At a recent meeting I attended, one of our members approached me and said, “McGowan, where does this union get off, telling me who to vote for. I’ve been voting on my own for the last 40 years and I don’t need any advice.”

Circumstances at the meeting didn’t lend themselves to a theoretical answer of that lady’s question, so I would like to try to answer it in this column.

First of all, I firmly believe that the union has an absolute duty to advise its members as to how to vote. As public employees, we are the only employees across the country who elect our bosses. Who those bosses are and how they view public employees plays a critical role in each of our working lives every day.

I am proud of the fact that unlike many unions, CSEA has an open process which actively seeks to involve as many members as possible in formulating our endorsements of political candidates. Candidates for the New York State Senate and Assembly, for example, must attend Candidates Nights, or other screening functions where they can be asked questions by local members and by our Regional Legislative and Political Action Committees. In addition to encouraging our locals and regions to actually interview candidates, CSEA’s Legislative and Political Action Office provides our regional committees and voting records and synopses of candidates for legislative seats. These voting records allow our members to know how candidates have voted on important issues.

On the basis of a candidate’s voting record, we are able to demonstrate the clear benefits of supporting legislation which is supported by CSEA. The most important single aspect of that program is the ability of the union to convince its members to support the union endorsed candidates. We understand that this is a difficult job, that most of our members were Republicans or Democrats before we were Union members. Nevertheless, I believe that our members are becoming more and more aware of their ability to influence their own working conditions, wages, and benefits through the use of effective political action and the support of union endorsed candidates.

Does the union have the right to urge you to vote for its endorsed candidates? More than a right; it has a duty.

William L. McGowan
President

Union opens campaign to restore pension hike

ALBANY — Vowing to override Governor Carey’s veto of modest pension improvements for the public employees who retired since March 1970, the CSEA has fired its first salvo in the veto override battle. An initial maneuver of the Legislature asking for their support when the body reconvenes this fall, points out, “At a time when our nation’s economy is reeling from the effects of recession and inflation, it is incumbent upon the leaders of government to aid those who are least able to help themselves.”

The pension supplementation bill passed by the legislature in the closing weeks of the session would have provided a three percent increase in the pensions of public employees who retired since 1976; a seven percent increase for those who retired between 1970 and 1976; and a three percent increase for those who retired prior to 1970. The bill was passed after 11 public employees in New York State had notified the Federal Government of their intention to withdraw from the Social Security System (this bill was passed after 11 public employees in New York State had notified the Federal Government of their intention to withdraw from the Social Security System) the bill to extend “preferred lists” so that those public employees who were laid off in 1974 and 1975 will have a chance to regain employment, the Deputy Sheriff’s Re-opener bill which will allow our sheriffs, under-sheriffs and deputies to elect participation in 89-a or 89-b, a bill to insure that individuals transferred from the Division For Youth to Youth Support, Inc., would not lose the benefits of State service, etc.

The passage of these and other important member legislation was achieved because CSEA has an active, modern, sophisticated political action program that is able to demonstrate the clear benefits of supporting legislation which is supported by CSEA. The most important single aspect of that program is the ability of the union to convince its members to support the union endorsed candidates. We understand that this is a difficult job, that most of our members were Republicans or Democrats before the were Union members. Nevertheless, I believe that our members are becoming more and more aware of their ability to influence their own working conditions, wages, and benefits through the use of effective political action and the support of union endorsed candidates.
LINDENHURST — Karla Kienle still shakes her head in disbelief and tosses her sun-bleached blonde hair when she recalls being fired from her CETA-funded job at the Lindenhurst Youth Center for "nepotism" because her father was an unpaid volunteer at the same Center that employed his daughter. Her blue eyes flash and light up her tanned face when she tells how the Suffolk County Department of Labor tried to force her to pay back $5,000 in wages she earned as a youth worker.

Nepotism, from the Italian word, nepotismo, for nephew, describes the practice by Popes and other ecclesiastics of showing special favor to nephews in the past. Today, it means the practice of giving unfair preferment to relatives and is prohibited by CETA regulations.

Her firing was a shock when it happened, Ms. Kienle said. She holds a college degree in education and exceeds the qualifications for her position as a youth counselor. Her record was excellent and no one had challenged her about nepotism before, she said. Another shock came when the Suffolk County Department of Labor, which administers the Youth Employment Training Program that employed Ms. Kienle, ordered her to pay back the wages she had earned.

The shock soon turned to anger. "I signed those time sheets. I did a hell of a job and they aren't going to take it away from me," Miss Kienle said in an interview in the Suffolk County Local 852 offices recently.

Ms. Kienle contacted Frank Kost, grievance representative of Local 852, who secured the help of CSEA staff attorney Marge Karowe, an expert on CETA regulations. Both Mr. Kost and Ms. Karowe accompanied Ms. Kienle to a hearing at the Department of Labor on Aug. 4 and are awaiting a decision from the Department.

"There is no nepotism," Mr. Kost said. In her job application, Ms. Kienle had answered "no" to a question on a nepotism affidavit which asked if she had any relatives "working" for the agency.

A second interview came to the center on April 3. "He told me not to worry, he had to check it out. The next day I got a mailgram saying I was fired," she said.

"I'm glad I pursued it. CETA officials discouraged the nepotism rule, I was asked. Don't you know you will have to pay back the money you earned," Ms. Kienle recalled. The demand for the return of money has never been put in writing and was dropped from the charges against Ms. Kienle at the Aug. 4th hearing.

"Since I lost my job I have been unemployed. It was too late to get a job at a camp and most of the other jobs in my field were taken for the summer by then," she said.

Ms. Kienle decided to take her case to her union.

"I'm glad I pursued it. CETA officials discouraged me from fighting them."

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**Sponsor an Athlete**

The Special Olympics is truly Special.

During the International Special Olympics held last year at Brookline, some two-hundred New York Special Olympians represented our state.

CSEA is proud to have been a continuing sponsor for the Special Olympics—for the International Special Olympics alone, we raised over $12,000. But now the Special Olympics need you to become personally involved. There are over 40,000 Special Olympians here in New York who continue to need your support.

You can personally sponsor a Special Olympian in the 1980 program of training and competition for only $15.90! Think of it... for roughly the price of dinner out for two, you can make a very real contribution to those who need it most.

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Each sponsor will receive the name and address of his or her athlete and information on when and where the Olympian will compete. And so you'll have something special to remind you of your help, you'll receive a certificate from New York Special Olympics, Inc. that you'll be proud to keep.

Please help. For your convenience, use the attached coupon. Send your tax-deductible contribution to:

CSEA Supports Special Olympics
33 Elk Street
Albany, New York 12224

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**False "nepotism" charge brings job loss, anguish**

HER FATHER'S VOLUNTEER WORK at the Lindenhurst Youth Center cost CETA youth counselor Karla Kienle her job. Last May, she faced orders from the Suffolk Dept. of Labor to pay back $5,000 in wages. But with the help of Frank Kost, (right), a local 852 grievance representative, the charges were dropped. Action is pending concerning Ms. Kienle's CETA job.
School units ratify new contracts

Peekskill has a 2-year pact

PEEKSKILL — The new CSEA contract for the 40-member Peekskill School District Custodial and Maintenance Employees Unit calls for several improvements in benefits and working conditions, as well as a substantial pay hike.

CSEA Collective Bargaining Specialist Emanuele Vitale, who assisted the unit’s negotiating team, said the two-year pact, overwhelmingly ratified by both sides, calls for across-the-board pay raises of $1,125, plus increments, in each year.

It gives employees a full 10% differential for working the night shift. It also calls for out-of-title pay for all out-of-title work, no matter how long the work is performed.

Under the new contract, accrued vacation time will be credited on the employee’s anniversary date. Also, the employer’s contribution to the welfare fund increased from $150 to $300 in the first year of the pact, and to $350 in the second.

Finally, pay for up to 165 days of unused sick leave will go towards each employee’s pension, and any unused sick leave beyond that will be paid to the employee in cash, upon retirement.

“The negotiating committee did a good job,” Mr. Vitale said. “They won a fair and equitable settlement, which was recognized by the membership.”

Committee members were Frank Miozzi, President of the unit, who chaired the committee; Florence Sanca; John Batts; and Joseph Urbanowicz.

Delegate meeting notice

ALBANY — In preparation for the annual delegates convention in Niagara Falls next month, the CSEA Office of Member Services is trying to head off any misunderstandings about employee organization leave for the meeting.

Jack Carey, CSEA Director of Collective Bargaining, urged that Local presidents and delegates acquaint themselves with contract provisions which apply to leave for the annual meeting.

Contracts between CSEA and the political subdivisions differ in regard to this issue, while Article 4.7(a) of the Administrative, Institutional and Operational units’ contracts cover procedures for delegates from the State Division.

Basically, the state contracts grant employee organization leave for one delegate meeting per year, not to exceed five days. Also provided for is reasonable travel time.

This time off is extended to delegates based upon the voting strength of the local. That formula provides for one delegate for each 100 members or fraction thereof.

Carey stressed that Local presidents should carefully follow procedures for notifying the state agency involved. The president is required to submit to the agency in writing the names and work locations of the selected delegates, as well as the date, time and location of the delegate meeting.

He reminded delegates that the granting of this leave is subject to the reasonable operating needs of the state. In other words, where good and sufficient reason exists, the employer is under no obligation to allow employees to attend a delegate meeting.

Although Carey noted that there have been very few denials over the years, he urged any denied leave to attend the delegate meeting to appeal the denial to him immediately.

Meanwhile, union officials are preparing the convention schedule, which will include nearly a dozen departmental meeting chaired by departmental representatives. The full convention agenda will appear in a future edition of The Public Sector prior to the September 28-October 3 annual meeting.

In conjunction with the upcoming delegates meeting, CSEA Statewide Secretary Irene Carr has issued a reminder to delegates to prefile, if possible, motions which delegates intend to present during the convention. While motions may be made from the floor at the meeting, it is easier and more convenient if the wording of intended motions are pre-filed. Pre-filing of motions may be made by sending the wording of the intended motions to Irene Carr, Civil Service Employees Assn., 33 Elk Street, Albany, N.Y. 12224.
Local 836 enjoys picnic

HAVING A GOOD TIME AT THE Orange County Local 836 picnic in Goshen are Local 836 members from left, Joanne Golden and Vera Green.

KEEP CSEA INFORMED ON MAILING ADDRESS

In the event that you change your mailing address, please fill out the below form and send it to:

CSEA, Inc., P.O. Box 125, Capitol Station, Albany, New York 12224
This form is also available from local presidents for CSEA members, but is reproduced here for convenience.

Change of Address for 'The Public Sector'

Please allow 3-4 weeks for change to take effect.
My present label reads exactly as shown here (or affix mailing label)

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ORANGE COUNTY LOCAL 836 Picnic Committee Chairman Arthur Tuthill, left, is joined by Southern Region III President James Lennon and Local 836 member Sophie Kwiakowski at the Local 836 picnic recently held in Goshen.

SUFFOLK COUNTY LOCAL 852 President Ben Boczkowski, second left, installs the officers of the local's Data Processing Unit in Hauppauge, recently. From right are Harold Schoppmaa, vice president; Roni Stanford, secretary; Ruth McLaughlin, treasurer; and Leah Besserman, president. Also at the installation was Local 852 First Vice President Frank Kost, left.
Rensselaer Sheriffs: A dark profile

Confidential interviews reveal frustrations with anti-union sheriff, poor pay

By Gwenn Belcourt
Associate Editor
and Deborah Cassidy
Staff Writer

TROY — Over the past few years, the employees of the Rensselaer County Sheriff’s Department have come to regard County Sheriff Eugene Eaton — a man they helped elect to office — as a feudal lord. That is the best term, they feel, to describe the total power and control he holds over their jobs.

Part of the reason one man has so much power is because the Rensselaer deputies and corrections officers do not have civil service status and are therefore not afforded the protection it provides other public employees.

The Civil Service Employees Assn. has been struggling for several years now to convince the county legislature of the need for this protection. Until the measure is approved, Eaton’s power cannot be limited.

“He’s overwhelmed by his own power,” one employee said, referring to Eaton’s “gross misuse” of authority such as threatening to eliminate the jobs of the highway patrol division.

It is Eaton who hires and fires. It is he with whom the employees must negotiate a contract. It is in his power to grant tenure or job security rights to the employees. Sheriff Eaton has even told the workers that they must have his approval to hold a part time job; and due to low wages, most of those with families must work extra jobs to make ends meet.

When he assumed his new role as sheriff four years ago, as one employee tells it, Eaton promised the men he would make the Rensselaer county Sheriffs Department, “the best law enforcement agency in the country.” He assured the employees he would boost their wages to the highest possible amount. Eaton soon forgot about these promises. And has since broken many others.

When asked if the sheriff is known for keeping his word, one employee said, “Definitely not.” Another claimed, “He makes several statements, but he seems to change his mind at a moment’s notice.”

This accusation is grounded in fact. During his last election, Eaton publicly supported the need for civil service protection in his deputies. Yet when it came time to sign the contract, Eaton sent a letter to the county legislature stating that he was opposed to the union effort. Consequently, an Improper Practice charge was filed and Eaton was found guilty of bad faith bargaining.

Members of The Public Sector staff recently conducted confidential interviews with a deputy sheriff and a corrections officer from the Rensselaer County Sheriff’s Department. The interviews were confidential for a very important reason — the two said they fear retaliation by the sheriff if their identities were revealed. In the interview, which follows, they tell what it’s like to work for Sheriff Eugene Eaton. The answers are excerpted direct quotes of their responses to the questions asked.

Recently, CSEA Capital Region received complaints from unit members that Sheriff Eaton threatened to fire his employees if they dared to touch a picket sign or take part in any activity that would attract attention to the labor problem in the department. Is this true?

“He initially said that anybody went out on strike they would be fired or if they went out for any reason or picked up any sign they would be terminated immediately.” “It’s technically illegal for Eaton to fire us on an informational picket.”

Yet when the media tried to verify these complaints, the members would not come forward. Why?

“The members are afraid to come forward, afraid of their jobs.” “If he [Eaton] found out what their names were, they would be fired.”

The sheriff keeps saying that by law he does not have to provide road patrol coverage to Rensselaer County. Is this true?

“By law, Sheriff Eaton only has to provide a jail and a civilian-deputy administration.” “His statement is that the highway patrol is a luxury and it could easily be disregarded. I’m sure the people in the county don’t think it’s a luxury. They think it’s a necessity.”

What would happen if the patrols were cut? Would Rensselaer county residents be left unprotected?

“Absolutely, they would have no protection at all.” “It would be a gross disservice to the people of the county . . . residents know a sheriff patrol car would be on the scene in 5 or 10 minutes, whereas they would be lucky to get a state trooper in an hour.” “The people of the county would be up in arms if the highway patrol were terminated.”

Just what power does the sheriff hold over the department employees?

“Basically all powers. The power of job security, the power of hiring and firing.” “He is the supreme power in the county as far as law enforcement goes.”

Editors Note: The employee’s contract now has a tenure clause, covered by Article 75 of the Civil Service Law, whereby an employee is granted a hearing before disciplinary action can be taken. Is the sheriff known for keeping his word?

“Definitely not.” He makes several statements, but he seems to change his mind at a moment’s notice.” “He made the statements to the papers that he would have no problem with job action or picket lines unless it interfered with the function of the department. When something was organized, he got quite irate.”

How much do corrections officers and deputy sheriffs earn a year compared to the sheriff?

Editors Note: Both men confirmed the factfinders report which states that corrections officers take home approx. $400 after taxes. Deputy sheriffs take home a little more, $600 after taxes. In contrast, the sheriff has an established income of $24,000. Yet the deputy questioned this figure.

Despite your low salary, it has been stated that Sheriff Eaton refuses to allow his men to work part time. Is this true?

“That’s correct. This means no part-time jobs in the security field, which is the easiest for the officers.” “He says the men are officers 24 hours a day. Any part-time service would be a conflict of interest.”

In your opinion, why did the sheriff want a three-year contract and only a three-year contract?

“I believe he wanted a three-year contract to guarantee labor peace over the upcoming election.” “He doesn’t want trouble during his election year. (1981) He wants to be re-elected. And he knows he is going to get trouble.”

What is the turnover rate in the department? Also, if working conditions are so poor, why don’t you resign?

“Probably close to half the department has applications in for jobs elsewhere.” “Rather than just give up the ship and get out, I’d rather fight to make it a reasonable job for the next guy.” “His (Eaton’s) answer to me and everyone else down there is, ‘you know what the salary was when you came here, if you don’t like it, there’s the door. Leave your badge on the desk and get going.’

In light of Eaton’s attitude towards his employees and the “bad deal” they feel they got in recent contract negotiations, the 77 deputies and corrections officers of the Rensselaer County Sheriff’s Department are strongly united in their struggle to improve working conditions.

A crisis committee of employee representatives and CSEA staff members has been formed to investigate allegations against the sheriff and to take action against his dictator-like rule. The committee, says one employee, “is going to show the public and the legislature how Eaton has fallen down in his promise to the people of the county as well as to the employee.”
Refuse plant walls cracking, floor sinking; town reacting . . . finally

BETHPAGE — "The Refuse Compactor Plant in Oyster Bay is a glaring example of why we needed an OSHA law in New York State. That no one was killed so far is pure luck. Now that we've put some pressure, the town is finally cooperating," Nicholas Abbatiello said after a meeting with Oyster Bay Town officials where the union leader presented the Town with an engineering report detailing the deteriorating and dangerous conditions of the compactor.

Mr. Abbatiello acted after a member of the CSEA Oyster Bay unit had complained to Oyster Bay officials for months to no avail about: walls cracking, floors sinking and electrical installations which were hazardous to employees.

Ralph Spagnolo, chairman of the Nassau Local Safety and Health Committee and Mr. Abbatiello toured the facility with Domenico Crachi, Jr., a consulting engineer retained by the CSEA. Mr. Crachi prepared a detailed report for the union.

In the upper level of the two-year-old Refuse Compactor Plant located in Bethpage, garbage is pushed into a compactor by a payloader 200 feet above an area where other town employees work. A four-foot barrier wall to prevent equipment, people and refuse from falling through to lower levels was found by Mr. Crachi to appear to be "cracking at its column supports. This type of cracking generates a serious hazard for workmen at lower levels where even the smallest chunk of concrete could cause serious injury."

"It must be noted that, in addition to the wall apparently cracking at column intersections by expansion in hot weather, payloaders and trucks operating at this level could conceivably accidentally strike the barrier wall perhaps causing it to rupture from its floor anchorage or even splitting off a section endangering workmen at a lower level," the report states.

In addition, Mr. Cranchi found settlement of the floor slabs and cracking in the intersections and walls surrounding the bailing chute.

Mr. Abbatiello sent a copy of Mr. Crachi's findings and recommendations to correct the situation to Joseph Colby, Oyster Bay Supervisor which lead to a meeting between the CSEA and Oyster Bay officials. The Town responded to the CSEA initiative with results that didn't surprise Mr. Abbatiello because, he felt, "the CSEA had them cold. We had documented proof that dangerous conditions existed."

The Town agreed to CSEA demands and issued orders for the removal of electrical hazards, a completion of drawings and specifications of the repairs with the work bid out by the end of September. In addition, CSEA representatives and town engineering personnel would jointly monitor the cracks and sinking to detect if it was continuing as suspected.

NASSAU COUNTY LOCAL 830 President Nicholas Abbatiello, standing on bench, speaks to members of the Town of Oyster Bay Unit sanitationmen at a recent 6 a.m. meeting about problems the sanitation men have been having with management. Among those at the meeting is Unit President Pat D'Alessio, right.
Oyster Bay improvements achieved as direct result of union efforts

OYSTER BAY — A year-long campaign by CSEA to improve working conditions of the Town of Oyster Bay sanitation men is starting to pay dividends as the town appears to be moving to make major improvements in those conditions, according to CSEA Field Representative Rigo Predonzan.

"The Town of Oyster Bay is in the process of acquiring new and better garbage trucks, improving their maintenance procedures and will be paving the sanitation lot.

"These and other changes should go a long way towards eliminating most of the labor-management problems CSEA has been working to correct," Predonzan said.

He said the specific changes, which are now or will be in effect shortly, include:

- Eleven new diesel trucks are on order. Those diesel trucks will vastly improve the overall quality of the town's fleet of garbage trucks which should lead to fewer breakdowns.
- The sanitation lot will be paved. Funds for the paving are in the next budget.
- Management agreed to start the workday at 5 a.m. so the men would avoid working in the hottest part of the summer day.
- Management agreed to allow Shop Steward Abe Schneider to inspect all trucks after the trucks are repaired to insure that the vehicles are safe.
- Town garbage trucks will be given priority dumping at the incinerator over private carters when possible instead of being sent to the landfill.
- During summer months, additional personnel will be assigned to foremen who will be able to utilize the men where needed, such as on heavier routes.
- As part of the paving of the lot, a service isle with an attendant will be established for checking gas, oil, fluid levels, etc., when the trucks come in from their routes.

The sanitation men, members of the Town of Oyster Bay Unit of Nassau County Local 830, went public with their problems with a demonstration in the sanitation lot on Aug. 14, 1979.

Unit President Pat D'Alessio, after he had been unable to get management to move on the problems, went to Local 830 President Nicholas Abbatiello and CSEA President William L. McGowan. D'Alessio, Abbatiello and McGowan joined the sanitation men at that demonstration and helped negotiate a number of concessions by management.

The chief reason for the demonstration was the unsafe and deteriorated conditions of the trucks causing many breakdowns and requiring the men to be on the job for many additional hours.

When management appeared to be dragging its feet, D'Alessio again called on Abbatiello and McGowan for assistance, Predonzan said.

Abbatiello, McGowan and CSEA Attorney James Featherstonhaugh early this year attended a special meeting of the Unit Executive Committee to inform the CSEA officials of what was believed to be the lack of progress on the part of management.

McGowan put together a task force of Collective Bargaining Specialist Nels Carlson, Legislative and Political Action Assistant Director Thomas Haley, Region 1 Communications Specialist Hugh O'Haire and Predonzan to provide Abbatiello with the full strength of CSEA to help resolve the Oyster Bay sanitation problems with management, Predonzan said.

He said the task force worked in Oyster Bay in February, gathering information on the problems and setting in motion the groundwork for what appears to be a resolution of most of the problems.

Predonzan said Abbatiello continued the work of the task force, meeting many times with management and with the unit to forge a settlement.

Abbatiello's bargaining position was aided greatly by the record keeping of Shop Steward Schneider who charted the repair record of the truck fleet over several months, including the reasons for the breakdowns, Predonzan said.

He said Schneider was able to prove that many of the muffler and clutch problems were caused by the trucks having to drive deep into the landfill while private trucks were directed to the incinerator.

Because of Schneider's record keeping, Robert Schmidt, assistant to the Town Supervisor; and Frank Antetomasso, Public Works Commissioner; both personally guaranteed the priority dumping at the incinerator for the town trucks, he said.

Abbatiello said he and D'Alessio "are pleased with what appears to be a constructive response to the problems in sanitation."

The sanitation men, members of the Town of Oyster Bay Unit of Nassau County Local 830, went public with their problems with a demonstration in the sanitation lot on Aug. 14, 1979.

ELEVEN NEW DIESEL GARBAGE TRUCKS, on order for the Town of Oyster Bay, could go a long way to preventing broken garbage-filled trucks such as this one from taking up "permanent residence" in the sanitation lot.
With the presidential nominating conventions of both major parties concluded and Labor Day, the traditional start of serious politicking for the fall elections, just around the corner, the unique American electoral process is beginning to gather steam.

CSEA has injected itself into the election process very early this year, already interviewing candidates for state Assembly and Senate seats and awarding some early endorsements. More endorsements are anticipated during September, providing the union-supported candidates with the benefit of endorsement by the largest public employee union in New York State.

Later this fall CSEA will be active in congressional races in New York State, and will be a factor in the important presidential race in the state and, indirectly, nationwide as part of AFSCME’s nationwide effort. Scores of “meet the candidates night” programs will be conducted across the state this fall, and CSEA’s legislative and political action department will be concentrating on getting out the potentially huge vote of public workers on election day to back up the union’s endorsements.

The article and photos on these pages are the first in a planned series of features concerning CSEA’s very active and influential political action program as we move into and through the campaign period leading up to the November general elections. Over the next several weeks we will be featuring such activities in all six CSEA regions. We begin with this report on political action activities in CSEA’s Long Island Region I.

Long Island Region a political factor in nine Senate, 21 Assembly districts

HAUPPAUGE/EAST MEADOW — With the entire State Legislature up for re-election in November, that means CSEA’s regional legislative and political action committees are already involved in the process of selecting political candidates for the union’s endorsement and support.

The Long Island Region I Legislative and Political Action Committee (LPAC), which has responsibility for nine senatorial districts and 21 assembly districts, in August completed its process of screening candidates and recommending endorsements to the statewide CSEA Legislative and Political Action Committee.

The process started in Region I on July 30 and 31 with “meet the candidates” nights for Republican and Democratic party candidates, respectively. The two meetings were in Hauppauge.

Attending the two candidates nights were members of the regional LPAC of local LPACs and of Region I locals.

Political candidates were interviewed on Aug. 7 in Hauppauge and on Aug. 8 in East Meadow.

Members of the Region I LPAC taking part in the interviews were Co-Chairmen Nicholas Abbatiele and Michael Curtin, Louis Mannellino, Arthur Loving, Laura Fortner, Raymond Magliulo, Charles Novo, Danny Donohue, Kenneth Cadieux and Gregory Szurnicki.

At the interviews in East Meadow, members of the Nassau County Local 830 LPAC took part, including Thomas Stapleton, Alex Bozza, John Geraghty, Ralph Spagnolo, Braverman and Dudley Kinsley.

Most of the political candidates from both major political parties attended the candidates nights and the interviews.

“Meet the candidates nights, we get a chance to chat with the candidates in a relaxed give-and-take atmosphere,” Abbatiele said.

Curtin said: “We use the interviews to get specific information on where the candidates stand on CSEA-related issues. Incumbents get a chance to explain their votes from the last legislative session.”

Many of the questions asked of the candidates were from a questionnaire developed by the CSEA Legislative and Political Action Department.

A number of candidates informed the Region I LPAC of the pressure by the Conservative Party against a renewal of Agency Shop in 1981.

The Conservative Party position was expressed by the loss of that party’s line to Senator John Caemmerer who voted for Agency Shop in 1979.

Caemmerer received an ovation from the LPAC when he arrived for his interview.

Most of the incumbents who were interviewed gave high grades to the CSEA Political Action Liaison (PAL) Program in the 1980 legislative session.

Curtin said: “The legislators indicated that the individuals assigned to each legislator were most effective and impressive in helping achieve the highly successful 1980 legislative session for CSEA.”

“As far as Region I is concerned, the PAL Program is here to stay.”

IN THE MIDST OF AN INTERESTING DISCUSSION (above) with Nassau County Local 830 members Nicholas Delisanti, left, and John Geraghty, right, is Wantagh Assemblyman Frederick E. Parola Jr., Republican of the 12th Assembly District.

ST. JAMES ASSEMBLYMAN Robert C. Wertz, left, Republican of the Fourth Assembly District, speaks with Louis Mannellino of State Department of Transportation Local 508 in photo at right.
WILLISTON SENATOR John Caemmerer, center, Republican of the Seventh Senatorial District, is flanked by Kenneth Cadieux, left of Nassau County Local 830; and Charles Novo of Suffolk County Local 832.

DISCUSSING LEGISLATION are, from left, Huntington Assemblyman Antonia P. Retaliiata, Republican of the Eighth Assembly District; Michael Curtin of Suffolk Education Local 870; Arthur Loving of Long Island State Parks Local 102; and Amityville Assemblyman Lou Howard, Republican of the Ninth Assembly District.

NASSAU COUNTY LOCAL 830 members Thomas Stapleton, left, and Dudley Kinsley flank Lawrence Senator Carol Berman, Democrat of the Ninth Senatorial District.

GLEN COVE ASSEMBLYMAN Joseph M. Reilly, second left, Republican of the 14th Assembly District; is joined by, from left, William Drudy of Long Island Retirees Local 919, and Long Island Region I President Irving Flaumenbaum.

OLD BETHPAGE ASSEMBLYMAN Lewis J. Yevoli, left, Democrat of the 10th Assembly District, speaks with Alex Bozza of Nassau County Local 830.

NORTHPORT SENATOR James J. Lack, right, Republican of the Second Senatorial District, discusses the CSEA questionnaire with Gregory Szarnicki of Kings Park Psychiatric Center Local 411.

PILGRIM PSYCHIATRIC CENTER LOCAL 418 members Raymond Magliulo, right, and Jean Frazier greet Brentwood Senator Caesar Trunzo, Republican of the Third Senatorial District.
PHILIPSTOWN — Employees of the town’s highway department have voted to keep the Civil Service Employees Association as their bargaining agent.

The Public Employment Relations Board held a special election here August 14 in response to a challenge filed by the International Brotherhood of Teamsters. CSEA won approximately 65 percent of the vote, and Regional Director Thomas J. Luposello described it as a, “clear, decisive mandate which strengthens our hand as we go into negotiations.”

He also attributed the victory to, “efforts by staff.”

NEW OFFICERS for the Town of Philipstown unit were recently sworn in by Putnam County Local President Milton DeRosa. Taking their oath of office were Vice President Wayne Van Tassel and President William Rigney. Looking on is Regional President James J. Lennon.

CSEA Safety Hotline
800-342-4824

Certificates earned

MARCY — The first in a series of courses entitled Maintenance Fundamentals and Electrical Maintenance was recently completed by employees at Marcy Psychiatric Center, according to Joseph Vrooman, Vice-President of Local 414 at Marcy Psychiatric Center.

The program, funded by an AEP (Agency Experimental Program) grant of $3,490, was made possible by language in the most recent state contract negotiated by CSEA.

Employees of Marcy and Utica Psychiatric Centers who completed the first 100-hour series of classes were awarded certificates. The program included Basic Blueprint Reading, Reading Schematics and Symbols, and Plant Safety.

The next series of classes is scheduled for September and is open to employees of the Electrical Shop and Powerhouse at Utica/Marcy Psychiatric Centers.

According to John Welter, Electrical Shop Supervisor and Training Activity Coordinator at the Center, “the courses are designed to meet the growing need for better trained maintenance craftsmen and to assist them in newly hired employees to acquire additional technical skills. In addition, the courses aid in preparation for promotion and provide a training program that is closely related to the jobs a craftsman uses in his work,” Welter said.

AN AEP CLASS at Marcy Psychiatric Center includes, from left to right, Bernie Garron, Johnnie White, Ken Gibbs, John Welter (standing), Training Coordinator; Gerald Rouch, Tom Mulchy, Charles Williams, Thomas McMahon, Harry Clapper, John Farmanski.

OPEN CONTINUOUS
STATE JOB CALENDAR

Senior Medical Records Technician $10,624 29-102
Pharmacist (salary varies with location) $14,388-$15,562 29-129
Senior Sanitary Engineer $16,040 29-122
Clinical Physician I $22,410 29-113
Clinical Physician II $23,840 29-114
Assistant Clinical Physician $25,160 29-117
Attorney $14,850 29-113
Assistant Attorney $12,397 29-113
Attorney Trainee $11,733 29-113
Senior Engineer $12,890 29-109
Bachelor’s Degree $13,876 29-110

(Notary with location)

Dental Hygienist $8,560 29-107
Licensed Practical Nurse $8,051 29-108
Nutrition Services Consultant $13,404 29-129
Stationary Engineer $10,042 29-100
Senior Sanitary Engineer $10,101
Occupational Therapy Assistant I $9,029 29-174
Occupational Therapy Assistant II $9,029 29-174

Spanish Speaking

Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor $14,142 29-140
Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor Trainee $11,983 29-140
Medical Record Technician $9,481 29-143

Histology Technician $8,051 29-170
Professional Positions in Auditing and Accounting $11,250 29-200
Computer Programmer $11,250 29-202
Computer Programmer (Scientific) $11,250 29-222
Senior Programmer $14,075 29-221
Senior Computer Programmer (Scientific) $14,075 29-223
Instructor of the Blind $11,250 29-225
Health Services Nurse $11,250-$12,025 29-226

Radiologic Technologist $8,454-$10,369 29-334

Medical Record Administrator $11,904 29-348
Following Service Worker I $6,456 29-352
Mental Hygiene Therapy Aide Trainee $7,204 29-394
Mental Hygiene Therapy Aide Trainee (Spanish Speaking) $7,204 29-394

Associate Actuary (Casualty) $18,369 29-416
Principal Actuary (Casualty) $22,369 29-417
Supervising Actuary (Casualty) $26,516 29-418

Supervisor $10,714 29-556

Nurse I $10,584 29-584
Nurse II $11,904 29-585
Nurse II (Psychiatric) $11,904 29-586
Nurse II (Rehabilitation) $11,904 29-587
Medical Specialist II $33,705 29-840
Medical Specialist I $31,942 29-841
Psychiatrist I $27,942 29-842
Psychiatrist II $33,705 29-843

Social Services Management Trainee $10,824 29-875
Social Services Management Trainee (Spanish Speaking) $10,824 29-876
Social Services Management Specialist $11,450 29-876

Assistant Sanitary Engineer $16,040

You may contact the following offices of the New York State Department of Civil Service for announcements, applications, and other details concerning examinations for the positions listed above:

State Office Building, First Floor, Building I, Albany, New York 12239 (518) 457-6216
2 World Trade Center, 55th Floor, New York City 10047 (212) 438-4248
Suite 750, Geneese Building, West Geneese Street, Buffalo, New York 14202 (716) 842-4260.
The New York State Employees' Retirement System provides a regular schedule of visitations by counseling representatives of the Retirement System to various areas of the state.

The service is intended for personal visits on a "first come-first served" basis, and no appointments are necessary. Telephone calls, however, cannot be accepted. Persons who wish to call for specific information should call the Albany office of the State Employees' Retirement System at (518) 474-7736.

The following is the monthly visiting day schedule for the counseling service at the various locations around the state:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>City or Village</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Monthly Visiting Days</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Albany</td>
<td>Gov. Smith State Office Bldg.</td>
<td>Every Business Day</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>State Office Bldg.</td>
<td>First and Third</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(125 Main Street) County Courthouse</td>
<td>First Thurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canton</td>
<td>County Center State Office Bldg.</td>
<td>Third Thurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goshen</td>
<td>State Office Bldg.</td>
<td>First and Fourth Wed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hauppauge</td>
<td>Village Hall</td>
<td>Second and Fourth Wed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Floral Park</td>
<td>County Office Building</td>
<td>Second and Fourth Tues.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockport</td>
<td>Municipal Bldg.</td>
<td>Second and Fourth Fri.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mayville</td>
<td>Chautauqua County Health and Social Service Bldg.</td>
<td>First and Fourth Mon.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minesota</td>
<td>222 Wills Ave.</td>
<td>First and Third</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plattsburgh</td>
<td>County Center County Health Complex Bldg. A DOT Headquarters County Center</td>
<td>Friday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pumpka</td>
<td>(Room 302) Rochester City Hall</td>
<td>First Thurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poughkeepsie</td>
<td>County Courthouse</td>
<td>Third Wed.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riverhead</td>
<td></td>
<td>Second and Fourth Thurs.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rochester</td>
<td></td>
<td>Second and Third Fri.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syracuse</td>
<td>County Office Building</td>
<td>First, Second, Third and Fourth</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Utica</td>
<td>State Office Bldg.</td>
<td>Tuesday</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watertown</td>
<td>State Office Bldg. Westchester County Center</td>
<td>First Fri.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>White Plains</td>
<td>State Office Bldg. (23rd Floor)</td>
<td>Second and Third Mon. (except July)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>New York City</td>
<td>11 World Trade Ctr. (44th Floor)</td>
<td>First and Third</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Suffolk County Local 852.

Western Region sets candidates night

Co-chairman Florence Tripi and Dominic Savarino of the Political Action Committee of the Civil Service Employees Association (CSEA) have announced dates, sites and formats for "Candidates Nights, 1980" for Western Region 6 of the statewide public employees union.

The formats, focusing primarily on state assembly and senatorial candidates, "will allow rank and file union members to hear prepared statements from the aspirants, ask questions from the floor and mix informally for face to face discussion of issues vital to the membership," Savarino said.

The dates, sites and districts concerned are as follows:
- Erie and Genesee Counties, September 3, 7-11 p.m. at the Executive Inn, 4245 Genesee St., Buffalo, New York 14225 — covering Assembly Districts, 137, 140, 141, 142, 143, 144, 145, 146, 147, 148 and Senate Districts 55, 56, 58, 59.
- Southern Tier (East) September 3, 7:30 p.m. at the American Legion Hall, Hornell, New York — covering Assembly Districts 127, 129 and Senate Districts 51, 52.
- Rochester and Monroe County, September 10, 7-11:30 p.m. at the Arenas Party House, 1338 Ridge Road E., Rochester, New York — Assembly Districts 130, 131, 132, 133, 134, 135, 136 and Senate Districts 53 and 54.
- Southern Tier (West) Chautauqua and Cattaraugus Counties September 4, 7:30 p.m. at the White Inn, East Main Street, Route 20 — Assembly Districts 149, 150 and Senate District 57.
- Niagara County, September 8, 8-10 p.m. at the Town of Niagara Fire Hall No. 1, 600 Lockport Road, (Just East of Military Road) — Assembly Districts 138, 139 and Senate District 60.

There will be no issue of The Public Sector published next week. Labor Day week is one of four during the year when issues are not published.

The next issue will be dated September 10.

Check your retirement system status

Are you a participating member of the New York State Employees Retirement System? Are you sure?

As hard as it may be to believe, some public employees find out too late that their employer has neglected to enroll them as members of the Employees Retirement System.

CSEA has recently won retroactive retirement payments on behalf of members who thought they had a pension coming but found out when they were ready to retire that they were never enrolled in the System by their employers. Usually the problem can be resolved, but there is no need to take the risk of starting off your retirement with that type of hassle.

The New York State Employees Retirement System can provide you with specific information on your status as a Retirement System member. To check on your status as a member of the Employees Retirement System, complete and mail the coupon below. Please print clearly.

To: The New York State Retirement System
Governor Smith Office Building
Albany, New York 12244

I am requesting information on my status as a member of the New York State Employees Retirement System.

Name __________________________ Date of Birth __________________________

City __________________________ State __________________________ Zip __________________________

THE PUBLIC SECTOR, Wednesday, August 27, 1980

Page 11
QUEENS — Creedmoor Psychiatric Center Local 406 has launched a three-pronged attack aimed at convincing the State Mental Health Department to move its Forensic Unit — which houses patients acquitted of violent crimes by reason of insanity — to another location.

During the past few days, union officials conducted a series of meetings with Mental Health Department officials, legislators, and the media in which a single message was conveyed: a forensic unit is inappropriate at a facility located in a heavily populated residential area such as Queens.

Local President Dorothy King, Metropolitan Region II Director George Bispham, and Field Representative Bart Brier met with Mental Health Department officials at Creedmoor and presented a plan to relocate the unit to Manhattan Psychiatric Center, on more isolated Wards Island, under New York City's Triborough Bridge.

Joined by Regional President James Gripper Jr., they then met with legislators from the Creedmoor area, including State Senator Frank Padavan (R, C-Jamaica Estates) and Assemblyman John Esposito (R-Queens Village); Creedmoor officials, and members of the press.

The CSEA members urged the legislators to use their influence in Albany to have the Forensic Unit moved and additional funding appropriated for the facility. There have reportedly been eight forensic escapes this year.

They were joined in their plea by Creedmoor Director Dr. Yoosuf Haveliwala, who has made headlines in New York daily papers when he called staffing conditions at Creedmoor 'a disgrace.'

He said that his institution did not have enough staff members to provide patients with quality care. "I do feel that it is a disgrace," he said. "I would not send my child to Creedmoor."

Haveliwala openly endorsed the CSEA calls for increased security and state funding at Creedmoor. "This is the issue," he said. "How much of our tax dollars are we willing to spend to do this."

A number of community residents seem to agree with the CSEA position. They organized a demonstration outside one of Creedmoor's main gates, and continued to picket until they were addressed by Local President King. Minimal security at Creedmoor was the topic of a live report aired on New York's channel 7 "Eyewitness News" last week. Reporter Vince Lipari, testing security at a number of entrances, was not stopped or questioned as he entered and left the grounds at will. His report featured Mrs. King pointing out openings in the facility's steel fence, and Haveliwala saying: "it wouldn't be hard for any patient to escape into the community, including forensic patients."

Creedmoor, which houses 50 forensic patients among its 1500 patient population, is located on 340 acres bounded by private homes and several apartment complexes. According to Haveliwala, no more than 10 security guards are on duty at any one time.