YOU ARE WHAT LABOR DAY IS ALL ABOUT!
It’s a deal for DFY workers

The Division for Youth (DFY) CSEA members in New York City now benefit from an Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Signing the agreement are: standing from left, Carmen Quinones, state EAP coordinator; Cheryl Collins of the Public Employees Federation (PEF) in DFY; Rudy LaMarr of DFY management; seated from left, Pat McGinnis, PEF steward; John Ruiz, CSEA grievance representative for DFY, signing for CSEA New York City State Employees Local 010; and Gwen Jones of DFY management.

ATTENTION
Office of Court Administration employees

If you are a CSEA member who works for the Office of Court Administration (OCA), you may be able to get overtime pay.

Recent court decisions indicated that CSEA-represented OCA employees may be eligible for overtime under the Fair Labor Standards Act.

OCA is not complying and the union is considering legal action to establish which jobs are eligible for overtime. In the meantime, CSEA asks you to immediately begin documenting all the hours you work above and beyond normal work hours. Those records will be necessary for you to get the back pay you’re eligible for.

Job descriptions
Copies of your job descriptions are now available. Just write:
Wayne McGrath
Office of Court Administration
Personnel Office
270 Broadway
New York, NY 10007


Address changes should be sent to: Civil Service Employees Association, Attn: Membership Department, 143 Washington Avenue, Albany, New York 12210.

SHERYL CARLIN ........ Region I
(516) 273-2280

LILLY GIOLA ........ Region II
(212) 514-9200

ANITA MANLEY ........ Region III
(914) 896-8180

DAN CAMPBELL ........ Region IV
(518) 451-6300

CHUCK McGEARY ........ Region V
(315) 451-6300

RON WOFFORD ........ Region VI
(716) 696-0901

STEVE MADARASZ .... Headquarters
(518) 434-0191

THE PUBLIC SECTOR
Honoring those who give more than service

CSEA plans tribute to on-the-job heroes

Labor Day 1987 will take on a very special meaning when you and thousands of other CSEA members across New York join in various parades and other special events. Instead of just celebrating Labor's great accomplishments, CSEA will use the occasion for a more somber message — Honoring those public employees who have given more than just service. At the request of CSEA President William L. McGowan and the rest of the union's statewide officers, CSEA Labor Day participants will don black armbands as a tribute.

In just the past three months, three CSEA members have been killed on the job—

* Clara Taylor, a mental health therapy aide at Rockland Psychiatric Center and mother of nine children, was brutally murdered while working alone. CSEA believes irresponsible understaffing contributed to her death and is mounting a major campaign for safer conditions in the state's mental health and mental retardation facilities.

* Alfreda Syzmanski, died after falling into the deep end of an empty swimming pool while on duty as a custodian at the Depew Schools in western New York.

* William Gieb, a sanitation worker for the Village of East Aurora was pinned beneath the wheels of the truck.

Although not technically a member, 21-year-old Kelly Dwyer, a college student, was killed while at work as a temporary employee with an Onondaga County highway crew on Aug. 12. Dwyer was crushed when a nine-ton highway roller flipped on top of him (See story—Page 13).

But death on the job is just one part of the untold story of public employees' dedication. Each year thousands of CSEA members face injury and illness in the line of duty.

In fact, startling statistics from the National Safety Council show that as a whole, government service ranks as one of the most dangerous occupational areas—far more dangerous than most heavy industries.

While CSEA recognizes it is impossible to make every public service job completely safe, the union also believes that much can be done to reduce the risks.

"Working people shouldn't have to pay with their lives or their health for the right to make a decent living," states CSEA President McGowan.

"This Labor Day I want to make sure we acknowledge that our people all do important and often dangerous work every day for the benefit of others," he adds. "Public employees deserve real credit for putting themselves on the line."

You can help make that point by joining together in your region’s Labor Day activities.

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TRAGIC REMINDER — The memory of Clara Taylor, a MHTA murdered while alone on duty at Rockland Psychiatric Center in July, will be honored by thousands of CSEA members during Labor Day activities across New York. Participants will wear black armbands to acknowledge the dedication of public employees who give more than just service, as Taylor did.

Taylor's death is particularly tragic because CSEA believes irresponsible understaffing put her at greater risk than was necessary. The union is planning other actions in conjunction with a series of legislative hearings initiated because of her slaying. CSEA President William L. McGowan has vowed that steps must be taken so that "this never happens again."

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Labor Day events

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Contact Information</th>
<th>Event Details</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Region I</td>
<td>(516) 273-2280</td>
<td>New York City Parade. Gather at W. 46th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues—11 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region II</td>
<td>(212) 554-3200</td>
<td>Albany Parade/Rally/Picnic. Gather at Central Avenue and Robin Street—12:30 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region III</td>
<td>(914) 896-8180</td>
<td>Rochester Parade and Picnic. Gather at Manhattan Square Park—9 a.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region IV</td>
<td>(518) 489-5424</td>
<td>Williamsville (Buffalo) Parade begins at Noon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Region VI</td>
<td>(716) 806-8391</td>
<td>All three regions will participate in the New York City Parade. Gather at W. 46th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues—11 a.m.</td>
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In Memory

Clara Loraine Taylor
1940 - 1987
Letchworth incinerator

CSEA gets a hearing

"It is unfortunate that OMRDD officials chose to keep their plans a deep, dark secret from CSEA, the surrounding communities, local lawmakers and even other state regulatory agencies."

By Anita Manley
CSEA Communications Associate

THEILLS — "I can't build a shed in my own back yard without permits, but the state can come in and build this huge incinerator just up the road from my house! It's incredible!"

The speaker, who lives about half a mile from the Letchworth Developmental Center, voiced his concern at a meeting held recently on the facility grounds in northern Rockland County.

Thanks to the efforts of members of Letchworth Developmental Center CSEA Local 412, he and his neighbors had the chance to comment on the state's plans to construct a 48-ton incinerator that would convert garbage to steam. The meeting, required by the state Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), was the first step in a process ensuring that local residents' concerns are heard before the plant can be completed.

Until just a few months ago, the plans were a deep, dark secret. But when construction began on the grounds of the Letchworth power plant, CSEA members asked questions and involved local and state agencies and politicians.

Region III Safety and Health Specialist Don Wood contacted DEC and the wheels began to turn.

Despite claims by the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) that permits were not needed by the firm hired to build the incinerator on state property, it became clear that the state could not, after all, circumvent its own system of policies and procedures.

The project may take longer — or it could be cancelled altogether — but state officials will not be allowed to impose a project of such magnitude on so many people without their concerns being heard, said Region III President Pat Mascioli.

"While members of CSEA certainly recognize that refuse dumping and the lack of available landfills is a serious problem, we will continue to demand, on behalf of our members who live and work here, accountability throughout each step of the project," he said.

"It is unfortunate that OMRDD officials chose to keep their plans a deep, dark secret from CSEA, the surrounding communities, local lawmakers and even other state regulatory agencies," Mascioli added.

CSEA has a number of concerns that must be addressed, he noted.

"We are concerned with the environmental impact of any emissions from the plant. We are concerned with the monitoring of refuse that will come into the plant from outside haulers. We are concerned with who will operate and staff the plant," Mascioli said. "Until these concerns are addressed, we will continue to seek the answers and pursue objectives on behalf of our members."

Circumventing regulations creates controversy

Union, legislators incensed over Letchworth incinerator

Compiled by Anita Manley
CSEA Communications Associate

CSEA has asked a state legislator for assistance and may turn to a lawsuit if necessary in an effort to remove a virtual wall of secrecy surrounding the state's plans to construct a controversial incinerator facility on the grounds of the Letchworth Village Developmental Center in Rockland County.

CSEA charges the state circumvented many of its own regulations regarding construction and operation of such a facility.

Union Health and Safety Specialist Donald Road said the state failed to conduct an environmental impact study, failed to obtain permits to construct, install or operate the incinerator facility and did not conduct any public meetings or hearings before starting construction.

TAKING A STAND — Local 412 Vice President Martin Sherow greeted Letchworth Developmental Center employees and local residents who attended a public hearing on the Letchworth incinerator. With Sherow is Ron Roberts, a Public Employee Federation shop steward at Letchworth.
ALBANY — CSEA’s statewide labor-management process with the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) was thrown into chaos when management walked out on the union during a meeting here last week.

The situation erupted after OMRDD attempted to unilaterally impose a new procedure for setting the agenda. Their approach would have limited CSEA’s ability to bring up critical concerns.

OMRDD broke off discussions when CSEA held firm that its five agenda items be aired. OMRDD was unwilling to guarantee that CSEA’s issues be included in the meeting.

The incident was just the latest in a series of tense confrontations between CSEA and OMRDD.

“OMRDD ought to be ashamed of itself,” states CSEA President William McGowan. “They’re trying to close down half the developmental centers in the state and there are important items that have to be discussed about people’s futures — but instead they’re playing games.”

“I’m proud of the CSEA committee for standing its ground,” he added.

“This situation goes to the heart of whether we can negotiate anything with OMRDD,” comments CSEA Deputy Director for Contract Administration Jim Cooney.

“It’s obvious to me they had no intention of finishing our items.”

“We were there ready for serious discussion and they walked out, acting as if they had more important things to do,” explains Cooney. “That’s no way to build trust and cooperation.”

Although CSEA made several attempts to move the meeting toward constructive dialogue, OMRDD emphatically rejected each proposal.

The statewide labor-management meetings are only held four times per year. But from the start of this meeting, OMRDD said that its time would be limited due to another commitment.

“This has been an ongoing problem,” says CSEA Labor/Management Committee Chairman Gary Eldridge. “We’re still waiting for responses from Commissioner Webb to issues that we first raised back in 1984. It really makes you wonder whether they’re committed to labor/management talks, or just paying it lip service.”

“We need face-to-face meetings with the decision-makers — not just sessions where they tell us ‘we’ll get back to you’”

Unless CSEA receives that commitment from OMRDD to make the process work, the union intends to push its agenda through other procedures and approaches.
Not again!

Another opening date, another cancellation

By Charles McGeary
CSEA Communications Associate

BINGHAMTON — Six and one-half years after a toxic transformer fire contaminated the 18-story Binghamton State Office Building, the complex still looms empty and shuttered.

An estimated $40 million has been poured into clean-up operations since the Feb. 5, 1981, fire, but the structure has yet to be declared safe for occupancy. The latest target date for reopening the building was January 1988, but that date too will have to be pushed back.

CSEA has had a private consultant assigned to oversee the clean-up operations for years, and CSEA President William L. McGowan has pledged not to allow employees to be sent back into the building until the union's private consultant says it's safe to do so.

"The reopening date has changed so many times we don't know what to believe," said Tim Henehan, president of Binghamton State Employees CSEA Local 002. "Hundreds of state employees have feelings of total frustration because of so many delays.

"For more than six years we have lived in the 'rumor mill' and had to adjust to the burden of makeshift work locations elsewhere in the city. It has taken its toll on employee productivity and morale."

Henehan also said he had no idea when they would be asked to go back in that building. "The only thing we know," he emphasized, "is the CSEA position remains firm."

Workers are waiting for a 'clean report' and final approval from CSEA's private consultant, Terry Miller, before workers will reenter the building, he said. Until then the building is off limits.

According to a recent report released by state officials, persistent toxic contamination in the lower levels of the building has resisted clean-up efforts.

Work on the building was intensified in recent months after several areas on the bottom three floors were found to have elevated levels of contaminants.

Harry Stevens, director of design and construction for the State Office of General Services, said the delay would set them back several more months. "We had to go back in and do a lot more work," Stevens explained.

Day care to open in Dutchess County

The September opening of a day care center on the grounds of the Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center is the result of a joint effort by CSEA, PEF, AFSCME Council 82 and the administration of the facility.

In the photograph at right, Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center Local 409 President Henry Walters goes over plans for the day care center with Darlene Walsh, president of the center's board of directors.

The "Children's Corner," as the center is called, will be welcome in Dutchess County, where there is a serious shortage of quality, affordable day care.

For more information about the program, call Darlene Walsh at 914-832-6611, Ext. 594.

'Take stock in America'

State employees will receive letters with their paychecks this month as part of an annual campaign promoting the value of investing in U.S. savings bonds. All information on how to participate will be contained in pamphlets included with the letters. CSEA President William McGowan is encouraging all CSEA members to "take stock in America" by enrolling in the campaign.

Response to the 1986-87 U.S. Savings Bond Campaign, with McGowan's support as capital district area chairman, was so overwhelming that New York was ranked first among all state governments as a result.

"Buy U.S. savings bonds," says McGowan. "They are an easy and effective way to save for your future. You get a good return on your investment plus tax advantages, and that makes good financial sense."
WORKERS IN PERIL

Death and danger are lurking at highway work zones

PULASKI — The inherent dangers for highway crews working on and near the state’s roadways have been graphically illustrated once again.

Four Canadian residents were killed and two injured Aug. 5 when their vehicle veered into a bridge maintenance work zone and struck a parked state truck on Interstate 81 near this Oswego County community.

Six state Department of Transportation (DOT) employees in the work zone were shielded from injury by the parked truck.

The van carrying the six Canadians was behind a tractor trailer as both vehicles entered a well-marked work zone when the first vehicle apparently slowed abruptly, according to DOT employees working at the site. The van veered around the truck, knocked over traffic cones marking the work zone and smashed into the DOT truck. The tractor trailer failed to stop and left the scene.

According to state police and the DOT employees, the parked truck was equipped with a large lighted warning sign directing traffic away from the work zone lane. Road signs warning of the work zone were spaced over nearly a mile and a half preceding the work site and orange traffic cones blocked off the lane. In addition, two of the six DOT workers were acting as flagmen at the time of the accident.

CSEA Region V Safety and Health Specialist Merwin “Stubby” Stevens, himself an 18-year veteran of DOT, says the safety set-up for the work area was in order.

“After investigating the accident and discussing it with Charles Ames, NYSDOT regional highway maintenance engineer, in my opinion the work zone safety set-up was perfect. All work signs and cones were in place according to state regulations.

“This tragedy again points out the need for increased public awareness of the dangers of driving in and around highway work areas. If motorists were more alert and slowed down near highway work sites and crews, it would reduce the number of accidents, injuries and fatalities. The CSEA “WATCH OUT FOR US” campaign can help spread the message,” Stevens says.

CSEA is distributing bumper stickers urging motorists to be alert and aware of the presence of highway repair crews. CSEA is also urging legislation requiring mandatory speed limit reductions in and around all highway work sites.

Full-size “Watch out for US, We’re working for YOU!” bumper stickers similar to the one shown above are now available from CSEA.

CSEA encourages all its members to proudly display these bumper stickers on your cars. In addition to educating the general public about the dangers of working in highway maintenance and construction areas, these stickers also illustrate that CSEA members in general provide vital public services.

These new bumper stickers are available through your CSEA local president.

CSEA LOCAL PRESIDENTS SHOULD USE THE FOLLOWING FORM TO ORDER A SUPPLY OF THE “WATCH OUT FOR US” BUMPER STICKERS.

To: Aaron Shepard
Director of Communications
Civil Service Employees Association, Inc.
143 Washington Avenue
Albany, New York 12210

Please send me a supply of the “Watch out for US” bumper stickers. I understand I am limited to a maximum of 100 bumper stickers per order:

Number of stickers ordered: ____________________________

Send to: ____________________________________________
Name (President of CSEA Local)
Address
City (State) (ZIP)

(signature)

August 24, 1987
Finally... New

CONTRACTS

For Onondaga and Orange Counties

Solidarity key to new agreement in Onondaga

SYRACUSE — The more than 3,700 members of CSEA Onondaga County Local 894 have won a new two-year contract, concluding a year of hard-fought negotiations.

The terms of the agreement, ratified by an overwhelming majority of 1,913 to 308, were announced by Local President Dale King and the 14-member negotiating team following the final tabulations.

Before the contract can go into effect, it must be reviewed by the County Personnel Department and Ways & Means Committee and voted upon by the Onondaga County Legislature.

Terms of the contract are retroactive to Jan. 1 and include:

* An increase in salary of 4 percent the first year, plus step increments.
* An increase of 4.5 percent, plus step increments, effective Jan. 1, 1988.
* Continuation of a health insurance plan with the same coverage.
* Improvement in contract language regarding the posting and bidding of county jobs.
* Increased shift differential for employees working after 3 p.m.
* Improved parking arrangements for county employees required to use their own vehicles.

During the 11-month period of contract talks, the negotiating committee remained steadfast and united through a barrage of bargaining sessions and delays for mediation, impasse, political in-fighting by members of the county legislature, informational pickets at work locations and the homes of county legislators and the fact-finding process.

The breakthrough in negotiations was the acceptance by both sides of the recommendations of the PERB fact finder.

King expressed his appreciation to the 14-member negotiating team, chief negotiator Tom Pomidoro and Region V President Jim Moore for their support throughout the lengthy negotiating ordeal.

“This was a team effort all the way,” King said. “We want to thank every CSEA member affected by this contract. We remained united even though it was a tough fight, filled with the frustrations of working without a contract.

“I know the hardships of the past year have made us a stronger union.”

Orange County OKs three-year pact

MIDDLETOWN — Orange County CSEA members have approved a three-year tentative contract, retroactive to Jan. 1, by a vote of 516 - 278.

Terms of the contract include:

* A pay increase of 6.75 percent the first year.
* An increase of 5.75 percent effective Jan. 1, 1989.
* Salary upgradings, longevity payments, disability insurance, shift differential, tuition reimbursement and overtime pay for holidays.

Nursing services employees will also receive wage hikes of up to $8,000 over the life of the contract. Their salaries will now exceed wages paid in local health facilities.

County employees had rejected a tentative contract on July 1 at which time an impasse was declared. Following unsuccessful mediation, a fact finder was assigned.

CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist Larry Sparber said the new contract reflects the fact finder’s recommendations to increase salaries and restructure the agreement.

“A conscious effort has been made to meet the concerns raised by the members on July 1,” said Sparber.
You are what Labor Day is all about! You, the 250,000 members of CSEA who drive the trucks, care for the infirmed, cater to the needy, tend to our school children, are involved in almost every facet that affects the people in the State of New York. You are the major ingredient that makes this the great Empire State. You should take pride in that, but you should also remember that this house of labor was constructed by your forefathers.

From their sacrifice came the 40-hour workweek and the concern for the young that brought about child labor laws. Their worry about the future made social security a reality. Despite all of these gains, the house of labor is being weakened. New jobs are being filled with part-time people paid the minimum wage. Under the disguise of saving money there is a constant attempt by state and local governments to contract out work that we should be doing.

But what concerns me most on this Labor Day is the fact that many of our members, your brothers and sisters, are being killed and injured while trying to do their job. According to the most recent statistics provided by the National Safety Council, government workers are the fourth-highest group subject to death and injury; exceeding construction, mining and other "heavy" industries.

The recent murder of Clara Taylor, a 47-year-old mother with nine children, at the Rockland P.C. tragically and graphically demonstrates the need to correct a time bomb that has long been ticking away at our mental health institutions.

With this in mind, I am asking that all of us who participate in a Labor Day parade wear the traditional black arm band of mourning. Not only for Clara Taylor, but for all of our members who face the threat of death or injury while working to serve the people of New York.

Remember, You are what Labor Day is all about!

William L. McGowan
CSEA President

"As a public employee, what concerns you this Labor Day?"

WILLIAM SALIDANA
Stationery Engineer
CSEA Local 446

"What’s to celebrate when we are losing our jobs to overseas because of cheap labor. There’s plenty of room for improvement."

DOLORES HOLMAN
MHTA
CSEA Local 419

"We have a dangerous job with not enough training. I’ve had to learn from my peers on the floor. There's not enough staff in mental hospitals and you start to feel like you’re on your own."

YVONNE S. RIDLEY
Electrician
CSEA Local 413

"Working people are not appreciated for what they do as much as they should be. The way the system is, you can’t get ahead."

NAT SARACINA
Sheet Metal Mechanic
CSEA Local 646

"My own working conditions are better now, but they tried to close up Downstate Hospital this year. That’s why I’m really glad we have our union to fight for us."
PUBLIC EMPLOYEES:  PEOPLE WHO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

By Charles McGary
CSEA Communications Associate

NEWPORT — The anonymous writer who wrote, "If you want a job finished, give it to a busy person," could have had Dennis McEvoy in mind.

McEvoy, a long-time CSEA member, is a volunteer in the Herkimer County Firemen's Association. He also helped launch the Volunteer Ambulance Corps and has been a member of the volunteer fire department for more than 30 years, including eight years as an officer in the Herkimer County Firemen's Association.

In addition, McEvoy is an active member in the Herkimer County Firemen's Association.

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ALBANY — If you own a car or a commercial vehicle, most likely you have received a short message from the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) about last year's service by renewing registrations and license plates online.

Probably that message came from either Patty Palma, a data entry operator, or Gary W. Kirkham, a senior clerk. The two Albany-based DMV employees were selected to carry their names and phone numbers on personalized message cards to help families of the deceased.

It has worked, for they have become informal problem-solvers for DMV. Both Patty and Gary receive four or five letters a week addressed to them and get a couple of phone calls as well at their home and office.

"I do the best I can to resolve the problem it is something I can care of," Patty says. "And management is supportive by taking care of the problems which are beyond our area of involvement. So the fellow or telephone caller does get what he wants.

Patty processes about 36,000 pieces of mail and receives a phone call about 50 a year, most of them about renewing registrations. Gary provides data entry programs for the office and is the touchstone for rare commercial dealer applications over the phone.

DMV Director of Field Services Harry Persanis, who works with both Patty and Gary, says, "They're a very important part of the DMV operation; there is no way of doing our work without them."

"They are the backbone of the country: People who -- on and off the job -- make the American system work and make the difference between excellence and obsolescence."

Putting the human element into DMV

By Daniel X. Campbell
CSEA Communications Associate

Hello, my name is Patty

By Lily Gioia
CSEA Communications Associate

By Gary W. Kirkham

Putting the human element into DMV

By Daniel X. Campbell
CSEA Communications Associate

Hello, my name is Gary

By Lily Gioia
CSEA Communications Associate

STATEN ISLAND — When "Country Joe" Greenidge bellouts out his unique style of gospel songs, twangy guitar chords of country music drift through the air delighting patrons and staff at the Kingsboro Psychiatric Center.

"My style is a mix of Charlie Pride, Johnny Cash, Buck Owens and a little Kenny Rogers thrown in," says the 31-year-old Grenada-born guitar picker.

Greenidge, a cleaner in Kingsboro's housekeeping department, thrives on singing his gospel tunes spaced with Nashville harmonies on and off the job.

Last Christmas, the "Caribbean cowboy" with a distinct Caribbean accent performed a mini-concert for Kingsboro patients, and this year he was once again asked to entertain for the facility's Dr. Martin Luther King Day program.

"We had a wonderful response from the patients," says Greenidge.

Off the job he spends many hours of free time playing at local churches in Brooklyn and Staten Island.

"I used to go to prison to sing in Grenada," the CSEA member recalls. He says working among patients at Kingsboro has been a challenge because there are so many different people with needs. "I have learned a lot."

Greenidge says his philosophy is to shine, no matter what he is doing.

"My work reflects the type of person I am," he said in reference to compliments he gets for keeping his unit especially clean.

Greenidge said his job change significantly 14 years ago when, as a college student, he went down to play his calypso guitar at a local church in the Crotona area. Before he came, there were no musicians in the segregation to provide music.

"Many of them not knowing I was helping myself," he says.

"I have come to love it in my heart that I needed to change and I felt myself changing. My filthy language left me and I just felt like he is doing. "My work reflects the type of person I am," he said in reference to compliments he gets for keeping his unit especially clean.

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"Many of them not knowing I was helping myself," he says.

"I have come to love it in my heart that I needed to change and I felt myself changing. My filthy language left me and I just felt like he is doing. "Oh, I am one of those that I am a wonderful person," he says. "I have been working in this unit ever since I came back and I have been making it by the grace of the Lord."
BATAVIA — A unique sensory playground constructed by an army of CSEA members and other volunteers on their own time is proving to be a highly successful addition to the grounds of the State School for the Blind here.

The unusual park was built entirely by voluntary effort, primarily during a one-week period earlier this summer. The state spent about $10,000 on the project and the New York State Lions Clubs made it their project of the year, but much of the material for the project, valued at $175,000, was donated.

The sensory park is designed to promote muscle development and coordination as well as develop and stimulate the senses of sound, touch and smell of the school’s students. The park was designed by nationally-known architect Robert Leathers.

Officials and members of State School for the Blind CSEA Local 200 helped coordinate the project and were among several hundred volunteers who participated in construction and related work on the park.
Death on the highway

CSEA wants answers on "senseless" tragedy

SYRACUSE — Central Region V President James J. Moore, Local 834 President Dale King and other union officers and staff members, have requested a "full and complete" investigation of the August 13 accident that took the life of Kelly Dwyer, 21-year-old Onondaga County highway employee, who was fatally injured when pinned under a 9-ton roller at a construction site north of the city.

According to the brief report released by the Onondaga County Sheriff's Department, the victim was apparently operating the heavy, rubber-tired roller at the rate of two miles per hour. As he was attempting to back up, the roller went off the edge of the road, tipped over into a 3-foot ditch and pinned Dwyer. A second employee riding on the equipment managed to jump clear to the high side of the road. Quick work by fellow crew members raised the roller enough for Dwyer to be moved and rushed to a hospital, where he was pronounced dead on arrival.

"We want to know why a temporary employee was operating a 9-ton piece of equipment. How much training, if any, did he receive? And why doesn't the county (Onondaga) have an established training program for permanent and temporary employees?", Moore said.

Onondaga County authorities say they are conducting an investigation into the accident.

Merwin "Stubby" Stevens, CSEA Region V Safety & Health Representative and a 20-year veteran of the New York State Department of Transportation, is also conducting an investigation and will make his report to Moore and CSEA headquarters.

Labor Pow-wow

LABOR UNION LEADERS in the New York City metropolitan area gathered recently at a reception sponsored by the New York City Safety Council. Pictured are, from left, Department of Labor CSEA Local 350 President Denis Tobin, Labor Commissioner Thomas Hartnett and CSEA Region II President George Boncoraglio.

A year-long effort:

CSEA wins insurance refunds

BUFFALO — CSEA recently won more than $100 in health insurance refunds for Buffalo area CSEA state employees. The members had opted for no-deductible family coverage with Blue Cross-owned Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Community Blue for 1986 only to find that deductions were taken from their paychecks.

The effort, spanning more than a year, was spearheaded by Region VI President Robert L. Lattimer after SUNY CSEA Local 602 President Barbara Christy and Field Representative Mark Higgins approached him with the problem.

These members chose the HMO coverage, said Lattimer, "because they saw it as an economical way to provide for their families' health care. After they signed for what they thought was a no-deductible benefit, deductions were actually taken from their paychecks. We owed it to them to see that they received these refunds," he said.

The task was much easier said than done. A stack of correspondence with CSEA insurance expert Tim Mullens, director of the Joint Committee on Health Benefits; the state Civil Service Department; the state Insurance Department and Community Blue attests to the trail of red tape required to get the members' rebates.

"But it was worth all the trouble and time," said Lattimer.

The state Insurance Department regulates insurance premiums. Their delayed approval of Community Blue's rate increase request was the cause of the unexpected deductions.

The CSEA-won refunds will help members who choose to continue with Community Blue because the program's monthly premium has increased 12.4 percent.
Special elections scheduled to fill eight board seats

Nominating petitions now being circulated

The election period to fill eight vacancies on CSEA's statewide Board of Directors began on Aug. 24 when nominating petition forms became available to potential candidates. The nominating petition period marks the initial phase of elections to be held to fill eight vacant Board of Directors seats. Vacant seats are for representatives from Audit & Control, Public Service, Mental Hygiene Regions 3 and 5, Albany County, Chenango County, Montgomery County and Wayne County.

An otherwise eligible member from those jurisdictions must obtain a specific number of signatures from CSEA members in their department or county local on nominating petition forms to earn a spot on the ballot. (See adjacent information for number of petition signatures required for each vacant seat.)

Nominating petition request forms are now available from local presidents, CSEA regional offices and CSEA Headquarters. Completed nominating petition request forms must be submitted to either regional CSEA offices or CSEA Headquarters to obtain the necessary petitions. The required nominating petitions must be received by the CSEA Membership Records Department, 143 Washington Avenue, Capitol Station Box 7125, Albany, N.Y. 12224 by 5 p.m. on Sept. 25, 1987.

Candidate Eligibility

To be eligible to run for office, a candidate must be a member of CSEA in good standing. Good standing requirements for purposes of eligibility are as follows:

- Over 18 years of age;
- A member in good standing of CSEA since June 1 of the year preceding the election;
- Shall not have been a member of a competing labor association or union since June 1 of the year preceding the election;
- Shall not currently be serving a disciplinary penalty imposed by the Judicial Board of CSEA.

Elections schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>August 24</td>
<td>Start of petitioning period. Nominating petition request forms and petitions available from regional offices and CSEA Headquarters.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September 25</td>
<td>Final day for nominating petitions to be received at CSEA Headquarters (5 p.m.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 2</td>
<td>Telegrams sent to successful candidates advising of election schedule. Telegram sent to unsuccessful candidates advising of inadequate signatures and deadline for reviewing non-qualifying signatures. Mailing of copies of rules and regulations for the election to all candidates and local presidents.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 9</td>
<td>Petition review appeal deadline for non-qualifying petitioners (5 p.m.). Deadline for declinations for nominating petitioners (5 p.m.). Deadline for confirmation of name as it appears on ballot (5 p.m.).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October 13</td>
<td>Drawing for positions on ballot at 1 p.m., CSEA Headquarters conference room.</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>October 26</td>
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<td>November 2</td>
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<td>November 6</td>
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<td>November 13</td>
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<td>November 23</td>
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<tr>
<td>November 30</td>
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<tr>
<td>December 10</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Candidates (or proxies) may attend as observers. Address labels available to candidates for mailing campaign literature.

Deadline (5 p.m.) for submitting campaign articles and photographs for publication in the Nov. 2 edition of The Public Sector.

Deadline for campaign literature to be submitted to CSEA for distribution (5 p.m.).

Publication of campaign articles in The Public Sector.

Ballots delivered to post office for mailing (5 p.m.).

Replacement ballot may be requested if original not received.

Verification process begins.

Deadline for return of ballots (12 noon). Election results announced after ballot count (candidates will be notified by mailgram).

End of protest period (5 p.m.)—10 days after official election results are announced.

Petition signatures required

A member who is otherwise eligible may qualify as a candidate for office by submitting nominating petitions carrying the following number of signatures of members eligible to vote.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Division</th>
<th>Number of signatures required</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>State Division</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Audit &amp; Control</td>
<td>115 members of the department eligible to vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public Service</td>
<td>15 members of the department eligible to vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Hygiene (R3)</td>
<td>450 members of the department eligible to vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Hygiene (R5)</td>
<td>450 members of the department eligible to vote</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Local Government Division</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Albany County</td>
<td>118 members of the local eligible to vote in the election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chenango County</td>
<td>39 members of the local eligible to vote in the election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Montgomery County</td>
<td>51 members of the local eligible to vote in the election</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wayne County</td>
<td>60 members of the local eligible to vote in the election</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

All ballots mailed during the course of the elections will be based on membership records of CSEA as of Oct. 1, 1987.
The names and faces are familiar, but there's a new role for five veteran CSEA staffers recently named deputy directors for contract administration. The new positions created as part of an internal reorganization are designed to provide better service to CSEA members.

The five have broad responsibility for contract negotiations and enforcement and direction of field staff for CSEA state bargaining units. Each also works with an assistant contract administrator based at CSEA headquarters.

John Naughter, who services the Administrative Services Unit (ASU), first joined the CSEA staff in 1968. Most recently he served as state collective bargaining specialist. He is assisted by Linda Sage, who has eight years experience as part of CSEA's headquarters staff.

Don Kelly, a research analyst for CSEA since 1981, now handles the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA), Health Research Institute (HRI), and Office of Court Administration (OCA) units. Barbara Skelly, a long-time CSEA activist and most recently Audit and Control Local 651 president assists him.

Jim Cooney came on board with CSEA in 1971 and most recently served as state collective bargaining specialist for the Institutional Services Unit (ISU). He will continue to serve that unit with primary assignment to the Office of Mental Health. He is assisted by former Onondaga County Local 834 activist John Morris.

Former CSEA Legal Assistance Program Administrator Tony Campione, who also joined the union staff in 1968, now takes responsibility for the rest of the ISU including the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD).

John Naughter, Don Kelly, Jim Cooney, Tony Campione, and Ross Hanna are the new deputy directors.

His assistant is former Rome Developmental Center Local 422 Vice President Jim Martin.

Finally, Ross Hanna, most recently CSEA Region I director, handles the Operational Services Unit (OSU). Hanna's assistant is former SUNY Binghamton Local 648 President Chuck Eynon.

**Contract administrator assignments**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Campione/Martin</th>
<th>Naughter/Sage</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ISU</strong></td>
<td><strong>ASU</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mental Retardation</td>
<td>Labor</td>
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<tr>
<td>Workers' Compensation</td>
<td>Tax &amp; Finance</td>
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<tr>
<td>Division for Youth</td>
<td>Education</td>
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<tr>
<td>Public Service Comm.</td>
<td>Motor Vehicles</td>
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<tr>
<td>ABC Board</td>
<td>Insurance Fund</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cooney/Morris</td>
<td>Parole</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ISU</strong></td>
<td>** Alcohol &amp; Substance Abuse**</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mental Health</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Corrections</td>
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<tr>
<td>Social Services</td>
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<td>State Police</td>
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<td>Civil Service</td>
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<td>Commerce</td>
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<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hanna/Eynon</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>OSU</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>EnCon</td>
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<tr>
<td>Transportation</td>
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<tr>
<td>General Services</td>
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<tr>
<td>Parks &amp; Recreation</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ag. &amp; Markets</td>
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<tr>
<td>SUNY</td>
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<tr>
<td>Criminal Justice</td>
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<tr>
<td>Kelly/Skelly</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>DMNA/HRI/OCA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Health</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judiciary</td>
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<tr>
<td>DMNA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retirement System</td>
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<tr>
<td>Audit and Control</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

August 24, 1987

THE PUBLIC SECTOR

15
Irving Flaumenbaum scholars

Another group of students whose parents are CSEA members have been awarded college scholarships.

The scholarships, named for the late former Region I President Irving Flaumenbaum, are one-time $500 awards for recent high school graduates who plan to go to college and whose parents are CSEA members.

There are three winners from five of CSEA’s six regions, with a tie resulting in four Region II winners. The winners are selected on the basis of academic achievement and extracurricular activity.

Region I

The Region I winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

Kimberly Fulton of Kings Park, a graduate of Academy of St. Joseph, daughter of Marilyn Fulton, a member of Kings Park Psychiatric Center CSEA Local 411.

Michael C. Bond of Central Islip, a graduate of Central Islip High School, son of Claudia J. Bond, a member of Long Island State Employees CSEA Local 016.

Kelly Ann O’Connell of North Ronkonkoma, a graduate of Connetquot High School, daughter of Marie O’Connell, a member of Suffolk County Educational Employees CSEA Local 870.

Michael C. Bond, another Region I winner of the scholarship, is pictured with his mother, Claudia, and CSEA Local 016 President Tom Byrne.

Region I President Danny Donohue, left, presents a scholarship to Kelly Ann O’Connell as her mother, Marie, sister Karen and father, Thomas, look on.

CSEA Scholarship Committee Chairperson Dorothy Goetz and Region I President Danny Donohue present Marilyn Fulton with the scholarship for her daughter Kimberly, who wasn’t available for the photograph.

Region II

The Region II winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

John P. Falcone of the Bronx, a graduate of Fordham Preparatory School, son of Michael Falcone, a member of New York City State Employees CSEA Local 010.

Lourdes Delores Follins of Staten Island, a graduate of Notre Dame Academy, daughter of Delores Follins, a member of South Beach Psychiatric Center CSEA Local 446.

Sandra Velilla of the Bronx, a graduate of the High School of Fashion Industry, daughter of Helen Castro, a member of Region II Tax and Finance CSEA Local 460.

Jessica Ann Diaz of Brooklyn, a graduate of Edward R. Murrow High School, daughter of Ana Diaz, a member of Brooklyn Developmental Center CSEA Local 447.

Other Region I winners and their parents are pictured from left: Dolores Follins, mother of winner Lourdes Follins, who wasn’t available for the photo; Emilia Falcone, mother of winner John Falcone; John Falcone; Ana Diaz, mother of winner Jessica Diaz; Jessica Diaz; “Dutch” Wade of the statewide Scholarship Committee; and Region II President George Boncoraglio.

Region II President George Boncoraglio presents Sandra Velilla with her scholarship as her mother, Helen M. Castro, looks on.
Region III

The Region III winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

Maureen P. Farrell of Carmel, a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School, daughter of Kathleen A. Farrell, a member of Putnam County CSEA Local 840.

Christine A. Bartolozzi of New City, a graduate of John F. Kennedy High School, daughter of Eileen J. Bartolozzi, a member of Rockland County CSEA Local 844.

Laurette DiSpigna of Goshen, a graduate of Monroe-Woodbury Senior High School, daughter of Lillian R. DiSpigna, a member of the Mid-Orange Correctional Facility CSEA Local 166.

Region III President Pat Mascioli, left, presents a scholarship to Christine Bartolozzi, third from left. Looking on are Rockland County Unit President Vicki Burton, Eileen Bartolozzi and Rockland County Local 844 President Lee Pound.

Region IV

The Region IV winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

Jeannette Marie Green of Greenfield Center, a graduate of Saratoga Springs Senior High School, daughter of Angela D. Green, a member of Saratoga County Educational Employees CSEA Local 864.

Lynn M. Kellerman of Burnt Hills, a graduate of Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School, daughter of Anastasia K. Kellerman, a member of Saratoga County CSEA Local 846.

Tami L. Corbett of Scotia, a graduate of Burnt Hills-Ballston Lake High School, daughter of Carol Corbett, a member of Schenectady County CSEA Local 847.

Region IV First Vice President Joan Tobin, second from left, presents scholarships to the region's three winners. From left are: Local 864 President Lester Cole; Tobin; Local 846 President Jack Miller, winner Tami Corbett; winner Jeannette Green; Carol Corbett; Angela Green, Local 847 President Frank Tomecko; winner Lynn Kellerman; and Anastasia Kellerman.
Region V

The Region V winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:
Diane Marie Bassett of Genoa, a graduate of Southern Cayuga Central High School, daughter of Anne Marie Bassett, a member of Cayuga County CSEA Local 806.
William H. Hardie of Lowville, a graduate of Lowville Central High School and son of Beverly K. Hardie, a member of Lewis County CSEA Local 829.
Christina Stanchi of Van Etten, a graduate of Spencer-Van Etten High School and daughter of Inge Rose Stanchi, a member of Chemung County CSEA Local 808.

Region VI

The Region VI winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:
Peter J. Pochylski Jr. of Dunkirk, a graduate of Dunkirk Senior High School, son of Peter J. Pochylski Sr., a member of Fredonia Faculty Student Association CSEA Local 627.
Peter Klimczyk of Cheektowaga, a graduate of Maryvale High School, son of Margaret Klimczyk of Erie County Educational Employees CSEA Local 888.
David M. Sears of Mt. Morris, a graduate of Mt. Morris Central School, son of Nancy F. Sears, a member of Livingston County CSEA Local 826.

Scholarship winner Peter Klimczuk, left, is shown with his mother, Margaret, and Local 888 President Mary Lettieri.
Scholarship winner Peter Pochylski Jr., center, is pictured with his father, Peter Sr., left, and Region VI Scholarship Committee member Art Howell.
Scholarship winner David Sears, left, is pictured with his mother, Nancy, center, and Local 826 President Linda Standish Fritz.
Ballot battles

CSEA makes a difference

CSEA members in two Region I school districts turned their know-how into votes, promoting the elections of new school board members.

In Deer Park, two CSEA-endorsed challengers, Ethel Benvenuto and Gene Murray, are now on the Deer Park School District Board of Education. Under the leadership of CSEA Unit President Tom Corrdan and CSEA Political Action Coordinator Stephanie Teff, unit members ran phone banks to remind fellow union members to vote for the challengers.

In Levittown, CSEA had an overwhelming victory in school board elections. The union, in coalition with the Levittown United Teachers and the Association of Levittown School Administrators, got three newcomers elected: John Garvey, Mary Orth and Anita Trabold. The three candidates pledged to make health insurance benefits contractual for retirees already in the program, a major issue in the school board campaign.

Phone banks, mass mailings, flyers and car pools to get people to register to vote and go to the polls on election day were just some of the ingredients used by Denis Midnet, president of the Levittown Unit of Nassau County CSEA Local 865, in the successful campaign.

Health watch

ROME — “When in Rome,” do what you can for the Romans. That could be the motto for the Rome City Unit of CSEA Local 833.

The unit and the city recently were honored by the Central New York Labor Agency Hypertension Control Program for their involvement and cooperation in promoting wellness programs. Those programs have included blood pressure screening clinics, educational seminars and smoking cessation clinics.

Through the efforts of labor, management and the hypertension control program, the city and Rome employees have promoted awareness and responsibility for preventative health care at the worksite.

Rome Mayor Carl J. Ellenberg and Rome Unit President Joseph DeFina accepted the proclamation in a ceremony at city hall.

On board

Kennedy sworn in

SMITH-TOWN — Retirees of the Suffolk Retiree CSEA Local 920 dined and danced and applauded the induction of a new board member at their annual luncheon recently.

CSEA Region I President Danny Donohue swore in Emma Kennedy to serve as one of Local 920’s five board members.

“We welcome Emma to her new position,” said Local 920 President Bob Specht. “We’re sure she’ll do a good job.”

Region VI picnic power

CSEA Region VI rolls out the food for its annual picnic. Tom Patterson of Department of Transportation CSEA Local 513 keeps things cooking at the hot dog grill.

Summertime and the livin’ is easy . . .
Cuomo kills pension boost

Thousands of retired public employees who were looking forward to getting a supplementation to their pensions effective Sept. 1 won't be getting it now.

Gov. Mario Cuomo has vetoed a pension supplementation bill that had overwhelmingly passed both houses of the state Legislature.

That veto is a "gross injustice," says CSEA President William L. McGowan. And if McGowan gets his wish, state legislators will address the governor's veto.

It was CSEA that had taken the point in lobbying the supplementation bill through the state Legislature, and it was McGowan who was quickest to respond when the bill was vetoed.

McGowan, in a hand-delivered letter to Cuomo, said he was extremely disappointed with the governor's action.

McGowan demanded that Cuomo call a special session of the Legislature "so that this gross injustice may be immediately addressed."

The pension supplementation bill passed during the last session would have extended, effective Sept. 1, supplementation to public employees who retired before 1983. Currently pension supplements are only available to those who retired prior to 1980. The bill would have provided increasingly larger percentages of supplementation for longer periods of retirement. Cuomo offered a vague excuse for vetoing the bill, saying only that it was "technically flawed."

A visibly angry McGowan told Cuomo, "Your decision will have a direct and severe negative impact on literally thousands of retired public servants desperately trying to survive on fixed incomes."

"It is the opinion of CSEA that this critical situation demands immediate attention. To do less would represent an unprecedented insensitivity to our retiree population."

McGowan was joined in his protests by many legislators who publicly called the veto unwarranted. Many of them also called for an override. Top leaders of both houses have not yet committed themselves to seeking a special session and/or an override attempt to deal with the issue. Without their support, the earliest a new supplementation bill could be considered would be early next year.

Governor Mario M. Cuomo
Executive Chamber
State Capitol
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Cuomo:

I cannot tell you how deeply disappointed I am by your decision to veto S.6355, the Pension Supplementation legislation overwhelmingly adopted by the NYS Legislature last session. Your decision will have a direct and severe negative impact on literally thousands of retired public servants desperately trying to survive on fixed incomes.

It is the opinion of CSEA, that this critical situation demands immediate attention. Accordingly, I am compelled to call upon you to convene a special session of the NYS Legislature to rectify any technical flaws you perceive so that this gross injustice may immediately be addressed. To do less would represent an unprecedented insensitivity to our retiree population. I anxiously await your favorable reply to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM L. McGOWAN

WLM: kmwu

cc: Honorable Warren Anderson
    Honorable Mel Miller
    CSEA Retiree Local Presidents