Big Apple election a summer sizzler

CSEA backs Ferre with grassroots political action

See Page 3
Country, school district meet to solve asbestos problem in Nanuet schools

NANUET — Contention is turning into cooperation between CSEA and the Nanuet Union Free School District after the union’s discovery of asbestos closed an elementary school for three days.

Union health and safety experts have given the district’s buildings clean bills of health and are working with district officials to find solutions to the potential health and safety hazard.

Loose asbestos was found in a janitor’s closet at an elementary school, forcing the district to cancel classes for three days while the problem was resolved.

During a recent inspection of the district’s four buildings, CSEA Occupational Safety and Health Specialist Gary China said the results of air quality tests show conditions are safe for children and workers.

China added that all remaining asbestos in the schools is encapsulated within building structures, which is legal under federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) regulations.

Federal rules also require schools be inspected for loose asbestos every three years.

A routine inspection to meet these federal rules will be conducted on the Nanuet schools this summer.

“Everything is up to par at this time,” China said.

“Our meetings with the district have been very productive,” he added.

— Janice Marra

Nominations sought for Carr Leadership Award

Nominations are being sought from members for the 2001 CSEA Irene Carr Leadership Award which recognizes a member’s demonstrated commitment to the concerns of women within the union.

The application deadline is Sept. 7 and forms may be obtained by writing or calling Kathy Cahalan, CSEA headquarters, 143 Washington Ave., Albany, NY 12210 (518) 257-1207.

Applications may also be downloaded from CSEA’s Web site at csealocal1000.net/carr.pdf.

Women and men may be nominated for this prestigious award, which honors the work of CSEA Statewide Secretary Irene Carr, who served in that post for 17 years. Nominees may include current or former CSEA members and staff.

Carr was instrumental in creating the CSEA Women’s Committee and also served as chair of the AFSCME Women’s Advisory Committee for more than a decade.

Albany parking fee hike given the boot

ALBANY — After months of negotiating a contentious issue, CSEA members will not pay more to park in several state-run lots in downtown Albany for four years.

The state will freeze parking rates at downtown sites starting April 1.

CSEA also killed a state effort to eliminate free parking at the huge W. Averell Harriman State Office Building campus.

The agreement was brokered by a special labor/management Parking Committee created under Article 17 of the CSEA/New York State contracts.

“We think it’s a fair settlement,” said CSEA Capital Region President Kathy Garrison.

“Both sides did what we believe is best for the work force — workers at the uptown campus will continue to have free parking and rates for downtown employees will be frozen at 2002 levels until 2006,” she said.

After an automatic rate increase for downtown parking goes into effect next April, fees will remain unchanged through March 31, 2006.

Union officials estimate the freeze will save commuters $39 (surface parking) and $78 (covered lots) over the three years based on the current fees.
CSEA backs Democrat for Big Apple mayor

From the grassroots level, a swell of support for Ferrer

CSEA Metropolitan Region members are gearing up to make history in the upcoming New York City election.

In the hotly contested mayoral race, the region’s political action committee has taken the lead among other unions and endorsed Bronx Borough President Fernando Ferrer, a Democrat who is aiming to become the city’s first Latino mayor.

This contest will showcase the breadth of CSEA’s resources and its proven ability to get out the vote, said union activists.

“This year’s election is important because of term limits for elected city officials,” said region President George Bonocoraglio.

“As a result, New York City will have a new mayor, comptroller, public advocate, four new borough presidents, and nearly two-thirds of the city council is up for grabs,” he said.

Taking the lead

CSEA’s participation in these elections is crucial to the professional and personal futures of all union members and their families, activists said.

Meeting recently with members at the State Insurance Fund, Ferrer spoke about his reasons for running and his vision for New York City and its working families.

“I’m running for mayor to give voice and hope to those who have been shut out, shut down, marginalized and demonized for the last eight years,” said Ferrer.

“We need to restore opportunity for working families, to build tolerance and respect for people of every background, and to bring this city together around our common interests,” the candidate said.

In March, Ferrer demonstrated his commitment to labor and his solidarity with CSEA by joining members at a rally to protest unsafe working conditions at the Brooklyn Developmental Center.

“He has put forth a lot of diligent efforts related to housing, schooling and the community as a whole,” said Lester Crockett, president of the Local at the Insurance Fund and region vice president.

“I think it is very important for us to come out and support him. I will continue to motivate and encourage our members to get out and do phone banking, hand out literature and send out letters,” Crockett said.

While CSEA represents mostly state workers in New York City who are not directly affected by a fiscal level by the decisions of city officials, they do live and work in the communities these candidates will be representing.

The mayor of New York City is also one of the most important elected positions in the country with impact far beyond the city’s limits.

Education, affordable housing and health care are equally important issues to the members and retirees who live in the five boroughs, union leaders said.

CSEA’s presence felt

CSEA’s Metropolitan Region, which has so far endorsed another 12 candidates in citywide and local races, is planning a strong presence during the elections.

Members will be involved in the campaigns of those candidates endorsed by the region political action committee, particularly in the mayor’s race.

“I’ll be campaigning for Jeannette Gadsen in my housing complex,” said Jacqueline Stanford, referring to the former Brooklyn deputy borough president who CSEA has endorsed in her bid to become the Brooklyn borough president.

“We have about 12,000 people living here and I intend to get members who live in the area and my neighbors involved in every aspect of the campaign,” Stanford said.

Members have already helped several candidates with the petition process. They can also become involved with the phone bank operation, by helping to distribute campaign literature and fliers at other locations, and by participating in other campaign-related events with the candidates.

“Mr. Ferrer comes from my hometown, the Bronx, and I will definitely support him in anyway I can,” said CSEA member Ken Johnson.

— David Galarza
We are in a new era for working people in this state.

Recently, the New York State AFL-CIO took a historic step to transform the power of unions in every community. The approval of the New Alliance is an event that ensures the voice of working people will be heard.

The New Alliance consolidates the state’s central labor councils and makes them more accountable for action and coordination on real issues and activities.

New York is the first state in the nation to move forward with the New Alliance which is an initiative of the national AFL-CIO under the direction of President John Sweeney. (See story on page 15)

CSEA was proud to play a leadership role in making the New Alliance a reality. Even more important, CSEA representatives will hold leadership positions in all of the state’s area labor federations. This means CSEA will be helping to set the labor agenda in every community. But with that leadership role is a responsibility to be activists for what we believe in.

One important yet simple action we can all take as CSEA members is to participate in our area parades and activities planned around Labor Day. CSEA has a presence in these events in every part of the state. Their importance is both symbolic and practical.

It is important to show your CSEA pride and to help send a message about labor’s strength. Participation speaks volumes about our commitment to fairness and respect for working people and our willingness to stand up and be counted.

The parades and other activities are also a lot of fun for you and your whole family. They are about building community and supporting each other.

I urge you to participate in the events in your area (listed on Page 15). This Labor Day provides a great way to demonstrate that the launch of the New Alliance is about celebrating the rights of working people and renewing ourselves to the fight for what’s right!
Once the nurses leave the shelter of training, however, they don’t have the time for the personal interaction with residents, she said.

“It’s like they are automatons in the factory, washing them up and moving them on,” Leppert said.

Labor-management cooperation
Willow Point Administrator John Demske said cooperating with the union and the workers is the only way to realistically find solutions. It’s all important with the work force shortage that we have to be cooperative on both sides of the aisle in terms of writing on issues and ultimately coming up with solutions to our problems,” Demske said.

“It’s such an enormous issue that one side cannot solve it alone,” he said.

Additional labor-management meetings on the staffing shortage in nursing facilities are being scheduled.

Ask your local CSEA representative about activities in your area.

— Mark M. Kotzin

Local, state lawmakers demand answers after attack by client

Local and state lawmakers want to know why security measures weren’t working when two CSEA members at the Brooklyn Developmental Center were brutally assaulted by a consumer.

Union members recently gained the support of several state and New York City legislators who visited the center, where two CSEA members were viciously attacked in March by a consumer in the center’s secure unit.

The legislators vowed to launch an investigation and hold public hearings to address the workplace safety crisis at the facility.

“I will work with the other members of the Assembly to make sure we investigate this,” said Assemblyman John Lavell, who sits on the Assembly Mental Health Committee.

The women who were attacked were unable to summon help because the pendant security device they wore didn’t work.

The faulty security system had been discontinued at similar institutions throughout the state.

Band-Aid not working
A temporary upgrade of Brooklyn’s security system is still riddled with problems, said CSEA Local president Denise Berkley.

Berkley said she was also concerned the spate of recent safety problems at Brooklyn might prompt the state to close the center’s secure unit.

“Brooklyn DDSO was short-changed,” said Berkley.

“We want a secure unit, but we also want to have the right equipment to work with and make sure that our members and the consumers will be safe. If we’re dealing with the same population, why aren’t we getting the same kind of security?” Berkley asked.

Legislators and members also criticized a letter they received from the state that promised seven capital investment projects to improve security at the facility but failed to include a timetable, costs, and the name of an official at OMRDD who would supervise the projects.

“I think it’s deplorable that they (the state) would allow this to happen to the people of Brooklyn and not allow it to happen anywhere else,” said Brooklyn Deputy Borough President Jeanette Gadson about the security problem.

— David Galarza
One calm voice in a hail of bullets

ONEIDA — State Trooper Ed Marecek knew he desperately needed help.

In half a heartbeat, a routine traffic stop turned into a slice of hell as an armed felon opened up on Marecek with an assault rifle.

Returning fire and flushing his radio, Marecek called for help.

The calm, professional voice of CSEA member and communications specialist Pat Stedman at Troop D headquarters in Oneida was on the other end of the call.

Uninjured in the gunfire, Marecek jumped into his patrol car and chased the suspect, an ex-con who had murdered a 20-year-old Utica woman only hours before.

Stedman stayed on the other end of the trooper’s radio lifeline, pinpointing his location and directing other troopers to the area.

For her calm, professional presence during the gunfire and chase, Stedman recently received the State Police’s highest civilian award.

“It’s wonderful to get recognized, and I feel that it’s not only recognition for myself but for all my fellow communications specialists,” Stedman said.

Shots fired

Stedman immediately took charge after receiving the “signal 30” call — officer down or needs assistance.

“I don’t think you ever know how to deal with a situation like this until it happens to you,” Stedman said. “You can have all the training given, but I don’t think you can expect it — it’s not an everyday thing, thank goodness.”

Stedman said the first thing that went through her mind was fear the trooper had been shot.

“The main thing that went through my mind was ‘is he OK?’” she said. Marecek reassured her that he was uninjured and then radioed her a play-by-play account of his pursuit of the suspect, sometimes at speeds approaching 100 mph.

“It was very tense,” Stedman said.

Proud achievement

Marecek and the responding backup units cornered the suspect on a dead-end road. They chased him into a remote wooded area, where the ex-con killed himself.

CSEA State Police Local President Michael Kaiser, also a communications specialist, recommended Stedman for the award and said he was pleased the top State Police brass agreed.

“After listening to the tape of the incident, I thought she probably saved Trooper Marecek’s life, due to her professional performance and calm demeanor. We’re very proud of her and how she handled this incident,” Kaiser said.

CSEA Central Region President Jim Moore congratulated Stedman on her recognition, saying she sets an example that others should follow.

“Pat Stedman’s dedication and superior job performance helped make sure that this situation did not turn deadly for her co-workers in law enforcement. This award is a great tribute to her, and I hope it inspires others,” Moore said.

— Mark M. Kotzin

Pat Stedman’s dedication and superior job performance helped make sure that this situation did not turn deadly for her co-workers in law enforcement. This award is a great tribute to her, and I hope it inspires others.

Communications Specialist Pat Stedman of Troop D headquarters in Oneida receives an award from State Police Superintendent James McMahon for the calm, professional manner she displayed in helping to save a trooper’s life when he was involved in a gunfire and chase. Stedman stayed on the other end of the trooper’s radio lifeline, pinpointing his location and directing other troopers to the area.

“But the fact that it was a State Police officer in the line of fire is what made it truly courageous,” Moore said.

“Pat’s success in this high pressure situation was due to her quick thinking and sometimes legally enforced reaction to a dangerous situation, which was clearly necessary and did not turn deadly for the officer,” Moore said.

Stedman’s award is the highest recognition available to communications specialists.

“Stedman is a State Police employee who, in the line of duty, has shown exemplary performance in a position necessitating a high standard of personal and professional excellence,” Moore said.

Stedman, who has worked for the State Police for 11 years, has received several awards during her career.

“Stedman’s exceptional interaction and communications, along with her ability to keep a cool head during high pressure situations, are what earned her this recognition and demonstrate her dedication to her craft,” Moore said.

Stedman was on the phone with Marecek within seconds of receiving the report of the shooting, and she assisted him in tracking down the suspect.

She was also instrumental in helping to locate the suspect’s vehicle, which was later found abandoned.

Stedman was honored at the award ceremony in her office at Troop D headquarters.

“I deeply appreciate the recognition and encourage others to perform at the highest level of proficiency and integrity,” Stedman said.

— Submitted via the Central Region

Workers of the Workforce

“I like the variety of duties, computer work, researching legal references, managing supplies and interacting with my co-workers.”

— Rochelle Coley, a four-year administrative services clerk at the Monroe County and state Supreme Court offices, Rochester

**WORKFORCE FACTS**

- There are 187 CSEA-represented communications specialists who take emergency calls for the State Police around the state;
- Since the advent of cellular phones, the number of emergency calls to the State Police has climbed every year;
- In 2000, CSEA members took a total of 133,000 calls – with more than 124,000 of those calls resulting in criminal cases;
- More than 306,000 calls were for assistance and services;
- The calls were received via traditional seven-digit phone numbers, cellular

THE WORKFORCE August 2001
Forget retirement, there’s work for this caseworker to do

WATERLOO — For all of her adult life, CSEA member Margaret “Peg” Soper has been working in human services, and at almost 76 years old, she’s still in the field, running circles around her co-workers and showing no signs of slowing down.

For the past 17 years, Soper has worked as an adult/family services caseworker for the Seneca County Department of Social Services.

She is among thousands of CSEA members across the state who have dedicated their professional lives to helping those in need.

But Soper has winked at retirement and continues to work full-throttle helping people — which she calls a driving force in her life.

“I just like to be doing something that’s important,” she said, adding her job in adult services continues to fulfill such a role.

“Adult services is very important, and it’s overlooked by many, many people. Most people think that adult services aren’t very important, but we’re the growing population,” Soper said.

How many birthday candles?

Before coming to Seneca County, Soper worked in the Broome County Department of Social Services for five years, and before that she was the director of a private social services agency.

Also on her resume: she taught music while her children were in school.

And unlike many women her age, she doesn’t mind telling people how old she is.

“It doesn’t bother me at all,” she grinned. “You can’t stop it, anyways.”

Actually, Soper believes her age helps her on the job by giving her insight into the feelings of the elderly people she serves.

“When I go into these homes, I’m able to understand about how these people feel about not wanting to leave their homes and wanting to enjoy company and have people visit them. It gives me a better perspective, a better understanding of how they feel,” Soper said.

Her co-workers — many half her years — have joked about her age and even made a sign that read: “Caution, old lady and caseworker passing.”

But the joke was on them, because she would move faster than they would.

“I was moving faster than them through the hallways. They were too slow,” she quipped.

A special insight to life

Soper said her job also gives her a unique perspective on her age and abilities.

“The best thing about being in adult services is I have learned that I am very fortunate that I have my health and I’m able to do what I do. I’ve seen people my age and younger than me that are sick or can’t get around. I feel very fortunate, but it also makes me very sad for them.

“The only thing I hate about being older is that my body doesn’t keep up with what my mind wants to do. I’ve got arthritis, but I’m determined not to give in to it,” Soper said.

And that means coming to work every day, even years past her retirement eligibility date.

“Because it’s challenging and it gives me something to look forward to every day, and also I enjoy what I do. I enjoy working with people,” she said.

Her advice to others seeking longevity?

“Not giving in to your aches and pains, and keeping your mind active. My mother and grandmother lived to be quite elderly and my mother worked until she was 74,” Soper offered.

And at two years past her mother’s retirement age, she still has no plans to retire.

“No unless I have to,” she said adamantly.

“They’ll probably have to carry me out of here,” she laughed.

— Mark M. Kotzin

Workforce Facts

- Although the recommended maximum caseload for social services workers averages 15 cases at a time, some counties in New York State give their workers up to 77.2 cases, limiting the time allowed to be in direct contact with families.
- In one year, there were 16,213 foster care cases with only 1,230 workers to respond to them.
- Out of all the cases the state social services department deals with, including child protection and prevention, foster care receives the most state funding: $932,335,750.
- New York State Comptroller’s Office

Voices of the Workforce

“I love my job. I love making people happy. For some of the people who come here, this is their only hot meal. I like to cook chicken, that seems to be everyone’s favorite.”

— Kathy Fetky, cook, Putnam County Office For the Aging, Carmel Nutrition Center

Refusing to slow down at 76, Margaret “Peg” Soper is a whirlwind of activity at the Seneca County Department of Social Services. She’s an adult/family services caseworker, a job which she said is a good fit because it allows her to draw on her years of experience in the human services field.
This job blows hot and cold

CSEA members make the chill, take the heat

FREDONIA — When you talk about a hot job, CSEA members at the heating plant at SUNY Fredonia College qualify without question.

Some of the hottest work locations in the state are underground here, where pipes containing 375-degree water snake toward college buildings.

It’s a job CSEA member Paul McDonald and his crew take seriously, but one most of their ‘clients’ take for granted.

While going about their daily business, most students, staff and faculty at SUNY Fredonia College don’t give much thought to how their heat, air conditioning or hot water reach them with just a push of a button or turn of the faucet.

“Most folks here don’t know we exist, until there’s a problem,” said McDonald, plant utilities engineer at the college’s heating plant.

“But our dedicated crew is working around the clock, providing heat, hot water, steam and air conditioning to 21 buildings. It’s all generated by our three high-temp water generators.”

Those three giant generators distribute 375-degree water, at 300 pounds per square inch, through a network of underground piping throughout the campus.

McDonald leads a crew of 11 that handles all mechanical emergencies, including plumbing problems and tripped circuit breakers, while monitoring systems from a computer room.

No break from the heat

“It’s air-conditioned in the computer room, but anywhere else in the plant, it’s pretty warm,” said McDonald, a former CSEA Local president at the college.

“Those boilers can exceed 100 degrees” which add to the toastiness of the work site, he added.

The CSEA members also maintain an emergency generator at each of the 21 buildings on campus, in addition to an air compressor for each building, and 29 manholes, where the valves for the high temperature water lines are accessed.

“We have to be versatile to handle all the potential problems,” McDonald said.

“Keeping cool is secondary to getting the job done,” he noted.

— Ron Wofford

CSEA member Paul McDonald, at far left and above, monitors the huge heating and air conditioning units which keep the State University of New York at Fredonia comfortable all year. At left, McDonald and fellow CSEA members use an elaborate computer system to monitor the status of the buildings’ heating and cooling system.

Voices of the Work Force

“I like the crew I work with.”

— Preston Allen, Duane’s son, laborer, Saratoga County Highway Dept.

The benefits are good and the guys are fun to work with! That’s what I like about this job.”

— Duane Allen, laborer, Saratoga County Highway Dept.

WORKFORCE FACTS

❖ Of the heating plant’s three high-temp water generators, one produces 25 million BTUs per hour, a second produces 65 million BTUs per hour, and the third and largest produces 100 million BTUs per hour.

❖ The plant was built in 1966.
Wayne Central Schools Unit battles for contract, respect

TOWN OF ONTARIO — A yearlong struggle for a new contract by Wayne Central Schools members got a strong boost recently when more than 100 supporters joined their picket at a school board meeting.

"It was heartening to see the support we got from our members, as well as the public, in seeking a fair contract," said Kim Wenert, Unit president.

Passers-by waved and blew their horns, and some even spoke up for us after we entered the board meeting. We hope the board got the message because the issues we're fighting for are not going away. They are very basic, bread-and-butter issues of respect for all employees, not just a few favored ones," Wenert said.

Wenert and CSEA Labor Relations Specialist Penny Gleason, lead negotiator for the 150-member support staff unit, said the district does not pay members for all time worked.

"They need to realize this is not 15 years ago," said Gleason. "And we won't settle for the unfair tactics of the past. They should pay teacher aides and teacher assistants extra, when a substitute teacher cannot be found, and the classes are left in their charge," Gleason said.

Other management ills include sending mechanics out on bus runs, among other problems CSEA activists noted.

The district is also accused of providing hepatitis inoculations to some schools employees, but not to others, and the district negotiator is not addressing legitimate union concerns.

The unit filed an improper practice charge against the district, charging interference and coercion. Union activists said the superintendent met with Wenert earlier this year and inferred a class action grievance would potentially harm the Unit employees.

"We won't let such tactics against our members go unchallenged," said Scott Seltzer, a CSEA labor relations specialist.

"Intimidation won't work, and we've got the legal ammunition to shoot it down, and will use it whenever necessary," he said.

— Ron Wofford

Feds consider funding health schools study

At the request of the Healthy Schools Network, Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton is seeking funding to study the health and learning problems which sick and dilapidated public school buildings create for children.

Clinton submitted legislation to amend the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to provide $2 million to pay for the study.

In her speech on the Senate floor Clinton paid tribute to the Healthy Schools Network for providing much of the research used to support a study of the problem.

CSEA is a major partner in the Healthy Schools Network, an organization dedicated to protecting children and promoting healthier public school facilities.

In a survey sponsored by the Healthy Schools Network and the New York State Association of School Nurses, 71 percent of school nurses reported they knew students at school whose learning, breathing or behavior were being affected by indoor environmental pollutants at school. Seventy percent said they knew school personnel whose performance was affected by environmental conditions.

"Children are one of our most important resources and we should do everything we can to make sure that schools where they spend so much of their time are the best buildings possible," CSEA President Danny Donohue said.

ESEA is federal legislation that is renewed periodically that provides funding for a wide array of programs in New York schools.

— Ed Molitor

"My involvement in CSEA is gratifying because I take what I learn at union workshops and lobbying back to the members. It helps them understand how the political system works and gets them involved in voting."  

— Judith McClain, teaching assistant and 13-year union member, White Plains School District
CSEA members-only area
How to take full advantage of CSEA Web resources

CSEA members have more information at their fingertips on CSEA’s Web site — www.csealocal1000.net — than ever before, and much more is yet to come. While CSEA’s public Web site offers all the information union members need to keep informed to take full advantage of being a union member, the members-only area of the Web site offers far more.

By logging in to the members-only area, CSEA members can access information about their member benefits — insurance programs, cell phone discounts, discount-buying programs, among other information.

More importantly, union members can access benefits ONLY available to CSEA members who log into the members-only area.

Need help for that upcoming civil service test? The member’s only area has a complete list of CSEA’s Civil Service Test Preparation booklets, available for free in a printer-friendly format.

No more paying for the books and waiting for them in the mail. Just click and print. Free.

But helping members on the job with test prep services is only part of the mix in the members-only area. CSEA also wants to help members off the job.

The members-only area offers CSEA members the ‘My CSEA’ page, where members can customize an array of Yahoo! content to serve their needs.

Travel info, ball scores, lottery numbers and payouts, news from across New York state affecting working families are only some of the options you as a CSEA member can optimize to keep you informed.

And it’s only available to CSEA members. No other union in the world is offering Yahoo! customizable content to its members.

Along with the My CSEA page, you also get information on health issues including healthy recipes, Ask-the-Doctor forums, and lifestyles tips.

There’s online shopping, advice on Internet security and privacy and career help. Everything you need all in one place.

What are you waiting for?

People are very excited that you can download civil service test prep booklets for free in the members-only section of the CSEA website.”

— Maggie McCafferty, Civil Service Department

“Don’t think people realize how much is out there ... CSEA has a great Web site. I check it all the time and there’s always something new.”

— Joanne Mastronardi, Broome County

“It’s a wonderful asset for the membership. There’s a wealth of information on there related not only to your job and benefits that are provided by the union, but also civil service information, labor issues, health and safety issues, education along with easy access to resources to help you in your personal life.”

— Bob Calhoun, Public Service Commission

Some of what you can access on-line from CSEA

- Up to date, breaking news on statewide CSEA actions and activities
- Localized News and information from each of CSEA’s six regions
- Daily news of interest to CSEA members from newspapers across New York
- Free, downloadable CSEA materials including civil service test preparation books and topic by topic safety and health booklets
- A new legal issues page featuring a wide range of regularly updated information about legal issues facing working people and information about how to access other CSEA legal benefits and assistance.
- Career resource information
- An activist alert section about CSEA coalition and Labor activities
- Information and Resources on state and federal political action issues and activities
- Information about the importance of organizing non-union workers
- Detail about the vast array of CSEA members-only benefits
- The ability to customize your choice of sports, lottery, news, weather, entertainment information, financial resources, health, on-line shopping options and much more

It smudges, but it still works

The printed word lives. As CSEA uses the Web and other tools to reach out to members across the state, printed Local and Unit newsletters continue to be the mainstay of both the union's communications efforts. These grassroots publications, some published regularly and others less frequently, are a source of specific and specialized information union members need.

Look for a feature on rank-and-file newsletters — their purpose and effectiveness — in the center spread of the September Work Force.
CSEA calls for safety campaign in wake of worker’s death

OSWEGO — SUNY Oswego should not duck its responsibility in the death of CSEA member Daniel A. Haskins and must start a campus-wide safety program to prevent similar fatalities, union leaders said.

Haskins’ death was “completely avoidable and preventable,” according to a union investigation of an accident in which Haskins was crushed by a printing press he was disposing.

Union members had told managers the day of the accident they were not properly equipped to dispose of the half-ton press at the county landfill.

“We’re not here to point fingers and play the blame game,” CSEA Central Region President Jim Moore said.

“What we want is that something positive comes from Mr. Haskins’ tragic death. To that end, we are demanding that the college make a concerted and very public effort, from upper management on down, to make safety the first priority,” Moore said.

The union leader demanded the college initiate a “safety first” campaign among its workers.

A report compiled by CSEA Occupational Safety and Health Specialist John Bieger focuses on the events leading up to Haskins’ death.

CSEA Central Region President Jim Moore, left, answers a reporter’s question during a press conference following CSEA’s investigation into the death of member Daniel Haskins.

The investigation also showed there were safer ways to dispose of the press which would not have exposed Haskins to the hazard that killed him.

Haskins, a janitor at the college for almost 20 years, fell into a disposal pit at the Oswego County landfill and was crushed by the press which was being pushed off the back of a truck.

— Mark M. Kotzin

State takes heat in bungled evacuation of office tower

ALBANY — A CSEA complaint about a botched emergency evacuation of a state office tower has led to the reprimand of a state agency for not training workers on proper emergency procedures.

CSEA filed the complaint against the state Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation after the bungled evacuation of workers in a downtown high-rise.

The state Labor Department, which investigated the union’s complaint, cited the parks department for not designating and training enough employees to perform the duties of floor marshal, floor warden and floor searcher as required by the state’s emergency evacuation action plan.

“This is a nice first step,” said CSEA Parks and Recreation Local President Debra Dukes.

“But I’d like to see the agency do more in organizing floor marshalls, more verbal contact with the workers and concern for where they are to go in an evacuation and what they are to do during an evacuation,” she added.

The parks department also didn’t tell all employees where to meet outside the office when an emergency occurred.

These shortcomings created extensive confusion during evacuations in August 2000 and May, CSEA leaders said.

One evacuation was triggered by an explosion of an underground power transformer which seriously hurt two CSEA members.

— Daniel X. Campbell

CSEA, PESH probe Albany County fatal

CSEA and the state Public Employee Safety and Health office are investigating the death of a union member who fell 14 floors while working on the roof of the Albany County office building.

George Sheffield, the CSEA Albany County Department of General Services shop steward, was working alone as he did routine air conditioner maintenance on the units in late June.

Since the accident, Albany County requires two employees work on the roof at all times.

“Our sincere condolences go out to his family and co-workers,” CSEA Capital Region President Kathy Garrison said.

“What we want to make sure is that this type of accident never happens again in Albany County,” she said.

Sheffield, 51, is survived by his wife and two children.

Unit President Bill Meneahan said Sheffield was always there for his co-workers and his union.

“He was always willing to help people,” Meneahan said. “He will be missed.”

— Daniel X. Campbell
Seeing sick kids smile makes these corrections officers ‘unbearably’ happy

SYRACUSE — On the cell block, the CSEA Onondaga County corrections officers must be firm and stern to handle a tough bunch of customers.

A few miles from those metal confines, in the hush of a hospital’s pediatric ward, the sharp edges of their day’s work begin to soften.

CSEA member Ed Sabbagh and his colleagues deliver fistfuls of colorful balloons and armloads of stuffed animals to children who are fighting to regain their health.

It’s the brainchild of Sabbagh, a county corrections officer for the past 12 years.

“We started the program because there were always events that were collecting for children during the holidays, and I felt it necessary to put together an event to make some ill children happy when it wasn’t the holidays,” said Sabbagh.

“Three hundred sixty-five days a year we have a lot of sick children in our hospitals who don’t get much attention. They need something to brighten their day. That’s what got me thinking about what we could do,” he said.

The “Teddy-Bear Drive” program, now in its fourth year, collects donations of new stuffed animals at local K-Mart and Ames stores throughout the county.

Other retailers including DJ’s Wholesale Club, Kay Bee Toys and Toys R Us contribute to the effort.

Loaded with hundreds of animals, balloons, hats and T-shirts, Sabbagh and his colleagues make the rounds of the pediatric units of several local hospitals and give each child there a stuffed animal and a balloon.

“There’s not a child we don’t touch,” said Sabbagh.

The faces, the smiles

A newcomer to the event, corrections officer Nathan Hawker said the experience was well worth the effort.

“I enjoy coming out and helping the kids out. I think it enlightens them and makes them happy,” he said. “It makes me feel happy.”

Lt. Patrick Conboy, who has participated every year in the drive, agreed, but said it can be difficult to see some of the sickest kids.

“In a way it’s sad to see the kids the way they are, but it’s nice to be able to bring a smile to their faces,” Conboy said.

Corrections Officer Kevin Alo, who was back for his second year handing out animals and balloons, said that as a father, he likes to do this for the parents as much as the kids.

“I’ve got two kids of my own and I’m blessed that they’re healthy, but I think it’s really important to the parents. We do all this hard work to collect and distribute these items, and I think it shows them people understand what they’re going through,” Alo said.

Sabbagh said it’s also nice to talk to the children and make them feel special.

“You have to see the looks on their faces. We don’t just hand them an animal and a balloon, we talk to them and see how they’re doing. It just makes their day,” Sabbagh said.

Sabbagh also praised county administrators for helping sponsor the drive and allowing it to continue.

“Without the administrative staff allowing us to do this, it never would have happened. They’ve been very supportive,” he said.

— Mark M. Kotzin
Organized labor rocked Washington, D.C. twice in the last two decades with massive rallies held on the expanse in front of the Washington Monument. Hundreds of thousands of union members, including contingents from CSEA, converged on Washington in August 1981 and 1991 in an impressive show of strength and solidarity.

Organized by the national AFL-CIO, the rallies demonstrated to Congress, the president and the American public the resolve of the labor movement to protect workers' rights and support issues important to working families.

**Also in 1981:**
- Ronald W. Reagan was sworn in as 40th president of the U.S. He told Americans in his inaugural address that this will "begin an era of national renewal." Begins administration by firing striking air traffic controllers;
- The federal Occupational Safety and Health Administration orders industry to provide hearing protection for employees working in noisy places;
- A union committee of 2,000 interns and residents went on strike against six municipal and two private hospitals in New York City to protest inadequate staffing and equipment;
- President Reagan abolishes the national "trigger" mechanism under which workers received an extra 13 weeks unemployment pay when national joblessness exceeded a pre-set level;
- The most watched television program in the U.S. was M*A*S*H.

**Also in 1991:**
- The Adolph Coors Co. factory in Colorado spils 150,000 gallons of beer into Clear Creek, killing 17,000 fish;
- The AFL-CIO and the NAACP oppose the nomination of judge Clarence Thomas for U.S. Supreme Court because of his inconsistent judicial philosophies;
- Hurricane Bob, the first major hurricane of the 1991 season, tore up the Eastern coast, causing 16 deaths and more than $1 billion in property damage;
- The minimum wage raised to $4.25 an hour, an increase from the previous minimum of $3.80 set in April 1990;
- Four L.A Police officers were indicted by a grand jury on March 14 in connection with the beating of Rodney King;
- About 40 million Social Security recipients received a 3.7 percent cost-of-living-adjustment (COLA) for 1992.
A key player in the house of labor: Union’s strength shows with New Alliance

CSEA continues its commanding presence in the state labor community with the recent adoption of the AFL-CIO’s ambitious plan to reinvigorate its central labor councils and build a more effective labor movement.

CSEA activists are on the boards of every reorganized central labor council in the state, ensuring the union will continue to play a key role in the state’s labor movement.

Union President Danny Donohue played a lead role in developing a key component of the New Alliance which involves reorganizing New York’s 25 central labor councils into 5 area labor federations. CSEA has representation in all of the federations.

Central labor councils are regional bodies of the AFL-CIO that coordinate the issues, agendas and activities of local unions in a region.

“The New Alliance is an opportunity to move into the future with a dynamically improved labor movement,” Donohue said. (See President’s column — Page 4.)

“We are building a stronger and more effective house of labor in the state, and CSEA continues to be part of the foundation,” he added.

New York a first

New York state was the first state in the country to ratify the historic New Alliance initiative, which CSEA spearheaded, that will strengthen and clearly define the priorities of the organized labor movement in the state.

New York State AFL-CIO President Denis Hughes said the new area labor federations will greatly increase the ability of the labor movement to be successful in organizing and political action by consolidating labor’s strength and resources throughout the state.

Hughes said the New Alliance is a product of today’s modern and constantly changing workplace and workforce, and a realization the labor movement likewise must constantly change.

“The New Alliance is about reprioritizing, restructuring and refinancing our movement at the state and local level to help more workers organize and to build power for working families,” Hughes said.

Protest on Paper

CSEA members joined more than 1,200 members of unions from across the Capital District at a rally to support the strikers at the Finch Pruyun paper company in Glens Falls recently. The seven unions in the paper mill went on strike when management’s final offer included the loss of overtime for Sunday work, loss of holiday pay and payment of 50 percent of individual and family health insurance costs. Protesters held signs which read: “The Finch who stole Christmas,” referring to the loss of holiday overtime.

Labor Day Parade Schedule

Labor Day parades and festivities are planned around the state during September.

They are a lot of fun for participants and help deliver an important message about the strength of the labor movement. All CSEA members are encouraged to participate.

Food, T-shirts and other surprises will be featured at all events. For specific times and locations, call your CSEA region office or check on-line at www.csealocal1000.net.

Here are the main events:

Monday, Sept. 3: Buffalo, Rochester and Syracuse will have events.

The Rochester parade, sponsored by the Rochester Labor Council, will begin at 11 a.m. CSEA members should congregate at 9:30 a.m. at East Avenue and Meigs Street, across from the Strathallen Hotel. The parade will proceed down East Avenue to Main Street, ending at Main and Plymouth streets.

The Buffalo parade, sponsored by the Buffalo Labor Council and the United Way, will start at noon from the Walden Avenue and Harlem Road intersection. CSEA members will congregate no later than 11 a.m. at the nearby Thruway Mall.

Saturday, Sept. 8: New York City parade. CSEA’s Metropolitan, Long Island Region and Southern Region will participate. Assemble at noon on E. 47th Street between 5th and Madison avenues or call your CSEA region office for more information.

Saturday, Sept. 22: Albany.
State-local government and private sector workshops
Activists work to build a stronger union

Ron Greene knew when to bang the gavel, but the finer points of running a CSEA meeting occasionally slipped by — until he attended a workshop on parliamentary procedure.

“I found out more about what is appropriate to do at a meeting under Robert’s Rules of Order,” said Greene, Orange County Unit president.

Greene was among hundreds of CSEA local government activists who attended a three-day annual workshop in White Plains recently.

“We did some role-playing and it really helped me,” Greene added about the workshop.

Greene and his activist colleagues in local and state government converged at two separate workshops to learn more about union building, political and legal issues, and ways to mobilize and motivate members.

The local government workshops covered topics ranging from showing members how to bargain in the private sector to offering strategic planning tips for a contract campaign.

Something for everyone
Many presentations given at this year’s local government workshop in White Plains were very useful for CSEA members.

Bill Fletcher Jr., a labor activist who works with the national AFL-CIO, told hundreds of participants CSEA is among a distinct few unions today working to achieve power through vision, strategy and organization.

“You have been attempting to put the pieces of this equation together,” Fletcher said.

“You and your leaders have been attempting to chart a course toward what Shakespeare described as the “undiscovered country” of the future. Yet, there is so far to go,” he said.

Orange County Unit President Greene said the sessions taught him tips on dealing with his members, management and members in other unions.

“You really get some ideas about how to organize and mobilize people from listening to other people’s stories,” Greene said.

Participants said these workshops are important to stay current with constantly changing legal and political issues.

Materials gathered at the sessions are often used to educate members during local union meetings.

“You have to choose what’s important for yourself to use later, but it’s very interesting to hear about other experiences,” Greene said.

Other CSEA members, such as Dutchess County Local President Patrick Brown, said the workshop was useful because many of the sessions were run by staff members with expertise in areas such as labor relations and law.

Honing union skills
Workshops for state government employees were also given high marks by participants.

Paul McDonald, a plant utilities engineer at the State University of New York at Fredonia, said the three-day program in Buffalo helped him be a better union leader and more responsive to his members.

Workshop topics in Buffalo ranged from setting up communications networks within the workplace to adding value to union memberships.

“I found the workshop on parliamentary procedures very helpful,” said Jacqueline Stanford of the State Insurance Fund in New York City.

“There were some procedures on motions that I had never learned,” she added.

Stanford also said she found members from other regions very open and talkative at the Buffalo session.

And while the information offered during a workshop on mediation didn’t specifically apply to Ramon Lucas, who works at the Kingsboro Psychiatric Center in New York City, it did make him realize the importance of educating members on all facets of unionism.

“We need to make our members more aware of their roles and responsibilities as workers and union members,” said Lucas.

— Janice Marra and David Galarza

CSEA Statewide Treasurer Maureen Malone, right, greets attendees at the workshop.

A tradition of unionism

The two annual workshops are named after influential CSEA leaders who dedicated their professional lives to the union.

The annual state government workshop is named after Irving Flaumenbaum, who died in 1980. Flaumenbaum was the long-time president of Nassau Local 830 and was a CSEA activist for more than 30 years.

The annual state government workshop is named after Thomas H. McDonough, who died in 1983.

McDonough, president of the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) Local in Albany for 15 years, served as CSEA executive vice president for two terms.

He was the CSEA statewide first vice president before the union was reorganized and the union’s first Political Action Committee chair.
The Empire Plan Benefits Management Program:
1-800-992-1213
Enrollees must call before a maternity or scheduled hospital admission; Within 48 hours after an emergency or urgent hospital admission; Before admission or transfer to a skilled nursing facility; Before having an elective (scheduled) Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI). If you do not follow the Benefits Management Program requirements, you will pay a higher share of the costs.

ValueOptions (Administrator for GHD):
1-800-446-3995
Enrollees must call ValueOptions before beginning any treatment for mental health or substance abuse, including alcoholism. If you do not follow ValueOptions requirements, you will receive a significantly lower level of benefits. In a life-threatening situation, go to the emergency room. You must call within 48 hours.

Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield (Empire HealthChoice):
For hospital benefits and claims, call Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield. Enrollees must call before receiving the following types of transplants; bone marrow, peripheral stem cell, cord blood stem cell, heart, heart-lung, kidney, liver, lung and simultaneous kidney-pancreas.

For a list of participating centers of excellence, contact Blue Cross at 518-367-0009 (Albany area and Alaska), 1-800-342-9815 (All states except Alaska).

United HealthCare Insurance Company of New York:
1-800-942-4640
Call for information on benefits under Basic Medical and Participating Provider Programs, predetermination of benefits, claims and participating providers.

Home Care Advocacy Program (HCAP):
1-800-638-9918
Enrollees must call to arrange for paid-in-full home care services and/or durable medical equipment/supplies. If you do not follow HCAP requirements, you will receive a significantly lower level of benefits.

Managed Physical Medicine Program (MPN):
1-800-942-4640
Call for information on benefits and to find MPN network providers for chiropractic treatment and physical therapy. If you do not use MPN network providers, you will receive a significantly lower level of benefits.

Infertility Benefits:
1-800-638-9918
Certain infertility procedures, called qualified procedures, are covered under the Empire Plan, ONLY if you receive prior authorization. You MUST call for prior authorization, regardless of the provider of service. Call for information on qualified procedures for fertility benefits and centers of excellence.

Express Scripts (Prescription Drug Program):
1-800-964-1888
Enrollees must call for prior authorization for BCG Live, Ceredase or Cerezyme, Drugs for the treatment impotency, Enbrel, Epoetin, Human Growth Hormone, Immune Globulin, Laminil, Prolastin, Pulmozyme, or Soranox.

The Empire Plan Nurse Line (Administered by Optum):
1-800-439-3435
Call for health information and advice 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. To listen to selections from the Health Information Library, enter PIN number 335 and a 4-digit code from the Empire Plan NurseLine brochure. Health information is also available at Health Forums on the Web at www.healthforums.com/empire

Text Telephone (TTY) lines for Hearing-Impaired or Speech-Impaired callers with TTY Devices:
The Empire Plan Benefits Management Program:
TTY only – (1-800-962-2208).
ValueOptions: TTY only – (1-800-334-1897).
Empire Blue Cross and Blue Shield: TTY only – (1-800-241-6894).
United HealthCare: TTY only – (1-888-697-9054).
Express Scripts: TTY only – (1-800-840-7879).

Attention Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Enrollees:
Contact your local HMO for important telephone numbers and information on services that require prior approval.

WHAT’S IN IT FOR YOU?
PARTICIPATING DENTISTS: THE STORY BEHIND THE LISTINGS

In June, the CSEA Employee Benefit Fund announced enhancements in all of the dental plans they provide to their participating CSEA units.

This was just one of many steps the fund is taking to move the EBF into that “Even Better Future” that has been mentioned each month this year in the Work Force.

A major piece of the fund plans revolves around growing the EBF’s participating dental provider network.

Earlier this spring, the fund made several internal changes designed to simplify the submission of claims and speed up turn-around time.

The most visible of those changes is the fund no longer requires the use of a CSEA EBF form for the submission of dental claims.

Dentists may now submit the American Dental Association (ADA) universal claim form for services rendered or they can continue to use the EBF form.

This eliminates extra paperwork and administrative time for many offices. The fund’s goal is to remove as many headaches and obstacles that had been in the way for those dentists who service our members.

A question asked frequently by our members is why more dentists are not on the EBF participating provider list.

When a dentist signs on as a plan provider, they agree to accept the CSEA EBF fee schedule as payment in full for covered services.

By doing this, they are agreeing to a reduction in payment from their normal prices.

For a variety of reasons, not all dentist are willing to accept that reduction even with the potential for bringing in new patients.

How can I get my dentist to accept the plan?

It is ultimately the dentist who chooses if he or she will accept the fund’s fee schedules as full payment for covered services.

The EBF will happily carry any dentist recommended by our members. The next time you are in your dentist’s office, ask them if they would consider accepting the EBF program as a participating provider.

The fund has canvassed virtually every dentist in New York State and while many have declined to accept the program, it’s not so easy to say “no” when a familiar name and face of a patient is asking.

If your dentist is not a CSEA EBF participating dentist and you would like him or her to consider participating, fill out the request for information below and return it to the fund.

Your dentist will be supplied with information and an application to become an EBF participant.

REQUEST FOR INFORMATION FORM
for dentists interested in participating in the CSEA EBF Dental Provider Panel

Name of Dentist
Address
City State Zip
Telephone

Please return this form to:

Marketing Department
CSEA Employee Benefit Fund
One Lear Jet Lane, Suite #1
Latham, New York 12110
1-800-323-2732 ext. 805

AN EVER BETTER FUTURE!

A u g u s t  2 0 0 1  T h e  W o r k  F o r c e  P a g e  17
Local Government Award winner:

Boundless energy and a smile hallmark of Tallman’s style

When she learned she won the 2001 CSEA Local Government Mission Achievement Award, an extremely surprised Rosie Tallman asked, ‘Me? Why? What’d I do?’

That humility is typical of the Oneida employee who’s built an impressive resume of service at nearly every level of CSEA.

An activist since 1975, Tallman now simultaneously holds positions as Oneida City Unit vice president, Madison County Local president and Central Region treasurer and Political Action Committee chair. She also serves as a member of CSEA’s statewide Board of Directors.

A shoe-in for her first elected post, Tallman seemed destined for union office.

Tallman said she was leaving for a trip to Florida with her two young children when a co-worker asked if they could put her name on the ballot to run for CSEA Unit secretary.

“I said ‘sure you can put me on the ballot,’ and didn’t think much more about it,” Tallman recalled.

“When I came back from Florida, they congratulated me and I said, ‘Oh, I won?’ and they said, ‘Your name was the only one on the ballot,’” Tallman laughed.

Better late than never

Tallman’s long list of achievements came despite a late start to her union career.

Misinformation from managers about her eligibility to join the union caused a seven-year delay in Tallman becoming a CSEA member. It also made her acutely aware of what she was missing.

“I was told I didn’t belong in CSEA because I worked on the Police Department side of the building and I didn’t belong to the Police Benevolent Association because I was a civilian,” Tallman said.

“So I was given no benefits. I got three holidays a year. I got Christmas, New Year’s and Thanksgiving. And I got sick time if they felt like giving it to me. If not, I was docked for it. I was just like out there with no protection,” Tallman added.

Her membership mix-up ended when a city official discovered Tallman at City Hall working on a holiday.

“The city comptroller asked me ‘what are you doing here, it’s a holiday?’” Tallman said. “I told him ‘I don’t get holidays.’ And he said ‘you most certainly do.’”

“So I started checking into things and found out I was entitled to be in CSEA and I joined,” she said. “It was shortly after that that they asked me to run.”

And she hasn’t stopped.

Boundless energy

In fact, CSEA President Danny Donohue compared Tallman to the Energizer Bunny when he presented her the award at the recent CSEA Local Government Workshop in White Plains.

“Her tireless efforts make Rosie stand above the rest,” Donohue said. “Her willingness to assist any member that calls on her for assistance is what generates energy in whatever she is undertaking.”

Tallman said she feels honored and proud to receive the coveted award. And she’s thankful for the support she’s received from her fellow officers and members throughout the years.

“So many times you hear people say ‘CSEA is a family,’” Tallman said. “It really is.”

Tallman said she is especially thankful for the support of her own family — her two children, who she said never complained when union business kept her away from them.

Tallman said her son, president of the Oneida Police Benevolent Association the past three years, recently asked her advice on unionism.

“He said, ‘Mom, you’ve been doing this a long time. How do you know you’re doing the right thing and is it worth all the time and effort that you devote to CSEA?’” Tallman said.

“And, without even thinking I said ‘Yes, it’s all been worthwhile. Because if you’re not self-serving and you’re in it for the best interest of your general membership and you always try to do what you think in your heart is right for them, then how can it not be satisfying and rewarding to you if you’re doing your very best?’” she said.

— CSEA President Danny Donohue

— Ed Molitor
CSEA awards annual scholarships

CSEA has announced the winners of the Irving Flammenbaum and Richelle Serviss Scholarship Awards for 2013.

The Flammenbaum Scholarship awards $8,000 scholarships to each of CSEA’s six regions. Two additional scholarships are awarded to CSEA’s service-oriented members. These awards are sponsored by the J&J Services Corp. and the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company. The winners are:

**SOUTHERN REGION**
Christopher J. Sznitka of Levittown, whose mother Janet Sznitka is a library assistant at the Wallkill School District. 

**ERIC THOMPSON SCHOLARSHIP**
Cheryl Thompson is a social worker at Orange County Social Services. 

**Capital Region**
Deborah C. Pollock of Johnstonstown, whose mother, Diane Pollock, is a senior account representative at the Social Security Administration Office for the Aging. 

**AMANDA SANUELA of Troy, whose mother, Kim Sanuela, is a clerk for the State Higher Education Services Corp.**

**Courtney Mazzone of Schenectady, whose father, John Mazzone, is an air base support person for the state Division of Military and Naval Affairs.**

**Central Region**
Heather Ann Tuttle of Rome, whose mother, Deborah Tuttle, is a teacher’s assistant in the Rome School District. 

**KATHERINE TULLY of Enfield, whose mother, Marianne Tully, is a typist at the Rensselaer County School District.**

**BRANDON Michael Hall of Latham, whose mother, Jean Hall, is a keyboard specialist at the Ogdensburg Correctional Facility.**

**WESTERN REGION**
Marla L. Breckner of Sherman, whose father, James Breckner, is a building maintenance mechanic at the Sherman Central School. 

**SMOKE MIRrors of Lockport, whose mother, Margaret Schulte, is an office manager at the family and child services.**

**Viktoria Ciosick of Buffalo, whose mother, Miroslova Koteska, is a small machines operator at SUNY Buffalo.**

**JET SERVICES SCHOLARSHIP**
The JET Service Award of $2,500 is awarded to the winner of the JET Services Award of $2,500. The award is based on the student’s commitment to the community. The recipient must attend a SUNY school.

**The 2013 winner is Justin Peters of Troy. His father, Charles Peters, is a building maintenance mechanic at the Hudson Valley Community College. His mother, Sharon Peters, is a clerk at Coecra.**

**METLife Insurance Company Scholarship Award**
The MetLife Award of $2,500 is awarded to the winner of the JET Services Award of $2,500. The award is based on the student’s commitment to the community. The recipient must attend a SUNY school.

**The 2013 winner is Ryan Sirimani of Comstock. His mother, Linda Sirimani, is a principal clerk at the Western Suffolk BOCES.**

**IN MOURNING**
Long-time CSEA activist Genevieve Clark, whose union work spanned four decades, died in late June. She held many leadership posts during those years, including vice president of the Roswell Park Cancer Institute Local, secretary of CSEA’s Western Region, and long-time member of the region contract negotiating teams. Her name will be added to the Headquarters Memorial Plaque.

“Genevieve served her union and her brothers and sisters in many capacities, always willing to take on another task, never wanting the spotlight or public adulation,” CSEA Executive Vice President Mary Sullivan said. “There is no award that could adequately acknowledge the many contributions she has made to our union,” Sullivan added.

**EXTRAORDINARIE**
CSEA member Larry Alberts and his wife, Donna, were recently honored by Albany County as foster parents of the year. Alberts, who works for the state Department of Transportation in Albany, and his wife have loved and cared for nine foster children since 1995. County Executive Michael Breslin praised the couple, who have three sons of their own, for providing the care “so graciously, so consistently, and so willingly…”

**MEMBERS HELPING MEMBERS**
Chenam County Local President Tom Pirozzolo initiated a fund-raising raffle in the Local to help member Ray Parker, a laborer at the Chenam County Department of Solid Waste, whose wife and 19-year-old daughter are both fighting colon cancer. It’s been very difficult for Parker, especially because each one is in separate hospitals and he has no car.

The CSEA Local raised more than $800 for the family from the raffle. Donations to the Parker family may be made to: The Parker Family, c/o attorney Tim Young, 1 West Church St., Elmira, NY 14901. GIVING THE GIFT OF LIFE — CSEA staff members at headquarters stretched their arms for a good cause recently. Fifty units of blood were donated by staff members, beating their goal by two units. The employees also donated blood for the first time.

**IT’S AN HONOR**
Two SUNY Oswego Local members were recently honored with the campus’ first community service awards. The winners are:

**Kevin Dice** and **Marion Green**.

Highway equipment operator Kevin Dice and library clerk Marion Green received the award in recognition of the numerous local volunteer activities they are involved with.

Dice is an assistant scout master with the Boy Scouts, volunteers at a local maritime museum, and serves on the board of trustees for his church. Green has served on the board of directors and taught English as a second language for the Literacy Volunteers of Central New York, has served as her building coordinator for the United Way on campus, and has been active in the campus’ annual toy drive.

The awards were presented as part of SUNY Oswego’s annual employee recognition program.

**LAW SCHOOL HONORS**
CSEA Long Island President Nicholas LaMorte recently received an award from Touro Law School on Long Island for “leadership and vision serving the community by supporting quality legal education.”

**SAVING RETIREMENT**
CSEA joined the New York State Wide Senior Action Council and U.S. Reps. Michael McNulty and Maurice Hinchey to mobilize efforts against President George W. Bush’s plan to privatize Social Security. The Bush administration claims the Social Security system is broken and the only way to save it is by allowing workers to privately invest in stock retirement accounts. CSEA leaders, however, told reporters at a recent Albany press conference that the plan is trying to solve a problem that doesn’t exist because the Social Security system can easily be fixed with minor modifications.
Come join us at

The New York State Fair is at the Empire Expo Center located off Exit 7 of Interstate 690, 3 miles west of Syracuse. Hours of operation are 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily.

It Just Keeps Growing & Growing!

Aug. 23 — Sept. 3, 2001, Syracuse

TWO-FOR-ONE ADMISSION for CSEA members and families on Sept. 1 and 2 during CSEA Weekend.

Clip one coupon at right for each CSEA member and family member and bring coupon(s) to any fair gate for a two-for-one admission on Saturday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, Sept. 2, 2001, only.

Saturday, Sept. 1 and Sunday, Sept. 2, 2001, is CSEA WEEKEND at the New York State Fair in Syracuse. CSEA members and their families will receive two-for-one admission that weekend, compliments of CSEA and the New York State Fair.

CSEA will maintain a booth in the Center of Progress Building on the fairgrounds throughout the entire fair, so stop by and visit the CSEA booth at any time. The two-for-one coupons above, however, are only good during CSEA Weekend, Saturday and Sunday, Sept. 1 and 2.
Giustino Pledges: “Four More Years of Fighting for CSEA

A Message From Nassau County Local 830 President Anthony P.

I would like to thank the members of CSEA for my recent re-election as president of CSEA Local 830.

It is most gratifying to know that I continue to have your support, and you can be assured I will continue to support you.

CSEA has a very sophisticated membership. Our members heads are not turned by a meaningless slogan nor are they ready to place blame on our union for problems not of our making.

They know we have been tackling those difficulties head-on with every tool at our disposal. For the most part, we have been successful.

Since I first took the oath of office as president six years ago, I have endeavored to run a union that maintains open lines of communications with its members.

Toward that end, I launched the CSEA newspaper, the “Nassau County Express.” I started a radio show called “CSEA in Focus.” I established the CSEA Web site www.nassau-csea830.org.

All are designed to keep you informed on union activities and issues. In addition, I set up a program called “The President’s Forum” which brings me and other union officials to your work place for face-to-face meetings. I will continue to make every effort to communicate with you and to listen to your ideas and concerns.

I have stood up many times before Nassau’s elected and appointed officials — both in public and in private — demanding justice for our members and insisting their contractual rights be protected. Sometimes they listen. Sometimes they don’t. But for the next four years, I will be there every time our members are threatened.

Probably the greatest accomplishment of my last term was the approval of a bargaining agreement that essentially set the standard for public sector employees.

With a little less than a year and a half remaining on that contract, we will begin work soon on a new agreement covering 2003 and beyond.

With Nassau’s current fiscal climate, and NIFA breathing down the county’s neck, I expect the upcoming negotiations will be a daunting task.

Nevertheless, you can be certain we will strive to secure the best possible contract for every member of our union.

Once again, I thank you for your support. I promise to you that I will continue to fight relentlessly for the rights and well-being of our members, through political...
LEGAL UPDATE

Seniory Rights are Alive and

By: Louis D. Stober Jr., Esq.

CSEA Regional Attorney

In what has become a steady onslaught of victories concerning the county’s failure to abide by Section 12 (Seniority) in promotions and job assignments, CSEA recently won a case that has sent a very clear message to the county.

In June 1999, the Department of Public Works (DPW) hired a group of Equipment Operator 1s from the outside rather than promoting from the pool of extremely well-qualified employees already in county service.

As a result, four Laborer 1s from DPW filed seniority grievances, claiming the county should have prompted them instead of hiring from the outside.

Three of the four grievances were settled at a hearing and one case went forward on the issues.

In granting the grievance, the arbitrator took an extremely dim view of the department’s actions, saying the department had “tried to circumvent the contract by hiring outside employees and then declaring that it had the managerial right to do so. Such a course does not make for good labor relations and leads to loss of morale among employees.”

In granting CSEA’s grievance, the arbitrator said: “As noted above, the county lacked good faith by ignoring the seniority provision of the contract … In order that these types of violations of the contract do not continue to occur, as other arbitrators have repeatedly found, I believe a message has to be sent to the county that if such violations reoccur, it will be costly for the county. I therefore agree with the union that [the employee] is entitled to the differential in salary between Laborer 1 and Equipment Operator 1 to June 1, 1999, including any overtime he may have lost, with interest of 9 percent. If the county continues to have these types of seniority violations of the collective bargaining agreement, I suggest that the union seek more onerous remedies.” (emphasis added).

As you can see, CSEA’s diligence in...
Report Cites Low Salaries & Job Security As Obstacles to Filling County Jobs

A report by the independent office of Legislative Budget Review has confirmed what CSEA Local 830 President Tony Giustino has been saying for months — the county’s hiring problems are linked to low salaries.

The report, released by LBR Director Eric Naughton, concludes that low starting salaries, skepticism about job security, and the county’s lengthy hiring practices are contributing to a chronic problem in hiring employees.

“The problem, said Naughton, is manifesting itself in the form of eroding services and increased costs for overtime and outside contractors.

“Now is the time to change the system, and those changes should reflect salary levels that are comparable to those in the private sector,” said Giustino.

Naughton’s report makes several recommendations that he believes could lead to filing more than 900 budgeted positions that are vacant.

Vital among those positions are 33 in the Department of Assessment, 11 in the County Attorney’s office and nine in the County Treasurer’s office that could help alleviate the backlog in tax certioraris which are costing the county millions of dollars each year and threatening the loss of $5 million in state aid from the Nassau Interim Finance Authority (NIFA).

NIFA is requiring the county provide evidence that it is trying to reduce the number of its tax certioraris before turning over the $5 million in aid.

The recommendations call for:
• Coordination by the administration in the hiring process so departments are not competing with each other and vacancies are filled where there is the greatest need and/or financial benefit.
• Hiring a consultant to look at salary structure to determine if the perceived low salaries reflect real life. Experts are needed to compare job descriptions and titles.
• The county should make sure its benefits are competitive.
• Improve its investment in its employees by increasing the level of training provided and/or offer tuition reimbursement.
• Eliminate the residency requirement to expand the pool of candidates.
• Maintain the graded salary plan as is, but hire at the higher step for hard-to-fill titles at a cost of about $146,000 for new hires and current employees who would have to be brought in line.

Salaries that are not competitive are also making it difficult for the county to civilianize operations and implement some of the other initiatives in the four-year plan submitted to NIFA.

Civilizing 49 positions would result in savings of $3.4 million over the next three years.

Said legislator Lisanne Altman (D-Great Neck) on behalf of the Democratic majority: “We believe the $146,000 is a minimal investment for a potential savings of $3.4 million. It is vitally important that we undertake whatever measures are necessary to ensure that these positions are filled as quickly as possible with.

New Nassau Labor Coalition

The heads of six labor unions representing employees in Nassau County government announce at a press conference the formation of the Nassau County Coalition of Labor. The unions, which have already been meeting to screen candidates for endorsements, have pledged to work together on matters of mutual concern.

Participating at the press conference were CSEA Local 830 President Tony Giustino, who was the spokesman for the group; PBA President Gary Dellaraba; Detective Association President Robert Howell; Sheriff’s Association President Mike Adams;
CSEA gave Barbara Walker a touching send-off when she retired recently after 19 years as secretary to four CSEA union presidents. The retirement party was packed with more than 150 well-wishers, who turned out to show their appreciation for her friendship and assistance over the years.

Above, is she laughing or crying? Probably a little of both! Barbara Walker sports tears from her eyes as she listens to her special song.

Right, a money tree! Barbara shows her approval of one of her gifts as Diane Ross, left, and Mary D'Amico, CSEA Executive Vice President, look on.

**A Happy Retirement to Barbara Walker**

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**Hawaiian Cruise Among Upcoming Trips Planned by CSEA**

A Hawaiian cruise highlight has been given by Thomas Impagliata, Travel Director, for CSEA members by the union’s in-house travel department.

The CSEA travel program is self-sustaining and is not subsidized with union funds.

With most of this year’s CSEA trips already sold out, there’s still room on these newly scheduled ones. Standards should secure reservations promptly.

The trip to Hawaii will take place April 21-28 and participants will cruise the Hawaiian Islands around the cruise ship “Norwegian Star.”

The ship features 15 restaurants, 14 bars and lounges, swimming pools, hot tubs, spa, fitness centers and much more.

The cruise fare includes all entertainment, such as a bottle of wine in each cabin, a private cocktail party, and a day of snorkeling, swimming, sailing, tennis, dancing, dining and a farewell show in a private dining room.

The cost per person ranges from $1,999 to $3,639 (depending on cabin location) and includes airfare, transfers, in-store sales and baggage handling.

The other departures are more local. The first, set for Saturday, Sept. 28, will include participants on a Mediterranean cruise on the Princess “Sonata”.

The trip departs from New York City January 21, 2014, and will visit ports in Greece, Italy, Turkey and Spain. It includes 277 guests, which includes a children’s lunch with choice of five entrees.

On Wednesday, Dec. 12, CSEA has scheduled a trip to Manhattan to see the Metropolitain Opera production of “A Christmas Carol.”

This trip will include lunch at St. Anthony’s.

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Laugh Your Stress Away At CSEA Workshop

Both by popular demand, CSEA members will have a second opportunity to attend a free workshop on Sept. 20 entitled “The Use of Laughter in Stress Reduction.”

Each one-hour workshop will be conducted again by Lynn Caparco of the Nassau County Employee Assistance Program.

The workshop, sponsored by the Local B-21’s Wellness Committee, is set to begin at 9:15 a.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at CSEA’s Mineola office, with County board floor, in the south wing, lower level. Refreshments will be served.

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Looking for a Truly Unique Gift?

Send that someone special the **Gift of Song**

**Senders of songs are available on request for each occasion as birthdays, engagements, weddings, anniversaries, in memoriam, Christmas, Hanukah, holidays, or any occasion.**

**Price:** $15.00 per song, $25.00 per song if special arrangements are required.

**Ordering Information:**

Mail Package includes taped singing of a 50-second song on a personalized compact disc or digital file. Include a personal message if desired. 

Envelopes must be addressed to: The Christmas Bureau of Sweet Adelines International. 16800 Southottage Drive. Dearborn, Michigan 48126. Please include a self-addressed envelope and postcard. 

Mail for preferred mailing date: Please allow 2-3 weeks for delivery.

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**CSEA Nassau County, Local 830 Member News**

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**CSEA Nassau County, Local 830 Secretary-Treasurer**

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**CSEA Nassau County, Local 830 President**
CBTU Gets Charter For Long Island Chapter

The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists has approved a charter creating a Long Island chapter.

The approval came in May at CBTU’s annual convention in Orlando, Fla.

According to CSEA Public Works Department Unit President Rudy Bruce, who headed the effort to create the chapter, a massive membership drive has been launched.

“This charter allows Long Islanders to carry on the CBTU mission statement as set by the national headquarters,” Bruce said.

Members who want to join may contact membership chairperson Zenobia Samuels at (516) 902-3125 or by writing to: L.I. Chapter CBTU, PO Box 147, Garden City, NY 11530.

The CBTU mission statement reads, in part: “The Coalition of Black Trade Unionists consists of members from 77 international and national unions with 42 chapters across the country. CBTU seeks to fulfill the dream of those Black trade unionists, both living and deceased, who throughout this century have

Golf Tourney to Benefit NUMC Trauma Center

The Nassau Health Care Corp. will host its Second Annual Golf Outing on Monday, Sept. 10 to benefit the trauma center at the Nassau University Medical Center.

The event will take place on the Eisenhower Park Red Course. There will be a noon registration/lunch and a 1 p.m. shotgun start.

The fee for the event is $150, which will cover greens fees, golf cart, lunch and beverages and an open bar and buffet dinner starting 6:30 p.m. at Carltun on the Park.

There is a $100 charge for those who wish to attend the dinner only.

Advanced registration is required by Aug. 15. For more information, call the NUMC Public Affairs Department at
Retiring in the Next Five Years?
CSEA to Sponsor Pre-Retirement Seminar
A free pre-retirement and financial planning seminar that will focus on long-range and short-term planning for members in all tiers will be held Thursday, Sept. 13 from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Nassau Community College in Garden City.

The seminar will also deal with special retirement plans.
The full-day program, sponsored by CSEA Nassau Local 830, will feature representatives from the New York State Retirement System, Social Security Administration, deferred compensation and an insurance representative.

The program will be held in the multipurpose room of the College Center Building. (Use Hempstead Turnpike entrance.)

Lunch will be served. Seating is limited so early registration is suggested by calling Judy or Jewel at

AMT Award
Ambulance Medical Technician Erik Fischer (second from left) receives a plaque from Richard Turan, president and CEO of the Nassau Health Care Corp., in recognition to his dedication to the patients of the Nassau University Medical Center. Also present were Nassau County Police Captain John Fitzwilliam (left) and Inspector Nick Holden (right).
A Long-time Friend of
A Message from
Long Island Region President Nick LaMorte

Political friends come and go, but few in the public arena enjoy the staying power and respect of Assemblyman Tom DiNapoli, who CSEA has endorsed to lead Nassau County from the brink of financial ruin. As the news story and column by Tony Giustino on page 1 of this issue so clearly state, DiNapoli is a fine choice for Nassau County executive.

He has championed our causes and issues for many years in the state Assembly, always taking time to meet with CSEA leaders and members and listen to our concerns.

His work on bills important to our members has been outstanding.

As assemblyman, DiNapoli sponsored many laws and bills of importance to Nassau County CSEA employees. In 1996, he was the prime sponsor of a law which granted Section 207-c medical coverage and full salary protection for Nassau County Ambulance Medical Technicians who are injured on the job.

A year later, DiNapoli was the prime sponsor of another law which granted a 25-year at ??? pay retirement package for Nassau County probation officers.

The assemblyman also sponsors two very important bills to protect Nassau County employees who are injured at work.

The first measure would provide full medical coverage and full salary for civilian employees of the Nassau County jail who are injured on the job.

A second bill, also sponsored by DiNapoli, would provide a ??? performance of duty disability retirement for ambulance medical technicians who are injured in the course of their duties.

DiNapoli’s ability to get things done has extended well beyond the bounds of Nassau County.

In 1998, he was the prime sponsor of a law that extended an option for every county in the state to offer the 25-year at half-pay retirement for county probation officers.

DiNapoli is also sponsoring a pay equity bill that CSEA strongly supports. The bill would make it an unlawful discriminatory illegal for an employer to pay a man and woman a different salary for comparable work. (???)

DiNapoli has one of the best CSEA voting records in the entire state Legislature and has a 100 percent AFL-CIO voting record.

As chairman of the powerful Assembly Committee on Local Governments, DiNapoli has led the way in fighting for budget money for counties across the state, and Nassau County in particular, to make sure important services remain intact.

DiNapoli is a true friend of CSEA has earned our respect and support. I urge all CSEA members and their families to volunteer to work on his campaign and to vote for him on October 21.

Yours in unionism,

Officers to be Installed at 53rd Annual CSEA Dinner

Tickets are now available for the 53rd Annual Dinner Dance and Installation of Officers of CSEA Nassau Local 830.

The event is set for Thursday, Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. at the Jericho Terrace on Jericho Turnpike in Mineola.

Local 830 President Tony Giustino and all the newly-elected Local 830 officers will take the formal oath of office at the dinner. According to CSEA Social Committee Chair Beth Luttinger, the ticket price will stay the same as last year at $60 per person.

Reservations are on a first-come, first-served basis so early reservations are suggested.

Reservation forms can be obtained at CSEA headquarters in Mineola or by calling 571-2910.

Checks should be made payable to “CSEA Nassau Local 830” and sent to 400 County Seat Drive, Mineola, N.Y. 11501, Attn: Beth Luttinger.

Persons or companies which wish to place an ad in the dinner journal have until Sept. 30 to do so.

Journal ads range in price from $75 for a quarter of a page to $500 for the back page.

Training Course

Probation officers, many recently promoted to probation supervisor or assistant deputy director titles, pose during a break from a “Supervisor Skills Training” course at Nassau Community College. Instructor Nick Marletta is in center, front row. The probation course is one of several funded by the Long Island Federation of Labor Workforce Development Center to provide training in various disciplines for Nassau County employees. Other programs, which include computer training, have been

Annual CSEA Picnic

Set for Sept. 22

The CSEA Annual Picnic and Information Fair, which draws nearly 1,000 fun-seekers to Eisenhower Park for a day of food, games and socializing each year, is set for Saturday, Sept. 22.

Advance sale admission tokens, costing $4 for bargaining unit members and $6 for all others, are now available. Children under 5 are free.

Admission cost per person on the day of the picnic will be $6 for bargaining unit members and $7.50 for family and friends.

According to Social Committee Chair Beth Luttinger, this year’s picnic will be held again in the Lindens Area of Eisenhower Park near Parking Field 6A. It will run — rain or shine — from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

The event will feature games for adults and children; dancing to the music of DJ Joey; informational booths, and raffles, prizes and giveaways.

Food will include hamburgers, hot dogs, corn on the cob, barbecued chicken, potato salad, watermelon, soda and punch.

Admission tokens will be on sale at the CSEA
From the Desk of …

Westchester Local 860 President Gary

Welcome To The Jungle

To those of you who were not successful in this past election, I thank you all.

We members need to remember that you offered your time, energy, and commitment. You are now a recognized voice in the members’ minds; people did vote for you. I ask that you continue to participate in the union. If you use this voice to speak for the betterment of all members, and bring the respect of our adversaries, the members will hear you.

If you haven’t yet, tell your Unit president you want to sign up for trainings that are given at the Local in areas like contract negotiations, safety and health, bilingual shop steward, and many others.

The members will see you do this. Again, thank you.

To those who won, I offer congratulations. As the headline says ‘welcome to the jungle.’

This jungle is not really bad, it’s just big. There are contracts, meetings, and personalities to deal with.

Now that your members have given you what you asked for (to be their leaders), allow us, your fellow officers and the whole state CSEA organization, to help.

The skills you will need to lead and to protect your members can be developed and honed with CSEA training that is offered in Local 860’s union offices.

You and your members would do well if you took advantage of these programs.

It is natural that at some time you will need to vent. Sympathetic ears and some good advice are available four times a year (at least) at the Local executive board meetings. The Local, like every Unit, is mandated to have at least four general membership meetings a year.

At the Local level, their Unit presidents represent all members. And the Unit presidents are required to attend. But look at this as a chance to learn from others.

Tyropolis First Union Woman of Distinction

DOBBS FERRY — Mae Tyropolis has union activism in her blood — she grew up in a family of union organizers and later became an activist in CSEA.

Tyropolis, president of the Yonkers School District Unit, was honored for her work in the union and in the community recently when she received the Woman of Distinction Award from the Westchester County chapter of Soroptimist International, a women’s community service organization.

Tyropolis, a 32-year CSEA member, is the first woman to be honored in recognition for union service.

“I feel honored to receive this award from Soroptimist International,” Tyropolis said. “I have worked for my community and for the union for many years, and it’s wonderful to be recognized by so many people.”

In addition to her activism in CSEA, Tyropolis has taught religious education classes at her church and has worked on projects for a variety of non-profit organizations, including the March of Dimes.

In addition to the Soroptimist International’s award, Tyropolis received recognition for her efforts from Yonkers School District officials, Yonkers city officials, Rep. Nita Lowey, state Sen. Nicholas Spano and Assemblyman Michael Spano.

Members of the Yonkers School District CSEA Unit also lauded Tyropolis’ efforts.

“Mae has been a strong leader in our unit,” Yonkers CSEA Vice President Paul Underwood said. “She’s always fighting for us, no matter what.”

And Tyropolis said she has no plans to stop fighting anytime soon.

“Everything that CSEA members in Yonkers have been just handed to us,” she said. “We had to fight for every single thing we have, and I will keep fighting.”

— Janice Marra
Westchester Local 860
UNION NEWS
Offices at
585 W. Hartsdale Ave. Lou Roccuzzo-Editor
White Plains, NY 10607 August 2001

Local 860 Officers
Gary Conley, President
Grace Ann Aloissi, 1st Vice President
Mary Miguez, 2nd Vice President
Louis Roccuzzo, 3rd Vice President
Joseph Roche, 4th Vice President
John Staino, Secretary
Monique Gadson, Treasurer

State Association Board Members
Grace Ann Aloissi
Gary Conley
Michael DelVecchio, President Emeritus

Bylaws need to be current
One of the things that jumped out in this recent election cycle is the number of Units in the Local that do not have or have outdated bylaws for their Units. This is not a small matter. Some Unit elections were affected by this.
We at the Local will be glad to meet with Unit officers to help update or formulate Unit by-laws.
Call Local 860 at (914) 428-6452 and we will set up a time and place. It is not a long or hard process, but it is important.

WHY POLITICS?
Because

WHO CONTROLS MY WAGES?
Elected Officials

WHO CONTROLS WORKING CONDITIONS/ENVIRONMENT?
Elected Officials

WHY POLITICS?
Because...
More on Political Action in future editions. Anyone interested in the political action of the Local or state union, call 428-6452 and give your name, interest, and Unit. Your call will be returned.

Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk
Once again, CSEA Local 860 will be participating in the American Cancer Society Making Strides Against Breast Cancer walk which will be held on Sunday, Oct. 14 at Manhattanville College Campus in Purchase.
We will be actively working to encourage our members to support this worthy cause.
Each year, this fundraising event brings together survivors and their families, friends and community members for a day of fun and fundraising to benefit the ongoing search for a cure.
These walks are being held in 48 U.S. cities and are the fastest-growing breast cancer fundraising awareness events in the country.
Once again, Local 860 and its members hope to be an integral part of this effort.
Put together a team, solicit sponsors and join us Oct. 14. Local 860 will be providing sponsorship sheets to any interested member.
Call the Local for sponsor sheets, information and any other help you might need to get started.
On the day of the walk, registration will take place on the Manhattanville Campus from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. and walk will begin between 9:30 a.m. and 10:30 a.m.

WE HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

Save the Date!
Saturday, Sept. 8
Members of Westchester County Local 860 will join their union brothers and sisters from Long Island and New York City in the New York City Labor Parade.
Contact the Local 860 office or your