



CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's Public Service Employees & Retirees

August, 2026

CSEA SEIU Local 2001

VOL. 59, NO. 8

CSEA Endorses Candidates Who Stand with Working People

*Primary season gives union members an opportunity to help decide
who will fight for workers, public services and our communities*

The candidates we elect make decisions about whether union contracts are approved, public services are properly funded and what direction our communities are moving in. They decide whether pensions and healthcare are protected, whether public work stays public and whether billionaires and major corporations contribute their fair share.

While there are active primaries happening across the State, there are five primary races that CSEA members have come together to endorse a specific candidate in the election. In one of these five races, we are

endorsing a union high school special education teacher over a legislator who opposed critical public education legislation for our paraeducators. In another race, members voted to endorse a long-time champion for Social Security who has proven time and time again that his words match his actions.

These primary endorsements never come easy, but that just makes these races even more important. Because party affiliation, especially in the primary, is not enough to say whether a candidate will be good on labor issues or not, we have gone through an extensive interview process so that we can

be sure that we are electing pro-labor candidates who will be strong and fearless of the issues important to all CSEA members.

Candidates seeking our support are asked where they stand on collective bargaining, binding arbitration, pensions, affordable healthcare, privatization, public education, staffing and the state budget. They are asked whether they will stand with workers during difficult fights—not only when it is politically convenient.

This year, CSEA is proud to endorse candidates who have demonstrated a commitment to working families and the union movement:

John Larson
U.S. House of Representatives,
1st Congressional District
Maryam Khan
State Senate, 2nd District
Angie Parkinson
State Representative,
10th House District
Moise “Moses” Carelus
State Representative,
31st House District
Patricia A. Dillon
State Representative,
92nd House District

These candidates bring different backgrounds and experiences to public service, but they share an understanding that Connecticut works because working people do.
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62 McCusker Scholarships Awarded this Year

*McCusker Scholarship Night celebrates the generosity
of CSEA members, chapters and councils*



McCusker Scholarship Night is always one of the best nights of the year at CSEA. It is a night filled with proud parents and grandparents, excited students, photographs, congratulations and stories about what comes next. More than that, it is a reminder of what union solidarity looks like beyond the workplace.

This year, 62 children and grandchildren of CSEA members were awarded \$1,000 scholarships to help them continue their education. Each scholarship honors a student's hard work and represents the

generosity of CSEA councils, chapters, members and supporters who contribute to the McCusker Scholarship Fund year after year. We also want to thank our McCusker Judges who reviewed every application and gave their time and careful attention to this year's scholarship process.

This year's program opened with remarks from Connecticut House Speaker Matt Ritter and State Representative Maryam Khan, who joined

CSEA members and families at the Union Hall to celebrate the recipients. Congratulations once again to this year's recipients and thank you to all of those who made this night possible.

Check out page 7 for a list of our recipients, donors and judges!

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

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

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World's First Trillionaire



Meetings
And News

2026 Council 400 Picnic

RSVP by
Aug 12th

The Farmington Polo Club
162 Town Farm Rd, Farmington, CT 06032
Wednesday, August 19, 2026 11AM – 4PM

RSVP by
Aug 12th

Reserve Now
No Walk-ins

Buffet hours: 12Noon – 2:30PM

Reserve Now
No Walk-ins

Hamburgers
Veggie Burgers
Hotdogs
Huli Huli Chicken
NE Clam Chowder

Chili con Carne
Sausage & Peppers
Corn on the cob
Coconut Rice
Hawaiian slaw

Grilled Pineapple Salad
Tossed Salad
Watermelon
Cake by Bernadette
Soft Serve Ice Cream

Non-Alcohol beverages served ALL DAY (Cash Bar Available)

Entertainment

Olympic size swimming pool, horseshoes, bocce, basketball, fishing
Trivia & Bingo

Tropical Attire
suggested

Mail completed coupon and check payable to:

“CSEA Council 400”
c/o Tina Franco
45 Peach Orchard Rd
Prospect, CT 06712-1052

\$18 – Members – WOW!
\$25 – Non-Member Spouse
\$38 – Guests



Member/Member spouse		
Non-Member spouse		
Phone#		
Email (if you want confirmation)		
Chapter#/Location		
# of Guests		Guest Name(s)
Amt Enclosed \$		

Questions:

StuClark(860-205-0657)

Tina Franco (203-721-4382)

Important numbers to have on hand:

Caremark: 1-800-318-2572

Cigna: 1-800-244-6224

Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528

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

HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-

Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537

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

687-1448 or visit them at their portal:

Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533

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



New/Used Auto

4.80%

APR*

Personal Loan

9.80%

APR*

Our celebration of CSE Credit Union’s 80th anniversary is still going strong. Join us as we celebrate this incredible milestone by offering special loan rates to our members! Visit www.CSECreditUnion.com or call/visit any of our offices for a loan application.

**Annual Percentage Rate. Certain restrictions apply. Cannot be applied toward existing CSE auto loans or personal loans. Cannot be combined with any other offer. Rate is subject to change at any time.*



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Accounts Loans Services Rates About Us

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: Labor Day
September 7th

Dividend Rates - Second Quarter 2026 Rates

	Dividend Rate	Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	2.50%	2.53%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.25%	1.26%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	2.00%	2.02%

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

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

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

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

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

MIDDLETOWN
15 Ward Street
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 & Middletown): 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 family, friends and loved ones.

- Ackerman, Bridget, Service & Maintenance

Amato, Lillian,Administrative Clerical

Bachiocchi, Dorothy,Administrative Clerical

Barrett, Barbara, Uconn

Beck, Joan,Administrative Clerical

Brault-Mccann,Ann, Healthcare

Bridges, Orlando,Administrative Clerical

Brown, Lorraine, Healthcare

Brush, Stuart, Healthcare

Bumgarner, Maryann, Healthcare

Bundock, Elizabeth, Education

Bunting, Mary, Healthcare

Byrnes, Thomas, Engineer, Scien, Tech

Cochran, Marie, Education

Cockrell, Johnnie, Service & Maintenance

Cotter, John, Protective Services

Dargan, Stephen, Elected/Appointed

Dwyer, Dorothea, State Police

Endaya,Alvaro,Admin And Residual

England, David, Ct State Colleges And Univ

Fain,William, Social And Human Services

Field,Theresa, Service & Maintenance

Gilbert, John, Judicial

Glover, Edward, Correctional Officer

Goslowski, Joseph, Engineer, Scien, Tech

Gurreri, Samuel, Service & Maintenance

Hermann, Catherine,Admin And Residual

Horton, Linda, Managerial

Horvath, John, Uconn

Hyder, Richard, Judicial

Jensen, Barbara, Healthcare

Kasulis, Frederick, State Vocation Teacher

Kirouac, Maureen, Social And Human Services

Kuenkler,A Stephen, Healthcare

Labella, Mary,Administrative Clerical

Labossiere, Frances, Healthcare

Lacrete, Frantz, Service & Maintenance

Lam,Angie,Administrative Clerical

Leonard, Raymond, Service & Maintenance
- Mansfield, Margaret, Social And Human Services

Mccarthy, Lorna, Social And Human Services

Mccusker, Stephen, Engineer, Scien, Tech

Mcdonald, Ellouise,Admin And Residual

Mickiewicz, Mark, Engineer, Scien, Tech

Nettleton, Ronald, Service & Maintenance

Orfino, Philip, Protective Services

Ostrout, John, Managerial

Pascarella, Joseph, Service & Maintenance

Paskus, Mark, State Vocation Teacher

Patrick, Calvin, Supervising Judicial Marshals

Peiffer,Timothy, Judicial

Petkov, Doncho, State University Faculty

Pregman,Thomas, Engineer, Scien, Tech

Rakfeldt, Jaak, State University Faculty

Ramsey, Martin, Service & Maintenance

Ratti, Lillian, Healthcare

Richardson, Mona, Healthcare

Robinson, Joan, Healthcare

Seader, Ellen, Managerial

Sessa, Nancy,Administrative Clerical

Shelton, Billy, Service & Maintenance

Silverman, Marilyn, Healthcare

Sizemore, Barbara, Social And Human Services

Smith, David, Education

Smith, Leroy,Admin And Residual

Steinfeld, George, Healthcare

Stewart, James, Uconn

Thorsen, Jean,Admin And Residual

Turner, Mary, Healthcare

Underhill, Ronnie, Service & Maintenance

West, Bernice, Elected/Appointed

Wilcox, Nadia, Healthcare

Williams, Robert, Service & Maintenance

Wininger, Suzanne,Administrative Clerical

Woods, Rosemary,Administrative Clerical

CSEA NEWS
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Public Service Employees & Retirees

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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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does not constitute an endorsement



CSEA Endorses in Five Primary Races

continued from Page 1

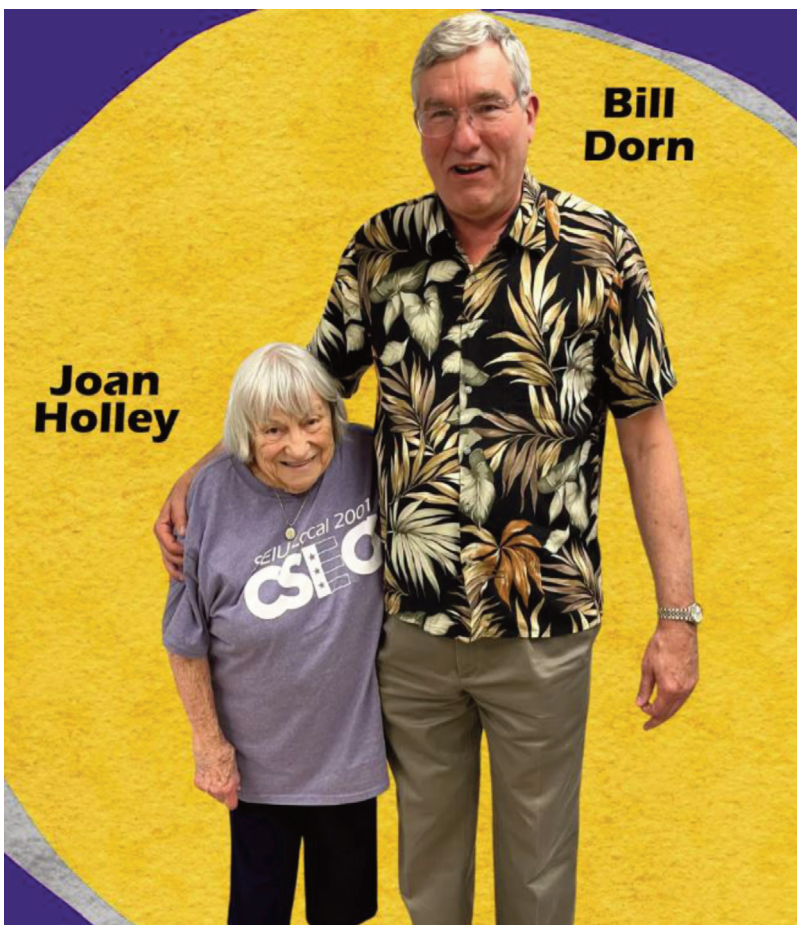
CSEA's endorsement does not come easy and is a signal to our members that these candidates have been thoroughly vetted to ensure they are the type of elected officials who will stand up for working families, even in the most difficult of times. So this primary season, be sure to get out there and vote! In Connecticut, voters can choose one of three different ways to make their voice heard, you can: vote by mail (sometimes called absentee balloting), vote early or vote on primary day.

To vote by mail, a voter must first submit an absentee ballot application to their Town Clerk. The absentee ballot application must be received by the Monday before Election Day so if you haven't done so already, we recommend voting early or voting on election day. Absentee ballots will start getting mailed to voters who requested one on July 21. Once a voter receives their ballot, it must be returned to the Town Clerk by Election Day. Voters can drop off their completed ballot at their Town Clerk's office or in the secure drop box that is, in most towns, located in front of Town Hall. If a voter is planning on mailing in their ballot, it is recommended they put it in the mail at least one week before Election Day. Voters should contact their Town

Clerk if they have any questions about voting by mail (absentee balloting).

Voters can also choose to vote early in person at their Town Hall. Early voting is available from August 3 to August 9. Early Voting is held from 10 AM to 6 PM each day, and there are extended hours of 8 AM to 8 PM on August 4 and 6. Voters should contact their Registrar of Voters if they have any questions about early voting.

Finally, you can also choose to vote in person on August 11th from 6:00AM-8:00PM at your normal polling location. Whichever way you decide to vote this primary season, be sure to get out and make your voice heard, especially in districts with CSEA-endorsed primary candidates. Check out more about our five endorsements on Page 5.



CSEA Council 400 represents over 12,000 state retirees (from short to tall!) including our Council 400 Secretary, Joan Holley, and Delegate Bill Dorn.

Born January 1, 1957 to the late Harold and Rosemary (Edgett) Livingston, Stephen was one of six children. After high school he went on to attend Manchester Community College and later graduated from Central Connecticut State University.

He worked as a program manager of highway safety for the State of Connecticut Transportation Department, and was very proud of his involvement in Connecticut's Click It or Ticket program and its impact on public safety. He was a dedicated employee and a longtime leader in the P4 Council.



CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF
STEPHEN P. LIVINGSTON

Two New Faces Join CSEA

CSEA is excited to welcome Anna Marvin and Jacob Johnson to our staff.

Anna Marvin has taken over as CSEA's Membership Coordinator following Carolyn Kuzoian's retirement. Membership records are the foundation of nearly everything the union does. Accurate information allows CSEA to communicate with members, conduct elections, support councils and chapters and make sure members receive important workplace and bargaining updates.

Anna has jumped into the role with both feet and has quickly familiarized herself with our councils and chapters while identifying ways to improve the systems used to maintain and update membership information.

When you visit the Union Hall, be sure to stop by Anna's workspace in the back office and

introduce yourself. You may also see photographs of some of the cats and kittens Anna fosters through her volunteer work with Animal Friends of Connecticut. And if you are ever looking for a kitten to adopt, Anna is always willing to help you out!

Jacob Johnson joins CSEA after working in two very different labor environments. In New York, Jacob worked with CSEA Local 1000 AFSCME (no this isn't a typo), a union representing state, county, municipal, school-district, childcare and private-sector workers throughout the state.

He also worked with the Hillsborough Classroom Teachers Association in Florida, which represents teachers and educational support professionals in one of the nation's largest school districts. That work gave Jacob ex-

perience defending public-sector unions in a state where collective bargaining and public education have faced sustained political attacks.

Jacob is joining CSEA as the new Staff Representative for the

Bus Council and is looking forward to building worker power across the bus yards!

Please join us in welcoming Anna and Jacob to the CSEA family!



Anna Marvin is our new Membership Coordinator (left) and Jacob Johnson is a new Staff Representative (right).

CSEA Endorses in Six Primary Races



U.S. House of Representatives — 1st Congressional District

John Larson began his career as a public-school teacher and has carried his commitment to working people throughout his service representing Connecticut's First Congressional District. As the Ranking Member of the House Social Security Subcommittee, Larson has become one of Congress's most forceful advocates for protecting Social Security from cuts, strengthening its long-term finances and expanding benefits so seniors and people with disabilities can live with dignity. At a time when Social Security, Medicare, collective bargaining and federal public services face sustained attacks, Larson remains a critical voice for protecting the benefits workers have earned over a lifetime of contributions.



State Senate — 2nd District

Maryam Khan is an educator and union member who has made strong public schools, workers' rights and equitable taxation central to her public service, carrying the same values from the classroom to the State Capitol. Since joining the General Assembly in 2022, she has supported collective bargaining, opposed demands that public employees reopen contracts for concessions and worked to ensure that educators and other public-service workers have a meaningful voice in the decisions affecting their jobs. Khan has also been a consistent opponent of privatization and supports changing Connecticut's fiscal guardrails so the state can invest more of its resources in schools, healthcare, public services and the workers who provide them.



State Representative — 10th House District

Angie Parkinson is a 26-year public educator, proud union member and East Hartford Town Council member who understands firsthand how decisions made by elected officials affect workers, students and families. She is running to fully fund public education, create a public healthcare option and ensure that workers have livable wages, strong benefits and the security to retire with dignity after a lifetime of work. Parkinson believes Connecticut must reject austerity and privatization, properly staff its classrooms and public agencies and require the ultra-wealthy to contribute their fair share toward the services that keep our communities strong.



State Representative — 31st House District

Moise "Moses" Carelus is a first-generation American, educator, coach and sports administrator whose work with young people has shaped his commitment to education, affordability and stronger opportunities for Connecticut families. Carelus supports the freedom to organize, collective bargaining, binding arbitration and the contracts, pensions and healthcare benefits earned by public employees. He believes essential services should be performed by accountable public workers rather than outsourced to private corporations, which too often charge taxpayers more while delivering lower-quality services. Carelus is also committed to strengthening the public workforce, expanding affordable healthcare, improving retirement security and raising paraeducator wages so the workers supporting students every day can earn a livable income.



State Representative — 92nd House District

Patricia "Pat" Dillon has built a long legislative record focused on healthcare, public services and the quality-of-life issues that affect working families throughout New Haven and Connecticut. Her work has helped shape state policy on addiction and mental health, family violence, injury prevention, school-based health centers, nutrition, disability rights and assistance for homeowners facing flooding and environmental damage. Dillon is also a strong advocate for banning unaffordable high-deductible health plans, reforming Connecticut's fiscal guardrails and using the state's considerable resources to protect healthcare, education and the essential public services residents depend on.

State Workers Prepare for Pension & Healthcare Negotiations with Sticky Note Campaign

Our pension and healthcare agreements shape some of the most important parts of our lives, whether we can afford to see a doctor, provide healthcare for our families and retire with dignity after a career in public service.

As we prepare for the upcoming statewide pension and healthcare negotiations, we need members across Connecticut to show what is at stake. We are asking members to write a sticky note about what affordable healthcare, retirement security or a strong public-service job means to you.

Your message might touch on:

- Why affordable healthcare matters to your family
- What a secure pension means after years of public service
- What needs to improve for the next generation of workers
- Why protecting these agreements matters to the services we provide

You can submit your message through our new digital Sticky Note Action page and see messages shared by other union members across the state.

But the online action is only one part of this campaign. Please also write your message on a real sticky note and place it on your union bulletin board or designated workplace display. Then ask a coworker to add their voice.

These workplace displays will help make the stakes of the negotiations visible to management, start conversations among coworkers and demonstrate that members are organized and ready to stand together.



A single sticky note may seem small. When thousands of public-service workers share their stories, they create a powerful picture of what we are fighting to protect and what we must improve.

Add your voice online, post your note at work and encourage a coworker to participate.

WHY SPOUSES OF CT STATE RETIREES SHOULD JOIN CSEA COUNCIL 400

As the spouse of a Connecticut state retiree, you benefit directly from the hard-earned healthcare and pension protections your family relies on. By joining CSEA Council 400 for just \$60 per year, you help strengthen the voice of retirees and their families at the Capitol and in negotiations that affect your healthcare, cost-of-living adjustments, and long-term retirement security.

You don't need to have worked for the state — if you're receiving benefits through your spouse's retirement, you have a stake in protecting them. Your membership supports advocacy, representation, and access to helpful information and resources all year long. It's a small investment that helps protect what you've earned together.

Contact Kevin Sullivan at
ksullivan@csea760.com or
860-951-6614 ext. 118 to join!

Supervising Judicial Marshals Elect New and Returning Executive Board Members

Several SJM members have stepped forward to fill vacancies and help lead the council through the work ahead. Please join us in congratulating the following officers:

President: Lt. Robert Perez, Hartford District

Vice President: Lt. Lauren Murphy, Hartford District

Treasurer: Lt. Jabarre Williams, New Haven District — New

Secretary: Lt. Kevin Souze, Hartford District

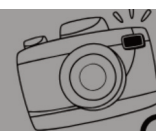
Chief Steward: Lt. Michele Salmon, Judicial Marshal Services Academy — New

The Executive Board plays an important role in representing members, communicating workplace concerns and helping the council prepare for negotiations, legislative fights and other challenges affecting Judicial Marshals.

Congratulations to our new and returning Executive Board members, and thank you for accepting the responsibility of serving the SJM membership.

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE (SAC)

Review the latest trip offerings on our website or contact SAC at CSEATrips@gmail.com



Scan me



McCusker 2026 Recipients

Council 400

- Katelyn Coggshall — Percalie Boucher-Williamson (Ch. 411)
- Nathan Cole — Wayne Cole Jr. (Ch. 405)
- Olivia Cormier — John Weiss (Ch. 421)
- Katherine Freitas — Sebastian Puglisi (Ch. 411)
- Daisy Jeffs — Timothy Bowles (Ch. 403)
- Dylan McKee — William Magnotta (Ch. 415)
- Logan Stout — Frederick Lowrey (Ch. 431)

P-3A

- Peter Alexandro — David Alexandro
- Isabella Ducharme — Deirdre Ducharme
- Jason Magana — Diane Murphy
- Olivia Murrihy — Jennifer Murrihy
- Sophia Murrihy — Jennifer Murrihy
- Kirby Reed-Brown — Cynthia Reed-Brown
- Mateo Velasquez Maineri — Terese Maineri

P-3B

- Tobias Armata — Marta Armata
- Keenan Armstrong — Karen Armstrong
- Megan Armstrong — Brian Armstrong
- Matthew Bannon — Wendy Bannon
- Carson/Caroline Dionne — Dana Dionne
- Megan Murphy — Daniel Murphy (Ch. 191)
- Jacob Nunes — Nickko Nunes
- Jaylon Polozhani — Pauline Taylor
- Aiyana Rodriguez — Lenore Gagain

P-4

- Mikayla Baum — Daniel Baum (Ch. 9)
- Raghav Bharadwaj — Anuja Bharadwaj (Ch. 238)
- Cassandra Bomba-Lewandoski — Vickie Bomba-Lewandoski (Ch. 238)
- Myra Cooley — Yolanda Cooley (Ch. 24)
- Alyssa Corsino — Louis Corsino (Ch. 24)
- Jasmine Dang — Hoang Dang (Ch. 33)
- Katriane Dorismond — Kristal Kallenberg (Ch. 24)
- Mahalia Fobbs — Omar Fobbs (Ch. 27)
- Ava Fuschi — Michael Fuschi (Ch. 96)
- Alina Jose — Deepa John (Ch. 27)
- Elias Krukar — Geoffrey Krukar/Laura Saucier (Ch. 24)
- Alexander Lara — Diane Ifkovic (Ch. 24)
- Aarya Nair — Anil Nair (Ch. 33)
- Jisela Newman — Tiffany Maldonado (Ch. 9)
- April Nichols — Sara Rossetti-Nichols (Ch. 87)
- Philip Nichols Jr. — Sara Rossetti-Nichols (Ch. 87)

P-4 (cont.)

- Alyna Ovalles — Mario Cueva (Ch. 97)
- Anna Pociu — Shannon Pociu (Ch. 24)
- Donovan Ravenberg — Loan Ravenberg (Ch. 55)
- Madilyn Stietzel — Samuel Stietzel (Ch. 88)
- Sonia Temfack — Sabine Temfack (Ch. 55)
- Laura Woodward — Travis Woodward (Ch. 88)
- Richard Yeung — Sidney Yeung (Ch. 24)

NP-8

- Michaela LaRose — Rebecca Crandall

Inspectors

- Adrina Tuozzoli — Elisa Mattei

Paraeducators

Danbury

- Ryan Ceylan — Victoria Ceylan

ACES

- Alexsya Goodall — Tara Page (job coaches)
- Jaylen Goodall — Tara Page (job coaches)
- Makell Hailey — Mareesha Hailey (RBT/BTR)

Fairfield

- John Clyne — Annie Clyne
- Timothy Preslar — Maria Preslar

Wethersfield

- Joseph McKenna IV — Joseph McKenna

Avon

- Logan Royer — Penny Royer

Childcare

- Jocelyn Salinas — Maria Ortega (Childcare)

Council 760

New Haven

- Bidushi Khadka — Sushila Khadka (Parking Auth)

Norwalk

- Jennise Soto — Ruben Soto (HA)

West Hartford

- Eliza Polmatier — Karen Polmatier (Prof/Mgmt)

Manchester

- Timothy McGuire — Kathleen McGuire (Supervisors)

CSEA Staff

- Yaselie Veras — Yasmin Veras (staff)

McCuskers 2026 Donors

COUNCILS & CHAPTERS

Council 400
Council 760
P4 Council
P3B Council
P3A Council
Correction Supervisors Council
Chapter 401 (C400)
Chapter 402 (C400)
Chapter 403 (C400)
Chapter 406 (C400)
Chapter 408 (C400)
Chapter 409 (C400)
Chapter 410 (C400)
Chapter 411 (C400)
Chapter 412 (C400)
Chapter 415 (C400)
Chapter 418-4C's (C400)
Chapter 421 (C400)
Chapter 424 (C400)
Chapter 426 (C400)
Chapter 427 (C400)
Chapter 431 (C400)
Chapter 9 (P4 Council)
Chapter 24 (P4 Council)
Chapter 27 (P4 Council)

Council)
Chapter 33 (P4 Council)
Chapter 56 (P4 Council)
Chapter 87 (P4 Council)
Chapter 88 (P4 Council)
Chapter 97 (P4 Council)

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL MEMORIAL DONATIONS

In Memory of Elaine Colson
In Memory of Kenneth Rinker
In Memory of Raymond Marafino
In Memory of Joseph Salus II

WORKSITES & FUNDRAISERS

Soda Donations
P4 Picnic
Council 400 50/50 Raffle

Council 400 Picnic
50/50 Raffle
Para Council
Mansfield Paras
New Fairfield Paras

INDIVIDUAL DONORS

Mary & Michael O'Brien
Robert Rinker
Tina & David Glidden
Patricia & Donald Gladding
Patrice Peterson
Roger Ives
Julia Rosa
Donna & William Searle
Arlene Mobarak — In Memory of Simon Mobarak
Wayne Duffy
Saroj Gulati
The Webster Family
Joanna James
Gerald Leibowitz — In Memory of Anita Leibowitz
Danny Medress

McCusker Judges

Judy Brod
Eleanor Carbonaro
John deHaan
Allison Dubrosky
Sara Fitzgerald
Careen Jennings
Rebecca Lewis

Sasha Manzione
Peaches Miller
Jean Sawicki
Ella Webster
Jillian Webster
Mary White

The Yankee Institute Discovers Door Knocking

Apparently, union members talking to other union members about voting is now a “statewide political network”

The Yankee Institute has made an alarming discovery: union members knock on doors.

In a July article titled “From Closed Doors to Door to Door,” the Yankee Institute breathlessly explained that labor unions interview candidates, vote on endorsements, and then ask members to speak with other union households.

It presents this well-established form of civic participation as though someone had uncovered a secret command center beneath the CSEA Union Hall. The Yankee Institute eventually acknowledges the obvious, that there is “nothing improper” about union members participating in elections, that workers do not give up their political rights when they join a union and that labor organizations have

every right to support candidates and policies.

That should have been the end of the article.

Instead, the Yankee Institute spends the remaining paragraphs suggesting that the activity is somehow troubling because public employees are speaking with other union members about candidates who may later make decisions affecting public services and collective bargaining.

That is not a scandal. It is democracy.

Business associations lobby over taxes and regulations. Corporations hire teams of lobbyists. Billionaires finance political organizations, advertising campaigns and advocacy groups.

Working people organize through unions because none of us has that kind of power alone.

CSEA’s political work is supported through voluntary political contributions from members.

Those contributions come a few dollars at a time, and aggregate into something wealthy political organizations could never manufacture, a real grassroots movement.

The most revealing part of the Yankee Institute article may be the heading the “Statewide Political Network.”

That phrase is just a few letters shy of the State Policy Network, the billionaire funded, anti-worker think tank that lists the Yankee Institute in its own directory.

State Policy Network describes itself as a network of 64 state-focused think tanks and nearly 200 policy organizations and partners. In its own 2025 publication, it reported combined revenues exceeding \$227 million and celebrated efforts to undermine public unions.

Yankee Institute’s public website, meanwhile, does not provide

readers with a list of the donors financing its work.

So let us make the distinction clear. CSEA members know who funds our political work: we do. There is nothing shadowy about it. We announce the events. We invite members to participate. We wear union shirts. We tell people exactly why we are there.

The Yankee Institute may not like that working people have built an organization capable of participating in politics, but that does not make our participation improper. It makes it effective. Yes, CSEA members organize. Yes, we talk to one another about elections. Yes, we support candidates who respect collective bargaining, public services, pensions, healthcare and the dignity of work.

And yes, we intend to keep knocking on doors.

The World's First Trillionaire: Further Sign of a Weakening Economy

Earlier this summer, Elon Musk became the first person in recorded history whose estimated net worth crossed \$1 trillion.

The milestone followed the public offering of SpaceX, which sharply increased the estimated value of Musk's ownership stake. His wealth later moved back below the trillion-dollar line as the prices of SpaceX and Tesla shares fell, but whether the estimate is \$800 billion, \$1 trillion or \$1.1 trillion on a given day, it's still on a different level of magnitude from the 99% of the world.

First, it helps to understand just how large one trillion is. If someone earned \$100,000 annually and saved every penny, it would take 10 million years to accumulate \$1 trillion. Even if someone earned \$1 million daily, it would take over 2,000 years to reach \$1 trillion.

Oxfam International reported that global billionaire wealth grew by more than 16 percent in 2025, reaching a record \$18.3 trillion. The organization said billionaire wealth has risen 81 percent since 2020, while one in four people around the world faces hunger. And here in the US, Federal

Reserve data show that the wealthiest one percent of American households held 31.6 percent of the country's total household net worth during the first quarter of 2026.

For decades, wages for ordinary workers have failed to keep pace with the value those workers produce. Union membership has declined as corporations and wealthy political interests have attacked collective bargaining and tax systems have favored the ultra-wealthy even more. Public programs have been cut or subjected to artificial spending limits, while capital gains and corporate ownership have generated extraordinary returns for people already at the top.

No individual creates a trillion dollars of value alone. Companies depend on workers on roads, airports, electrical grids, schools, public research, and communications systems. They also depend on customers having enough money to purchase what those companies sell. SpaceX and Tesla both depend heavily on government subsidies, publicly funded research and infrastructure developed through generations of government invest-

ment.

But the health of the economy should be measured by more than the fortunes accumulated at the top. It depends on whether or not a worker can afford to raise a family, or if someone who becomes sick receives care without going bankrupt. It considers if a worker can retire with dignity after decades of service and young people build stable lives, purchase homes and imagine a secure future.

A trillionaire living alongside widespread economic insecurity is not proof that the system is succeeding. It is evidence of how profoundly unbalanced it has become.

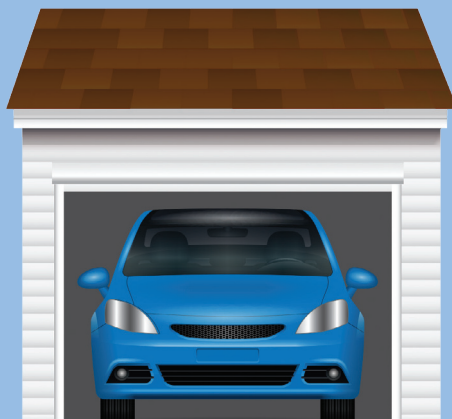
But workers can organize and bargain collectively for a fair share of the value they create. Governments can require the ultra-wealthy and major corporations to pay their fair share. Public revenue can be invested in healthcare, education, housing, childcare, Social Security and retirement security.

A future where life is affordable again is possible, we just need to stop the ultra-concentration of wealth happening.

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