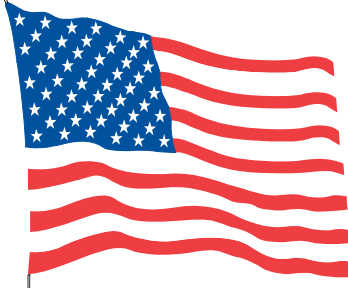




CSEA

NEWS



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



New & Expanded
CSEA/Web Site: www.csea-ct.com

MAY, 2006

CSEA's News of Government and Its People

VOL. 39, NO. 5



Most CSEA Contract Awards in Effect

P-3B Timeline Parallels Assembly Deadline

Contract negotiations that began in late 2004 for five CSEA state bargaining units, including interest arbitration for each, were either in effect or nearing finalization at press time.

Highlights of two awards – **P-3A** (Education Administrators) and **Inspectors** – were published in the April CSEA News.

The General Assembly took no action on the **P-3A** award within the 30-day statutory time limit, therefore that contract will take effect July 1, 2005 and run through June 30, 2009. (Please see Appropriations Committee roll call vote on the award in this issue.)

The **Inspector** award, which received unanimous approval by the

Appropriations Committee on April 11, also was not taken up by the General Assembly and automatically takes effect.

The **P-3B** (Education Professions) award was unanimously approved in Appropriations on April 19. Unless the General Assembly takes up the award before its May 3 adjournment date, the contract will go into effect on May 4. At press time, it did not appear that the legislature would take up the award before it adjourns.

On April 20, Senate President Pro Tem Donald E. Williams, Jr. and Speaker of the House James A. Amann signed an emergency certification. (See "Contracts," Page 7)

Merger of CSEA/SEIU Locals 2001 and 760 was the topic of a two-day retreat in April attended by union leadership and staff.

At right, 760 President Carolyn Keily and CSEA P-4 Executive Council delegate Steve Reviczky weigh in on what they see as the priorities and needs of the new union. (Please see story below.)



Stronger Together!

It was two days of brainstorming over the role of a combined union of state, municipal and school employees, retired workers, school bus drivers and monitors, and home child care providers; what the goals and direction should be, and what was needed to accomplish it.

Fittingly, the April 10 and 11 retreat was held at a location famous for its competitive spirit and victories, the campus of the University of Connecticut in Storrs. But union leaders and staff of CSEA/SEIU Local 2001/760 in attendance did not lack for enthusiasm.

Eileen Kirilin, director of SEIU's Public Services Division, commended the participants for their courage in setting up a forum to explore ways to strengthen the union and win better wages and benefits for working families.

Wheels were set in motion to address the role of our union in the 21st century and to fight the anti-worker sentiment that is so prevalent today.

A videotaped message

from SEIU International President Andy Stern aptly set the stage: "Those who do not learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them," Stern said.

"Creating a shared vision and a more unified view of the organization" was one of the retreat's goals.

Fine-tuning of the latter was discussed at length, with a final determination to be voted on by the combined Executive Councils.

Attaining these goals will require:

- organizing/recruiting new workers and retirees;
- increasing membership involvement in the union;
- building our political action infrastructure;
- anticipating barriers and developing strategies to overcome them,
- and much more.

Lofty goals, indeed, but we have the support of SEIU and the leadership and staff of our Union. But we will also need our members to become involved with us whether it's in a leadership posi-

tion, working on campaigns and/or issues or volunteering time when needed.

The challenges in 2006 may be different, but a combined CSEA Local 2001 and 760 really is not.

"760 was the brainchild of earlier forward-thinking leaders in CSEA who thought that municipal workers should be entitled to the same benefits of union membership that state employees had," according to CSEA Local 2001 President Michael J. O'Brien.

Originally known as CSEA, Inc. when it was established by CSEA in the late 1960s, the state and municipal associations functioned along side each other for decades prior to "Inc's" affiliation with SEIU.

"By formally merging the two locals, we hope to use our combined membership and political strength to win better contracts and expand our membership further into the municipal public sector and other publicly-funded workers," O'Brien added.

Annual Health Care OPEN ENROLLMENT

The State Comptroller's Office has announced the following dates for the 2006 open enrollment for health insurance coverage:

STATE EMPLOYEES

May 16 through June 16, 2006

STATE RETIREES

May 15 through June 9, 2006

CSEA Retiree Council 400 will hold four "Health Care Open Enrollment Fairs" around Connecticut. (Please see page 6 of this issue for CSEA's health fair schedule and other open enrollment details.)

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 MAY 9

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

CT Juvenile Training School Asst. Superintendent (Residential Care)	MP 66
Correction Officer	CO 7
Correctional Stores Supervisor	CO 7
Motor Vehicle Emissions Contract Compliance Officer	PS 14
Protective Services Trainee (Police, Inspection Enforcement, and Conservation Enforcement)	PS 5
Public Safety Building Official	ES 22
State Police Trooper Trainee	SP 1

CONTINUOUS RECRUITMENT

OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Behavioral Health Community Monitor	HC 24
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
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
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
User Support Specialist	EU 17

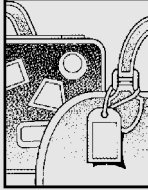
OPEN TO AGENCY EMPLOYEES

Children & Families Program Dir. (Administrative Support/Program Services)	MP 66
(Children's Protective Services)	
Children Services Consultant	SH 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

CSEA Social Activities



The WNBA at Mohegan Sun Arena:

Connecticut Sun vs. Phoenix Mercury

From Hartford and Willimantic

Diana Taurasi and the Phoenix Mercury try to cool off Nykesha Sales and the Connecticut Sun

Saturday, July 8, 2006 • 3 P.M. Tip-off

\$53 per person (full payment by 6-8)

Includes: Reserved game ticket, deluxe motorcoach, casino bonus (min. 5-hr. stay) \$10 food coupon, \$5 free gaming bet (subject to change), driver gratuity.

10:15 a.m.—Depart Hartford, State Office Bldg., 165 Capitol Ave.

11 a.m.—Depart Willimantic, Jillson Square, Main St. (ETA Hartford: 6:45 p.m.)

On the Connecticut River River Cruise & Fine Dining at 'The Gris'

From East Hartford

Tuesday, July 11, 2006 • \$59 per person (full payment by 6-10)

Includes: Motorcoach, Luncheon at the Griswold Inn, Essex (choice: pan-seared breast of chicken or slow roast and carved top sirloin of beef), 1 1/2 hour RiverQuest cruise along Essex Harbor and the Connecticut River, driver gratuity.

10 a.m.—Depart East Hartford, Sheraton Hotel, 100 East River Dr.; (est. return: 5 p.m.)

Boston Pops Old Cape Cod

Bus Pick-up: East Hartford

2 Days, 1 Night 3 Meals 2 Great Shows



\$264 per person Twin/Triple; \$324 Single \$100 p.p. deposit by 5-15 final payment due 6-19-06

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

Includes: Deluxe motorcoach, 1 night hotel, 3 meals (1 breakfast, 1 dinner), 1 lunch & show, reserved seats for the Boston Pops, 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)

MORE UPCOMING TRIPS and ACTIVITIES for 2006:

BASEBALL HALL OF FAME (Cooperstown, NY): Aug. 12

SUFFOLK DOWNS RACETRACK: Sept. 6

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	Yes <input type="checkbox"/>	No <input type="checkbox"/>
Cancellation Insurance			
Pick-up Place		Traveling with	
Meal Selection(s) (if applicable)			
<input type="checkbox"/> Non-Smoking		CSEA Chapter # _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Non-member

Retiree Council and Chapters Set May Meeting Dates

Election of officers, Council delegates and other offices for the 2006-2008 term will take place at the May Chapter meetings. Installation of officers will take place at the June meetings. (Many Chapters have scheduled June luncheons, picnics, etc. Please see "June Events" elsewhere in this issue.)

COUNCIL 400 meets Thursday, May 18, 10 a.m., at CSEA Headquarters, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford.

CHAPTER 401, Hartford area, Thursday, May 4, 1 p.m., CSEA Headquarters, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford. (Light lunch available at 12:15 p.m.) 50/50 raffle.

CHAPTER 402, Danbury area, Wednesday, May 10, 10 a.m., at United Methodist Church, Clapboard Ridge Rd., Danbury. Speaker: State Sen. Christopher Murphy, Democratic candidate in the 5th Congressional District. Refreshments.

CHAPTER 403, Norwich area, Tuesday, May 9, 1:30 p.m. (meeting room not available until 1 p.m.), Rose City Senior Center, 8 Mahan Dr., Norwich. Make reservations for June 20 Installation Luncheon. Refreshments.

CHAPTER 404, Waterbury area, Tuesday, May 9, 10:30 a.m., Elks Club, Rubber Ave., Naugatuck. Speaker: Kelly Cronin, executive director, Waterbury Youth Services, "Needs of Youth - Volunteer Services." Door prizes, refreshments.

CHAPTER 405, New Haven area, Wednesday, May 10, 1 p.m., Southern Conn. State University, Adanti Student Center (Building 14), 3rd Floor, Room 337, 501 Crescent St., New Haven. Speaker: Robert J. Nardino, M.D., director, Internal Medicine Residency Program, Hospital of Saint Raphael, "Vitamins & Supplements: What's Right for You?" (PLEASE NOTE CHANGE OF MEETING LOCATION TO NEW ADANTI STUDENT CENTER. If you have a handicapped parking sticker, please use it.)

CHAPTER 406, Middletown area, Tuesday, May 9, 1:30 p.m., American Legion Post #75, 58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr., Middletown. Speaker: State Treasurer Denise Nappier. Refreshments, door prizes, raffle.

CHAPTER 407, Bridgeport area, Wednesday, May 17, 12:15 p.m. social, 1 p.m. meeting, St. Joseph's of Stratford National Catholic Church, 1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford (on Rt. 113 toward Sikorsky Airport). Atty. Barry C. Knott will speak on Elder Law. Refreshments, door prizes.

CHAPTER 408, Willimantic area, Wednesday, May 10, McSweeney Sr. Center, 47 Crescent St., Willimantic. Social 1-1:45 p.m., followed by meeting. Speaker: Ron Betez, Southern New England Financial Group, "Long-term Care." Refreshments.

CHAPTER 410, Windsor Locks area, Monday, May 8, 1 p.m., VFW, Fairview St., Windsor Locks. Speaker: CSEA Education Coordinator David McCluskey, "Legislative Update." (Purchase tickets for June 12 Chicken Barbeque.) Refreshments.

CHAPTER 411, Rocky Hill area, Thursday, May 11, 1 p.m., William J. Pitkin Community Center, 30 Greenfield St., Wethersfield. (Make reservations for June luncheon.) Refreshments.

CHAPTER 412, Putnam area, Tuesday, May 16, 1:30 p.m., Knights of Columbus, Providence St., Putnam. Refreshments, door prizes.

CHAPTER 414, Torrington area, Monday, May 15, refreshments at 9:30 a.m., meeting 10 a.m., UConn, Torrington Branch.

CHAPTER 415, Manchester area, Monday, May 22, 1:15 p.m., Eighth District Office, 18 Main St., Manchester.

CHAPTER 416, Southeastern Conn., Tuesday, May 9, Social: 12 noon, Meeting: 12:30 p.m., Waterford Public Library, 49 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford. Refreshments.

CHAPTER 417, Plainville area, Wednesday, May 10, 1 p.m., Church of our Savior Episcopal Church, 115 West Main St., Plainville. Speaker: State Rep. Joseph Aresimowicz (D-30, Berlin), "Recent Legislation." Make reservations for June picnic. Refreshments.

Attention Chapter Secretaries and Program Coordinators
May 1 is the deadline for June meeting information.

Jobs @ UConn

Recorded message updated Fridays may be accessed 24/7 from a touch-tone phone at:

(860)486-2466

Online @ UConn Health Center

www.uhc.edu/
(click on Education)

Call for Latest Rates
1-800-4US BOND
(1-800-487-2663)



SPECIAL

President's Desk

Sharing a Vision To Help All Working Families and Retirees

By Hollis Block
CSEA Retiree Coordinator

Deb B. worked for the Dept. of Mental Retardation for more than two years, part time, 35 hours a week, as a substitute state school instructor. She was 32 years old with two young children.

For about two weeks she had told her co-workers that she was not feeling well. They urged her to see a doctor. She said that she couldn't afford to lose the \$80 a day she made, and because she was a substitute instructor, she did not have health insurance coverage and could not afford to go to the doctor or buy the medication if prescribed.

Deb died of pneumonia in April. Her co-workers took up a collection to pay for her funeral.

This story was related by CSEA Secretary/Treasurer Patrice Peterson at the recent two-day retreat held for CSEA Local 2001 and 760 leadership and staff. Patrice is a DMR state school teacher.

I bring this up to make a point. One of the goals produced by the retreat was a "shared vision." That vision is to improve the lives of working families and retirees and all those in Connecticut - a commitment to our communities and state. If we truly share this vision and work toward it, Deb's death will not have been in vain.

Our goals rely on each other since membership involvement is a key factor. Recruiting new members and retaining those we have is a priority.

Retiree membership in CSEA Council 400 has been stagnant. In an effort to reverse this trend and gain new members we have begun to look at our recruitment methods and what we have to offer. Council 400 has many strengths of which non-member retirees may not be aware. As a first step, Stacey Malitz, the union's organizing director, has begun working with Council 400 to move this effort forward.

We are still developing the working plan on how we will reach our goals and will keep you apprised of our progress.

When you go to the doctor or fill a prescription, remember Deb and all the Debs who do not have affordable health care and join us in our vision for Connecticut.

Deb B. was a triplet - two girls and a boy. Her sister has been overwhelmed by the outpouring of sympathy and assistance the family has received.

If you would like to contribute to a fund being established for Deb's children, you may send a check to her sister: Donna Rowland, 117 Branford St., 2nd floor, Hartford, CT 06112.

(NOTE: If you would like to volunteer some time to help bring in new members and make our union grow, please contact Hollis Block at CSEA headquarters: Telephone: (860)951-6614, ext. 130, toll-free 1-800-894-9479 (ext. 130), e-mail: Hblock@csea760.com.)

The more things change,

the more they remain the same. Kind of a different way of saying, "History repeats itself," or "Those who fail to learn from the mistakes of the past are doomed to repeat them."

I was doing some cleaning in my cellar last week and came across some stacks of old newspapers for the last four to five years. I had saved these particular papers or news clippings to use as material for previous "President's Desk" columns.

As I was reading through the stuff prior to putting it in the recycle bin, (the object was to get rid of some of the clutter in the basement), some of the things I read struck me as being just as important or appropriate now as when they first appeared in the news. Here are a few examples.

Health care was a big issue a few years back and remains a bigger issue today. We see General Motors teetering on the brink of bankruptcy and one of the reasons they claim that they are no longer competitive is that the cost of active and retiree health care adds about \$1500 to the cost of a car. Why is it always the workers' fault?

It has been said, though, that the reason the foreign car makers can produce their cars for less is that health care in their countries is not an issue. The government or some other single-payer type system provides it.

Well then, the obvious way to make US car makers, and in fact all manufacturers, more competitive and to level the playing field with the foreign competition is to have a single-payer health care system here too.

Its time has come. And Massachusetts has taken the first step toward setting the national standard for other states to follow by passing a landmark health care bill designed to insure nearly all Massachusetts residents.

But President Bush doesn't think so, apparently, because he was recently in Bridgeport talking up his plan for health care savings accounts. He thinks people should be responsible for their own health care. (Pretty hypocritical for someone who has had his health care paid by the government for at least the last 10 years as presi-

dent and prior to that as governor of Texas. And he will have it paid by us for the rest of his life, too.)

I think another way for American companies to be more competitive with foreign companies is for CEOs to take a cut in pay and benefits.

There is a chart in this month's paper that shows CEO pay in comparison to that of the average worker. In the US, the average CEO makes 431 times that of the line worker. Nobody else is even close. They are off by an order of magnitude.

Clearly the workers in this country are not sharing in the prosperity and productivity gains that they provide.

CEO pay was up 11 percent on average this year and 30 percent last year. State workers had to take 0 percent in the first year of their contracts.

We are always outsourcing US manufacturing jobs to places that pay less wages. Why don't we outsource some CEO jobs to foreign countries where CEOs are paid less?

The president is always saying we can't go back to pre 9-11 thinking because we are in a war on terror. I found an August 2001 news article in which he was quoted as saying, "We can afford tax cuts." We had a surplus in 2001 for a brief period of time.

Well since then, we have run ourselves into a huge deficit situation in both budget and trade, but the president is now pushing to make permanent the tax cuts that were originally proposed and pushed through pre-9-11.



Michael J. O'Brien

Connecticut is one of the richest states in the union. We always have the highest per-capita income. Unarguably, most of the benefit of the Bush tax cuts went to the wealthiest Americans. If the tax cuts are working and the benefit is trickling down in the form of higher spending and investment etc., why isn't Connecticut booming with the creation of new, good paying jobs?

We have plenty of Wal-Mart, McDonald's and casino jobs, but nobody there is making anything with the exception of burgers and fries at McD's.

The cost of the war in Iraq and, to a lesser extent, Afghanistan, is taking a huge toll on the American budget - much larger than it was promised to take. The revenue from rescinding Bush's tax cuts would go a long way toward making those payments.

We are fighting in Iraq now to bring democracy to the Iraqi people. This is at least the third reason why we are there since the first two turned out to

(Continued on Page 12)



CONNECTICUT
State Government
And Its People

USPS # 224-100 ISSN # 0273-6055

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

Michael J. O'BrienPresident
Patrice Peterson.....Secretary/Treasurer
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Frances C. MessengerEditor
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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.

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

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400 LAG ACTION

Council 400 Legislative Action Committee (LAC)

THE MEDICARE PART D LAW

By: Irving Schwartz, Alfred Tee and Stuart Fishbone

We all know how the Republican Congress pushed through the disastrously expensive Medicare Part D law by much arm-twisting and clandestine meetings into the middle of the night.

In view of all the pandemonium that ensued—plus the fact that pharmacists, who came to the rescue during the initial mess by giving seniors their medications and saving lives, are not even getting reimbursed as quickly as they once did—it seems clear that the law has to be changed.

The Republicans refuse to extend the time for enrollment. Meanwhile, Rep. Tom Feeney (R-FL) said, "If the vote were held today on the Medicare prescription drug benefit, as many as 120 Republicans would vote against it. It was probably our greatest failure in my adult lifetime." (ARA Friday Alert, March 17, 2006)

Rita Flaxman, 82, of Coconut Creek, Fla., and her husband, Nathan, estimate they spend between \$2,000 and \$3,000 a year on medicine they mail-order from Canada.

The policies they looked at under the new drug benefit would not save them anything. "It's really working out much better for us to do what we've been doing," Mrs. Flaxman says. (Vanessa Fuhrmans, "Health Journal," Wall St. Journal, Feb. 21, 2006)

The White House proposes to cut \$36 billion from Medicare and \$14 billion from Medicaid over the next five years. According to figures released by Sen. Bill Nelson (D-FL), the U.S. Customs and Border patrols seized 13,000 packages of prescription drugs since November 2005, shortly after the launching of the Part D enrollment period.

Consumers have complained that this campaign is depriving people of necessary medications. Last year, about 2 million U.S. residents purchased medicines from Canadian pharmacies. (AFT Retiree e-news, March 10, 2006)

A bill was introduced in the Senate on Feb. 28 to change the law so that Medicare becomes the single provider of drug

coverage, that the donut hole is eliminated, and that the U.S. Dept. of Health can negotiate drug prices directly with pharmaceuticals.

Senators Kennedy (D-Mass.) and Stabenow (D-Mich.) introduced the bill, and it was co-sponsored by Senators Clinton (D-NY) and Lautenberg (D-NJ). (AFT Retiree e-news, March 2006)

The next Republican blunder will be the so-called tax-free health savings accounts that President Bush wishes to expand. These healthcare tax incentives cost \$177.6 billion last year, and ultimately would cost \$2 trillion over 10 years.

The accounts require large amounts of out-of-pocket spending and will primarily benefit the healthy and wealthy.

Senate Finance Committee Chair Charles Grassley (R-Iowa) said on March 8 that he would not support the proposal. (AFT Retiree e-news, March 2006)

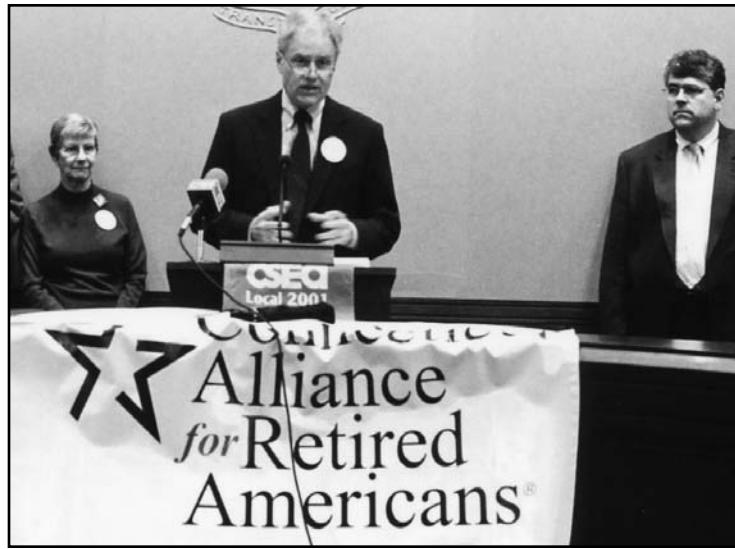
Will Rogers once said that Congress is the largest body of comedians in the world: every time the lawmakers make a law, it's a joke, and every time they make a joke, it becomes a law.

No one knows how to intelligently proceed under the new Part D law because of its multi-tiered bewilderment of bureaucratic intricacies, and it is going to cost us \$80 billion a month, most of which is going to pay the pharmaceutical and insurance industries. At the end of 10 years, this debacle may cost \$1 trillion, a far cry from the original estimate.

You will remember how the lobbyists for drug companies, the insurance industry, and an array of health services poured \$96 million into political campaigns, the lion's share of which (71 percent) went to Republicans.

About 13 Bush administration and congressional officials in key positions during the writing and passage of the bill now work for pharmaceutical companies. (Dan K. Thomasson, "A Prescription for High Costs," New Britain Herald, Feb. 28, 2006)

Health spending is growing faster than the econo-



A press conference held the day before the President's April 5 visit to Bridgeport rebuked the Bush administration's support of Health Savings Accounts, saying they will not help the estimated 407,000 uninsured in Connecticut.

Connecticut Alliance for Retired Americans (ARA) Chapter President Kevin Lynch (at podium) also reviewed Bush's broken healthcare/prescription drug promises to seniors. Lynch, who is a member of Retiree Chapter 401, is flanked by Chapter 410 President Marilyn Tyszka and State Rep. David McCluskey, CSEA's education coordinator.

Around 150 people gathered in Bridgeport to protest a number of the president's policies, most prominently his efforts to privatize Medicare and Medicaid.



Nevada on Course To Allow Reimportation of Prescription Drugs from Canada

The Nevada State Board of Pharmacy voted unanimously on April 20 to adopt regulations allowing Nevadans to import safe, affordable prescription drugs from licensed Canadian pharmacies.

The next step is for the Legislative Committee to Review Regulations to consider the plan on May 4.

With its vote, the board rejected as unbelievable efforts by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) to convince its members that the drugs may not be safe.

"The Alliance would like to thank Assembly

my. By 2015, health spending will account for 20 percent of gross domestic product. (Sarah Lueck, "Health Spending," Wall St. Journal, Feb. 22, 2006)

It would have been much simpler and less costly if the drug benefit were merely added to Medicare and the government was allowed to negotiate drug prices.

(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

Majority Leader Barbara Buckley for her hard work in making Nevada an example for other states to follow," said George J. Kourprias, ARA president. "She is successfully leading the struggle to make the reimportation of safe and affordable prescription drugs from Canada a reality for all of Nevada's seniors."

Senators Call for Vote To Extend Part D Enrollment

Forty-eight senators on April 19 sent a letter to Senate Majority Leader Bill Frist (R-TN) asking him to address legislation that would extend the current May 15 deadline for enrollment in the Medicare prescription drug benefit, according to the Boston Globe and Kaiser Daily Health Policy Report.

Sens. Bill Nelson (D-FL) and Olympia Snowe (R-ME) wrote the letter urging Sen. Frist to bring to a vote one of the recently introduced bills extending the deadline.

Sen. Nelson has introduced one bill (S. 1841) that would extend the enrollment deadline and is co-sponsoring similar legislation (S. 2168) together with Sen. Snowe.

The St. Petersburg Times reports that Nelson and Snowe wrote, "By extending the enrollment

DEATHS REPORTED

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

Agnes Anthony of Chapter 412 died March 6.
 Dina Aubin, 403, Feb. 5
 Nathaniel Avery, 416, March 11
 Stephen Bognar, 427, Feb. 8
 Raymond Booth, 427, Feb. 10
 Clarence Bowman, 405, March 6
 Anne Cecere, 401, Feb. 19
 Gertrude Chappell, 408, Feb. 25
 Ernest Cook, 406, Feb. 14
 Arthur Cotter, 401, Jan. 29
 Alice Deveau, 426, Jan. 17
 Charles Dondero, 408, Feb. 20
 Richard Eller, 420, Feb. 15
 Ivan Faulkner, 416, Feb. 11
 Gerald Fisher, 420, Feb. 24
 Edward Frazier, 427, Feb. 16
 Dorothy French, 420, Jan. 5
 Norman Gibson, 410, March 1
 Marie Ginsburg, 420, March 8
 Walter Grischuk, 407, March 14
 William Groski, 427, Jan. 17
 Edward Hidek, 403, Feb. 20
 Georgia Jordan, 416, Dec. 24
 Mimi Kapitan, 405, March 14
 John Karnes 408, Feb. 11
 Bernadette King, 405, Feb. 18
 William Kranmas, 411, Feb. 9
 Mitchell Labuda, 420, March 13
 John Lauer, 420, Feb. 27
 Harriet Leveridge, 424, Feb. 28
 Edwin Lewis, 421, Feb. 26
 Donald McGirr, 404, Feb. 25
 Patricia McGurk, 420, Feb. 14
 Francis Meheran, 415, Dec. 9
 Helen Moore, 411, Feb. 28
 Evelyn Mrakovich, 420, Feb. 11
 Dolores Palumbo, 404, Jan. 28
 John Peters, 420, Jan. 28
 Henry Pitcher, 403, March 7
 Mildred Ravenell, 416, Feb. 17
 Carol Riley, 405, Feb. 17
 Robert Skowron, 401, Feb. 25
 Helen Smagliotis, 415, Dec. 3
 Rudolph Supina, 408, Feb. 19
 Alfred Texeira, 420, March 12
 Helen Tiffany, 416, Feb. 25
 Roberta Vaccari, 414, March 19
 Daniel Walsh, 401, Feb. 20
 Elvira Walsh, 401, March 9

deadline and delaying late enrollment penalties, we can make sure that our constituents are not forced to make hasty decisions about their health care."

Added Edward Coyle, Executive Director of the Alliance, "Given all of the problems with Medicare Part D, it's only fair to give seniors more time to make their decisions."

Last week, the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services (CMS) announced the approval of allowing some low-income Medi-

(Continued on Page 10)

State Retirees and/or their spouses who are enrolled in the state Retirement Health Insurance Plan and eligible for Medicare:



Your drug coverage offered through the state is more comprehensive than the standard Medicare Part D prescription drug coverage. **There is no need for you to enroll in a Medicare Prescription Drug Plan.**

(NOTE: "Notice of Creditable Prescription Drug Coverage" has been mailed to all retirees by State Comptroller Nancy Wyman.)

CSEA P-3B Council UPDATE

By Jeralyn Keltonic, P-3B Council President

Chief Stewards Named

At the last P-3B Council meeting on March 22, five new statewide Stewards (a.k.a. Chief Stewards) were appointed:

TOM WELCH

Dept. of Mental Retardation (DMR), Southern Region

PAULA DILLON

Dept. of Children & Families (DCF)

BOB ADRIANI

Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS)

ANN FRANCISCO and JIM BARTLETT

Dept. of Correction (DOC)

Four new Stewards also have been appointed:

ROLAND BISHOP and JEFF BEILER

DOC

CYNTHIA JOHNSON and LISA BENNETT

DMR

Thanks to all of you for stepping up and taking on your new leadership roles.

Other News...

Kudos go out to **Jim Bartlett** who was named "Vocational Instructor of the Year" in Unified School District #1 (USD #1). Way to go, Jimmy!

Vice President **Tom Welch** will be Acting P-3B Council President for the next few months while I'm out on medical leave. Tom assures me he'll take very good care of my gavel while I'm away!

IMPORTANT: CSEA is updating its files to include members' HOME e-mail addresses. If you have a personal computer and are online, please forward your home e-mail address to: mnortz@csea760.com. Please include your name and home phone (optional).

Next meeting:

**P-3B
(Education Professions)
Council/Chapter**

Wednesday, May 17

**CSEA Headquarters
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford**

6:00 P.M.

All Members Welcome!



Above, P-3B DMR Stewards meet at CSEA March 28.

In addition to their regular agenda, they had the opportunity to review the unit's interest arbitration award which arrived at union headquarters two days earlier. (Please see page-one story and economic summary of the award on page 7 of this issue.)



At right are newly-appointed DMR stewards, Cynthia Johnson (left) and Lisa Bennett.

National SEIU Leaders Join University of Miami Hunger Strike

As the chorus grows louder calling for University of Miami President Donna Shalala to intervene, SEIU President Andy Stern and Executive Vice President Eliseo Medina joined janitors, faculty, students, and community members who are fasting to protest civil rights abuses by cleaning company UNICCO Services.

At an April 21 prayer service, five janitors ended their fast after 17 days of a water-only hunger strike by accepting a symbolic offer of food from Father Rich Mullen of St. Augustine's Catholic Church and Student Center.

"Your voice is being heard and we're proud to join in your struggle for justice," said Stern. "Now it's time for President Shalala to answer the call as well."

Pitching tents alongside janitors in "Freedom City," Stern and Medina both joined the fast to protest civil rights abuses by the company hired by University of Miami

President Donna Shalala to clean the school, UNICCO Services.

"I never imagined janitors in Miami would have so much support, but now we know the world is

watching and our voices are being heard" said janitor Clara Vargas. "We are prepared for a long struggle, and ending our fast today allows us to take

(Continued on Page 10)

Last Call!

CSEA 2006 McCusker Scholarships



All applications for this year's scholarships must be received at union headquarters in written form by JUNE 1. The student's high school and/or college transcripts, two letters of recommendation and college acceptance letter, if applicable, must be received at the union office by JUNE 9.

Applications are available online (please see box below), and donations are being solicited to provide as many scholarships as possible for the children and grandchildren of CSEA Local 2001 members.

The competition is open to students:

- ◆ who pursue or continue post-secondary education during the 2006-2007 school year, and;
- ◆ are the children or grandchildren of current members of the Connecticut State Employees Association, SEIU Local 2001, who have been members for not less than the immediate five consecutive years.

Selection of recipients is based on the following criteria, with equal consideration: scholastic ability (as determined by scholastic record and/or competitive examination), financial need, and social adaptation.

Applications Available On-line

Get full details and download an application at CSEA's web site:



www.csea-ct.com

Click on "McCusker Scholarship Applications"

You may complete the application on-line, download and mail it. (It cannot be transmitted electronically.)

For questions, please contact Julie Dumond at the CSEA office (Hartford: 951-6614, CT toll-free: 1-800-894-9479, FL toll-free: 1-800-437-5630).

Good Works at the Buick Championship

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

In keeping with the tradition of past years, state employees and retirees will staff a food tent on **Saturday, July 1.**

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

If you would like to help, please 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.

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



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



Health Care Open Enrollment

The Office of the State Comptroller is conducting the annual Health Insurance Open Enrollment during the following periods:

For State Employees
May 16 through June 16

For State Retirees
May 15 through June 9

This is the one time during the year when employees and retirees may make changes in health coverage, such as:

- change medical and/or dental plans,
- add or delete a spouse, dependent or domestic partner.

Exceptions are allowed only for causes by or related to change in family or work status which affect the health plan, or, for retirees, moving out of state. (For these exceptions, it is the responsibility of the employee to contact their agency/personnel department, or for the retiree to contact the Retirement and Benefit Services Division and file the appropriate forms within 30 days.)

There are no changes in the carriers. For prescription drugs, it remains

20-Year Agreement in Force

Health coverage for state employees and retirees is protected under the terms of the 20-year Pension and Health Care Agreement negotiated by SEBAC (State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition), effective July 1, 1997 through June 30, 2017.

PharmaCare (please note that maintenance medications continue to be for up to a 100-day supply); for dental Aetna Dental DMO and United Healthcare Basic and Enhanced plans; and for medical, Anthem Blue Cross/Blue Shield, Health Net and Oxford Health Plans.

At press time, the Comptroller's Office had not yet mailed the "Health Care Options Planners" which provide a comparison of the carriers and applicable premiums. If you do not receive a Planner by the beginning of the open-enrollment period, please contact the Retirement & Benefit Services Division, Health Care Unit, at (860)702-3533.

There are no premium shares for retirees who



Get answers to your questions at CSEA Retiree Health Fairs

CSEA Retiree Council 400 invites you to attend one of four Health Care Open Enrollment Fairs being held during the annual open enrollment period.

The Health Fairs also are open to any actively-employed CSEA member who may wish to attend.

This is your opportunity to meet and ask questions of representatives from the various health plan.

All Fairs will be held between 1:00–3:00 P.M. as follows:

WEDNESDAY, MAY 17 • HARTFORD
CSEA/SEIU LOCAL 2001/760 Headquarters, 760 Capitol Ave.

MONDAY, MAY 22 • NORWICH
Rose City Senior Center, 8 Mahan Dr.

TUESDAY, MAY 23 • NORTH HAVEN
American Legion Maury Reynolds Post 76, 20 Church St.

FRIDAY, MAY 26 • NAUGATUCK
Elks Lodge #967, 758 Rubber Ave.

retired prior to July 1, 1997, or who retired under the 1997 Early Retirement Incentive Program (ERIP).

State Health Fairs

The schedule of state-sponsored Open Enrollment Health Fairs is reprinted below. (Note: Employee health fairs also are open to retirees.)

CSEA Health Fairs

Retiree Council 400 is holding four Health Care Open Enrollment Health Fairs around the state

(please see box on this page for the schedule).

When you receive the Health Care Planner from the Comptroller's Office, please read all information carefully and fully even if you are making no changes to your coverage. Do not throw anything away.

If you have questions, bring the "Planner" to one of the Health Fairs. Representatives from the various health carriers will be there to provide answers and information.

What if I do not want to make any changes?

If you do not wish to change your current health or dental plan or those covered under them, you do not need to submit an application.

Any changes made will take effect July 1, 2006.

For more information and links to the Comptroller's web site including premium charts, please click on the CSEA web site: www.csea-ct.com, or go directly to the Comptroller's web page at: www.osc.state.ct.us.

2006 Employee Health Insurance Open Enrollment Fairs – Schedule

CITY	DATE	START	END	AGENCY	LOCATION
Danbury	Monday May 15	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Western Connecticut State University	Student Center Room 201
Willimantic	Monday May 15	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Eastern Connecticut State University	Paul E. Johnson Rm, J. Eugene Smith Library
Hartford	Monday May 15	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Dept. of Public Health, OPM	470 Capitol Ave., Conference Room C
Hartford	Tuesday May 16	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	Office of the State Comptroller	55 Elm Street, Room 208
New Britain	Tuesday May 16	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	Central Connecticut State University	Founders Hall, Adm Bldg
New Haven	Tuesday May 16	1:00 PM	4:30 PM	Southern Connecticut State University	345 Fitch St., 3rd Fl. Student Center
Storrs	Wednesday May 17	9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Uconn Storrs	Gampel Pavillion
Storrs	Thursday May 18	9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Uconn Storrs	Gampel Pavillion
Enfield	Thursday May 18	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Corrections - Robinson	285 Shaker Rd., Visiting Center
Newington	Friday May 19	9:00 AM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Transportation - Central Office	2800 Berlin Tpke., Conf. Rm. A
Wethersfield	Friday May 19	9:00 AM	3:00 PM	Dept. of Labor	200 Follybrook Blvd.
Farmington	Monday May 22	9:00 AM	5:00 PM	Uconn Health Center	Keller Auditorium Lobby
Manchester	Monday May 22	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Manchester Community College	Low Building Lobby
Bridgeport	Tuesday May 23	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Corrections - Bridgeport	1054 North Ave., VNA Building
New Haven	Tuesday May 23	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	Gateway Community College	Long Wharf Campus, Rm. 160
Hartford	Wednesday May 24	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Legislative Management - Legislators & Staff ONLY	LOB 2nd fl. Breakout area
Hartford	Wednesday May 24	1:00 PM	5:00 PM	Banking/ Insurance/Capitol Comm College	153 Market St., Room 701 (7th Fl.)
Wethersfield	Wednesday May 24	9:00 AM	3:00 PM	Dept. of Corrections - Central Office	24 Wolcott Hill Road, Lobby
Norwalk	Thursday May 25	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Norwalk Community College	East Campus Atrium
Bridgeport	Thursday May 25	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Housatonic Community College	Community Services Room, A101
Bridgeport	Thursday May 25	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	DMHAS	1635 Central Ave.,
Middletown	Friday May 26	8:00 AM	12:00 PM	DMHAS	Lee Auditorium, Merritt Hall
Hartford	Tuesday May 30	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	State Office Bldg/Dept. of Administrative Services	165 Capitol Ave., North Mechanical Room
Winsted	Tuesday May 30	9:00 AM	12:30 PM	Northwest Community College	Founders Hall, Conference Room
Waterbury	Tuesday May 30	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	DMV, DAP, DMHAS - Rowland Government Ctr.	55 West Main Street, 1st Fl. Conference Rm.
Waterbury	Wednesday May 31	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Naugatuck Valley Community College	Cafeteria West
Niantic	Wednesday May 31	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Corrections - York	201 W. Main Street, East Gym
Cheshire	Thursday June 1	8:00 AM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Corrections - Maloney	275 Jarvis Street, Gym
Norwich	Thursday June 1	1:30 PM	4:00 PM	Dept. of Transportation - District 2	171 Salem Turnpike, Classroom
Middletown	Thursday June 1	1:00 PM	4:30 PM	Conn Employees Union Independent (CEUI)	110 Randolph Rd
New Haven	Friday June 2	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Dept. of Transportation - District 3	140 Pond Lily Ave., Large Conference Room
Newington	Friday June 2	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	DMHAS - Cedarcrest Hospital	525 Russell Rd., Chadwick Room
New Haven	Friday June 2	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	DMHAS	34 Park St., Ct. Mental Health Center
Norwich	Monday June 5	7:30 AM	10:00 AM	DMHAS SouthEast	401 W. Thames, Bldg 301, Lobby
Norwich	Monday June 5	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	DMHAS SouthEast	401 W. Thames, Bldg 301, Lobby
Hartford	Monday June 5	9:00 PM	12:00 PM	Dept. of Children & Families	505 Hudson Street, Hartford
East Hartford	Monday June 5	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	DMR North Region	Founders Plaza, 255 Pitkin St., Conf. Rm 3A
East Hartford	Tuesday June 6	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Dept. of Information Technology	101 E. River Dr., Rm. 1002 A & B
Wethersfield	Tuesday June 6	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	Dept. of Motor Vehicles	60 State St. Multimedia Room
Middletown	Tuesday June 6	3:00 PM	5:00 PM	DMHAS	Lee Auditorium, Merritt Hall
Rocky Hill	Tuesday June 6	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Division of Criminal Justice	300 Corporate Place, Training Center
Thomaston	Wednesday June 7	8:00 AM	1:00 PM	Dept. of Transportation - District 4	359 S. Main Street, Large Conf. Room
Waterbury	Wednesday June 7	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	DMHAS - Grt Waterbury Mental Hlth Authority	95 Thomaston Ave
Torrington	Wednesday June 7	2:00 PM	5:00 PM	DMHAS - NorthWest Mental Hlth Authority	249 Winsted Rd., Charter Oak Room
Hartford	Thursday June 8	9:00 AM	12:00 PM	DMHAS - Blue Hills Hospital/Capitol Mental Hlth	500 Vine St., Auditorium
Hartford	Thursday June 8	1:00 PM	4:00 PM	Dept. Social Svcs./Dept. Revenue Svcs.	25 Sigourney St., Mezzanine Conf Rm A & B
Stamford	Thursday June 8	12:00 PM	3:00 PM	Stamford Judicial District Courthouse	123 Hoyt St., Court Services Center
Southbury	Friday June 9	9:00 AM	3:00 PM	DMR West Region	Southbury Training School, Moser Library

Contracts... (Continued from Page One)

tion for the P-4 (Engineering, Scientific and Technical) and CSC (Correction Supervisors Council) awards. This allowed them to be acted on at any time without a committee hearing or placement on the House or Senate calendar for three days.

The House gave unanimous approval April 21 to the P-4 and CSC awards. On April 25, the Senate voted on a consent calendar that included approval for both awards.

(Please see individual boxes for economic summaries of the P-4, P-3B and CSC awards.)

CSEA Executive Director Robert D. Rinker praised the respective Council negotiating teams.

"I would like to thank the members of all CSEA Council negotiating committees for their hard work over so many months to bring this process to fruition."

Once the contracts receive approval or take effect, the next step is to get the contracts in booklet form and mailed to the membership. We expect that this will take about two months.

The contracts also will be posted on the CSEA web site.

If you have any questions in the interim, please feel free to contact the union.

(NOTE: Please access CSEA's web site - www.csea-ct.com - for an update on the P-3B award.)

P-4 Interest Arbitration Award

Arbitrator Peter Prosper's award in the P-4 (Engineering, Scientific and Technical) interest arbitration was delivered to the General Assembly on April 10.

The award was e-certified for legislative action April 20 by Senate President Pro Tem Donald Williams and Speaker of the House James Amann.

It received unanimous approval in the House on April 21, and was approved on the consent calendar in the Senate April 25.

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

General Wage Increases

2005-2006: 0%
2006-2007: 3.5%
2007-2008: 3.5%
2008-2009: 3.5%

Annual Increments and Lump-sum Payments

2005-2006: No A.I. or Lump-sum Payment
2006-2007: A.I. and Lump-sum Payment paid on time
2007-2008: A.I. and Lump-sum Payment paid on time
2008-2009: A.I. and Lump-sum Payment paid on time

(NOTE: Read the entire award online at CSEA's web site: www.csea-ct.com)

P-3B Interest Arbitration Award

Arbitrator Sarah Kerr Garraty's award in the P-3B (Education Professions) interest arbitration arrived at CSEA headquarters on Sunday, March 26.

The award received unanimous approval from the Appropriations Committee on April 19.

Unless the General Assembly takes up the award before its May 3 adjournment date, the contract will go into effect on May 4. At press time, it did not appear that the legislature would take up the award before it adjourns.

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

General Wage Increases

2005-2006: 0%
2006-2007: 3%
2007-2008: 3%
2008-2009: 3.5%

Annual Increments and Lump-sum Payments

2005-2006: No A.I.
2006-2007: A.I. paid on time
2007-2008: A.I. paid on time
2008-2009: A.I. paid on time

(NOTE: Read the entire award online at CSEA's web site: www.csea-ct.com)

CHANGE to WIN

UNITING WORKERS FOR A BETTER AMERICA

Goal of 'Make Work Pay!' Campaign Is To Preserve America's Middle Class

Uniting 50 Million Workers In Movement To Restore The American Dream

Change to Win (CtW) on April 24 launched a permanent campaign to unite the 50 million workers whose jobs cannot be outsourced and who are vital to the U.S. economy, but who are not given a chance to reach the Middle Class.

The Make Work Pay! campaign is focused on the millions of workers who work hard every day but still fall short of the basics of the American Dream - a salary that can support a family, affordable health care, retirement security, a voice on the job, and a chance to give their kids an education and a better future.

The campaign will unite workers in industries such as hospitality, construction, retail, food processing, health care, trucking and transportation among others.

A week of organizing activities in nearly 40 cities across the country kicks off the permanent campaign, with events at locations ranging from construction sites in New York City, to the steps of the county Courthouse in Norristown, Pennsylvania, to ports in Seattle, Miami and Los Angeles, to Wal-Marts throughout the nation.

"There are millions of jobs in this country that can't be moved overseas," said Anna Burger, chair of Change to Win. "They include the people who heal the sick and comfort

the elderly, who harvest and serve our food, and build and clean and protect our offices and homes. These men and women work hard and play by the rules but for too many the American Dream is something they see only on TV."

CtW's unions are sharing resources, supporting each other's organizing drives and exerting pressure on corporations to allow their workers to determine whether they want to unite into a union, all under the banner of the Make Work Pay! campaign.

"We're organizing in a new way," said Edgar Romney, secretary-treasurer of Change to Win.

"Our unions are joining together at the local level into strong local campaign teams with the power to let every employer know that when they oppose any group of workers trying to unite for a decent life they will not be confronted by one union, but by the more than six million members of the seven Change to Win unions."

The Make Work Pay campaign will also work to educate the American public about the peril faced by the American Middle Class.

As CEO pay skyrockets and corporate profits

surge, average workers are being left behind. Average CEO pay rose 27% last year, to \$11.3 million - more than 300 times that of average workers.

"The gap between the rich and everyone else is growing," Burger said. "Even Alan Greenspan believes that this gap is

(Continued on Page 9)



Roll Call Vote in Appropriations Committee On P-3A Interest Arbitration Award

Approved by Senate members: Yea=8, Nay=0, Absent=4 (SR-13, March 23, 2006)

Vote	Dist.	Name
Y	10	Sen. Harp
A	15	Sen. Hartley
Y	24	Sen. Cappiello
Y	18	Sen. Cook
Y	25	Sen. Duff
A	34	Sen. Fasano
Y	26	Sen. Freedman
Y	4	Sen. Handley
Y	5	Sen. Harris
A	16	Sen. Murphy
Y	19	Sen. Prague
A	14	Sen. Slossberg

Approved by House members: Yea=24, Nay=4, Absent=15 (HR-13, March 23, 2006)

Vote	Dist.	Name
Y	54	Rep. Merrill
A	53	Rep. Cardin
A	6	Rep. Feltman
A	47	Rep. Malone
Y	26	Rep. Tercyak
N	69	Rep. O'Neill
Y	103	Rep. Adinolfi
N	14	Rep. Aman
Y	121	Rep. Backer
A	143	Rep. Boucher
A	142	Rep. Cafero
A	95	Rep. Candelaria
Y	67	Rep. Chapin
Y	71	Rep. D'Amelio
Y	61	Rep. Fahrback
N	62	Rep. Ferrari
Y	18	Rep. Fleischmann
Y	25	Rep. Geragosian
A	3	Rep. Gonzalez
Y	31	Rep. Googins
A	34	Rep. Hamm
Y	101	Rep. Heinrich
Y	39	Rep. Hewett
Y	37	Rep. Jutila
Y	77	Rep. Michele
A	35	Rep. O'Connor
Y	48	Rep. Orange
Y	42	Rep. Reynolds
Y	38	Rep. Ritter
Y	119	Rep. Roy
A	139	Rep. Ryan, K.
Y	134	Rep. Stone
A	135	Rep. Stripp
Y	145	Rep. Truglia
Y	133	Rep. Tymniak
Y	93	Rep. Walker
Y	109	Rep. Wallace
N	106	Rep. Wasserman
A	64	Rep. Willis

CSC Interest Arbitration Award

Arbitrator Joel Weisblatt's award in the CSC (Correction Supervisors Council) interest arbitration was delivered to the General Assembly on April 11.

The award was e-certified for legislative action April 20 by Senate President Pro Tem Donald Williams and Speaker of the House James Amann.

It received unanimous approval in the House on April 21, and was approved on the consent calendar in the Senate April 25.

ECONOMIC SUMMARY

General Wage Increases

2005-2006: 0%
2006-2007: 3%
2007-2008: 3%

Annual Increments and Lump-sum Payments

2005-2006: No A.I. or Lump-sum payment
2006-2007: A.I. delayed 6 months
2007-2008: A.I. delayed 3 months

Top of Salary Range Increased by 3% in Second Year

(NOTE: Read the entire award online at CSEA's web site: www.csea-ct.com)



Retiree June Events

Many Retiree Chapters will hold luncheons or picnics during June. Some mail flyers to members, and all will be listed next month. Since that publication may arrive after some reservation deadlines, we have included below all which were finalized at press time.

Election of Chapter officers and other positions will take place at the May Chapter meetings. Installation of Officers will be held at the June events.

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) – served with garden salad/house dressing, penne pasta w/vodka sauce, potato, vegetable, warm bread & butter, spumoni-style cheesecake, coffee/tea/decaf. Reservation deadline: May 19. Music by LaFamiglia D.J. Productions w/singer Tony Allen. (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, directions.)

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): will hold a Buffet Luncheon Wednesday, June 14, 12-4 p.m., at 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 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. Get details and purchase tickets at May 8 chapter meeting or call 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. Reservation deadline: June 5. Make reservations at May 11 chapter meeting or 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 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. (Sign up at May 10 Chapter meeting or return coupon in flyer mailed to members.) Speaker: State Sen. Christopher Murphy, Democratic candidate in the 5th Congressional District.



Any member who has attended meetings at the union's Hartford headquarters knows that parking spaces were at a premium. The problem was exacerbated when several meetings were held on the same day, which is more the rule than the exception.

As you can see in these photos, work is underway to expand the available area. Fences have been removed and grading was being done at press time.

When completed, the new lot will provide parking spaces for 65 vehicles.



Change to Win Campaign...

(Continued from Page 7)
not good for American democracy.

"But there is a solution: it involves workers organizing and uniting to force the changes that will create a new American middle class, just as our fathers and grandfathers did in the years following World War II."

Change to Win has also launched a series of TV and print advertisements in major markets across the country to introduce the campaign and CtW to the general public.

A campaign web site - www.makeworkpay.org - features links to all the campaigns under the Make Work Pay! banner and will offer opportunities for union members, potential members and the general public to engage in the effort to Make Work Pay.

"We're going to reach out to those workers who are not yet organized and to the American people who

know this country can't exist without a vibrant middle class," Burger said. "The implications are clear: when employers make work pay, entire communities benefit."

(About CHANGE to WIN - Founded in September 2005, Change to Win is a federation of seven unions and 6 million workers devoted to building a movement of working people with the power to provide workers a paycheck that supports a family, affordable health care, a secure retirement and dignity on the job.

The seven affiliated unions are: Service Employees International Union, UNITE HERE, United Food and Commercial Workers International Union, International Brotherhood of Teamsters, Laborers' International Union of North America, United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America and United Farm Workers of America.)



McCusker Fund Scholarship Donations



The following recent donations have been received by the CSEA McCusker Memorial Scholarship Fund:

P-4 Chapter 9	Dept. of Transportation Engineering, Hartford	\$750
P-4 Chapter 24	Dept. of Environmental Protection	\$1500
P-4 Chapter 96	Dept. of Public Works	\$100
P-4 Chapter 119	Dept. of Economic & Community Development	\$100
Chapter 402	Danbury area Retirees	\$200
Chapter 415	Manchester-East Hartford area Retirees	\$200
Chapter 416	Southeastern Connecticut area Retirees	\$150
P-3A Council	Education Administrators	\$1500
P-3B Council	Education Professions	\$3000
P-4 Council	Engineering, Scientific & Technical Employees	\$4500
Inspector Council/Chapter 216	Inspectors in the Division of Criminal Justice	\$750
AMECSS	Association of Managerial Employees in the Conn. State Service	\$750
James C. Poloshian	Member of Retiree Chapter 405	\$100
Frances Hoffman	Member of Retiree Chapter 406	\$25
Atty. Robert J. Krzys (correction)	CSEA General Counsel	\$250
CSEA		\$3000

WANTED

Home E-mail Addresses

CSEA is in the process of updating its files to include members' HOME e-mail addresses.

If you have a personal computer and are online, please forward your home e-mail address to:

mnortz@csea760.com

Please include your name and home phone (optional).

In addition to news updates, please let us know if you would be interested in obtaining information about:

Legislative/Political Activity • Scholarships
Social Activities/Trips • Discount Programs
Other (please explain)

Thank you!

Attention State Retirees:

Payroll Deduction Available for State Employee Campaign for Charitable Giving

Payroll deduction for retiree contributions to the 2006 Connecticut State Employees' Campaign (CSEC) will begin July 2006 and end June 2007.

Your contributions to the annual campaign aid non-profit charities locally, throughout the nation and around the world.

They provide a wide range of vital services - shelter for the homeless, protection of the environment, research for cures of diseases, care for both children and seniors - to name only a fraction of the services provided by the more than 900 charities listed on the CSEC web site.

In 2004, \$1,873,273 was donated by Connecticut state employees and retirees.

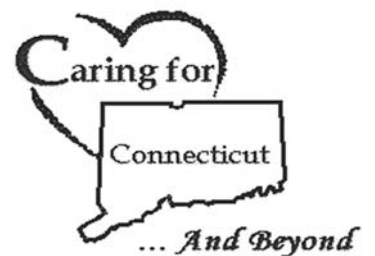
One-time pledges are accepted at any time, but retiree payroll deductions for the campaign will start in July.

Additional information will be provided with the May pension checks. Information is also available at the CSEC web site:

<http://www.state.ct.us/csec>

or by calling

Hartford (860) 702-3316



ARA NEWS...

(Continued from Page 4)

care beneficiaries extra time to enroll in the Part D program.

According to the Wall Street Journal, CMS estimates that approximately 8.2 million Medicare beneficiaries qualify for a subsidy available to individual beneficiaries with annual incomes of less than about \$15,000 and assets of less than \$11,500. However, only 20 percent of those eligible have applied and qualified for the subsidy.

Low-income seniors and disabled Americans who could qualify for extra financial help have been among the most difficult beneficiaries to enroll. Seniors who have few health problems and take few expensive drugs also have been slow to enroll, reported USA Today, as actuaries assumed from the start would be the case.

Congress Gets a Failing Grade in ARA 2005 Voting Record

If the Alliance's 2005 Voting Record reveals the commitment of elected officials to older Americans, then the first session of the 109th Congress proved to be yet

another direct assault on the quality of life for retirees.

The Alliance assessed how members of Congress voted last year on 10 House and 10 Senate votes that were important to the welfare of seniors, including Medicare, retiree benefits, tax breaks and pensions.

(NOTE: The results were released April 10. To see how your members of Congress did, go to the Alliance web site at: www.retiredamericans.org/votingrecord.)

Since releasing its first voting record in 2001, the Alliance has documented a disturbing trend of anti-senior sentiment in Congress. The trend continued in 2005.

Scoring 60% or below constitutes a failure to stand up for seniors, and 53% of the House and 56% of the Senate received scores below a passing grade.

Thirty-nine percent of U.S. Representatives and 40% of U.S. Senators scored 0%. In fact, a majority of Republicans scored 0%. Notable politicians who received a score of 0% included Sen. Rick Santorum of Pennsylvania and Rep. Katherine Harris of

The CSEA Good Works Committee



CAN OF THE MONTH IS

PEAS

Florida, each of whom faces a tough Senate race in 2006.

There was a clear distinction along party lines. While Republicans in both the House and Senate scored an average of 6%, Democrats averaged 95% in the House and 98% in the Senate.

In Ohio, likely to be the location of several key races in November, Reps. Sherrod Brown and Ted Strickland, running for U.S. Senate and Governor, respectively, both scored 100%. A score of 100% indicates the courage and conviction to stand up for seniors against drug companies.

"Congress had several opportunities to make senior-friendly changes, such as allowing the Medicare program to negotiate for lower drug prices, extending the enrollment period without penalty, and lowering rebates to drug manufacturers. It didn't take advantage of those oppor-

University of Miami...

(Continued from Page 5)

the next steps on the road to justice."

Speaking to the majority immigrant janitors, "Your willingness to sacrifice your health and your lives to have a better life for your families is an inspiration to working people everywhere," said SEIU Executive Vice President Eliseo Medina, who has pledged to continue the fast indefinitely. "We will stand with you, today, tomorrow, and however long it takes to win justice."

The janitors' campaign for justice has already attracted the support and attention of a number of

tunities," said Alliance Executive Director Coyle. Seniors represent a crucial voting bloc, which votes in larger numbers than any other segment of the population, and the Alliance plans to educate and mobilize retirees across the country to elect a more senior-friendly Congress in November.

(Council 400 retirees, through their membership in CSEA and CSEA's affiliation with SEIU, are members of the Alliance for Retired Americans.)

prominent national figures, including former Democratic Whip David Bonior, Senator John Edwards, and civil rights leader and Southern Christian Leadership Conference President Charles Steele, Jr.

The more than a dozen UNICCO janitors and students were in the third week of their fast to protest the cleaning company's actions.

They are calling on University of Miami President and former Clinton Administration official Donna Shalala to use her power to ensure UNICCO ends its poor treatment of the workers and allows them to form a union with SEIU free of intimidation and coercion.

UNICCO's response to University of Miami janitors' effort to win safer workplaces and better jobs by forming a union with SEIU has been an unprecedented crack-down on janitors' civil rights. Over the past eight months UNICCO has threatened, fired, spied on, and coerced workers they suspect of supporting the union, frequently targeting leaders for reprisals.

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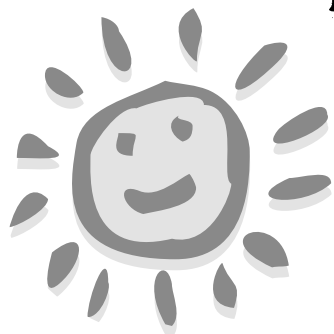
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CREDIT UNION NEWS



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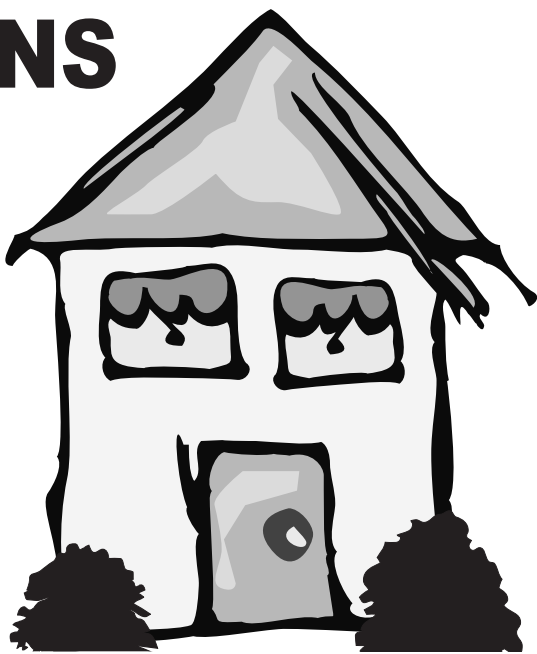
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	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
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SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.75%	1.77%
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Minimum opening balance \$25.00. The annual percentage yield is accurate 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.

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2002 TRAVEL TRAILER, 19', heat/a.c., shower, refrig., AM/FM/CD radio and '97 Yukon SUV. Will sell together or separately. New Britain (860)919-3108.

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30' TRAVEL TRAILER, 2001 Wildwood LE Model 30BHS. Sleeps 8. Electric slide-out LR & dining area, private master BR w/queen bed, furnace w/thermostat, AC, 2-way refrig/freezer, MW & convection oven, shower, bathtub, flush toilet, AM/FM/CD player/4 speakers, antenna, 2 cable outlets, water monitoring panel, awning, jacks, spare tire, professional winterized. Never smoked in. \$12,900. Ellington (860) 875-5678, after 5 p.m.

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TIMESHARE, Vacation Village at Bonaventure, Weston (Ft. Lauderdale), FL. 2 BR, 2 BA, lock-off unit, sleeps 8. Fixed wk. 4, annual usage, deeded \$8,500/B.O. Storrs (860)429-1345, email: dabora@sbcglobal.net

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

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

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

be fiction.

In the 21st century, after three years of war and occupation of Iraq, Baghdad still has an inadequate and unreliable supply of running water and electricity. Come to think of it, when we declared our independence and began our democracy in the United States in 1776, we had little running water - you had to pump it - and no electricity, either. The more things change, the more they remain the same.

Bush and many of his supporters believe that government is not the answer to all of people's problems and, in fact, they espouse that government is part of the problem itself.

In the wake of September 11 and the heroic response of police, firefighters and other rescue workers, Americans began to change in how they view their government. For the first time in more than 30 years a majority of people said that they trust the federal government to do the right thing at least most of the time.

I wonder how that survey would report now after the inept response on the Gulf coast to hurricane Katrina last year.

In 2006, income is stagnant or declining for 60 percent of families; when adjusted for inflation, average wages today are less than in 1967, and the minimum wage is less than in 1956; 53 percent of Americans have no pension and the percentage is dropping as companies dump their defined benefit plans; 46 million Americans have no health care, etc.

Corporate profits at companies like Exxon Mobil are booming, though, while we get

fleeced at the gas pump.

All the while the chasm between the rich and the poor of this country grows ever wider as the middle class shrinks. That is something that hasn't changed.

The president recently had a banner hanging behind him that said: "Securing the American Dream." I have to ask, for whom?

To end this column, here is a quote from a great American president: "The test of progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much; it is whether we provide for those who have little." Franklin D. Roosevelt, 1937.

By FDR's standard, we aren't making any progress.

CEO Pay vs. the Average Worker

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\$	Germany	.13X
\$	Canada	.20X
\$	Great Britain	.24X
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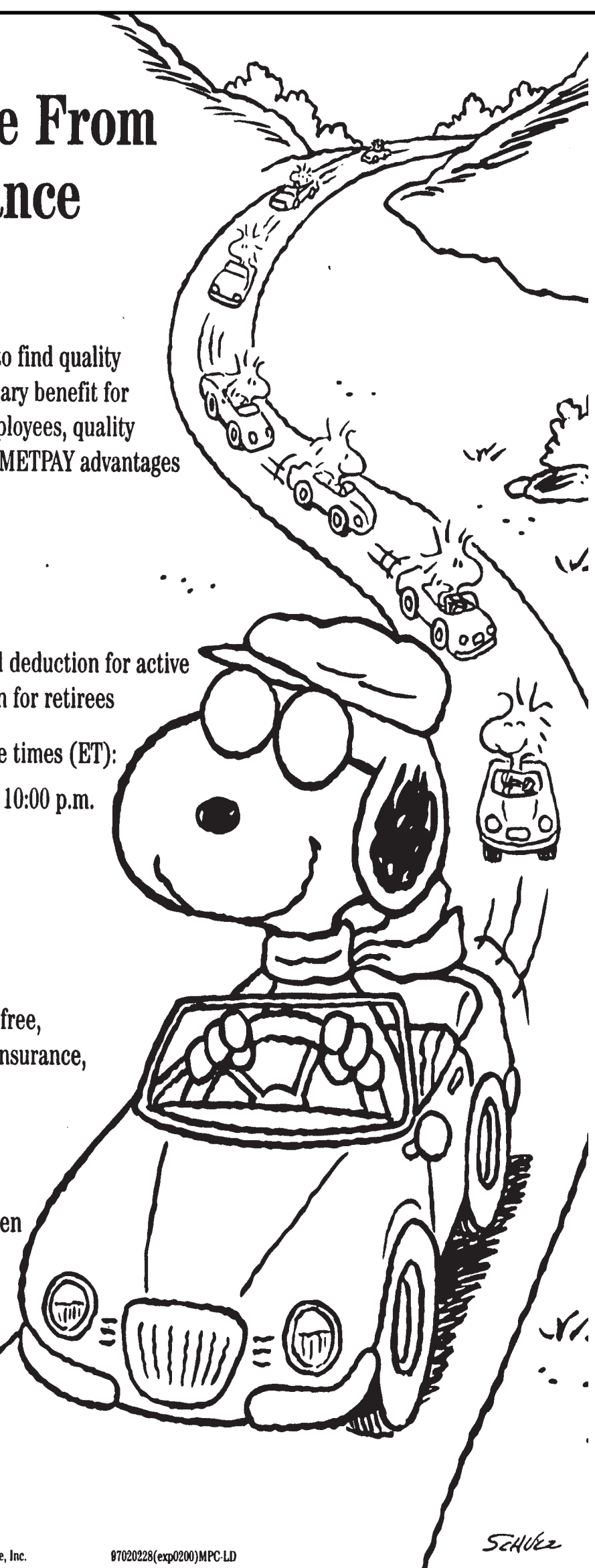
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