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Election Results Are In!

35 CSEA Endorsed Candidates Win Their Races

CSEA members across the state headed to the polls on November 2nd to vote for a wide array of municipal candidates. The CSEA Legislative Action Committee (LAC) recommended endorsing in over fifty races for the 2021 Municipal General Election. These recommendations were subsequently approved by the CSEA Executive Council.

Endorsements are based on the candidates answers

to our candidate questionnaire and their performance at a candidate interview. In this process, CSEA members gauge the candidate's union values and look for commitments from the candidate that they will support workers should they be elected.

From there, members jumped into action for these candidates, making calls, knocking doors and attending campaign kick-off events.

The efforts of our members resulted in 35 races won - check out page 6 to review the results!

continue onto page 6



CSEA Holds Virtual Convention

On October 15th, CSEA Convention Delegates attended the 2021 Convention virtually to vote on three positions: President, Treasurer/Secretary and Auditor. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the normally scheduled 2020 Convention was pushed forward to 2021, therefore those elected will finish out the last year of the 2020-2022 term.

Below are the results:

Travis Woodward, President

Milagros Brown, Secretary/Treasurer

Mark Lucey, Auditor

We look forward to hopefully holding the 2022 Convention in-person, but in the meantime, stay safe and healthy!



Millie Brown, the newly-elected CSEA Secretary / Treasurer has served as a CSC steward before moving into the position of council secretary, executive vice president and her current role of President, a position she's held since January 2019.



Newly-elected CSEA President Travis Woodward became involved in the union following a layoff during the Rowland Administration when he realized the member power within CSEA was the reason he got his job back. He began attending chapter and council meetings and soon became P4 chapter treasurer and a P4 council steward. He went on to serve as P4 vice president to Steve Anderson before moving up to council president when Steve took over as president of CSEA.

State Retiree Notice on Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment for Medicare Supplemental plans is October 15th through December 7, 2021. As State of Connecticut retirees you do not need to do anything during this time.

It is always confusing that you receive all kinds of mailers and ads and get phone calls from solicitors telling you that you need to sign up for a Medicare supplemental plan now, and that their plan is the best. They will tell you that you can get all kinds of free stuff, or that you will pay less for their plan.

DO NOT SIGN UP FOR ANY MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL PLAN DURING OPEN ENROLLMENT!

As State of CT retirees, your health insurance plan is through the state, there are no better plans that you can

purchase. And you get reimbursed for your State of CT Medicare Advantage plan! So with your reimbursement, you are paying nothing for your plan, but it has to be the state plan.

So remember, **IGNORE THE MAILERS AND PHONE CALLS YOU GET FOR MEDICARE SUPPLEMENTAL HEALTH INSURANCE PLANS!!!** You do not need to sign up for anything.

Especially confusing is the fact that you will receive mailers from United Healthcare about Medicare Advantage plans. If the State of Connecticut has to send you information about your plan, it will always have the State of CT Comptrollers logo on it. Always look for the logo. If it is not on the mailer, throw it away!

Visit our union's website at: **CSEA-CT.com**

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:
CSEA, 760 CAPITOL AVE., HARTFORD, CT 06106

Don't Miss Another Email! Update Your Information

Please visit bit.ly/UpdateCSEA TODAY to update your contact information for our database!



Meetings And News

MEETING DATES

The Council 400 Delegates Meeting is always held on the third Thursday of the month at the CSEA Union Hall and over Zoom.

The December Delegates Meeting will be held on:

**Thursday, December 16th
10:00AM**

Chapters that are having Holiday Luncheons will be sending fliers or postcards to member's homes with complete information.

Chapter 401 (Hartford area):
Holiday Party

Thursday, December 2nd, 12:15 PM
lunch, meeting at 12:45 PM
Chowder Pot IV
165 Brainard Rd. Hartford, CT 06114
Sharon D. Mounds: (860) 529-9885

Chapter 402 (Danbury area):
Holiday Party

Wednesday, December 8th, 12:00 PM
Chuck's Steakhouse
20 Segar Street, Danbury, CT
Guest speaker: Bernadette Conway -
Retiree Coordinator
Cost: \$25 per person.
Deadline - Dec. 3rd
Make Checks Payable to:
"CSEA Chapter 402"
Send to: Krista L. Judson
(203) 231-4176
475 Berkshire Rd
Southbury, CT 06488
Choices: Top Sirloin, Teriyaki
Chopped Steak, Stuffed Shrimp,
Stuffed Scrod, Grilled Chicken.
Includes: Salad bar, Rice Pilaf,
beverages and dessert.

Chapter 403 (Norwich area):
Holiday Party Details Will Be Sent
Tuesday, December 14th at 1:30 PM
Rose City Senior Center
8 Mahan Dr, Norwich, CT
Carol Burgess: 860-859-3641

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area):
Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 14th at 1:00PM
Manor Inn, 1636 Meriden/Waterbury
Tpke, Plantsville
Cost: \$10 members \$20 non-members
Make Checks Payable:
"CSEA Chapter 404"
Send to: Lynda Mazzaferro
(203) 525-9229
66 Burns Circle, Waterbury 06708
In the memo please indicate meal
choice by Dec. 3rd.
Choices: Prime Rib Au Jus, Chicken
Française, Broiled Scrod, Baked
Stuffed Shrimp. Includes: Salad,
Manicotti, Baked Potato, Vegetable,
Dessert

Chapter 405 (New Haven area):
No Holiday Party
Thursday, December 9th at 11:30 AM
Speaker: TBA
Hamden Town Office Building
2750 Dixwell Ave, 3rd Fl.
Ron Osokow: 203-671-7685

Chapter 406 (Middletown area):
Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 7th
11:00AM-2:00PM
Athenian Diner
864 Washington St.
Middletown CT
Joe Formica: 860-347-4532

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area):
Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 8, 12:30 PM
Blue Goose Restaurant
326 Ferry Blvd, Stratford, CT
Cost: Donation of canned food for
local pantry and tube socks for
homeless.
Menu: Broiled Scallops, Chicken
Parm, Roast Beef, Stuffed Sole
Contact Marge Beckpo:
(203) 878-2934

Chapter 408 (Willimantic area):
Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 8th at
11:30 - 3:00PM
Speaker: Eastern CT Vice
President, Robert Rinker
Georgina's Italian Restaurant
275 Boston Turnpike Bolton, CT
Cost: \$25 per Chapter 408
member and Guest
Checks payable to:
"CSEA Chapter 408" sent to:
Christine Ashe: (860) 742-0667
141 Love Lane,
Coventry, CT 06238
Deadline: November 24
Choices: Stuffed Chicken, Sliced
Sirloin, Baked Stuffed Sole
Includes: Cheese & Crackers,
Fresh Fruit, Garden Salad, Rolls,
Vegetables, Dessert

Chapter 409
(State University Professors):
No Holiday Luncheon
Friday, December 17th, 10:00 AM
CSEA Union Hall
760 Capitol Ave, Hartford
Speaker: TBA
Dave Walsh: 860-684-4773

Chapter 410
(Windsor Locks area):
*No Holiday Party this year -
planning a Spring party!*
Monday, December 13th at
1:00PM
Suffield Senior Center
145 Bridge St. Suffield
Speaker: TBA
Amelia Smith: 860-687-1848

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area):
Thursday, December 16th
12:30 PM
Elaine's Restaurant
1841 Berlin Tpke, Wethersfield CT
Speaker: Kevin Sullivan, CSEA
Retiree Organizer
Joy Gutis: mgutis@att.net

Chapter 412 (Putnam area):
Holiday Party Details Will Be Sent
Tuesday, December 21, at 1:30 PM
Speaker: TBA
Don Gladding: 860-564-9092

Chapter 414 (Torrington area):
Holiday Party Details Will Be Sent
Monday, December 20, 10:00 AM
Log Cabin Restaurant
Speaker: TBA
George Weston: (860) 379-9362

Chapter 415 (Manchester area):
Holiday Party
Thursday, December 16, 12:00 PM
The Hollow at Manchester
Country Club
305 S. Main St. Manchester, CT
Cost: \$20 for Members,
\$25 for Guests
Make checks payable to:
"CSEA Retiree Chapter 415"
Send to: Donna McElduff
(860) 454-0480
72 Glenstone Drive,
Vernon, CT 06066
Options: Eggplant Parm or
Chicken Marsala
Includes: House Salad, Fresh Rolls
w/butter, Dessert
Deadline: November 27

Chapter 416 (New London area):
No Holiday Party
Tuesday, December 14, 12:00PM
Groton Public Library
52 Newtown Rd, Groton, CT
Speaker: TBA
John Knaff: 860-857-4244

Chapter 417 (Plainville area):
*Meetings CANCELLED through
May 2022*
Wednesday, May 11th at 1:00PM
Speaker: Cigna Representative
Plainville Public Library
56 East Main St., Plainville, CT

Chapter 418 (4C's):
Holiday Party Details Will Be Sent
Tuesday, December 7th, at
10:00AM
4C's Union Hall
907 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford
Bill Searle: (860) 745-3692

Chapter 441 (Cape Cod, MA
Area)
Holiday Party
Wednesday, December 8th
12:00 PM - 2:45 PM
Alberto's Ristorante
360 Main Street, Hyannis, MA
Please RSVP by Nov. 25th to:
Sherrill Stott
(774) 237-0220

**February Florida Meeting
Dates with Unitedhealthcare,
Cigna and CSEA Reps**
**Details will be sent to chapter
members**
Chapter 421 (Daytona, FL Area):
Wednesday, February 9th
11:30AM Social, 12:00PM Lunch,
Speakers to Follow
Halifax Plantation Club House
3400 Clubhouse Drive,
Ormond Beach, FL
Ruth Finizio: (860) 680-1860

Chapter 422 (Ocala, FL Area):
NEW LOCATION
Wednesday, February 2nd
11:30AM Social, 12:30PM Lunch
Francesco Ristorante
16770 South Highway (US-441)
Suite 608, Summerfield, FL

Chapter 423
(Highland Beach, FL Area):
Wednesday, February 16, 12:00PM
Renzo's Café and Pizzeria
6900 North Federal Highway,
Boca Raton, FL
Ron Herzig (561) 994-6428

Chapter 424 (Sarasota, FL Area):
New Location!
Monday, February 7th
9:00AM- 11:00AM
Courtyard Marriott
8305 Tourist Center Dr.,
Sarasota, FL 34201
John Knaff (860) 857-4244

Chapter 425 (Dunedin, FL Area):
Friday, February 4th
11:00AM Social, 12:00PM Lunch
Tiffany's, 35000 US Highway 19,
Palm Harbor, FL
Hank and Ursula Bracker
(727) 848-0089

Chapter 426 (Ft. Myers, FL Area):
Monday, February 14th 11:00AM
Cape Coral Moose Lodge 2199
155 Santa Barbara Blvd. North,
Cape Coral
Linda Benoit (239) 489-1787

Chapter 427
(Vero Beach, FL Area):
Friday, February 11th
11:30AM Social, 12:00PM Lunch,
Speakers & Door Prize Raffles
C J Cannon's
3414 Cherokee Dr. Vero Beach
(at the airport)
Estelle Caliendo (321) 452-7843

**March South Carolina
Meeting With Unitedhealth-
care, Cigna and CSEA Reps**
**Details will be sent to chapter
members**

Chapter 431
(Myrtle Beach, SC Area):
Tuesday, March 22th 11:00AM-
1:30PM
Golden Corral Restaurant
688 Oak Forest Lane,
Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
John Yopp: 704-246-7195
Door Prize Raffles to Follow
C J Cannon's—
3414 Cherokee Dr. Vero Beach
(at the airport)

Important numbers to have on hand:

Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528

Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537

Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533

Caremark: 1-800-318-2572

Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield: 1-800-922-2232

CSEA Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan: 860-951-6614 x118

UnitedHealthcare: 1-888-803-9217

Cigna: 1-800-244-6224

HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal:

<https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>



Celebrating Our Diamond Anniversary (1946-2021)



CSE Credit Union is proud to celebrate 75 years of service! Many things have changed since 1946, but our commitment to serving our members remains the same. As we look back, we want to give back. In honor of our anniversary, we're offering two incredible loan promotions. Hurry - these offers are only available during our anniversary celebration and will expire on December 31, 2021.

VISA Credit Card Rate 7.50% APR*

Through the end of 2021, all CSE VISA Credit Card holders will receive a rate reduction from 12.4% APR to 7.50% APR on existing balances and new charges.

Apply today! 7.50% APR applies to new cards too.

No-fee Balance Transfer - Transfer your high-rate balance from another credit card to your CSE card.

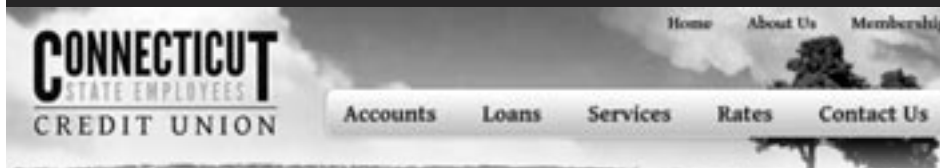
Auto Loan Anniversary Specials

Now is a great time to purchase a new car or refinance your current car loan. Finance up to 125% of the selling price including Tax, Title, Warranty and Conveyance Fee.

New Car – 1.75% APR* Used Car – 2.75% APR

*Annual Percentage Rate. 7.50% VISA Credit Card rate in effect for 6 billing cycles (July 14, 2021-January 13, 2022). Certain restrictions apply. Cannot be applied toward existing CSE car loans. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Rate is subject to change at any time.

Visit Our Website: www.CSECreditUnion.com



Find all the essential information about the products and services we have to offer. You can even print a loan application online! Best of all, it's accessible from your personal computer 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

www.CSECreditUnion.com

Closed Veterans Day - Thursday, November 11th
Closed Thanksgiving Day - Thursday, November 25th

Dividend Rates - Third Quarter 2021

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	0.50%	0.50%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	0.25%	0.25%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	0.35%	0.35%

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

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH Uncas on Thames 401 West Thames St. Norwich, CT 06306 (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 Connecticut Valley Hospital P.O. Box 2485 Middletown, CT 06457 (860) 347-0479	STORRS 1244 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268 (860) 429-9306	SOUTHBURY Southbury Training School P.O. Box 644 Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 267-7610
		NEWINGTON O'Neil Plaza 2434 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111 (860) 667-7668

Hours: Main Office: Mon-Fri, 9am-4pm Branches: Mon-Fri, 9:30am-4pm
Drive-Up Teller (Hartford Only): Mon-Fri, 8:30am-4pm; Paydays Open Until 5pm

Gone too Soon: CSEA Members Who Have Passed On

The Office of the State Comptroller has provided CSEA with the following members that have recently passed away. Our condolences are with their friends, family and loved ones.

- | | |
|----------------------|---------------------|
| Ammann, Stephanie | Mack, Joseph |
| Bell, Philip | Malo, Joseph |
| Bourey, Robert | Mccubrey, Sonya |
| Bourgeois, Linda | Mercier, Dorothea |
| Carbone, Marie | Minter, John |
| Carlson, Marjorie | Moorash, Bruce |
| Darby, James | Moore, Regina |
| Day, Dorothy | Pannone, Joan |
| De Loureiro, Antonio | Parlapiano, Angelo |
| Dudley, Robert | Piechowski, Charles |
| Gacek, Peter | Powell, Linda |
| Gerrard, James | Ramos, Pedro |
| Grindle, Wayne | Rouelle, Dennis |
| Guzzardi, Carmelo | Safner, Peter |
| Horn, Robert | Santavenere, Olive |
| Johnson, Louise | Sardo, Elizabeth |
| Konefal, Frances | Squires, David |
| Kozlowski, Edith | Starkie, Virginia |
| Laracuenta, Orlando | Sullivan, Thomas |
| Larose, Joseph | Thigpen, Thurmond |
| Lescoe, Edmund | Thomas, David |
| Lowe, Deborah | Zittel, Sheila |

**Thankful for
my Union!**

- A Voice at the Table
- Respect & Dignity on the Job
- Workplace Safety Standards
- Accessible Healthcare
- Strong Retirement Plans
- Paid Vacation & Sick Days



CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's
Public Service Employees & Retirees

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- | | |
|------------------|------------------------------------|
| Travis Woodward |President |
| Milagros Brown |Secretary/Treasurer |
| David Glidden |Executive Director |
| Drew E. Stoner |Communication Specialist |
| Jason P. Webster |Graphic/ Technical Assistance |

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.

MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106;
PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free: (800) 894-9479, FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET:
www.csea-ct.com.

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The inclusion of advertising in the CSEA News does not constitute an endorsement



Family Child Care Provider News

Noticias para Proveedores de Cuidado Infantil

Council President Meets the President!

On Friday, October 15 CSEA Child Care Council President Queen Freelove met US President Joe Biden.

It was a usual Thursday for Queen - she was getting ready to feed the kids lunch when the phone rang and the voice on the other end said, "President Biden wants to meet you!"

After learning that President Biden would be visiting Connecticut to highlight childcare initiatives, SEIU International and CSEA staff members worked to secure a seat for Queen. Due to CSEA's continual leadership on childcare issues, members of Connecticut's congressional delegation and Office of Early Education Commissioner Beth Bye welcomed Queen's presence with open arms. After receiving the green light, the race was on to complete the appropriate vetting from the Secret Service and Queen was on her way to meet the President.

At the event, President Biden shared with Queen his struggles as a young father who lost his wife and couldn't afford childcare. Queen, ever the fearless childcare advocate, reminded the President that not much has changed as many parents still can't afford childcare. Queen asked the President to support Universal childcare from 0-5 years old - not just pre-k.

The president spoke about his Build Back Better Plan and noted the need to add funding to for early education. He said, "I'm convinced we're going to get this done. We're not going to get \$3.5 trillion. We'll get less than that. But then we'll come back and get the rest." The SEIU lobbying team in DC and CSEA members in Connecticut will work hard to ensure that the federal legislative plan has a positive impact here at home. All eyes are on what's next.

Presidenta del Consejo se Reúne con el Presidente

El viernes 15 de octubre, el presidente del Consejo de Cuidado Infantil de CSEA se reunió con el presidente Biden. Era un jueves por la mañana habitual, la presidenta del Consejo de Cuidado Infantil, Queen Freelove, se estaba preparando para alimentar a los niños con el almuerzo cuando recibió la llamada: "¡El presidente Biden quiere conocerte! El personal de SEIU International y CSEA llamó lejos y cerca para asegurar un asiento para un Representante de SEIU. Después de descubrir que la agenda era el cuidado infantil, comenzó la carrera para obtener la investigación del servicio secreto y el liderazgo de Connecticut. Debido al compromiso de CSEA con la promoción y la presencia continua, la delegación federal y la comisionada Beth Bye dieron la bienvenida a la presencia de Queen con los brazos abiertos. El presidente Biden compartió con Queen sus luchas como un padre joven que

El viernes 15 de octubre, el presidente del Consejo de Cuidado Infantil

pierde a su esposa y no podía pagar el cuidado de los niños. Queen, la intrépida defensora del cuidado infantil, le recordó al presidente que muchas cosas no han cambiado y que muchos padres aún no pueden pagar el cuidado

infantil. Ella le pidió al presidente que apoyara el cuidado infantil universal de 0 a 5 años, no solo el prekínder. El presidente comentó sobre su plan Build Back Better y agregó fondos adicionales para la educación temprana. Él dijo:

"Estoy convencido de que vamos a hacer esto", "No vamos a recibir \$ 3,5 trillón. Obtendremos menos que eso. Pero lo conseguiremos. Y volveremos y obtendremos el descansar."

El equipo de cabildeo de SEIU en DC y Connecticut trabajará arduamente para que el plan legislativo a nivel nacional tenga un impacto positivo aquí en Connecticut. Todos los ojos están esperando a ver lo que los políticos van hacer.



President Biden addressed the small group



Child Care President Queen Freelove poses in front of the President's podium before the press conference began.



Child Care President Queen Freelove is greeted by Governor Ned Lamont, Commissioner Beth Bye, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro and Congressman John Larson during a conference with President Joe Biden.



Child Care President Queen Freelove (left) poses with Commissioner Beth Bye (middle) and AFSCME Council 4 Member Stacey Harris-Byrdsong.

SEBAC Racial Justice Committee Meets with Members Tell Legislators Why State Service is Imperative to

Black and Puerto Rican Caucus Racial Justice

On Saturday, October 23rd, members of the SEBAC Racial Justice Committee met with the General Assembly's Black and Puerto Rican Caucus to discuss issues of racial inequity in state employment. The SEBAC Racial Justice

Committee was created about a year ago to address the longstanding presence of racial disparity and to encourage the state to lead the fight to combat racial injustices in the workplace.

CSEA member and CSC

Treasurer Corrections Lieu- Robinsons joined mem- Council 4, and SEIU the commit-

Beverly Lee, Cor- tenant from Carl Corrections Facility, members from AFSCME AFT Connecticut I 199 in presenting the committee's three demands while sharing sto- ries about how state service can be used as a vehicle to lift up BIPOC com- munities and fam- ilies, but how attrition and down- sizing negatively im- pacts not only state workers, but those that rely on those services. Throughout the past year the com- mittee has met on a regular basis to de- velop three key de- mands that take aim at addressing some of the biggest chal- lenges within state government. Those

demands include the creation of an Inspector General for Racial Jus- tice who would be accountable for making consistent progress to- wards eliminating systemic racism in state government while tracking and reviewing current perform- ance reviews and training opportu- nities to identify discrepancies in treatment of white and BIPOC workers.

The committee is also fighting to create a 1% labor/management- controlled career training fund that would provide resources for on-the-job education and advance- ment by having the State set aside an amount equal to 1% of gross payroll to ensure that workers who have been systematically dis- advantaged are given access to ed- ucation and opportunities to advance their careers. Finally, and perhaps most simply, the commit- tee is demanding that the state im- plements a written zero tolerance policy that would forbid manage- rial or supervisory authorities from retaliating or discriminating against employees who identify in-



PICTURED ABOVE: Beverly Lee, CSC Treasurer and Lieutenant at Carl Robinson Correctional Facility (second in from the left) spoke to legislators along with members from AFSCME Council 4, AFT Connecticut and SEIU I 199.

CSEA's 80th Anniversary Convention Highlights

Over 130 member-dele- gates from throughout CSEA's twelve different councils met via video con- ference on Friday, October 15 to hold CSEA's 80th An- niversary Convention. Members from engineers to paraeducators to retirees and more met to elect offi- cers and conduct union business. This year's Con- vention brought new lead- ership, a few special guests, and renewed commitment to the work we do and the jobs, benefits, and collective bargaining rights we need to protect and enhance.

After seven years as president and secretary- treasurer, respectively, Steve Anderson and Roland

Bishop, did not seek reelec- tion to their positions. Steve and Roland have led the Local through challeng- ing times, and although they might be stepping down from their elected offices, they will continue to be en- gaged members of our union and the broader labor movement. Stepping up to take their places are Travis Woodward and Mila- gros (Millie) Brown. Travis is an engineer for the De- partment of Transportation and the president of the P-4 Council; he is also the son of two retired state em- ployee CSEA members. Millie is a Lieutenant in the Department of Correction and the president of the

Correction Supervisors Council. As a sign of the unity within CSEA and the support for Travis as presi- dent and Millie as secre- tary-treasurer, they ran unopposed and were elected by consensus. Mark Lucey, a former Correction Supervisors Council mem- ber, now a Council 400 member, was also unop- posed and was elected by consensus as CSEA Auditor.

During the Convention, members heard from several key elected allies: Senator Chris Murphy, Sec- retary of the State Denise Merrill, and Representative Robyn Porter. All three have been longtime sup- porters of CSEA members,

the work we do, and the pay and benefits we have earned. Senator Murphy, who was not able to join us live, sent a video mes- sage in which he talked about the work he is doing in the United States Senate to protect the jobs and retirement of public employees while increas- ing the economic strength of working people. Secre- tary Merrill, who pointed out that she has been vis- iting members at the CSEA Convention for close to 30 years, will not be seeking reelection next year, spoke about what she is doing to fight voter suppression and expand voter participation. And, Representative Robyn Porter, House Chair of the General Assembly's Labor and Public Employees Committee, told member- delegates about her com-

mitment to the labor move- ment, collective bargaining rights, and the need to ex- pand economic opportu- nities for public and private sector workers.

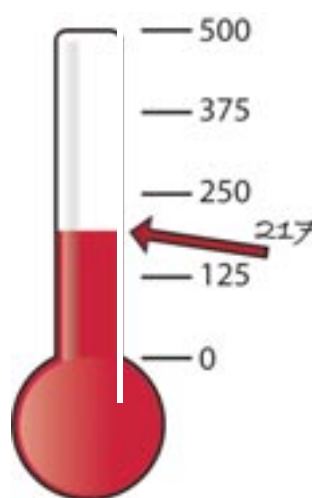
Many things have changed over the past year and half as we continue to deal with the deadly COVID-19 pandemic, but the dedication of CSEA members to the work we do and the people we serve has not. With new leader- ship now in place, CSEA members remain focused on building and maintaining a strong and vibrant union local that is unwavering in its commitment to mem- bers, as well as all working people.

Council 400 Quarterly Membership Drive
 Although the weather outside might be getting cooler... Council 400 has turned up the heat on Organizing New Members!!

We have seen a huge increase in State of Connecticut Employees

interested in Retiree Membership and decided it was time to stoke that fire!

We have set a goal of 500 new members signing up for Council 400 during the next fiscal year. Help grow our membership during this Quarterly Membership Drive to ensure Council 400 continues to be the largest and strongest Retiree Union in Connecticut!



Ways YOU can help:

- Talk to your friends/former co-workers, ask them if they are interested in joining us in the fight to protect pensions and healthcare!
- Have your spouse sign a Spousal Membership card!
- Volunteer to make calls to your former co-workers!

Candidate	Office	Municipality	Results
Suzette DeBeatham-Brown	Town Council	Bloomfield	Won
A. Fiona Pearson	Town Council, At-Large	Cheshire	Lost
Mary Bylone	First Selectman	Colchester	Lost
Rosemary Coyle	Board of Selectmen	Colchester	Won
Denise Turner	Board of Selectmen	Colchester	Won
Joanne Rose (CSEA Member)	Board of Education	Colchester	Lost
Amy Cahill Domeika	Board of Education	Colchester	Lost
Bernard Dennler III (CSEA Member)	Board of Finance	Colchester	Lost
Scott Chapman	Board of Finance	Colchester	Lost
Jacey Long	Zoning Board of Appeals	Cromwell	Lost
Roberto Alves	Mayor	Danbury	Lost
Annabelle Diaz	Board of Education	East Hartford	Won
John Murphy	Treasurer	East Hartford	Won
Kimberly Glassman	Town Council	East Haven	Won
Douglas Finger	Town Council, At-Large	Enfield	Won
Cynthia Mangini	Town Council, At-Large	Enfield	Won
Robert Cressotti	Town Council, At-Large	Enfield	Won
Gina Cekala	Town Council, At-Large	Enfield	Won
Matthew Despard	Town Council, District 3	Enfield	Won
Nick Hopkins	Town Council, District 4	Enfield	Won
Tim Bergin	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
Dennis Schain	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
Jay Moran	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
Jessee Muñiz Poland	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
Pamela Floyd-Cranford	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
Sarah Jones	Board of Directors	Manchester	Won
David Eisenthal	Board of Education	Manchester	Won
Chris Pattacini	Board of Education	Manchester	Won
Tracy Patterson	Board of Education	Manchester	Won
Darryl Thames	Town Clerk	Manchester	Won
Yvette Cortez	City Council, Area 1	Meriden	Won
Bobby Sanchez	Mayor	New Britain	Lost
Justin Elicker	Mayor	New Haven	Won
James Burke	City Council	New London	Won
Martha Marx	City Council	New London	Won
Donald Gladding (CSEA Member)	Board of Assessment Appeals	Plainfield	Lost
Laurie Boske	Mayor	Rocky Hill	Lost
John Diehl	First Selectman	Southbury	Lost
Caroline Simmons	Mayor	Stamford	Won
Immacula Cann	Mayor	Stratford	Lost
Kaitlyn Shake	Town Council	Stratford	Lost
Stephen Ivain	Mayor	Torrington	Lost
Keri Hoehne	City Council	Torrington	Won
Jesse Schoolnik	Mayor	Vernon	Lost
Dennis J Plevyak	Town Council	Vernon	Lost
Maryann Levesque	Town Council	Vernon	Won
Ann C Letendre	Town Council	Vernon	Won
Riley O'Connell	Mayor	Wallingford	Lost
Ben Wenograd	Town Council	West Hartford	Won
Liam Sweeney	Town Council	West Hartford	Won
Carol Blanks	Town Council	West Hartford	Won
Leon Davidoff	Town Council	West Hartford	Won
Shari Cantor	Town Council	West Hartford	Won
Nick Teeling	Board of Selectmen	Winchester	Lost
Greg Kline (CSEA member)	Board of Selectmen	Woodstock	Lost

Turning 65 Soon?

What to Expect & What to Do

If you will be turning 65 soon, you are probably confused as to what will change for you and what you need to do.

We would first like to clarify a misconception about signing up for Medicare. Now that state retirees of Medicare age have the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plan as their insurance coverage, some retirees have heard they don't need to sign up for anything, they will automatically be switched to Medicare. You DO need to sign up for Medicare Parts A and B, and then you will automatically be switched to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage Plan. You DO NOT need to sign up for the Medicare Advantage Plan and you DO NOT sign up for any supplemental plans or Part D.

In order to sign up for Medicare Parts A and B you can go online to www.medicare.gov, visit a Social Security office, or call them on the phone to speak with a representative at 1-800-772-1213.

You can enroll in Medicare during the seven-month period that begins three months before the month you turn 65. Coverage can start as early as the month of your 65th birthday. **If you don't sign up during this initial enrollment period, you will be charged higher premiums for the rest of your life – so it is critical that you sign up during that period for Medicare Parts A and B.** If you do end up paying the higher amount because you didn't sign up during the seven month period, the State will not reimburse you for that additional penalty. After you sign up you will receive your Medicare card. Because you will be on a Medicare Advantage insurance plan, you will not need to carry your Medicare card with you

to give to doctors or your pharmacy.

Make a copy of it to send to the Retirement

Division, then you can file it away in a safe place, with your Social Security card. You will provide your UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage card to all doctors and pharmacies.

Medicare Part A is no charge, but you will need to pay for Medicare Part B, and you will be reimbursed for it by the State. There are two ways to pay for your Medicare Part B. If you are already collecting your Social Security benefit, it will automatically be deducted from your monthly SS check. If you are not collecting Social Security yet, you will be billed quarterly, and you will need to pay that quarterly bill yourself.

When you receive your notification from Social Security of how much you will be paying, you need to make a copy of that and send that, along with the copy of your Medicare card, to the Retiree Health Insurance Unit so they can reimburse you for that amount.

You must do this for yourself AND for your spouse as well. Send the copies to:

Retiree Health Insurance Unit
Office of the State Comptroller's Office

165 Capitol Ave.
Hartford, CT 06106

If you are able to attach it as a document in an email, you can send the copies by email to osc.rethealth@ct.gov. That way you can verify that you sent it in. CSEA hears from people regularly that have sent them in, but they are not getting reimbursed at all, or not the correct amount. Whether it gets lost in the mail, or at the office, if it is not received by the Retirement Division, they will not retroactively reimburse you. Having verification that you sent it confirms the amount and the

timeframe, so CSEA highly recommends sending it by email if possible or return receipt mail.

The basic amount for Part B for 2021 is \$148.50, which is what most retirees will be paying. If that is the amount you will be paying, after you send a copy of your Medicare card into the Retirement Division when you first initially are enrolled in Medicare, you don't need to do anything further. The state will automatically adjust your reimbursement to the updated basic rate annually, so as long as you continue to pay the basic rate, no further action on your part is required.

If it is determined that you pay higher than the basic amount because of your IRMAA (Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount), you will not be reimbursed that higher amount unless you send a copy of the statement that shows the amount you are paying. If you do not send a copy of the statement in, you will not be reimbursed for the full amount. It is your responsibility to send the paperwork every year.

The income-related monthly adjustment amount (IRMAA) sliding scale is a set of statutory percentage-based tables used to adjust Medicare Part B and Part D prescription drug coverage premiums. The higher the beneficiary's range of modified adjusted gross income (MAGI), the higher the IRMAA. But as a reminder, you only sign up for Parts A and B, you never sign up for Part D.

Once you are signed up for Medicare, you will receive a statement at the end of the year from Social Security showing you how much you will be paying for your Part B (and Part D if the state enrolls you in it). Every year the basic amount for Part B changes as is determined by the CMS (Center for Medicare/Medicaid Services). The statement you receive at the end of

the year will show if you are paying the basic amount for Part B (again, if that is the case you do not need to do anything further). If the statement shows you are paying a higher amount than the basic rate, or paying for Part D, it is up to you to send a copy of that statement so you will be reimbursed the higher amount. Retirees used to send that statement into the State of CT, but for the last few years UnitedHealthcare has handled that process. We will notify you in the CSEA News where to send the statement if you are paying the higher amount. CSEA highly recommends checking your advice (what the Comptroller's Office refers to as your pay stub) regularly so you know the amount you are being reimbursed. Since they no longer send out monthly advices, you will need to go online to review it at the Retiree Portal at <https://retirees.ct.gov>, or you can call them to have one sent to you at 860-702-3480, which will bring you to a menu – press "7" to leave a message to request a copy of the retiree direct deposit advice. If you turn 65 and go onto the plan, but your spouse is not yet 65, they will continue with their current insurance provider until they turn 65 and then sign up for Medicare Parts A and B. Your dependents aged 26 and younger will also remain on the Anthem plan, even if you move onto the UnitedHealthcare plan. If you turn 65 and are still working, you still need to sign up for Medicare Part A, but do not sign up for Part B until you actually retire. If you continue to work for the state after you turn 65, sign up for Medicare Part A, but you will continue on the State Anthem plan until you retire. As soon as you retire, sign up for Part B and you will then be switched to the Medicare Advantage plan. Confused? Send questions to the Retiree Organizer Kevin Sullivan at KSullivan@csea760.com

Council 400 Virtual Quarterly Meeting

Wednesday, December 15th at 4:00pm - Featuring Kevin Lembo

Emails will be sent out ahead of time with the Zoom link for the meeting, but if you would like to call in, dial:

1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 920 8071 2150

Put the date on your calendar!

At the September meeting Rae-Ellen Roy, Assistant Director of the Health Policy and Benefits Division for the State of Connecticut and Anna Vita, Senior Client Service Manager for United Healthcare attended and answered health coverage questions.

These virtual meetings have been a great way to keep in touch during the pandemic, and for many who have not been able to attend chapter meetings in person, a great way to get information. Do you have any suggestions for speakers or topics? Contact Kevin Sullivan to let him know at ksullivan@csea760.com.

IS YOUR SPOUSE A MEMBER OF CSEA COUNCIL 400 YET?

The size of our membership is an important way that CSEA Council 400 demonstrates our power, our voice and our strength—and for 2021 we've set out to drastically increase our membership numbers ahead of upcoming contract negotiations and legislative threats.

Spouses are a large part of our membership, and it's no secret why—they are affected by health insurance and pension benefit changes and are often slated for survivor benefits.

By becoming a member, your spouse will ensure they will continue to

receive the CSEA News and important notifications regarding the benefits you worked hard to secure if you were to pass away. They will also be eligible for SEIU Member Benefits like travel rewards and reduced auto and home insurance rates.

But most importantly, by becoming a member, they will help to increase our membership numbers so that CSEA Council 400 will have an even larger voice against our opponents who want to slash benefits—your benefits and your spouse's benefits.

If your spouse isn't yet a member, contact our Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan at KSullivan@csea760.com or 860-951-6614 x 118 to get them signed up!

Meet Our Members

Bill Butka, Retired CT Police Inspector & Proud Member of CSEA Council 400

Bill Butka is a retired CT Police Inspector where he was assigned to several units, with a majority of them being fraud investigations. He had a wide array of responsibilities beyond his investigative duties, most notably training other inspectors.

When Bill retired from the Wallingford Police Department as a Lieutenant in charge of the detective and narcotics division, he knew he still wanted to remain in law enforcement. When the opportunity arose to apply for a position with the CT Police Inspectors, Bill was excited to rise to the challenge.

He started out at the Medicaid Fraud Control Unit where he worked on medical providers taking advantage of the system by overbilling or billing the state for services not rendered. He conducted successful undercover investigations against physicians, dentists, and pharmacists. The Medicaid Fraud Control Unit was asked to participate in a two year undercover investigation with the FBI and IRS that resulted in over 60 indictments.

One investigation resulted in the conviction and asset forfeiture of money, that came back to the division, from a physician who amassed substantial money from fraudulent billing. In addition, this physician paid a substantial fine and a court order reimbursement to the state. This investigation resulted in a federal indictment.

He was also involved in establishing the first multi-state Medicaid Fraud Association which included New England states, plus New York, Pennsylvania, New Jersey and Delaware. The association provided training for all members that included insurance fraud investigators. It served as a forum to all fraudulent trends and multi-state offenders.

As a longtime member of CSEA, Bill has a deep understanding of the power that members have when they stand together in their union. He saw year after year the positive impact in contract negotiations when member actions prevented job losses during difficult financial times for the State while protecting benefits and providing strong wages.

When Bill retired, he knew he had to join CSEA Council 400 so that he could continue to work as an active member to protect and expand his retirement benefits. **Are you about to retire? Be sure to join the fight to protect your benefits by contacting Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan at KSullivan@csea760.com!**

Bill also had a few words for the new hires in the CT Police Inspectors unit, "It is a profession that is honorable, respectable and rewarding - one that makes an inspector actually feel that they are making a difference; a profession that truly makes you a part of the criminal justice system and how the criminal justice system works, from investigation, arrest

to trial. As an inspector you will work with the most dedicated fellow employees. The public will never know how dedicated the employees are in the criminal justice system, but you will. You will be treated with respect as I was."



PICTURED ABOVE: Bill Butka, retired CT Police Inspector, was photographed at the Annual Inspectors Luncheon.

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