

52 out of 72 CSEA Endorsed Candidates Win

Every single seat in the General Assembly - Senate and House - plus all five Congressional seats and one federal Senate seat as well as the following statewide offices: Governor, Treasurer, Comptroller, Attorney General, and Secretary of State were all up for election during the 2022 General Election.

Our CSEA endorsed candidates won all federal offices (Senator Richard Blumenthal, Congressman John Larson, Congressman Joe Courtney, Congresswoman Rosa DeLauro, Congressman Jim Himes and Congresswoman Jahana Hayes) as well as all of the endorsed

continue onto page 4



ABOVE: CSEA-endorsed candidate for Governor, Ned Lamont, secured a second term as governor with a wider win margin than in his 2018 faceoff against Republican Bob Stefanowski winning 56% of the vote.



CSEA Launches New Texting Program

A few months ago CSEA members participated in a union-wide communications survey and after reviewing the results, it was clear that members wanted a texting program.

The survey also outlined that members do not want to be inundated with texts, with the majority of respondents wanting texts sent to them on a weekly or monthly basis. The majority of respondents also told us that

they would like to be texted about workplace/ union updates, meeting reminders and online actions.

Enroll in this new texting program by texting "csea" to 787753. If we have your number in our database, you will also receive a text asking you to opt-into this program. You will be able to opt-out at anytime by texting "STOP" to 787753.

November Special Session

Pandemic Pay, Gas Tax & More!

The Legislature held a special session on Monday, November 28th where an omnibus measure was adopted that addressed the previously advertised pandemic bonuses for private sector essential workers including contracted school bus drivers/ monitors and Care-4-Kids childcare providers, extends the gasoline tax holiday, bolsters funding for winter heating assistance, and makes a technical change to the bottle deposit program. The bill was unanimously approved by the Senate and the House approved it 134-7.

PANDEMIC PAY

More than half of essential workers who

qualified for state-funded coronavirus pandemic bonuses will receive discounted payments under modifications the General Assembly adopted Monday. Leaders of the legislature's Democratic majority said they had no choice, given the limited funds Gov.

Ned Lamont would support for the Premium Pay program. Those who earn less than \$50,000 per year still will receive the full \$1,000 bonus that was advertised however.

Despite demand that far outstripped available resources for bonuses — and a \$2.85 billion budget surplus projected for the current fiscal year — Lamont has refused to give labor advocates all that they've sought for the bonus program. Lamont originally agreed to support only \$90 million. After the extra 21,000 approved applications were recognized, the

governor agreed to increase to \$105 million.

Working with that budget, lawmakers decided to keep grants at \$1,000 — but only for essential workers who made less than \$50,000 per year. That includes about 66,000 or nearly 45% of the 155,000 approved applicants. The rest will receive discounted payments when checks are sent out in January.

Those making more than \$50,000 but less than \$100,000 were also supposed to get a \$1,000 bonus. Instead, the revised schedule includes bonuses of:

continue onto page 5

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

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

Also in this Edition:

Page 2 & 6:

Council 400 December Meeting Schedule

Page 6:

Council 400 Virtual Meeting

Page : 4

Election Results

Page : 4

Jen Corti Honored as Top Volunteer

Page 7:

Family Childcare Provider Update

Page 7:

Part B Reimbursement

Page 7:

Aetna Transition

Page 8:

Go Green!



Meetings And News

The Delegates Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday, December 15th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall

Chapter 401 (Hartford area):
Thursday, January 5th - 12:30 lunch & 1pm meeting
Guest Speaker: Aetna Healthcare Representative
CSEA Union Hall & via Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Patrice Peterson: (860) 416-0306

Chapter 402 (Danbury area):
*Chapter Meeting & Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 14th at Noon
Chuck's Steakhouse
20 Segar Street, Danbury
Cost: \$25 RSVP by December 9th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 402"
Should be mailed to:
Krista Judson, 475 Berkshire Rd.
Southbury, CT 06488
Contact: (203) 231-4176

Chapter 403 (Norwich area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 6th at 11:30am
Montville Polish Club
85 Maple Ave., Uncasville
Cost: \$25 members \$27 guests
RSVP by November 29th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 403"
Should be mailed to:
Richard Kerrigan, 83 Case Street
Norwich, CT 06360

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 13th at 1pm
Manor Inn
1636 Meriden-Waterbury Tnpk
Cost: \$10 members \$20 guests
RSVP by December 1st
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 404"
w/ meal choice in memo and mailed to:
Lynda Mazzaferro, 66 Fern Circle
Waterbury, CT 06708
Contact: (203) 525-9229

Chapter 405 (New Haven area):
*Holiday Party
Thursday, December 15th at 12pm
Cascade Fine Catering
480 Sherman Ave., Hamden
Cost: \$19 member/spouse \$29 guests
RSVP by December 1st
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 405"
William Morico, 470 Ellsworth Ave.
New Haven, CT 06511-2854
Contact: (203) 776-0876

Chapter 406 (Middletown area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 6th at 11am
Athenian Diner
864 Washington St., Middletown
Order off menu, \$10 rebate at Jan. Meeting
RSVP by November 22nd to:
Joe Formica (860) 347-4532 or
Joe Carta (860) 346-6213

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 7th at 12:30pm
Blue Goose Restaurant
326 Ferry Blvd., Stratford
Cost: FREE for members \$16.95 guests
RSVP by December 1st
Donation of canned food or NEW tube socks for homeless greatly appreciated
Call Marge with meal choice: (203) 878-2934

Chapter 408 (Willimantic area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 8th at 11:30am
Georgina's Italian Restaurant
275 Boston Tpke., Bolton
Cost: \$15 members & guests
RSVP by November 24th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 408"
Should be mailed to: Christine Ashe,
141 Love Ln., Coventry, CT 06238
Contact: (860) 742-0667

Chapter 409 (State University Professors)
Friday, December 16th - 10am
CSEA Union Hall & via Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Dave Walsh: (860) 684-4773

Chapter 410 (Windsor Locks area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Monday, December 5th at 12pm
Figaro Restaurant, 90 Elm St., Enfield
Cost: \$18 members & first guests
\$27 each additional guest
RSVP by November 29th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 410"
Should be mailed to: Oscar Gomez,
33 Sylvester St., Springfield, MA 01109
Contact: (413) 246-2829

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area):
*Annual Holiday Luncheon
Thursday, December 15th at 12:30pm
Elaine's, 1841 Berlin Tpke., Wethersfield
Cost: \$15 members & \$35 for guests
RSVP by December 9th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 411"
Should be mailed to: Joy Gutis
34 Farview Rd., Brookfield, CT 06804
Contact: (860) 966-3340

Chapter 412 (Putnam area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 6th at 12pm
Black Dog Bar and Grille
146 Park Road, Putnam
Cost: \$10 members & \$35.20 for guests
RSVP by November 28th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 412"
Should be mailed to: Francis Duquette
PO Box 99, Thompson, CT 06277
Contact: (860) 923-2781
or fduquette@yahoo.com

Chapter 414 (Torrington area):
*Annual Holiday Party
Monday, December 12th at 11am
Log House Restaurant,
110 New Hartford Rd. (rt. 44), Barkhamstead
Cost: \$20 members & \$25 for guests
RSVP by December 5th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 414"
Should be mailed to: Peaches Miller
93 West Avon Rd., Avon, CT 06001
Contact: (860) 830-0632

Chapter 415 (Manchester area):
*Gala Holiday Luncheon
Monday, December 19th at 12pm
The Hollow at Manchester Country Club
305 South Main St., Manchester
Cost: \$20 members & \$25 for guest
RSVP by November 28th
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 415"
Should be mailed to: William A. Dorn
848 Center St., Manchester, CT 06040
Bill Dorn (860) 840-1688
Stuart Clark: (860) 205-0657

Chapter 416 (New London area):
*Holiday Luncheon
Tuesday, December 13th at 12pm
Langley Great Neck Country Club
28 Lamphere Rd., Waterford
Cost: \$16 members & \$32 for guests
RSVP by December 1st
Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 416"
Should be mailed to: John A. Knaff
191 Rogers Rd., Groton, CT 06340
Contact: (860) 857-4244

Chapter 417 (Plainville area):
*Annual Holiday Luncheon
Wednesday, December 14th at 1pm
Plainville Public Library
56 East Main St., Plainville
Catered by Saints of Plainville
Cost: \$10 members & \$15 for guests
RSVP by December 1st
Checks payable to "CSEA Chapter 417"
Should be mailed to: Susan Cavanna
52 Parkside Dr., Plainville, CT 06062
Contact: (860) 793-0004

Chapter 418 (Community College Retirees):
Tuesday, December 6th at 10am
4C's Union Hall
907 Wethersfield Ave, Hartford
Bill Searle (860) 745-3692

Chapter 421 (Daytona, Florida Area)
*Annual Meeting & Luncheon
Wednesday, February 8th, 2023 at 12pm
Halifax Plantation Golf Club
3400 Clubhouse Dr, Ormond Beach, FL 32174
Speakers will include:
Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
Ruth Finizio (860) 680-1860

Chapter 422 (Ocala, Florida Area)
*Annual Meeting & Luncheon
Wednesday, February 1st at 11:30am
Francesco's Ristorante
16770 South Highway, Suite 608
Summerfield, FL 34491
Meal Choice: Chicken Parm., Sirloin Tips,
Whitefish Piccata, Eggplant Rollatini
Includes: Salad, Bread, Dessert, Coffee/tea
Cost: \$17.50 Members & \$22.50 Non-members
Checks payable to "CSEA Chapter 422"
Send checks along with meal choice to:
Hilda Spotts, 513 Fairways Circle Unit A
Ocala, FL 34472
Door Prizes! Speakers will include:
Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
Frank Berlinski (860) 604-7688

**CONTINUE
ONTO PAGE 6**

Visit Our Website: www.CSECreditUnion.com

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

Closed Veterans Day November 11th
Closed Thanksgiving Day November 24th

Dividend Rates - Third Quarter 2022

	Dividend Rate	Annual Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	1.01%	1.00%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	0.25%	0.25%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	0.50%	0.50%

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

7 Full Service Offices To Serve You

NORWICH Uncas on Thames 401 West Thames St. Norwich, CT 06306 (860) 889-7378	HARTFORD 84 Wadsworth St. Hartford, CT 06106 (860) 522-5388 (Savings) (860) 522-7147 (Loans)	NEW HAVEN 1666 Litchfield Turnpike Woodbridge, CT 06525 (203) 397-2949	
MIDDLETOWN Connecticut Valley Hospital P.O. Box 2485 Middletown, CT 06457 (860) 347-0479	STORRS 1244 Storrs Rd. Storrs, CT 06268 (860) 429-9306	SOUTHBURY Southbury Training School P.O. Box 644 Southbury, CT 06488 (203) 267-7610	NEWINGTON O'Neil Plaza 2434 Berlin Turnpike Newington, CT 06111 (860) 667-7668

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

Gone too Soon: CSEA Members Who Have Passed On

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

- | | | |
|---------------------|-------------------|-----------------------|
| Brohinsky, Scott | Guthman, Judith | Pyne, James |
| Brown, Willard | Hassan, Dane | Roberts, Edward |
| Bullacher, Joachim | Hawkins, Deborah | Rzeknikiewicz, Edward |
| Caplet, Susan | Huff, Beretha | Semczuk, Peter |
| Coon, John | Hyland, William | Senchal, Geraldine |
| Debbisi, Raymond | lava, Joyce | Smith, Brien |
| Delamater, John | Jackson, Lois | Spann, Lummie |
| Denenholtz, Shirley | Jain, Ravindra | Stack, Robert |
| Doiron, Shirley | Jordan, Donald | Stedman, Patricia |
| Esposito, Barbara | Kilray, William | Stranzenbach, Susanna |
| Feliciano, Hector | Kutz, Wilhelm | Turcotte, Anna |
| Flanders, Hugh | Lysik, Bronislawa | Waksberg, Florence |
| French, Adela | Mahoney, John | Warren, Robert |
| Gianninoto, Lena | Marshall, Stephen | |
| Gibeau, Lemie | Mezvinsky, Norton | |
| Ginter, Donald | Milliken, Elaine | |
| Goddu, William | Munnett, David | |
| Grosdov, Brenda | Naclerio, Edward | |

CSEA NEWS
 The Voice of Connecticut's
 Public Service Employees & Retirees
 USPS # 224-100 ISSN # 0273-6055
 Published Monthly by:
 CONNECTICUT STATE EMPLOYEE ASSOCIATION
 Local 2001, Service Employees International Union, CTW/CLC

Travis WoodwardPresident
 Beverly LeeSecretary/Treasurer
 David GliddenExecutive Director
 Drew E. StonerCommunication Specialist
 Jason P. WebsterGraphic/ Technical Assistance

INSERTION DEADLINE: 1st of prior month.
 MAILING ADDRESS: CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106;
 PHONES: (860) 951-6614, toll-free: (800) 894-9479, FAX: (860) 951-3526; INTERNET:
www.csea-ct.com.

"CSEA NEWS" (USPS 224-100, ISSN 0273-6055) is published monthly for \$2.80 per year members, \$5.00 per year non-members, by CSEA/SEIU Local 2001, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106-1263. Periodicals postage paid at Hartford, CT. Postmaster: Send address changes to "CSEA NEWS," 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106-1263.

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



2022 General Results

continued from page 1 statewide offices (Governor Ned Lamont, Lieutenant Governor Susan Bysiewicz, Treasurer Erick Russell, Comptroller Sean Scanlon and Attorney General William Tong). CSEA endorsed candidates running for Senate and House seats also had a good night

with 29 of the 45 endorsed House candidates and 12 of the 18 endorsed Senate candidates claiming victory.

You can review the list of all 72 endorsed candidates to the right, those highlighted in green won their races, those highlighted in red lost.

CSEA Member Inducted into the Dream Cruise Hall of Fame

CSEA members are consistently working to make our union, our workplaces and our communities a better place. Department of Correction employees and family members participate in the annual Dream Ride Experience which is a weekend-long event held on August 27-28 at the Farmington Polo Grounds supporting the Hometown Foundation.

The Hometown Foundation, Inc. is a non-profit charitable organization committed to supporting those in need in conjunction with Bozzuto's, Inc., its family of retailers and community business partners. Established in 2002, The Hometown Foundation raises money to support a broad range of programs that meet community needs. The Foundation's focus and commitment center around five key program areas: Animal Welfare, Emergency Response Personnel, Individuals with Intellectual Disabilities or In Need, Major Illness, and the Military. This year \$3,500,000.00 was donated to the Hometown Foundation and our very own Jennifer Corti, DOC State School Teacher and P3B Steward, was inducted into the Dream Cruise Hall of Fame. It'll come as no surprise that Corti was quick to share the honor with the 15-20 DOC staff members who

pair up with Dream Riders in their classic/exotic vehicles for a 12-mile cruise. There is also the Dream Show featuring cars and motorcycles, culminating in the Dream Ride, a Sunday motorcycle tour through the Farmington, Connecticut countryside.

The Dream Ride Experience has evolved into more than a motorcycle ride and a car show. The event also features a Pet Adoption Center, delicious food, live entertainment and music, a Police K-9 Challenge, a Firefighters Chili Cook-Off, vendors, raffles, a family fun zone and so much more.

"Without DOC's manpower and volunteer efforts, the Dream Cruise could not have happened, and that is the truth," Corti said. "The DOC volunteers are organized, work well as a team, take initiative, and carry out a task until the end. Volunteers aside from giving of their time, also lend their smiles, hugging athletes, high-fiving athletes, and providing encouragement, helping to make the Dream Ride weekend the wonderful experience that it is.

"I encourage everyone to think about volunteering next year," said Corti. "It is an event that will have you coming back again and again - just ask someone who has volunteered."



Dream Cruise Hall of Fame Inductee, State School Teacher Jennifer Corti.

Candidate Name	Office	District	Won/Lost
Richard Blumenthal	US Senator	State	Won
John Larson	US Representative	1	Won
Joe Courtney	US Representative	2	Won
Rosa DeLauro	US Representative	3	Won
Jim Himes	US Representative	4	Won
Jahana Hayes	US Representative	5	Won
Ned Lamont	Governor	State	Won
Susan Bysiewicz	Lt. Governor	State	Won
William Tong	Attorney General	State	Won
Sean Scanlon	Comptroller	State	Won
Erick Russell	Treasurer	State	Won
Matt Ritter	Representative	1	Won
Maryam Khan	Representative	5	Won
Jason Rojas	Representative	9	Won
Erica Evans	Representative	14	Lost
Kate Farrar	Representative	20	Won
Peter Tercyak	Representative	26	Won
Gary Turco	Representative	27	Won
Amy Morrin Bello	Representative	28	Won
Brandon Chafee	Representative	33	Won
Christine Palm	Representative	36	Won
Nicholas Menapace	Representative	37	Lost
Nick Gauthier	Representative	38	Lost
Christine Conley	Representative	40	Won
Aundre Bumgardner	Representative	41	Won
Ashley Gillece	Representative	43	Lost
Christopher Rivers	Representative	48	Lost
Kenneth James Trice	Representative	53	Lost
Kevin Brown	Representative	56	Won
Jaime Foster	Representative	57	Won
Matt Despard	Representative	59	Lost
Jane Garibay	Representative	60	Won
Maria Horn	Representative	64	Won
Ronald Napoli	Representative	73	Won
Andrew Rasmussen-Tuller	Representative	77	Lost
Mary Fortier	Representative	79	Lost
Josh Elliott	Representative	88	Won
Rebecca Hyland	Representative	90	Lost
Pat Dillon	Representative	92	Won
Quentin "Q" Williams	Representative	100	Won
Robin Comey	Representative	102	Won
Kara Rochelle	Representative	104	Won
Phoebe Jennine Holmes	Representative	107	Lost
Farley Santos	Representative	109	Won
Bob Godfrey	Representative	110	Won
Frank Smith	Representative	118	Won
Mike Smith	Representative	119	Lost
Philip Young	Representative	120	Lost
Sujata Gadkar-Wilcox	Representative	123	Lost
Jack Hennessey	Representative	127	Lost
Jennifer Leeper	Representative	132	Won
Cristin McCarthy Vahey	Representative	133	Won
Sarah Keitt	Representative	134	Won
Kenneth Gucker	Representative	138	Lost
Dominique Johnson	Representative	143	Won
Corey Paris	Representative	145	Won
Saud Anwar	Senator	3	Won
MD Rahman	Senator	4	Won
Rick Lopes	Senator	6	Won
Cynthia Mangini	Senator	7	Lost
Matt Lesser	Senator	9	Won
Martin Looney	Senator	11	Won
Jan Hochadel	Senator	13	Won
Christopher Robertson	Senator	16	Lost
Jorge Cabrera	Senator	17	Won
Catherine Osten	Senator	19	Won
Martha Marx	Senator	20	Won
Christopher Green	Senator	21	Lost
Julie Kushner	Senator	24	Won
Bob Duff	Senator	25	Won
Mae Flexer	Senator	29	Won
Eva Bermúdez Zimmerman	Senator	30	Lost
Greg Hahn	Senator	31	Lost
Lisa Thomas	Senator	35	Lost

November Special Session

Pandemic Pay & more

\$800 for those earning between \$50,000 and \$60,000;
 \$750 for those earning between \$60,000 and \$70,000;
 \$500 for those earning between \$70,000 and \$80,000;
 \$250 for those earning between \$80,000 and \$90,000;
 \$200 for those earning between \$90,000 and \$100,000.

Those who make between \$100,000 and \$150,000 will get a \$100 bonus instead of the \$200 to \$800 payment that was initially advertised for workers in that earning range. Part-timers will receive \$200 instead of \$500.

Comptroller-Elect Sean Scanlon first announced this “discount” a few weeks ago and CSEA Executive Director David Glidden released the following statement:

“We applaud Comptroller-Elect Sean Scanlon for making his first act after the election an effort to respect frontline essential workers for their sacrifices, but more still needs to be done. By failing to put money aside for all frontline essential workers, including municipal, board and education and IC-designated frontline workers, we are saying their sacrifices don’t matter in the face of another historic surplus.”

PANDEMIC PAY FOR STATE WORKERS

This pandemic pay legislation is separate from the arbitration that SEBAC has entered into for state employee members. SEBAC and the State have selected Susan Meredith as the arbitrator for the pandemic pay arbitration on December 16th.

Lieutenant Samuel Quintana, a CSC member, will be testifying in support of CSEA and SEBAC’s position. Lt. Quintana first caught COVID from a facility back in April of 2020. He spent 9 days in the hospital, 3 of which were in the ICU. As his COVID worsened, his doctor came into the room and told him he was going to administer a medication that would help him fight the virus but there was a chance he wouldn’t make it.

All frontline workers, public and private, deserve recognition of the sacrifices they and their families made to keep Connecticut running during the height of the pandemic. CSEA leadership believes the arbitration is a necessary step toward achieving a just and fair settlement for our members.

GAS TAX HOLIDAY

On April 1st, Connecticut waived its \$0.25/gallon retail tax on gasoline, but it was scheduled to end the holiday

on November 30th. It has now been extended the full tax holiday through December 31st. From there, the gas tax will be reinstated by \$0.05/month: a 5-cent retail tax on gasoline in January, 10 cents per gallon in February, 15 cents in March, 20 cents in April and the full 25 cents starting May 1.

WINTER HEATING ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

The Legislature also committed close to \$35 million in additional state funds, if necessary, to bolster the Low-Income Home Energy Assistance Program, commonly known as LIHEAP, which helps low-income families cover winter heating and other energy costs.

The program traditionally is funded with federal grants. Connecticut has received about \$94 million from Washington this year and has another \$6 million carried over from last year’s budget. Lamont noted that the \$135 million state budget for winter energy assistance would match last year’s level.

The additional \$35 million in state funds would be spent only if Congress doesn’t bolster federal resources for LIHEAP between now and January.



@CSEA2001



@CSEA_CT



@cseaseiulocal2001



CSEA-CT.com

WHY #UNION

AND WHY THE
ULTRA-WEALTHY
WANT UNIONS TO
DISAPPEAR

Without a union...

You're less likely to have a:

PENSION
PAID SICK LEAVE
SAFETY STANDARDS
AFFORDABLE HEALTH CARE

We are better with a union

With a union, we win better pay, better benefits, better job security, better advocacy and we ensure that the services we provide are quality and accessible!

What are union dues?

Every year, state employees face attacks on their contracts and attacks from groups that wish to strip workers from having a voice at work. That's why union dues are important.

We need our independent resources to combat attacks on our wages, benefits safety and our rights.

If we want to negotiate contracts for better wages, benefits and working conditions, we need to pool our resources together.

We are at the mercy of our opponents if we don't act collectively and that includes paying dues so that we can fight for what we deserve collectively.

CSEA Local 2001
SEIU
 Stronger Together

Service Employees International Union, CTW/CLC



Meetings And News

continued from page 2

Chapter 423 (Boca Raton, Florida Area)
 *Annual Meeting & Luncheon
 Monday, February 13th, 2023 at 12pm
 Renzo's Cafe and Pizzeria
 6900 N Federal Hwy, Boca Raton, FL 33487
 Speakers will include:
 Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
 Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
 Ron Herzig (561) 994-6428

Chapter 424 (Sarasota, Florida Area)
 *Annual Meeting & Informational Breakfast
 Monday, February 6th, 2023 at 9am
 Courtyard Marriott
 8305 Tourist Center Dr., Sarasota
 Breakfast Buffet Cost: \$20 per person
 RSVP by February 1, 2023
 Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 424"
 Should be mailed to: Robert Mackiewicz
 414 Pelican Moorings, Venice, FL 34285
 Contact: (941) 497-2370

Chapter 425 (Clearwater, Florida Area)
 *Annual Meeting & Luncheon
 Friday, February 3rd at 11am
 Location TBD
 Speakers will include:
 Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
 Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
 Kevin Sullivan (860) 951-6614 x 118

Chapter 426 (Ft. Myers, Florida Area)
 *Annual Meeting & Luncheon
 Wednesday, February 15th at 11:30am
 KJ's Steakhouse
 10950 S Cleveland Ave, Fort Myers, FL 33907
 Speakers will include:
 Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
 Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
 Deb Gould (203) 630-3565

Chapter 427 (Vero Beach, Florida Area)
 *Annual Meeting & Luncheon
 Friday, February 10th
 Location TBD
 Speakers will include:
 Kevin Sullivan CSEA Retiree Organizer
 Representatives from Aetna & Cigna
 Martha Jurek (860) 558-8172

Chapter 431 (Carolinas Chapter)
 *Annual Meeting & Luncheon
 Tuesday, March 14th at 11am
 Golden Corral
 868 Oak Forest Ln, Myrtle Beach, SC 29577
 Buffet Cost: \$10 per person
 Checks made out to "CSEA Chapter 431"
 Should be mailed to: Virginia Nolan
 3204 S. Memorial Ave., Nags Head, NC 27959
 John Yopp (203) 507-1022

Chapter 441 (Cape Cod Chapter)
 *Holiday Party Luncheon
 Thursday, December 8th at 11:30am
 Alberto's Ristorante
 360 Main St., Hyannis, MA
 Cost: \$20 members & \$40 for guests
 Questions? (774) 237-0220
 Checks payable to "CSEA_SEIU Chapter 441"
 Should be mailed to:
 Sherrill Stott, Treasurer
 52 Sherwood Rd., Harwich, MA 02645

Is your Spouse a Member of Council 400?

The size of our membership is an important way that CSEA Council 400 demonstrates our power, our voice and our strength—and for 2022 we've set out to drastically increase our membership numbers ahead of the 2023 Legislative Session and expected legislative threats.

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

By becoming a member, your spouse

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

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

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

Part B Reimbursement for State Retirees

The standard premium rate for Medicare Part B is scheduled to reduce to \$164.90 per month for 2023.

You likely haven't received your statement from Social Security noting your personal premium amount, but you will soon.

What do you do next?

If you are already receiving reimbursement and you receive a notice that your premium will be \$164.90 for your Part B, you don't have to do anything!

If you receive notice from Social Security that your premium is higher than \$164.90, and you will also be paying an additional amount for Part D, you will need to report the information to update your monthly reimbursement in your pension. This year, you will need to send the information to Aetna, who is now taking over processing the Part B reimburse-

continue onto page 7

December Council 400 Quarterly Virtual Meeting Aetna & Comptroller's Office

The next Quarterly Virtual Meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 14th at 4pm. We will be discussing the upcoming transition to Aetna Medicare Advantage plan for retirees age 65 and over. Please view the information below:

**Quarterly Virtual Meeting
 Wednesday, December 14th at 4:00PM**

Speakers: Rae-Ellen Roy, Assistant Director of Policy and Benefits Division of the Comptroller's Office, & Kristin Grose, Aetna Representative.

If you have email you will receive a Zoom link to the virtual meeting but you can call into the meeting at:
1-929-205-6099 and enter Meeting ID: 838 68018842

Important numbers to have on hand:

Aetna Customer Service: 1-855-648-0391

Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528

UnitedHealthcare Dedicated Hearing Aid line: 1-855-523-8355

Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537

UnitedHealthcare: 1-888-803-9217

Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533

Caremark: 1-800-318-2572

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

Cigna: 1-800-244-6224

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

HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal:
<https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>

Hartford School Crossing Guard Meeting Notice

Tuesday, December 13th at 10:00AM at the CSEA SEIU Local 2001 Union Hall
(760 Capitol Avenue, Hartford)

Agenda: Nominations and Elections of Officers and Negotiation Team Members

Contacts: Rosa Salto (Rsalto@csea760.com) and Julius Preston (JPreston@csea760.com)

Family Child Care Provider News

Noticias para Proveedores de Cuidado Infantil

GET TO KNOW YOUR LEADERS: Jeannine Lewis
Ms. Lewis has been a licensed childcare provider and owner of Cozy Giggle Garden Daycare, LLC for the past 18 years in New Haven. She has over 24 years of experience in childcare and describes her daycare as a warm and friendly learning center where your child can stretch their imagination and challenge themselves with new and engaging activities receiving praise and support. Ms. Lewis is the Lead Organizer for the South Central

region and currently serves as the Alternate Delegate to the Executive Council, where she is able to represent childcare providers at the CSEA Biennial Convention, and other childcare-related events. She is also a member of the Negotiations and By-Laws Revision Committees. Ms. Lewis has been a very active leader and advocates for childcare providers statewide. Words from Ms. Lewis: "Knowledge begins with a listening ear." Fun Fact: Ms. Lewis loves word games.

CONOZCA A SUS LÍDERES:
Jeannine Lewis
La Sra. Lewis ha sido una proveedora de cuidado infantil con licencia y propietaria de Cozy Giggle Garden Daycare, LLC durante los últimos 18 años en New Haven. Tiene más de 24 años de experiencia en el cuidado infantil y describe su guardería como un centro de aprendizaje cálido y amigable donde su hijo puede expandir su imaginación y desafiarse a sí mismo con actividades nuevas y atractivas donde reciben elogios y apoyo. La Sra. Lewis es la Organizadora Líder de la región Centro

Sur y actualmente se desempeña como Delegada del Concilio Ejecutivo, donde puede representar a los proveedores de cuidado infantil en la Convención Bienal de CSEA y otros eventos relacionados con el cuidado infantil. También es miembro de los Comités de Negociaciones y Revisión de Estatutos. La Sra. Lewis ha sido una líder y defensora muy activa de los proveedores de cuidado infantil en todo el estado. Palabras de la Sra. Lewis: "El conocimiento comienza con un oído que escucha". Dato curioso: ¡A la Sra. Lewis le encantan los juegos de palabras!

Aetna Transition Update for State Medicare Advantage Program

By now all state retirees should have received a letter from the Office of the State Comptroller stating that anyone age 65 and over (i.e Medicare eligible) will be transitioning to the Aetna Medicare Advantage plan effective January 1, 2023. This means that those currently enrolled in the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plan will be transitioning to Aetna at that time. CSEA leaders are working hard to assure that the transition goes smoothly. It is important to remember that coverage and benefits remain the same - it is only the insurance carrier that will change.

What exactly does that mean? Do I need to do anything?

The only thing you will have to do is provide your new Aetna

Medicare Advantage Card to your physicians and pharmacy. Your prescriptions and any procedures or surgeries you have scheduled should transfer right over and your physicians should not need to provide a new prescription or any additional prior authorizations. You will receive your new card in December. You do not need to request this new Aetna card; it will automatically be sent.

The Comptroller's letter provided a customer service phone number for Aetna, that you can call in advance if you have any specific questions. That phone number is 1-855-648-0391 Monday through Friday 8AM-9PM, or you can visit www.CT.AetnaMedicare.com to learn more. The letter from Aetna also pro-

vided information about opting out of this plan. It is a federal requirement from Medicare that you receive information on how to opt out. **CSEA STRONGLY URGES THAT YOU DO NOT OPT OUT OF THE PLAN! THIS IS THE SAME COVERAGE THAT YOU HAVE NOW, JUST A DIFFERENT CARRIER.** You've worked hard in your state career to achieve these retiree health benefits and you should not give those benefits up!

It is important to clarify that opting out does not allow you to stay with United because United will no longer administer our plan - instead, opting out means that you are giving up your state-provided health coverage altogether. As such, if you opt out you would need to wait another

year to rejoin the plan, and in that period of time you will not have the same coverage you have now. Any other plan you choose would be inferior to your state retiree health insurance plan and **MORE COSTLY.**

CSEA will be hosting a virtual quarterly meeting in December with an Aetna Representative to review the information you will need for a smooth transition. Please see meeting details on Page 2.

Again, as with the last transition in 2018 to the UnitedHealthcare Medicare Advantage plan, we will be here to help you with any issues you may have and will provide you with any information you need to have!

Part B Reimbursement for State Retirees

continued from page 6

ment information. Do not send information to UnitedHealthcare There are several ways you can report this information. Make a copy of your SS statement showing the amount you will be paying, and mark your state employee ID number above your name. For your spouse, include your name and your state employee ID number on the copy. All information must be submitted to Aetna, no later than February 28, 2023. You may submit by either:

MAIL TO:

Aetna, Inc.
PO Box 7083
London, KY 40742

EMAIL TO:

medicareenrollmenttransactions@aetna.com

FAX TO:

1-855-481-3124.

If you send by mail they are stating **DO NOT SEND CERTIFIED.** If you are able to, it's recommended that you email your information. You will receive a confirmation of receipt of your email.

Why Might You Be Charged a Different Rate?

If your Medicare premiums are something other than \$164.90 per month for 2023 it may be because:

You have higher annual earnings; you will be charged a Medicare Parts B and Part D Income Related Monthly Adjustment Amount (IRMAA). Those retired prior to August 1, 2022 are

eligible for reimbursement of this total monthly rate. Those retired on or After August 1, 2022 are eligible for reimbursement of 50% of the additional monthly rate. Your premium may be less than \$164.90 due to the "hold harmless" provision that limits Medicare premiums if the increase would exceed the amount of the member's cost of living adjustment from Social Security. Please note, if it is determined mid-year that your rate is less than \$164.90 any amounts over refunded will be recovered by the State of CT.

Important - all updates must be submitted no later than February 28, 2023 for full reimbursement. Any updates submitted after February 28, 2023 will only be prospective from the date of receipt by Aetna.

Holiday Travel & #UnionsForAll

CSEA Supports Airport National Day of Action

Airlines are making holiday travel a nightmare. We're fed up with the same headlines every holiday season: *Massive flight delays. Thousands of lost bags.* They're jacking up prices and making record profits while failing to ensure adequate staffing at airports.

Despite receiving billions in our public tax dollars, airlines have failed to put our tax dollars toward improving conditions for passengers and working people. That won't fly any longer.

Airlines and airport contractors have kept wages so low that many airport workers haven't seen their wages budge in the last 20 years. No wonder air travel's a mess. The working people who

help keep it functioning need to be respected, protected and paid!

That's why airport service workers and allies are taking action to demand accountability. Airport workers are rising up to demand airlines put the billions they get annually in our tax dollars toward improving the air travel experience.

Working people are calling on Congress to do more than say they're with us. They need to show us by passing the Good Jobs For #GoodAirports Act to ensure the working people who help make air travel possible have a living wage and benefits they can care for their family on! Join us for the Airport National Day of Action: bit.ly/3hFpjsD



Air travel has been in disarray with flight cancellations, thousands of lost bags, and long security lines, but Council 400 member Joan Holley found smiles in the cockpit in preparation for her first ever airplane ride!

Go Green!

Opt-In to our Digital CSEA News

Did you know that the average person in the US uses more than 700 pounds of paper per year? Or that despite global digitalization, paper usage has actually grown 126% in the last 20 years in the US?

The CSEA News has been an integral part of our communications program for decades, but it is 2022 and we have a host of resources to reduce our carbon footprint and "Go Green." The most effective way for our members to "Go Green" is to request that the CSEA News be sent digitally rather than a hardcopy in the mail!

"Going Green" not only helps decrease the amount of paper waste in our landfills, but it also reduces ink waste and the carbon emissions from delivery. Many of our CSEA members have been interested in decreasing their carbon footprint and opting into the

digital E-Newsletter is a great way to take a small step towards a greener future! Every month you will receive this digital paper in your email inbox - all of the same information, just a lot less waste! To opt into the Go Green E-Newsletter, simply visit bit.ly/GoGreenCSEA and fill out the form.

To make your communications experience even easier, we've launched a BRAND NEW WEBSITE! Visit CSEA-CT.com or SEIU2001.org and let us know what you think - give us feedback on what you like, don't like and what you want improved by visiting bit.ly/CSEAWebSiteInput (case sensitive).

If CSEA has your email address, then you've already received this survey in your inbox, but if we don't then it is also a good opportunity for you to update your contact information by visiting bit.ly/UpdateCSEA (case sensitive).

Sponsored Content

Farmers GroupSelectSM

AUTO AND HOME* INSURANCE THAT FIT YOUR UNIQUE NEEDS



CSEA/SEIU Local 2001 members, take advantage of special savings today!

Farmers GroupSelect offers the following discounts and benefits:

- Group discounts of up to 15%[†]
- Automatic payment discount
- Good driving rewards
- A loyalty discount for your years of service**
- Multi-vehicle savings
- 24/7 superior service

Call today for free quotes: 800-438-6381

Provide your discount code: BAR

*Home insurance has limited availability in MA and is not part of Farmers GroupSelect benefit offering in FL.

**Not available in MA.

[†]Based on the average nationwide discount available in 2020 through the Farmers GroupSelectSM program for eligible individuals. In some instances discount is higher.

Advertisement produced on behalf of the following specific insurers and seeking to obtain business for insurance underwritten by Farmers Property and Casualty Insurance (a MN licensee) and certain of its affiliates: Economy Fire & Casualty Company, Economy Premier Assurance Company, Economy Preferred Insurance Company, Farmers Casualty Insurance Company (a MN licensee), Farmers Direct Property and Casualty Insurance Company, Farmers Group Property and Casualty Insurance Company, or Farmers Lloyds Insurance Company of Texas, all with administrative home offices in Warwick, RI. Coverage, rates, discounts, and policy features vary by state and product and are available in most states to those who qualify. 3875242.1 © 2021 Farmers Insurance®.