

THE PUBLIC SECTOR

Official Publication of The Civil Service Employees Association, Local 1000,
American Federation of State, County and Municipal Employees AFL-CIO.

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YOU

ARE WHAT
LABOR DAY
IS
ALL
ABOUT!

INSIDE

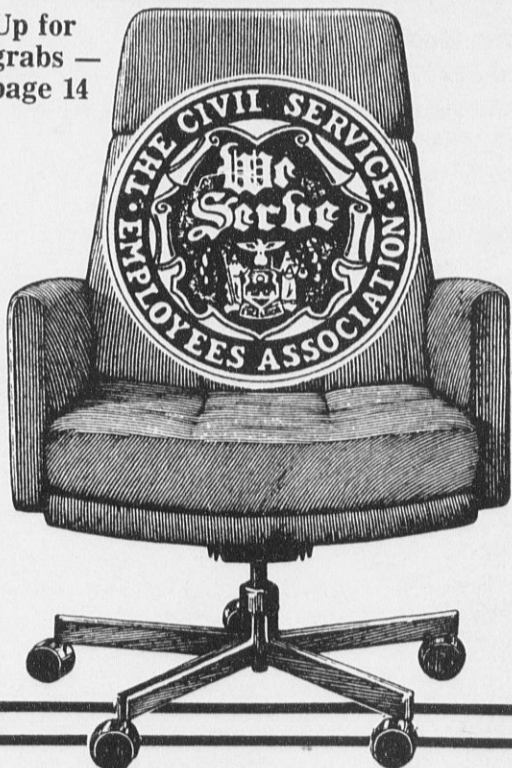


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Public SECTOR

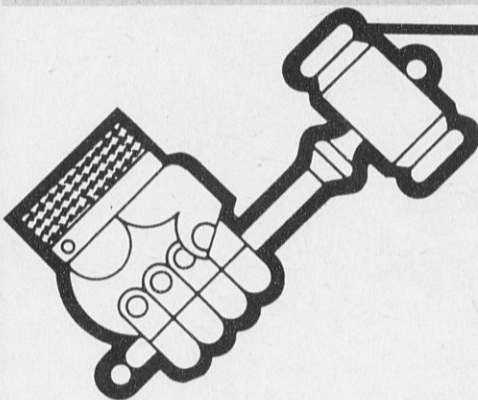
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AARON SHEPARD.....Publisher
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It's a deal for DFY workers

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



ATTENTION Office of Court Administration employees

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

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

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

Job descriptions

Copies of your job descriptions are now available. Just write:

Wayne McGrath
 Office of Court Administration
 Personnel Office
 270 Broadway
 New York, NY 10007

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Honoring those who give more than service

CSEA plans tribute to on-the-job heroes

Labor Day 1987 will take on a very special meaning when you and thousands of other CSEA members across New York join in various parades and other special events.

Instead of just celebrating Labor's great accomplishments, CSEA will use the occasion for a more somber message — Honoring those public employees who have given more than just service. At the request of CSEA President William L. McGowan and the rest of the union's statewide officers, CSEA Labor Day participants will don black armbands as a tribute.

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

- * Clara Taylor, a mental health therapy aide at Rockland Psychiatric Center and mother of nine children, was brutally murdered while working alone. CSEA believes irresponsible understaffing contributed to her death and is mounting a major campaign for safer conditions in the state's mental health and mental retardation facilities.
- * Alfreda Syzmanski, died after falling into the deep end of an empty swimming pool while on duty as a custodian at the Depew Schools in western New York.
- * William Gieb, a sanitation worker for the Village of East Aurora was picking up garbage when he was pinned beneath the wheels of the truck.

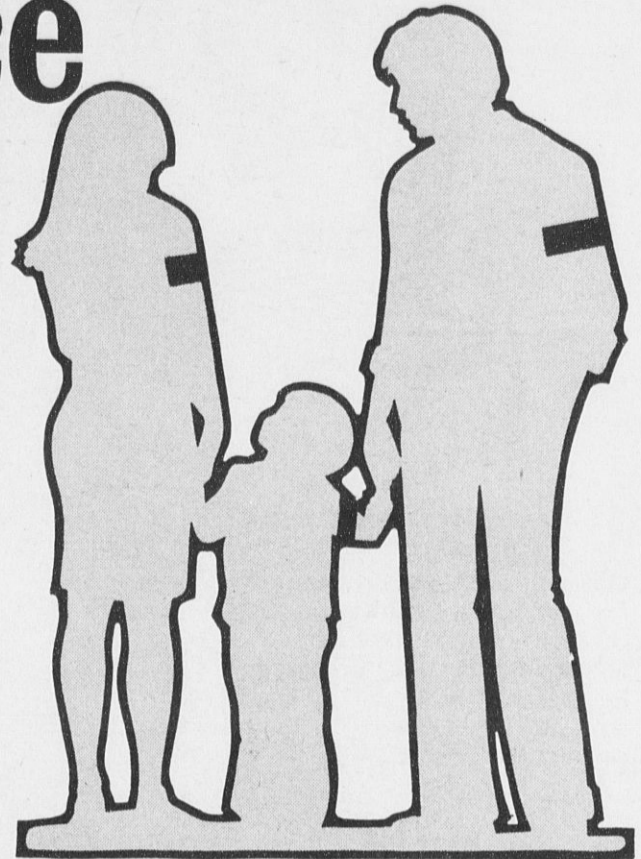
Although not technically a member, 21 year-old Kelly Dwyer, a college student, was killed while at work as a temporary employee with an Onondaga County highway crew on Aug. 12. Dwyer was crushed when a



nine-ton highway roller flipped on top of him (See story—Page 13)

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

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

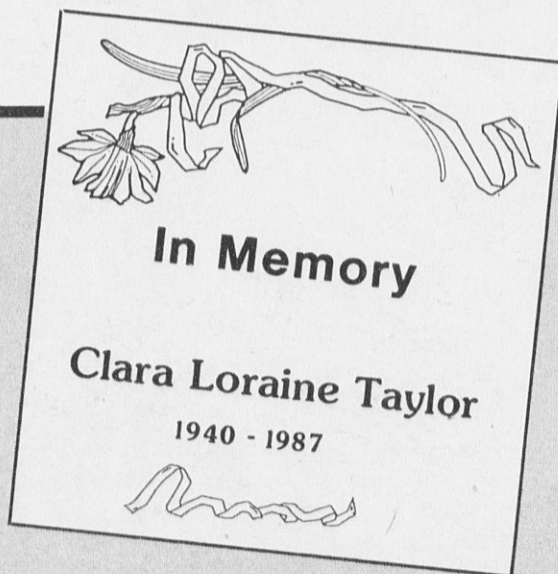


make every public service job completely safe, the union also believes that much can be done to reduce the risks.

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

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

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



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

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

Labor Day events

Region I
(516) 273-2280
Region II
(212) 514-9200
Region III
(914) 896-8180

All three regions will participate in the New York City Parade. Gather at W. 46th Street between 6th and 7th Avenues — 11 a.m. Contact your regional office for further details.

Region IV
(518) 489-5424

Albany Parade/Rally/Picnic. Gather at Central Avenue and Robin Street— 12:30 p.m.

Region VI
(716) 886-0391

Rochester Parade and Picnic. Gather at Manhattan Square Park— 9 a.m.

Williamsville (Buffalo) Parade begins at Noon.

Letchworth incinerator

CSEA gets a hearing



CSEA REGION III President Pat Mascioli, Local 412 President Brian Cox and CSEA Health and Safety Director James Corcoran testified at a public hearing on the proposed Letchworth Incinerator. CSEA played a major role in convincing the state to conduct the hearing.

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

By Anita Manley

CSEA Communications Associate

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

"While members of CSEA certainly recognize that refuse dumping and the lack of available landfills is a serious problem,

we will continue to demand, on behalf of our members who live and work here, accountability throughout each step of the project," he said.

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

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

"We are concerned with the

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

Circumventing regulations creates controversy
Union, legislators incensed
over Letchworth incinerator

Compiled by Anita Manley
 CSEA Communications Associate

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

CSEA charges the state circumvented many of its own regulations regarding construction and operation of such a facility. Union Health and Safety Specialist Donald Wood says the state failed to conduct an environmental impact study, failed to obtain permits to construct, install or operate the incinerator facility and did not conduct any public meetings or hearings before starting construction.

Rockland County state assembly

TAKING A STAND — Local 412 Vice President Martin Sherow greeted Letchworth Developmental Center employees and local residents who attended a public hearing on the Letchworth incinerator. With Sherow is Ron Roberts, a Public Employee Federation shop steward at Letchworth.

Management walkout

Power-play fails; OMRDD breaks off L/M meeting

ALBANY — CSEA's statewide labor/management process with the Office of Mental Retardation and Developmental Disabilities (OMRDD) was thrown into chaos when management walked out on the union during a meeting here last week.

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

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

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

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

"I'm proud of the CSEA committee for standing its ground," he added.

"This situation goes to the heart of whether we can negotiate anything with OMRDD," comments CSEA Deputy Director for Contract Administration Jim Cooney. "It's obvious to me they had no intention of finishing our items."

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

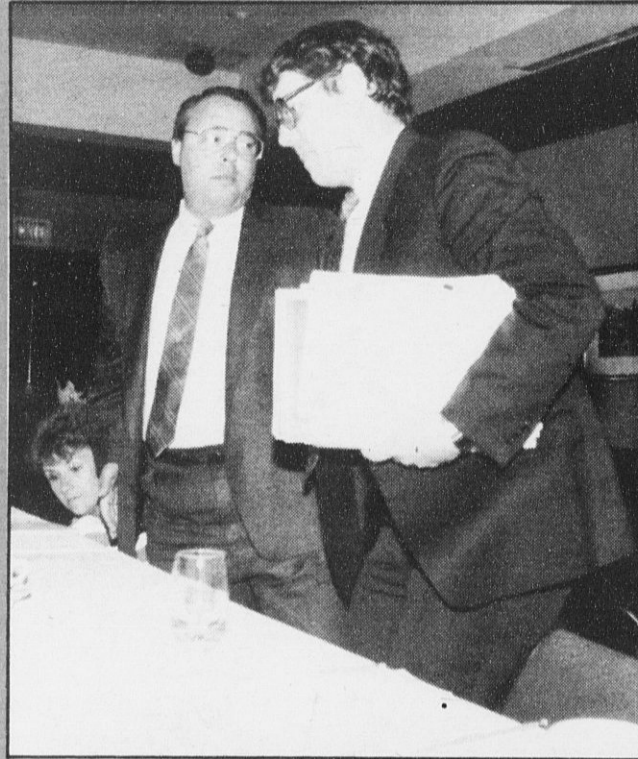
Although CSEA made several attempts to move the meeting toward constructive dialogue, OMRDD emphatically rejected each proposal.

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

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

"We need face-to-face meetings with the decision-makers — not just sessions where they tell us 'we'll get back to you' "

Unless CSEA receives that commitment from OMRDD to make the process work, the union intends to push its agenda through other procedures and approaches.



Going...

OMRDD Employee Relations Director Sheldon Kramer leads the management walkout from discussions with CSEA.



OMRDD tried to change longstanding procedures on setting the labor-management agenda without discussing it with CSEA.

Gone.

The changes would have limited CSEA's opportunity to raise key issues.

When CSEA stood firm about the procedures, the management team broke off the discussions.



Not again!

Another opening date, another cancellation

By Charles McGeary
CSEA Communications Associate

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

Day care to open in Dutchess County

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

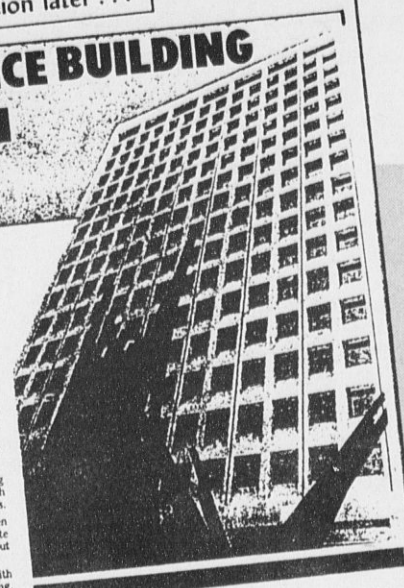
In the photograph at right, Harlem Valley Psychiatric Center Local 409 President Henry Walters goes over plans for the day care center with Darlene Walsh, president of the center's board of directors.

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

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

4 years and \$23 million later ...

BINGHAMTON OFFICE BUILDING SLATED TO REOPEN IN OCTOBER



BINGHAMTON — More than four years after an electrical fire and toxic contamination forced the closing of the 18-story Binghamton State Office Building, a target date of Oct. 1 has been set for its reopening.

According to David R. Rings, executive coordinator for the Office of General Services, the cleanup and renovation of the downtown tower is progressing on schedule. The initial effort to restore the normal air flow to the building was completed Feb. 22.

Rings discussed the progress of the cleanup at a recent meeting requested by CSEA, and said he would continue open communications with the union and state employees.

Some 700 state employees — more than a third of them CSEA members — from more than 30 state agencies worked at the building before the fire and explosion in an electrical transformer occurred on Feb. 5, 1981.

Since then the employees have been working at about a dozen temporary work locations in downtown Binghamton.

From the beginning CSEA has been a highly visible leader in protecting employees' rights and health and safety, and has helped workers with such matters as relocation, restoration of lost time, and personal property claims.

Although periodic progress reports of the \$23 million cleanup have been issued through the media, CSEA representatives said they plan to distribute their own survey to determine what concerns state employees still have about returning to work in the building.

CSEA also has requested a series of informal orientation meetings with employees to further explain the renovation and timetable for reopening. Rings agreed to meet with employee groups and said he will try to arrange for an international panel of experts to meet with employees in May.

The contamination of the office building has been called "one of the most significant environmental events of the last decade."

The entire structure was filled with some of the most hazardous toxic chemicals, including furans, biphenyls, PCBs and dioxin.

The building has been completely sealed since the accident, and according to Rings, it was totally stripped "to the bare bones." He said the complete renovation includes totally new equipment and furnishings.

The tentative timetable released for the reopening of the building is produced in the adjacent box. Dates could be revised due to unexpected delays.

Representing CSEA during the recent meeting to discuss the cleanup were Occupational Safety and Health Representative Chris Jamison; Region V Director Frank Martello; CSEA statewide Director of Occupational Safety and Health James Corcoran; Binghamton State Employees Local 002 President Tim Henehan; Local 002 member Tammy Howard; CSEA A Field Representative Michael Jablonski; and Region V Communications Associate Charles McGeary.

TENTATIVE TIMETABLE

Feb. 22:	First venting or restoration of normal air flow to building.
March 15:	Additional surface samples taken; results of laboratory samples taken prior to the first venting of the building.
March 22:	Results of laboratory samples taken after venting.
April 15:	Results of surface samples taken in March.
May 1:	(Approximate) International panel of experts return to Binghamton.
Oct. 1:	Target date for reopening of building.

COSTS CONTINUE TO MOUNT and yet another year has lapsed since the Binghamton State Office Building was slated to reopen. This article, published in the March 8, 1985 edition of *The Public Sector*, related an expected reopening date of October 1, 1985 after numerous delays already and \$23 million spent. Six and one-half years and \$40 million later, the building's reopening is still not in sight.

The state estimates it has spent \$40 million in the effort since the disaster spread toxic PCBs, dioxin and dibenzofurans throughout the structure in the heart of downtown Binghamton.

The State Bureau of Cancer Epidemiology has indicated a follow-up survey of records of nearly 500 people who entered the building during the fire or its immediate aftermath showed normal death, birth and cancer patterns.

The latest survey, which followed a medical surveillance program begun soon after the disaster and a mail survey in 1984, matched data from building workers with the state and Broome County. However, the report also pointed out that illnesses often do not occur until at least 15 to 20 years after exposure.



'Take stock in America'

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

Response to the 1986-87 U.S. Savings Bond Campaign, with

McGowan's support as capital district area chairman, was so overwhelming that New York was ranked first among all state governments as a result.

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

WORKERS IN PERIL

Death and danger are lurking at highway work zones



THEY'RE FORTUNATE — None of these state DOT employees were injured when a van veered into their work area on Interstate 81 in Oswego County on Aug. 5, but four occupants of the van were killed and two were injured. A parked state truck shielded the workers from harm or the fatalities might have been even higher.

— Photo by John Berry — Syracuse Post-Standard

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

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

Six state Department of Transportation (DOT) employees in the work zone were shielded from injury by the parked truck. The six workers are all members of CSEA.

The van carrying the six Canadians was behind a tractor trailer as both vehicles entered a well-marked work zone when the first vehicle apparently slowed abruptly, according to DOT employees working at the

site. The van veered around the truck, knocked over traffic cones marking the work zone and smashed into the DOT truck. The tractor trailer failed to stop and left the scene.

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

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

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

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

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

"WATCH OUT FOR US" bumper stickers, part of CSEA's public awareness campaign directed at motorists, are available from CSEA local presidents, who may order the stickers by using the adjacent order form.



Watch out for US

We're working for YOU!

★ CSEA MEMBERS MAINTAINING YOUR ROADS ★
CIVIL SERVICE EMPLOYEES ASSOCIATION, Local 1000 AFSCME, AFL-CIO

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

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

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

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

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

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

Number of stickers ordered: _____

Send to:

President of
CSEA Local _____

(Name) _____

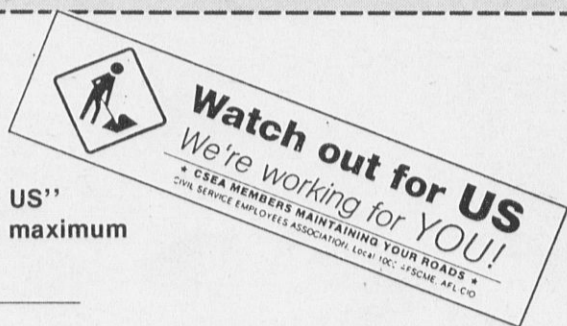
(Address) _____

(City) _____

(State) _____

(ZIP) _____

(signature) _____



Finally . . . New CONTRACTS For Onondaga and Orange Counties

Solidarity key to new agreement in Onondaga

SYRACUSE — The more than 3,700 members of CSEA Onondaga County Local 834 have won a new two-year contract, concluding a year of hard-fought negotiations.

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

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

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

- * An increase in salary of 4 percent the first year, plus step increments.
- * An increase of 4.5 percent, plus step increments, effective Jan. 1, 1988.
- * Continuation of a health insurance plan with the same coverage.
- * Improvement in contract language regarding the posting and bidding of county jobs.
- * Increased shift differential for



WE HAVE A CONTRACT! announced Onondaga County CSEA Local President Dale King, left, after contract votes were tabulated. The new agreement concludes a lengthy negotiating ordeal that began last September.

- employees working after 3 p.m.
- * Improved parking arrangements for county employees required to use their own vehicles.

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

The breakthrough in negotiations was the acceptance by both sides of the

recommendations of the PERB fact finder.

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

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

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

Orange County OKs three-year pact



ORANGE COUNTY UNIT PRESIDENT Dave Score and Region III Director Diane Campion helped conduct informational meetings held for three days prior to the contract vote.

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

Terms of the contract include:

- * A pay increase of 6.75 percent the first year.
- * An increase of 6 percent effective Jan. 1, 1988.
- * An increase of 5.75 percent effective Jan. 1, 1989.
- * Salary upgradings, longevity payments, disability insurance, shift differential, tuition reimbursement and overtime pay for holidays.

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

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

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

"A conscious effort has been made to meet the concerns raised by the members on July 1," said Sparber.

A Labor Day message



You are what Labor Day is all about! You, the 250,000 members of CSEA who drive the trucks, care for the infirmed, cater to the needy, tend to our school children, are involved in almost every facet that affects the people in the State of New York. You are the major ingredient that makes this the great Empire State. You should take pride in that, but you should also remember that this house of labor was constructed by your forefathers.

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

But what concerns me most on this Labor Day is the fact that many of our members, your brothers and sisters, are being killed and injured while trying to do their job. According to the

most recent statistics provided by the National Safety Council, government workers are the fourth-highest group subject to death and injury; exceeding construction, mining and other "heavy" industries.

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

With this in mind, I am asking that all of us who participate in a Labor Day parade wear the traditional black arm band of mourning.

Not only for Clara Taylor, but for all of our members who face the threat of death or injury while working to serve the people of New York.

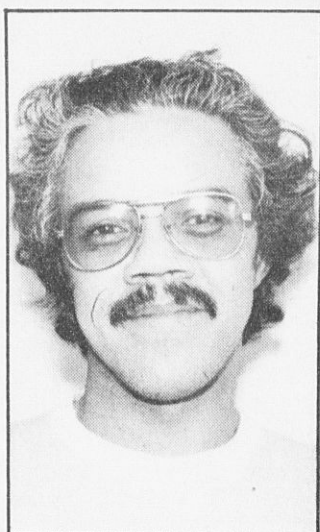
Remember, You are what Labor Day is all about!

William L. McGowan
CSEA President



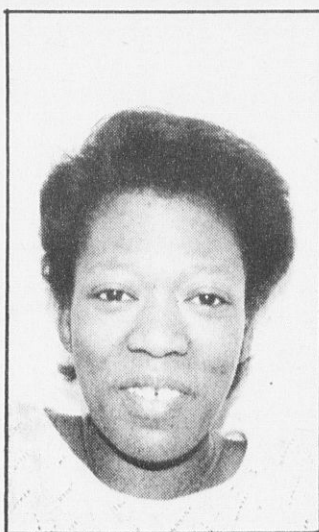
"As a public employee, what concerns you this Labor Day?"

**Where asked:
Metropolitan Region II**



WILLIAM SALDANA
Stationery Engineer
CSEA Local 446

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



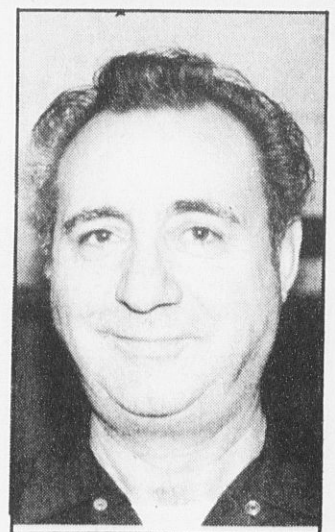
DOLORES HOLMAN
MHTA
CSEA Local 419

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



YVONNE S. RIDLEY
Electrician
CSEA Local 413

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



NAT SARACINA
Sheet Metal Mechanic
CSEA Local 646

"My own working conditions are better now, but they tried to close up Downstate Hospital this year. That's why I'm really glad we have our union to fight for us."



PUBLIC EMPLOYEES: PEOPLE WHO MAKE A BIG DIFFERENCE

What goes around, comes around. The way Labor Day is celebrated in this nation is a good example.

The decade of the '80s has seen a strong resurgence of enthusiasm for celebrating Labor Day in the fashion intended when it was first conceived.

The tradition is well over 100 years old. It can be traced to Sept. 5, 1882, when tens of thousands of working-class citizens paraded through New York City. America's first Labor Day celebration — complete with a parade, a picnic, dancing and fireworks — was described by one of its founders as "a demonstration of fraternity and the harbinger of a better age — a more chivalrous time when labor shall be honored and well rewarded."

New York had already declared Labor Day a state holiday by the time President Grover Cleveland signed an act in 1894 making Labor Day a national holiday.

Over the ensuing decades, however, Labor Day somehow lost its lustre. Parades disappeared and the holiday instead marked the

unofficial end of summer, the last long weekend before school began.

But in 1981 Labor Day and the labor movement roared back and the historic Solidarity Day demonstration in Washington, D.C. keyed a strong renewal of the festivities, parades and spirit associated with earlier Labor Days. Each year since on Labor Day, working men and women of America, in greatly increasing numbers, have proudly displayed their pride in themselves, the products their labor produces and their nation.

It is fitting that America honors working men and women each year, for they are the backbone of the country: People who — on and off the job — make the American system work and make the difference between excellence and obsolescence.

Public employment is particularly blessed with people who make a difference in the lives of their fellow man. CSEA salutes a few of them on these pages. For each story we publish here, there are scores more scattered throughout our ranks that are equally deserving. A tip of the hat to each of you. Well done.



DENNIS McEVROY — "one of those special human beings..."

'type of guy who will help anyone'

By Charles McGeary
CSEA Communications Associate

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

McEvoy, a long-time CSEA member, is a senior custodian in the West Canada Valley School District in Herkimer County, where he has been employed for 28 years.

A former president of the West Canada Valley School Unit of Herkimer County CSEA Local 822, McEvoy has also served his Newport community as a village trustee. The always-busy McEvoy has also been a member of the volunteer fire department for more than 30 years, including eight years as chief. He also holds the post of county officer in the Herkimer County Firemen's Association.

In addition, McEvoy is a 10-year active member of the Kuyhahoor Valley Volunteer Ambulance Corps and has participated in many hours of required emergency medical training (EMT).

"Any friend or neighbor with a problem, whether it be sickness, tragedy or any emergency — big or small — Dennis is the first one on the scene to help in some way," says Laura Waterbury, current president of the CSEA unit at West Canada Valley

School. "Dennis McEvoy is one of those special human beings who spends freely and good naturedly of himself for his fellow man."

Wally Rouse, a long-time friend of McEvoy, has many nice things to say about his fellow school employee. "Denny McEvoy is the type of guy who will help anyone. If you are stalled on the road with car trouble, he'll stop and give you a hand. It's a privilege to know and work with him and call him friend."

McEvoy and his wife, Pat, are the parents of five boys and three girls. Mrs. McEvoy was not totally surprised to learn her husband is being singled out by CSEA in honor of his many community activities.

"He's always ready and willing to help someone in need. And that includes the school kids with their broken lunch boxes," Mrs. McEvoy said.

Asked if he was handy with household chores and yard work, she admitted that sometimes his outside activities carry a higher priority than yard work. "I've solved that problem," she says with a chuckle. "I hire a youngster from the neighborhood to mow the lawn each week."

CSEA salutes Dennis McEvoy for his unselfish community spirit. He truly is a dedicated member who epitomizes the meaning of the CSEA motto: "We serve."

Putting the human element into DMV

By Daniel X. Campbell
CSEA Communications Associate

ALBANY — If you own a car or a commercial vehicle, most likely you have received a short message from the state Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) about fast service by renewing registrations and handling other transactions by mail.

Probably that message came from either Patty Palma, a data entry operator, or Gary W. Kirkhan, a senior clerk. The two Albany-based DMV employees were selected to have their names and photos contained on personalized message cards to help humanize the image of the department.

It has worked, for they have become unofficial problem-solvers for DMV. Both Patty and Gary receive four or five letters a week addressed to them and also get a couple of phone calls as well since their names and photos went out along with the department's message to motorists.

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

Patty processes about 16,000 pieces of material daily to help about 8,000 people renew their registrations. Gary provides data entry programs and helps take care of numerous commercial dealer applications every day.

DMV Director of Field Services Harry Persanis, who works with both Patty and Gary in solving inquiry problems, says the efforts of the two have helped improve the image of DMV while the mail renewal campaign has saved the department a lot of money.

"The personal touch of including a message from our public employees has helped people realize they are working with real people who do want to service their needs in a timely manner," says Persanis. "That's helping a lot."



HELLO, MY NAME IS PATTY

"We at DMV are working hard to make things as easy and convenient as possible for you.

"We're making forms simpler, streamlining procedures, and doing more by mail. That's why we're mailing your new license plates and windshield sticker, even if you renew at an office.

"So, Save Time... follow the directions on the back of this card and **Mail us your renewal.** Thanks."

Patricia Palma
Data Entry Operator
NYS Dept. of Motor Vehicles

Patty Palma



HELLO, MY NAME IS GARY

"We at DMV are working hard to make things as easy and convenient as possible for you.

"We're making forms simpler, streamlining procedures, and doing more by mail. That's why we're mailing your new license plates and sticker, even if you renew at an office.

"So, Save Time... follow the directions on the back of this card and **Mail us your renewal.** Thanks."

Gary W. Kirkhan
Data Entry, Sr. Clerk
NYS Dept. of Motor Vehicles

Gary W. Kirkhan

'Country Joe' and his guitar gospel

By Lilly Gioia
CSEA Communications Associate

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

"My style is a mix of Charlie Pride, Johnny Cash, Buck Owens and a little Kenny Rogers thrown in," says the 37-year-old Grenada-born guitar picker.

Greenidge, a cleaner in Kingsboro's housekeeping department, thrives on

singing his gospel tunes spiced with Nashville harmonies on and off the job.

Last Christmas, the "Caribbean cowboy" with a distinct Caribbean accent performed a mini-concert for Kingsboro patients, and this year he

entertained for the facility's Dr. Martin Luther King Day program. "We had a wonderful response from the patients, says Greenidge. Off the job he spends many hours of free time playing at local churches in Brooklyn and Staten Island.

"I used to go to prisons to sing in Grenada," the CSEA member recalls. He says working among patients at Kingsboro



has been a challenge because there are so many people with different needs. "I have learned a lot," he notes.

Greenidge says his philosophy is to shine, no matter what he is doing. "My work reflects the type of person I am," he said in reference to compliments he gets for keeping his unit especially clean.

Greenidge said his life changed significantly 14 years ago when, as a college student, he went down to play his calypso guitar at a local Pentecostal church in Grenada. Before he came, there were no musicians in the congregation to provide music ministry.

"I went to help them not knowing I was helping myself," he says.

"I became convinced in my heart that I needed to change and I felt myself changing. My filthy language left me and I just felt like loving people," Country Joe recalls. With three years of formal theological school training, he says he feels confident preaching the gospel through his music.

Greenidge, who has written about 50 songs, appeared on television in Trinidad and Grenada and performed in Tobago and St. Croix before moving to New York. He recently sang at Brooklyn College, and will soon perform at a benefit concert to raise funds for human needs in the Caribbean.

Greenidge says he looks forward to the time when Joel, his 9-month-old son, will be grown up, play the guitar and sing along with him.

Country Joe Greenidge says he's pleased his music brings solace and encouragement to many. "I went through the valleys and mountains in my life, but I'm enjoying what I'm doing. It's been hard at times, but I have been making it by the grace of the Lord."

Stimulating the senses



WADING IN — Students at the State School for the Blind, with employees assisting, find the “splash pool” a big attraction during the summer months. The pool has a specially-designed sloped bottom to lessen dangers for the students.



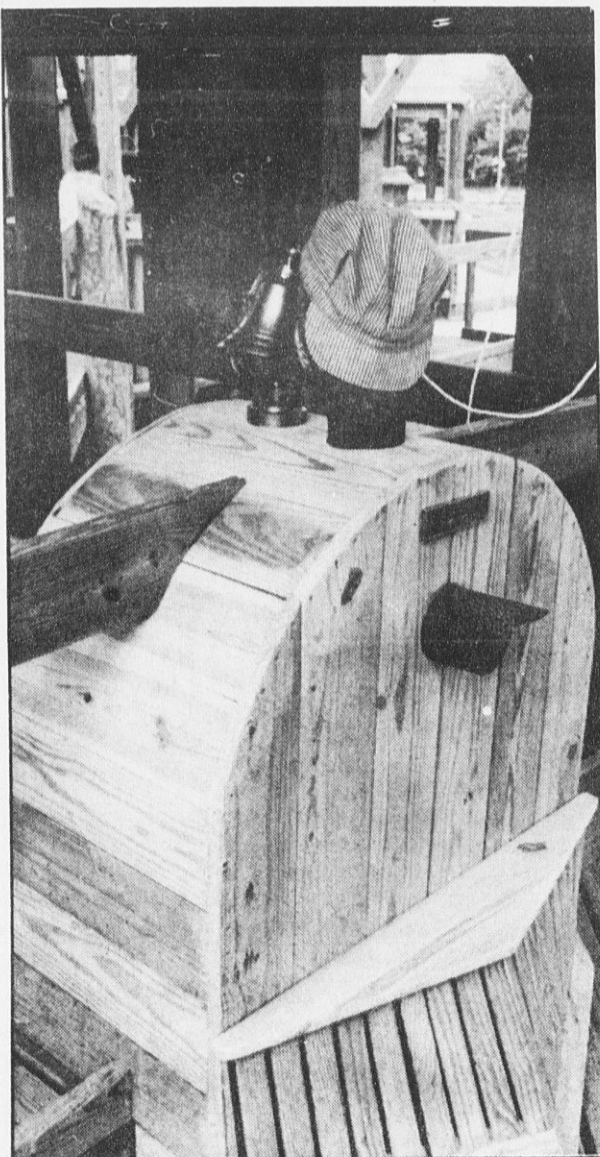
LOCAL 200 PRESIDENT Sharon Armstrong talks with project architect Robert Leathers, who oversaw construction of the park by volunteers.

BATAVIA — A unique sensory playground constructed by an army of CSEA members and other volunteers on their own time is proving to be a highly successful addition to the grounds of the State School for the Blind here.

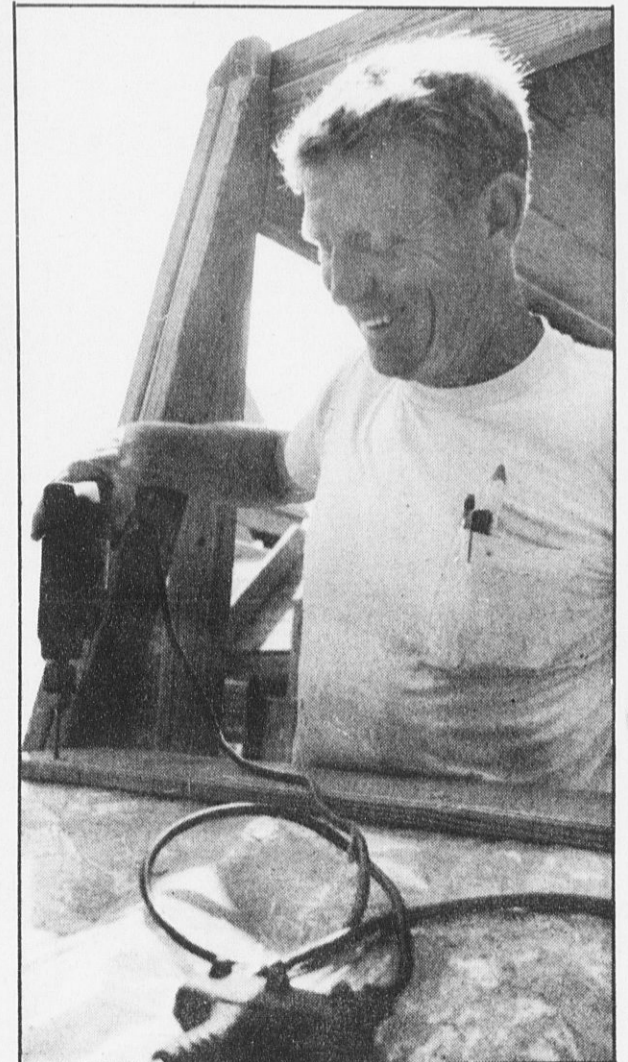
The unusual park was built entirely by voluntary effort, primarily during a one-week period earlier this summer. The state spent about \$10,000 on the project and the New York State Lions Clubs made it their project of the year, but much of the material for the project, valued at \$175,000, was donated.

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

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



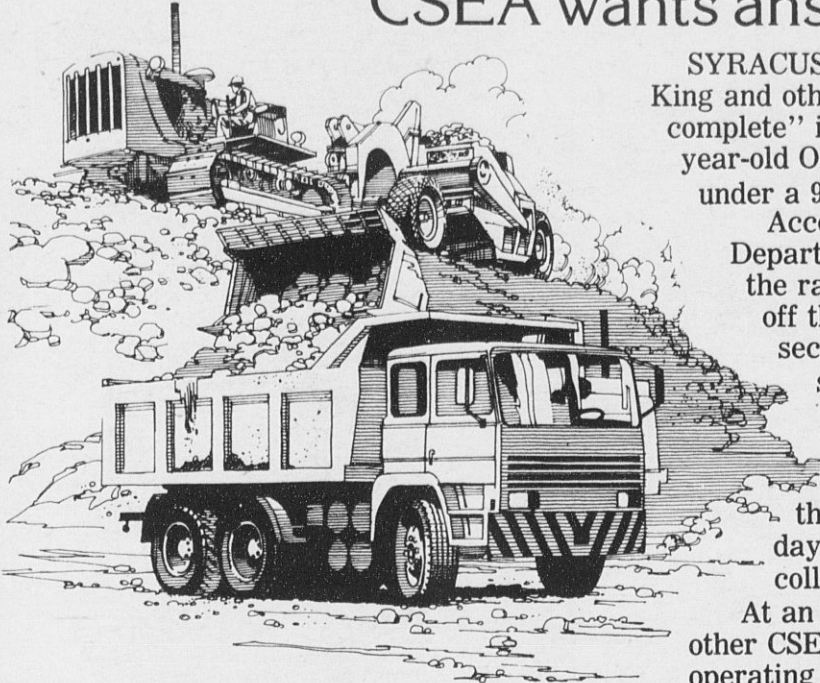
SHIRLEY HASENAUER, vice president of CSEA Local 200, helps Shawna, a student at the school, line up a putt on the miniature golf course which uses sound cues to assist the blind.



RED FITCH, Local 200 treasurer, put finishing touches on a simulated car for the sensory park.

Death on the highway

CSEA wants answers on "senseless" tragedy



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

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

Dwyer, classified as a "temporary" employee, had been working for the highway department two months when the accident occurred. Friday, the day after the accident, was to have been his last workday before resuming his college studies.

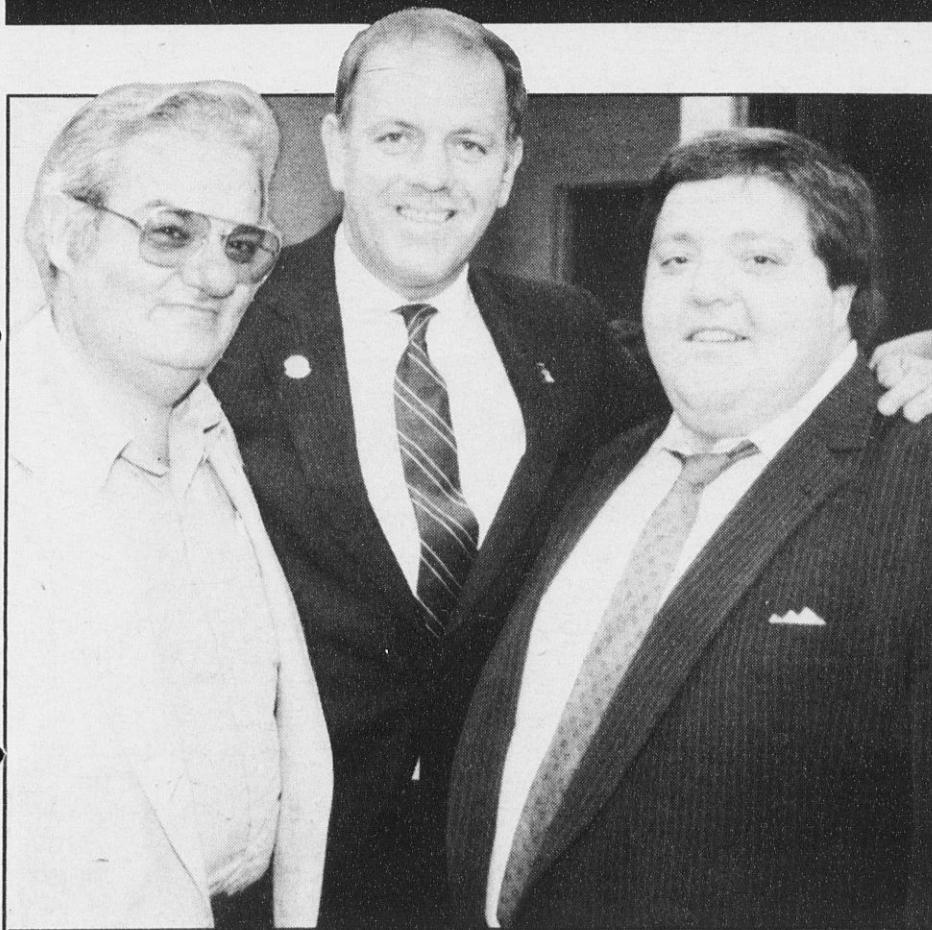
At an emergency press conference called the day after the accident, Moore and other CSEA officials questioned whether Dwyer had received adequate instruction for operating heavy equipment.

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

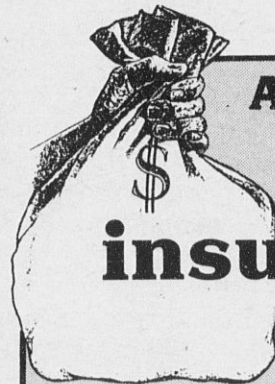
Onondaga County authorities say they are conducting an investigation into the accident.

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

Labor Pow-wow



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



A year-long effort: CSEA wins insurance refunds

BUFFALO — CSEA recently won more than \$100 in health insurance refunds for Buffalo area CSEA state employees.

The members had opted for no-deductible family coverage with Blue Cross-owned Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) Community Blue for 1986 only to find that deductions were taken from their paychecks.

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

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

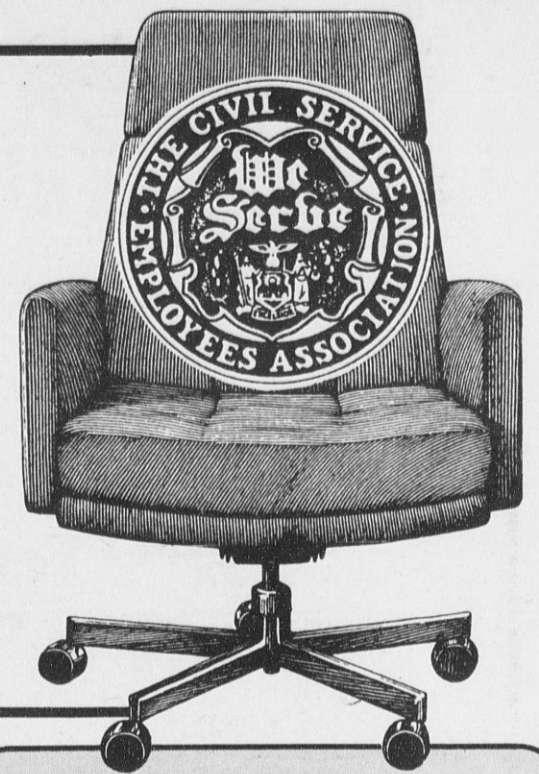
The task was much easier said than done. A stack of correspondence with CSEA insurance expert Tim Mullens, director of the Joint Committee on Health Benefits; the state Civil Service Department; the state Insurance Department and Community Blue attests to the trail of red tape required to get the members'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

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

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

The CSEA-won refunds will help members who choose to continue with Community Blue because the program's monthly premium has increased 12.4 percent.

Special elections scheduled to fill eight board seats



Nominating petitions now being circulated

The election period to fill eight vacancies on CSEA's statewide Board of Directors began on Aug. 24 when nominating petition forms became available to potential candidates.

The nominating petition period marks the initial phase of elections to be held to fill eight vacant Board of Directors seats. Vacant seats are for representatives from **Audit & Control, Public Service, Mental Hygiene Regions 3 and 5, Albany County, Chenango County, Montgomery County and Wayne County.**

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

Nominating petition request forms are now available from local presidents, CSEA regional offices and CSEA Headquarters. Completed nominating petition request

forms must be submitted to either regional CSEA offices or CSEA Headquarters to obtain the necessary petitions.

The required nominating petitions must be received by the CSEA Membership Records Department, 143 Washington Avenue, Capitol Station Box 7125, Albany, N.Y. 12224 by 5 p.m. on Sept. 25, 1987.

Candidate Eligibility

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

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

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

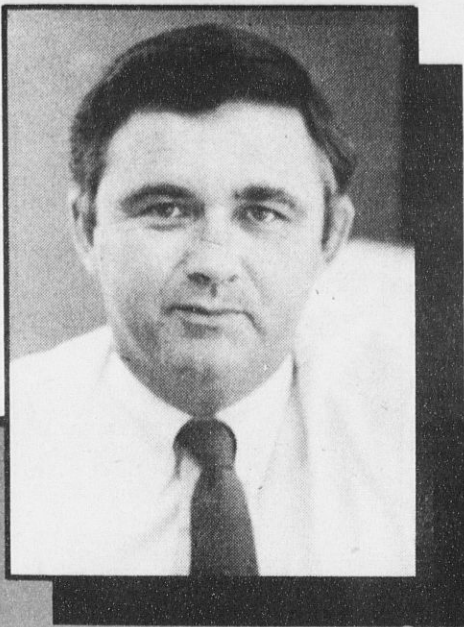
STATE DIVISION	Number of signatures required
Audit & Control	115 members of the department eligible to vote in the election
Public Service	15 members of the department eligible to vote
Mental Hygiene (R3)	450 members of the department eligible to vote
Mental Hygiene (R5)	450 members of the department eligible to vote
LOCAL GOVERNMENT DIVISION	
Albany County	118 members of the local eligible to vote in the election
Chenango County	39 members of the local eligible to vote in the election
Montgomery County	51 members of the local eligible to vote in the election
Wayne County	60 members of the local eligible to vote in the election

All ballots mailed during the course of the elections will be based on membership records of CSEA as of Oct. 1, 1987.

Elections schedule

Following is the complete schedule for elections to fill eight vacancies on the statewide Board of Directors:

August 24	Start of petitioning period. Nominating petition request forms and petitions available from regional offices and CSEA Headquarters.	October 23	Candidates (or proxies) may attend as observers. Address labels available to candidates for mailing campaign literature. Deadline (5 p.m.) for submitting campaign articles and photographs for publication in the Nov. 2 edition of <i>The Public Sector</i> .
September 25	Final day for nominating petitions to be received at CSEA Headquarters (5 p.m.).	October 26	Deadline for campaign literature to be submitted to CSEA for distribution (5 p.m.).
October 2	Telegrams sent to successful candidates advising of election schedule. Telegram sent to unsuccessful candidates advising of inadequate signatures and deadline for reviewing non-qualifying signatures. Mailing of copies of rules and regulations for the election to all candidates and local presidents.	November 2	Publication of campaign articles in <i>The Public Sector</i> .
October 9	Petition review appeal deadline for non-qualifying petitioners (5 p.m.). Deadline for declinations for nominating petitioners (5 p.m.). Deadline for confirmation of name as it appears on ballot (5 p.m.).	November 6	Ballots delivered to post office for mailing (5 p.m.).
October 13	Drawing for positions on ballot at 1 p.m., CSEA Headquarters conference room.	November 13	Replacement ballot may be requested if original not received.
		November 23	Verification process begins.
		November 30	Deadline for return of ballots (12 noon). Election results announced after ballot count (candidates will be notified by mailgram).
		December 10	End of protest period (5 p.m.)—10 days after official election results are announced.



Naughter



Kelly



Cooney

Familiar faces—new roles

Veteran staffers assigned contract administration

The names and faces are familiar, but there's a new role for five veteran CSEA staffers recently named deputy directors for contract administration. The new positions created as part of an internal reorganization are designed to provide better service to CSEA members.

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

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

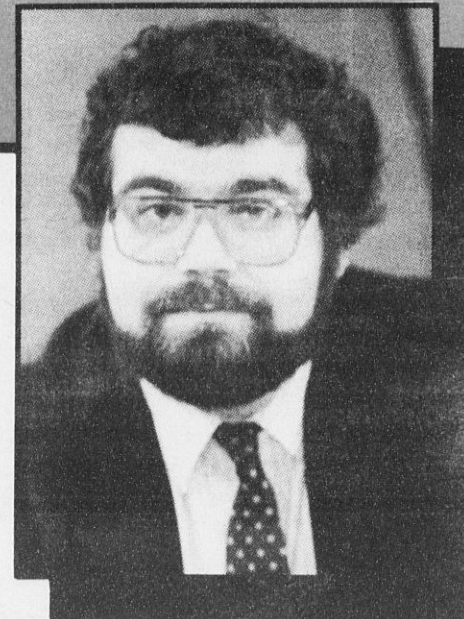
Don Kelly, a research analyst for CSEA since 1981, now handles the Division of Military and Naval Affairs (DMNA), Health Research Institute (HRI), and Office of Court Administration (OCA) units. Barbara Skelly, a long-time CSEA activist and most recently Audit and Control Local 651 president assists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

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

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



Campione



Hanna

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

Finally, Ross Hanna, most recently CSEA

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

Contract administrator assignments

Campione/Martin

ISU

Mental Retardation
Workers' Compensation
Division for Youth
Public Service Comm.
ABC Board

Cooney/Morris

ISU

Mental Health
Corrections
Social Services
State Police
Civil Service
Commerce

Naughter/Sage

ASU

Labor
Tax & Finance
Education
Motor Vehicles
Insurance Fund
Parole
Alcohol & Substance Abuse

Hanna/Eynon

OSU

EnCon
Transportation
General Services
Parks & Recreation
Ag. & Markets
SUNY
Criminal Justice

Kelly/Skelly

DMNA/HRI/OCA

Health
Judiciary
DMNA
Retirement System
Audit and Control

Irving Flaumenbaum scholars

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

The scholarships, named for the late former Region I President Irving Flaumenbaum, are one-time \$500 awards for recent high

school graduates who plan to go to college and whose parents are CSEA members.

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

Region I

The Region I winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

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

Michael C. Bond of Central Islip, a

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

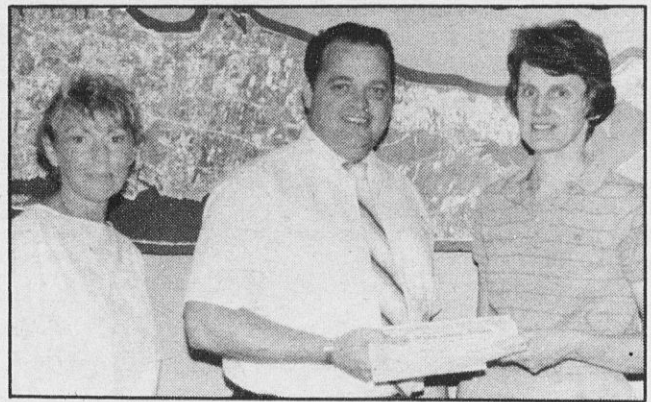
Kelly Ann O'Connell of North Ronkonkoma, a graduate of Connetquot High School, daughter of Marie O'Connell, a member of Suffolk County Educational Employees CSEA Local 870.



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



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



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

Region II

The Region II winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

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

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

Sandra Velilla of the Bronx, a graduate of the High School of Fashion

Industry, daughter of Helen Castro, a member of Region II Tax and Finance CSEA Local 460.

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



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



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

Region III

The Region III winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

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

Christine A. Bartolozzi of New City, a

graduate of Clarkstown South High School, daughter of Eileen J. Bartolozzi, a member of Rockland County CSEA Local 844.

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



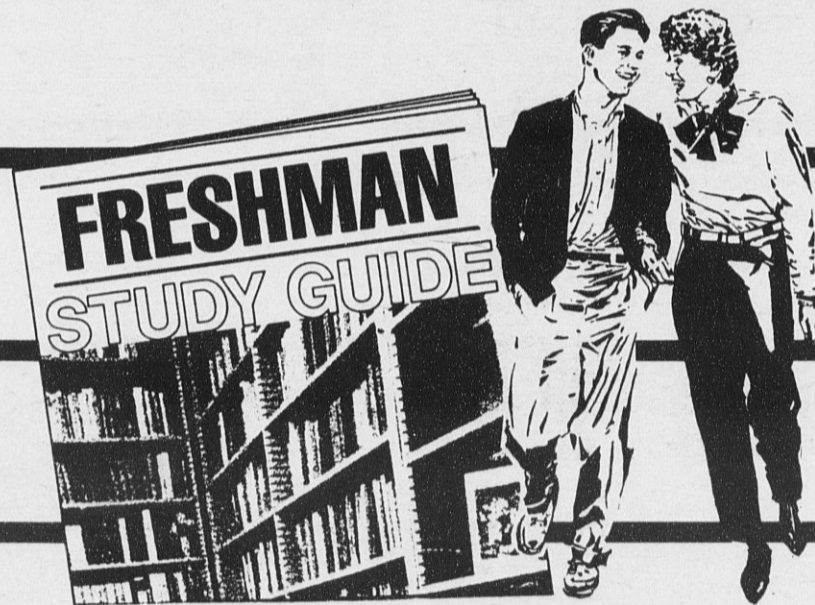
Pictured are scholarship winner Maureen Farrell, right, her mother, Kathleen Farrell, center, and Putnam County Local 840 President Alice May.



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



Pictured from left are: Scholarship Committee Member Diane Lucchesi, Region III President Pat Mascioli, winner Laurette DiSpigna, her mother, Lillian DiSpigna, and Mid-Orange County Correctional Facility Local 166 President Julia Mercatili.



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

Region IV

The Region IV winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

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

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

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

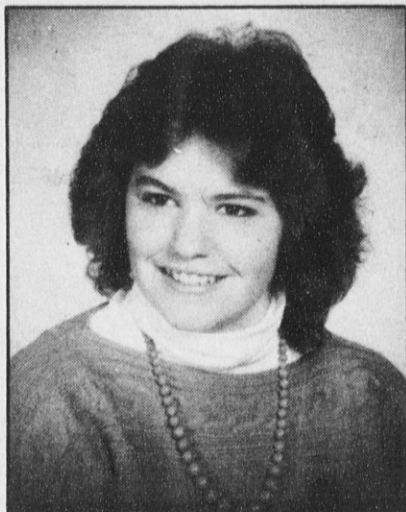
Region V

The Region V winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

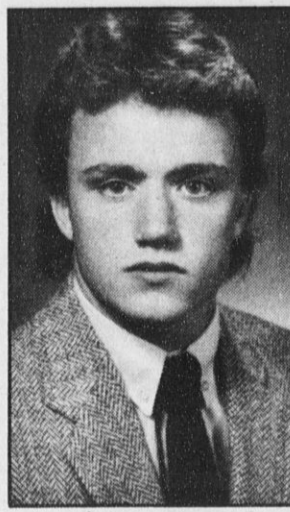
Diane Marie Bassett of Genoa, a graduate of Southern Cayuga Central High School, daughter of Anne Marie Bassett, a member of Cayuga County CSEA Local 806.

William H. Hardie of Lowville, a graduate of Lowville Central High School and son of Beverly K. Hardie, a member of Lewis County CSEA Local 825.

Christina Stanchi of Van Etten, a graduate of Spencer-Van Etten High School and daughter of Inge Rose Stanchi, a member of Chemung County CSEA Local 808.



Diane M. Bassett



William Hardie



Christina Stanchi



Region VI

The Region VI winners of the Irving Flaumenbaum Scholarships are:

Peter J. Pochylski Jr. of Dunkirk, a graduate of Dunkirk Senior High School, son of Peter J. Pochylski Sr., a member of Fredonia Faculty Student Association CSEA Local 627.

Peter Klimczyk of Cheektowaga, a graduate of Maryvale High School, son of Margaret Klimczyk of Erie County Educational Employees CSEA Local 868.

David M. Sears of Mt. Morris, a graduate of Mt. Morris Central School, son of Nancy F. Sears, a member of Livingston County CSEA Local 826.



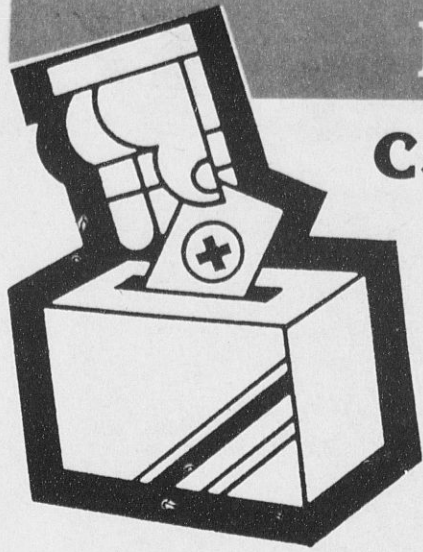
Scholarship winner David Sears, left, is pictured with his mother, Nancy, center, and Local 826 President Linda Standish Fritz.



Scholarship winner Peter Klimczyk, left, is shown with his mother, Margaret, and Local 868 President Mary Lettieri.



Scholarship winner Peter Pochylski Jr., center, is pictured with his father, Peter Sr., left, and Region VI Scholarship Committee member Art Howell.



Ballot battles

CSEA makes a difference

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

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

In **Levittown**, CSEA had an overwhelming victory in school board elections. The union, in coalition with the Levittown United Teachers and the Association of Levittown School Administrators, got three newcomers elected: John Garvey, Mary Orth and Anita Trabold.

The three candidates pledged to make health insurance benefits contractual for retirees already in the program, a major issue in the school board campaign.

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

Health watch

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

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

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



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

The Central New York Labor Agency is a United Way member serving Oneida and Herkimer counties.

This, that

AND THE OTHER THING

On board

Kennedy sworn in

SMITH-TOWN — Retirees of the Suffolk Retiree CSEA Local 920 dined and danced and applauded the induction of a new

board member at their annual luncheon recently.

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

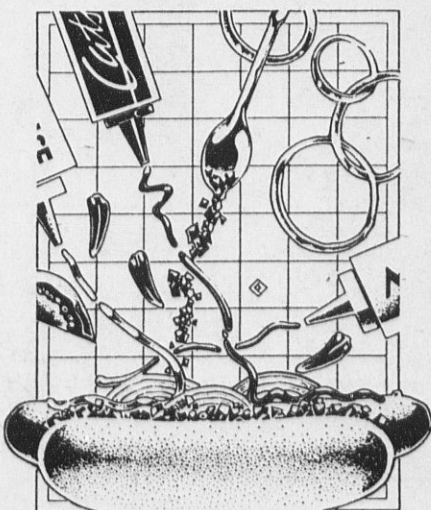
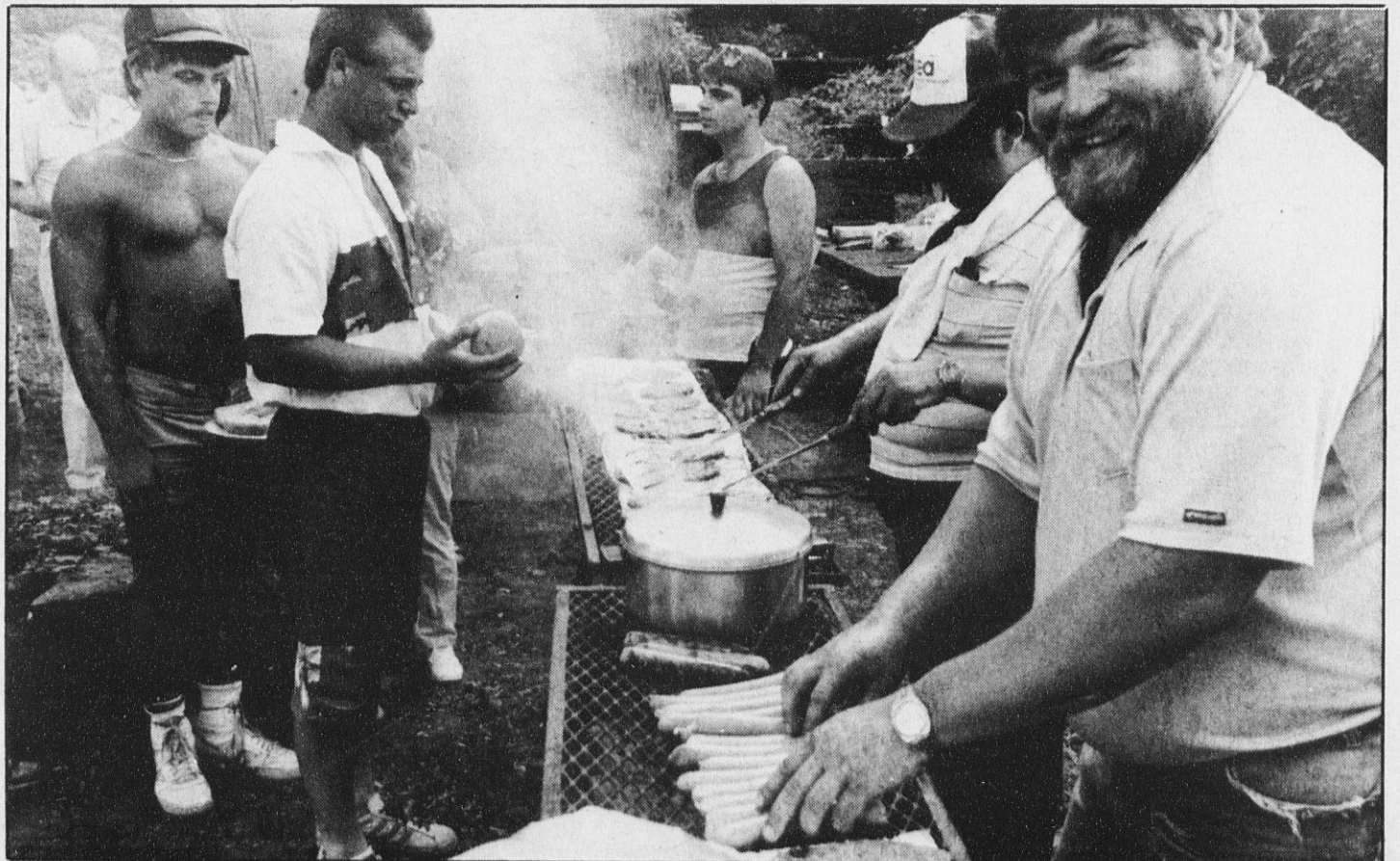
"We welcome Emma to her new position," said **Local 920 President Bob Specht**. "We're sure she'll do a good job."



Summertime and the livin' is easy . . .

Region VI picnic power

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



'A GROSS INJUSTICE'

Cuomo kills pension boost

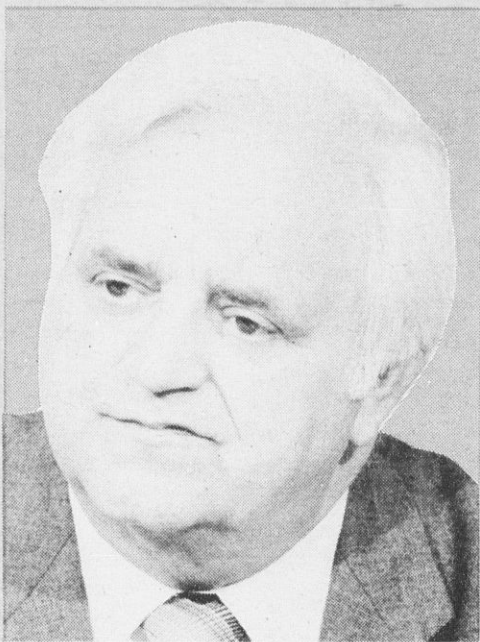
Thousands of retired public employees who were looking forward to getting a supplementation to their pensions effective Sept. 1 won't be getting it now.

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

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

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

McGowan, in a hand-delivered letter to Cuomo, said he was extremely disappointed with the governor's action. McGowan demanded that Cuomo call a special session of the Legislature



CSEA President William L. McGowan ... "deeply disappointed"

"so that this gross injustice may be immediately addressed."

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

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

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

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

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

Dear Governor Cuomo:

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

It is the opinion of CSEA, that this critical situation demands you to convene a special session of the NYS Legislature to rectify any technical flaws you perceive so that this gross injustice may immediately be addressed. To do less would represent an unprecedented insensitivity to our retiree population.

I anxiously await your favorable reply to this correspondence.

Sincerely,

Bill
WILLIAM L. MCGOWAN

WLM:kmw

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