. Contact: Nicholas D'Emanuelle at (860) 628-6675.

CHAPTER 418/4Cs, Thursday, October 11, 10:00 a.m., Congress of CT Community Colleges, 907 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford. Refreshments. Contact: Aldo Sicuso at (860) 346-3550.

"DAY AT THE MOHEGAN SUN," Tuesday, October 16, 7:30 a.m., bus pick-ups at up to 3 locations, including CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. Cost: \$20 per person (includes bus transportation and gratuity for driver). Reservation deadline: October 10 (see flyer at website "Events Calendar" for reservation form). Contact: Katherine Goulet at (860) 675-4053.

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

FLORIDA & OTHER STATES' EVENTS

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

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

Chapter Secretaries and Program Coordinators:

The deadline for meeting information to be included in the November edition is Friday, October 12.

Our Actions...in Brief Members' Current Issues, Meetings, & Events

Preparing for the Long-Term Care Crisis:

Our retired public service workers united in Council 400 are committed to empowering our members to plan for healthy futures for themselves and their families.


That's why we invited representatives from the State's long-term care insurance provider, Met-Life, to attend our



Connecticut Chapter's September and October monthly meetings. We are reaching out to non-member retirees to invite them to attend the nearest meeting so they can obtain this valuable information and have their questions answered, too.

Latest Council 400 Organizing Mailer Focuses on Long-Term Care Insurance

Our issue-focused organizing efforts are building a stronger Council, and nearly 100 new retirees have joined our union over the summer!

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

Voices for Reform

Unanswered Questions



Travis Woodward
Transportation Engineer 2,
CT Dept of Transportation
Steward, Chapter 88, P-4
Council

(Editor's note: this Opinion-Editorial was published in the September 1 edition of the Connecticut Post's Opinion Page under the headline "State inspection procedures leave unanswered questions")

If you've read a newspaper in the past year, you know the Connecticut Department of Transportation must be reformed from top to bottom. As a transportation engineer in the agency, I see the evidence every day as I drive down Interstate 95 to the Pequonnock River Bridge in Bridgeport, the project I am currently assigned to.

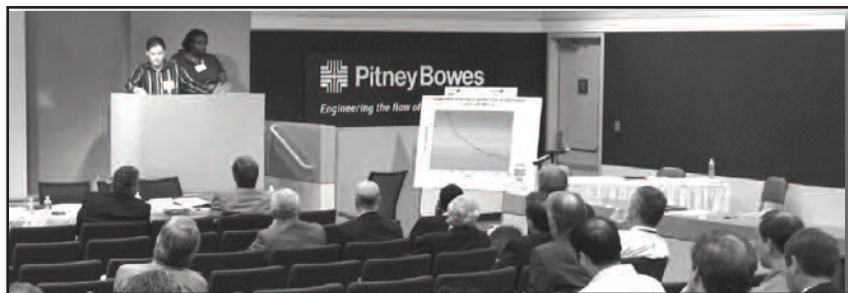
I see it in the failure to begin replacing the 52-year-old Pearl Harbor Memorial (Q) Bridge in New Haven. It is the \$1.4 billion poster-child for reforming the DOT.

"middle-man" takes his cut for profit and administration. These private consultants do not use the low-bidding system that construction companies must follow; they have an entirely different selection process that is geared toward the number of available employees.

DOT inspectors are highly motivated when it comes to inspecting construction projects. We ensure that our state gets what it pays for. We take pride in knowing that we help to build the same bridges we travel over every day. And we do that all at a 20 percent to 30 percent lower cost to taxpayers than private consultants.

The money that is spent on these so-called temporary consultants can be better spent replenishing the DOT ranks that have dwindled by nearly 1,000 employees in recent years.

At the recent public hearing by the Governor's Commission on the Reorganization of the DOT, one of my co-workers shared the story of how over ten years ago then-Gov. John G. Rowland's administration began pressuring state agencies to outsource as much work as possible to private consultants. One of this policy's victims was the DOT's award-winning, elite bridge design unit. The work this unit received was choked



P-4 Council Members Travis Woodward and Denise Eaton Call for Contract Reform at the Governor's Panel to Reform the DOT September 6 Public Hearing

Before joining state service in 2002, I worked as an inspector for private consultants performing the exact same inspection duties I now do for the DOT. I can tell you firsthand that private sector inspectors earn roughly the same salary as DOT employees make, but the cost to the state is much greater when the

off and awarded to more costly private consultants. Rowland's administration provided no reports or data showing any cost savings for this outsourcing. Once again, these consultants are not low bidders for these design projects; they simply know how to lobby for the work.

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Our President's Desk

Change is in the Air



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

As I write this column, the first day of autumn is fast approaching. In Connecticut and New England we all know what that means -- a change in the weather and a change in the leaves.

A big event occurred earlier this evening that hopefully will lead to a change in the way the State of Connecticut contracts for business; passage of the Clean Contracting bill that we have been pushing for more than a dozen years.

Passage of clean contracting NOW shows Connecticut residents that their elected officials truly do care about the health and safety of our families.

Passage of clean contracting NOW sends a strong message to private contractors who may be looking to defraud

State taxpayers that Connecticut is no longer open to their brand of business.

Passage of clean contracting NOW should be the first step in allowing our state to reclaim the name Connecticut, and shed the shameful name 'Corrupticut.'

However, we are still stuck with holdover contractors from the Rowland years that are doing their best to keep our bad reputation alive; Accenture, MacGuire, MAXIMUS, etc. Passage of Clean Contracting has been a long time in coming, and hopefully it will be well worth the wait.

Change doesn't just happen. It is caused by the action of some external (or internal) force. In the case of the passage of the Clean Contracting bill, that force was the work of our union; both our members and staff.

The course that our country is on is in need of change. Over four years after President Bush declared "Mission Accomplished," we are, in the words of a recent *Hartford Courant* editorial, at "Status Quo" in Iraq. If the President has his way, we will be that way for many years to come because he wants to maintain a long-term military presence in

(Continued on page 6)



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INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

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400 LAC ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee

Do GOP Frontrunners Understand Health Care?



Irv Schwartz

Co-Chair, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 405



Al Tee

Member, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 411



Stu Fishbone

Member, Council 400 LAC
Member, Chapter 416

Retirees know that health care is always a vital political issue and the upcoming presidential election will be no exception. To point out the political divide, Matt Miller, a senior fellow at the Center for American Progress, wrote an interesting article in *Time Magazine's* August 20 edition. His article poses questions for the leading candidates for the Republican party's presidential nomination on their solutions for tackling the health care crisis.

Question 1: *Do you believe the government should ensure that every American has basic health coverage?*

The answer should be yes. Both parties in Congress should be able to negotiate this desirable outcome.

Republican presidential candidate and former New York City Mayor Rudy Giuliani says "just make insurance so affordable that everyone will buy it." That is not the way former Governor Mitt Romney of Massachusetts, also a candidate for the GOP's nomination on 2008, nor Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger of California have let it stand. They have moved their states toward providing insurance for all; however, their plans place much of the burden upon employers, not government.

Question 2: *Do you believe an individual buying their own solo health insurance is the answer to the problem of the uninsured?*

The answer should be no. The

insurance market is such that only younger and healthier people are targeted for coverage. Companies make a greater profit from this target group because they rarely file claims.

Insuring everyone spreads the risk further. In Massachusetts, where everyone has to buy insurance, Romney required individuals have access to group coverage, and subsidized coverage for low earners. Additionally, no one could be turned away for existing medical conditions. Mr. Giuliani has called for none of this.

Question 3: *Do you support limiting a family's annual exposure to medical costs to some reasonable percentage of its income?*

The answer should be yes. Since we are the richest nation on earth, it is disgraceful that millions go broke just because they get sick. There should be income-related caps on medical spending. Republicans generally call for health plans that have

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A Win for Public Service Workers...

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Clean Contracting for Connecticut NOW

- Review **contracted work for accountability, transparency and results-based outcomes**
- Perform a **cost-benefit analysis BEFORE contracting-out public projects**
- Establish **common-sense standards to protect our families' health and safety**



Poster Displayed at Legislative Public Hearings into the "Homeland Insecurity" IT Outsourcing Scandal in August

At press time, several regional news sources had interviewed our members' in the latest contracting-out crisis. In an episode we are calling "Data-gate," Accenture, the off-shore information technology corporation contracted to the State to provide financial accounting services, allowed the theft of Connecticut residents' personal and confidential information on a data tape they shipped to Ohio. Several lawmakers referred to this latest outrage on the floor of the House as they called for passing clean contracting legislation NOW.

In passing its version of the legislation, the Senate attached provisions moving up implementation and funding the State Contracting Standards Board (SCSB) to their bonding bill. The Governor announced she would veto the full legislature's bonding package at a news briefing the following day. She did, however, announce she would sign the clean contracting legislation, which without the bond bill's earlier timetable and funding, leaves these issues yet to be addressed.

We issued a press release that afternoon, applauding lawmakers for

The Story of "Clean Contracting"...

(Continued from page 1)

reflect on how our movement has worked to better our families' future in the state where we live and work - a future where quality public services are protected and opportunities for strong, middle-class jobs are preserved.

The story of "clean contracting" begins 34 years ago, with the launch of the American Legislative Exchange Council, a network linking state legislators with major corporations and trade associations. Privatizing public services by turning them over to profit-making corporations was an early priority objective for the organization. Armed with annual budgets in the tens of millions, ALEC has since produced thousands of local and state elected officials dedicated to outsourcing core public services to their private sector benefactors.

In an effort to reverse two decades of damage to public services at all levels, a national coalition of labor unions led by the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) came together to

advocate and pass model legislation at the state level. The Connecticut State Employees Association (CSEA) was tapped to spearhead local efforts in 1993.

The goal was to protect public sector jobs from further outsourcing and to begin creating new public sector workforce opportunities. The benefit to taxpayers was simple: Replace the middle-class jobs that had been lost to outsourcing and off-shoring, and help to restore our state's sluggish economy.

No one knew this effort would face its greatest opponent within just two years. The election of Gov. John Rowland set the stage for the "mother of all battles" to protect public services. His attempt in 1996 to outsource all of the state's Information Technology functions to private contractors would have decimated the state IT workforce that had effectively delivered these vital services from the beginning.

As an IT professional working for the state, I became active in the

passing, and the Governor for supporting, the bill and urging they work together and correct these issues. The full text of the release is available online at our website's Press Center at www.csea-ct.com/ourlocal/press.cfm.

With issues of funding and implementation yet to be resolved, and more contracting-out fiascos unfolding, our work is not yet done. Our Political Director, along with our SEIU State Council and SEBAC organizers, will be working with lawmakers and the Administration in the days and weeks ahead. Our "clean contracting messengers" will need to remain mobilized to deliver our message. This new law allows us to take a stand against the special interests and protect Connecticut taxpayers against waste, fraud, and abuse. The Governor and the legislature must work together to put these protections in place sooner, rather than later!

Join our "clean contracting messengers" and a part of these vital efforts. Contact our Communications Director Matt O'Connor at (800) 894-9479, ext. 129 to sign-up today!



P-4 Council Members Mark Kirschner and Jay Doody Tell Channel 3's "Face the State" Host Dennis House Why We Need Clean Contracting in Connecticut

coalition of local unions and consumer protection organizations dedicated to exposing the truth behind the false \$50 million the governor claimed would be saved with his proposal. Our warnings of the real risks of outsourcing private, personal information to profit-motivated private corporations effectively reached state taxpayers. By 1999, we succeeded in protecting the state's IT services from being contracted-out.

But the governor's agenda continued forward. Within four years, layoffs and early retirements were forced upon the state's workforce for not agreeing to unfair and heavy-handed concessions. Meanwhile, the administration continued to contract-out millions in taxpayer-funded public works projects to its friends and allies in the private sector.

CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 has made passage of clean contracting legislation one of our top priorities since 2004. Contracting-out has continued in the post-Rowland era, and the succession of recent crises and scandals involving waste, fraud, and abuse reminds us all that the need for reform is

great.

We want Connecticut to follow the example set in neighboring states like Maine, Massachusetts, and New York, where SEIU's efforts have produced meaningful reforms over the past decade.

We have been reaching out to our representatives in the General Assembly to urge support for a special session for clean contracting since June. After years of collaborative efforts, we finally have an opportunity to pass a bill that is supported by the governor, nonprofit service providers, a majority of lawmakers from both parties, and public sector union members, and would serve as a model for the rest of the nation.

As President John F. Kennedy observed: "The American Labor Movement has consistently demonstrated its devotion to the public interest. It is, and has been, good for all America."

This Labor Day, we are continuing our tradition of acting as watchdogs for the public interest, and call on our legislative leaders to make clean contracting law in Connecticut.

Driving Up Standards...

(Continued from page 1)

Student. Pay raises, affordable health care, and paid sick days have been the core issues at stake; however, at press time, the employer's counterproposals have been nothing less than insulting.

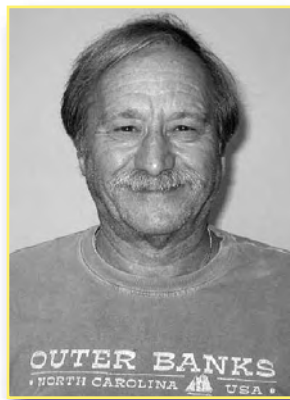
"We're here for the kids we take to school every day. And to keep doing our jobs, we need our families to have quality health care."

Amalio Rodriguez

School Bus Driver, First Student, Inc.
Member, Bargaining Team,
Chapter 1108, Council 760



Our Bargaining Team met several times with New Haven's city officials over the summer. We succeeded in convincing Mayor John DeStefano, Jr. to make our contract negotiations a priority, and he assigned a neutral observer from City Hall to attend sessions and keep First Student talking.



"We don't need fear. What we need is hope. That's what we need to pull together and win a good contract."

Vito Barulli

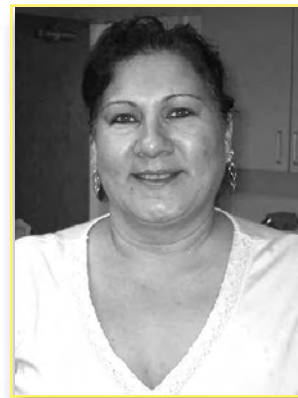
School Bus Driver, First Student, Inc.
Member, Bargaining Team,
Chapter 1108, Council 760

Shortly after negotiating a third extension of the contract that expired on June 30, our Bargaining Team brought Local President Mike O'Brien to a second meeting with the Mayor in August to press for even greater support. With the start of the school year fast approaching, our union staff also began to reach out to the Parent-Teacher Associations (PTAs) at each of New Haven's public schools, and ramp-up public relations efforts for the road ahead.

"With the Mayor on board, we should be focusing our attention and energy on First Student. After all, that's who stands between us and a good contract."

Edna Morales

School Bus Driver, First Student, Inc.
Secretary, Chapter 1108, Council 760



Read our members' first newsletter and learn more about how we are "Driving Up Standards" in New Haven at our website's School Bus Workers resource page at www.csea-ct.com/local_760/bus_drivers.cfm.

» **YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE!** Want city and town officials who will put the interests of working families ahead of special interests? Then register to vote in the November 7 Municipal Elections and choose the candidates who will represent us! The deadline is Wednesday, October 24, and it's quick, and easy -- so take a moment to register today. We have registration forms at our Local hall in Hartford, or you can log on to the "Making Politics Work for Working Families" page at our website and select "Register to Vote" from the index for downloadable forms and registration info at the SEIU and Connecticut Secretary of State websites.



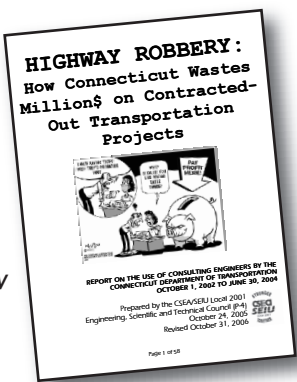
Unanswered Questions...

(Continued from page 3)

The near-destruction of our design unit took place under DOT Commissioner James Sullivan, who led the agency from 1997 to 2002, and his successor, James Byrnes, whose reign lasted until two months before Rowland's resignation.

After leaving the DOT, both Sullivan and Byrnes were scooped up by the private consulting firm Parsons Brinkerhoff. Today, Byrnes serves as PB's area manager for the Northeast.

In our CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 members' report, "Highway Robbery: How Connecticut Wastes Millions on Contracted-Out Transportation Projects," we found that among 48 private sector firms, PB had the most and highest overall value of state contracts from 2002 through 2004. Since we



compiled our report's data, PB was selected as project manager for the \$1.4 billion I-95 rehabilitation project covering over 7 miles between New Haven and Branford, which includes the Q-Bridge replacement.

As taxpayers and union members in the DOT, this story leaves us with some nagging questions.

Did former Commissioner Byrnes play a role in developing the projects for outside consultants?

Did Byrnes choose PB as the winner of the consultant selection process knowing it would improve his odds of employment with the firm after he left the DOT?

Why has our state government been able to continue outsourcing our work without providing any evidence or cost analysis to explain why these consultants are needed?

And, finally, is this policy truly providing taxpayers any real cost savings?

From Service Overseas to Service Here at Home:

P-4 Council member Dan Stafko is home safe after a four-month deployment to the Middle East with the Connecticut Air National Guard. Dan, who works as a Transportation Engineer 3 for the State's Department of Transportation (DOT), wasted little time in getting involved in our efforts to reform the culture in the agency. At press time he was planning to attend the next scheduled meeting of the Governor's Commission to Reorganize the DOT, which was formed and began



holding public hearings while he was stationed in Qatar. We welcome Dan home and look forward to his contributions to reforming the agency in the months ahead!

Our President's Desk...

(Continued from page 3)

the country.

Many Americans thought that they had voted for a change in Administration policy last fall, when a Democratic majority was elected to both houses of Congress. But the Democrats don't have the votes to affect change. Senate rules require a super majority in order to bring cloture and end debate on an issue and bring it to a vote. Minority members in the Senate know how to play this rule to their advantage in order to maintain the Administration's status quo.



Members of Our Combined SEIU State Council Prepare to Meet Members of Congress and Press Our Working Families Issues

presidential primary election speak on the issues important to us.

For SEIU, elections are about changing workers' lives -- not just changing the names on the doors at the capitol. SEIU President Andy Stern said in his address to members at the conference:

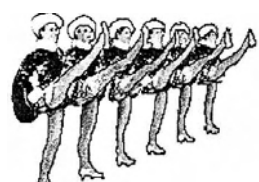
"This election is about needing a White House and a Congress who recognize that unions are the best anti-poverty program, the best jobs program, the best pension, health care, health and safety, and anti-discrimination program that America has ever had.

What will bring about change, not only to the policy in Iraq, but to all the other anti-union, anti-working family, anti-health care reform, and anti-pension security policies of this administration? We know that we will have a new president in January 2009. In the words of a bumper sticker I have seen more and more often, "I can't wait!"

The force that can bring about the change we need in this country is direct, people-powered political action in the 2008 elections. This past week our International union took the first steps toward setting our direction at the Member Political Action Conference (MPAC) in Washington, DC. Our union brought nearly 2,000 members together from all over the country to meet and hear candidates in the

But it won't happen if too many of us sit back and expect "the union" to do all the work. We all can -- and need -- to participate. SEIU provides us the forum, the access, and the opportunity. If we want our union to work for us, we need to step up and play an active role!

STRONGER CSEA SEIU Local 2001 TOGETHER Social Activities



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

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.

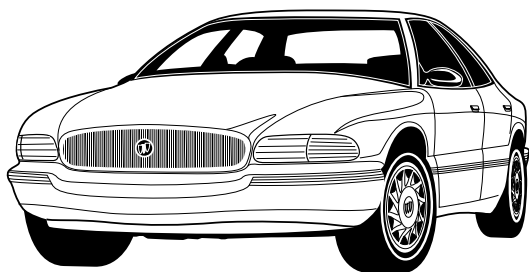
Reservations accepted on a first-come, first-served basis.

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



Low Rates On All Car Loans

Finance the purchase of your next car at rates as low as 5.85% APR*. Choose a term that's right for you. Up to 6 years on a new car and 4 years on a used car. Finance up to 100% cost of the vehicle including Tax, Title, Warranty and Conveyance Fee.

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* Annual Percentage Rate.

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www.CSECreditUnion.com



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.

The Credit Union will be **CLOSED:**

Columbus DayMonday, October 8

Dividend Rates – 3rd Quarter 2007

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

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

7 Full-Service Offices To Serve You

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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

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

Classified Advertising

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

FOR SALE

PORT CHARLOTTE, FL, beautiful sailboat property 3 BR, 2 BA, LR, great rm, DR, kitchen, FL rm and tool rm attached to 1 car GA, with living space 1,574 sf, total area 2,307 sf, situated on water at the end of intercoastal canal, quiet neighborhood, on cul-de-sac, easy access to gulf, includes boat dock with seawall. \$289,900 OBO. Ashford (860) 487-1640.

NEWPORT, RI TIMESHARE, Overlooks harbor, sleeps 6 with lockout, flex time Nov. – May, \$2000 OBO. Kensington (860) 828-5632.

PALM BAY, FL TOWNHOUSE/CONDO, 2/2, 1,236 sq ft., new A/C, roof, siding, courtyard fence, carpet, paint, appliances, disposal, W/D, minutes to beach, Nationals Spring Training, Space Center, Disney. \$109,900 or seasonal lease, Oct - Apr. www.4palmbayhomes.com/mls458362

Palm Bay, FL (321) 951-8876.

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.

KISSIMMEE, FL RESORT, 2 BR, 2 BA, top notch with many amenities, close to Disney. 1 floating wk, season – RED. \$4,700. Old Saybrook (860) 388-6089.

WEST KENNEBUNK, ME 35' FIFTH WHEEL, Mousam River Campground, 2 S/O, central water/sewer, fully furnished, decorated, oak cabinets throughout, sunroom, double gravel driveway, landscaped, shed, '06 mower, grill, pool, wooded trails to river and beaches, enjoy May to Oct. Beverly Hills FL (352) 527-8978.

WESTBROOK WATER'S EDGE RESORT, sleeps 6, unit #366, week 48, asking \$7,000. www.watersedge-resort.com.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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 jmccardle@yahoo.com.

SLEEPER SOFA, exc cond, \$75 OBO.; several collector cameras. Newington (860) 665-9128.

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

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.

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

PRO-FORM ELLIPTICAL MACHINE, Model PFEL2605, exc. cond., 1-1/2 ys old, \$200 (\$450 new). East Hartford (860) 569-4717.

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.

CARVED NATIVITY PIECES, signed by Jim Shore, exc cond. \$55. Braun blender, exc cond. \$80. Kitchen Aid food processor, 11 cup, exc cond, \$110.

North Franklin (860) 642-7054.

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

adironackjim@adelphia.net. **CHINESE MAH JONG GAME**, never used, \$55. Rocky Hill (860) 529-1289.

FOR RENT

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

DAYTONA BEACH, FL, winter rental, 2BR fully furnished condo directly on intracoastal waterway, 5-min walk to Atlantic Ocean, "Best Beach in the World", and shopping, \$1,100/mo includes utilities (not phone), cable, avail Nov- Apr, three month minimum, photos available. Daytona Beach Shores FL (386) 672-0398.

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

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

WANTED

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

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.

- Shirley Allyn of chapter 412 died on 8/1/07
- Anita Amendola, 405, 7/22/07
- Joseph Anselmo, 420, 7/20/07
- David Blakeslee, 405, 8/7/07
- Leonard Bower, 406, 7/07/07
- Mary Boyington, 411, 8/5/07
- Agnes Carroll, 423, 8/5/07
- David Cunningham, Jr., 420, 6/02/07
- Bianca D'Ambrosio, 401, 7/31/07
- William Downie, 416, 8/10/07
- Thadeus Erlick, 406, 7/26/07

- Albert Graham, Sr., 410, 7/20/07
- Leo Gregoire, 404, 7/25/07
- Shirley Homar, 411, 8/5/07
- Mary Jacobson, 405, 7/21/07
- Gerald Keeler, 402, 7/30/07
- August Krupien, 405, 8/6/07
- David Leader, 401, 7/17/07
- Jack Liebl, 425, 8/2/07
- Daisy Livingston, 403, 7/30/07
- Teresa Macaruso, 411, 6/27/07
- Pauline MacFall, 420, 8/1/07
- George McGowan, 403, 7/17/07

- Marian Michini, 401, 7/22/07
- Isabel Perkins, 408, 7/26/07
- Jean Polanski, 417, 7/1/07
- Alma Proulx, 401, 7/19/07
- Howard Sanzero, 405, 7/12/07
- Alfred Schofield, 401, 7/27/07
- Joseph Spinelli, 401, 8/4/07
- Viola Surowiec, 420, 7/13/07
- Marion Stilson, 402, 7/14/07
- Gladys Tripp, 412, 6/25/07
- Violet Walton, 406, 7/20/07

The Labor Movement Loses a Good Soldier

Gaetano "Guy" Russo (1918 - 2007)



The legacy of service to co-workers, community, and country that Gaetano "Guy" Russo left behind when he passed away on July 21 will not be soon forgotten. Beginning with his Bronze-Star service under General George Patton's command in Germany during World War II, Guy dedicated more than sixty-five years of his life to public service.

Following retirement as Major General of the Connecticut Army National Guard in 1979, Guy joined Council 400's Chapter 404. During more than twenty-five years of a very active membership, Guy was elected to serve in a number of leadership roles in our union, including Chapter President, as well as Council 400 Secretary, Delegate, and, in 1987, President.

The "battle" for which our members may remember Guy best was the 10-year campaign to win 100% health insurance coverage for retired State workers and their families. Guy and fellow State retirees, wearing Council 400's signature red berets, stormed the capitol on countless occasions, working tirelessly to move State legislators to invest in the health of those who had served in the past -- and would serve in the future.

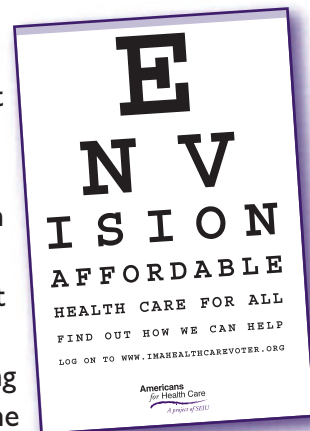
Understand Health Care...

(Continued from page 4)

high deductibles and are consumer-directed, shifting the costs to those unlucky sick folks who cannot afford these plans.

Mr. Giuliani says his health care tax-deduction plan allows us to go out and buy cheaper and cheaper policies because we can have higher and higher deductibles. Does that make any sense? With these high deductibles, then what does our health insurance really pay for? If half our annual income is spent on hospitalization costs, where does that leave any of us?

President Bush's solution on health care has been that since everything is rosy, the uninsured should stop whining. As he has said publicly, they can always go to the emergency room for their medical care. In spite of his views, surely there are some Republicans who are willing to negotiate a decent American health plan with their counterparts!



»» Get Your SEIU Fleece Jacket -- And Build a Stronger Union, Too: Autumn is officially here, and that means we also have important city, town, and school board elections around the corner. Members will receive a fleece jacket for supporting our Local's Political Action Committee (PAC) with a \$60 gift. Not only will you be warmer for the colder weather that is coming, we will all be stronger for the important election that is right behind it.

State of Connecticut Employees and Retirees!



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Cut out and mail with your PAC Contribution to our Union Hall today!

For a stronger union, CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 must elect candidates who will stand-up for public workers, educate the public on our issues, and register more state, municipal, and school board workers and their families to vote!

Send me _____ PAC Fleece Jackets at \$60.00 each for my:
 ___ \$60 _____ \$120 _____ \$180
 Political Action Committee Contribution!

Sizes (Indicate quantity of each):
 ___ S ___ M ___ L ___ XL ___ XXL ___ XXXL

Name: _____
 Agency: _____
 Home Address: _____
 Home Phone: _____
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 Work Phone: _____

I understand that my to the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 Political Action Committee is NOT deductible for federal income tax purposes as charitable contributions, and that the funds shall be allocated to local, state, and federal political activities as authorized by the CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 PAC.

Signature: _____
 Mail to:
 CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 PAC, 760 Capitol Ave. Hartford, CT 06106