



Leadership Empowerment Zone

Weekly email updates from CSEA President Mary E. Sullivan

Thursday, January 25, 2024

Greetings CSEA Family!

Governor Hochul Directs Flags to Half-Staff to Honor Parks Employee Aaron J. Peters

On January 24, Governor Hochul directed the flags on all state buildings to be flown at half staff in honor of CSEA member Aaron J. Peters. He was a member of the regional sawyer crew who was fatally injured on January 17 while involved in tree removal at Golden Hill State Park in Niagara County. Aaron worked at the Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation for three years, and served on the regional ropes access team and sawyer crew. He had deep family ties to the state park system. He was the son of recently retired Niagara Region Deputy General Manager Ron Peters and Jennifer Ray, who recently left the regional business office. Aaron's tragic death is a solemn reminder of how CSEA members put their lives on the line every day to serve our communities. My deepest condolences go out to Aaron's family, friends and loved ones.

Fight Back with the Truth!

We will be holding a series of webinars titled "Fighting Back with The Truth" for ALL members to learn about the Freedom Foundation's lies and attacks and how they can fight back with the truth. All members will be sent an email with a link to register for the webinar in their region. Please encourage your members to register and attend one of three dates the webinar will be offered. Knowing the truth about the Freedom Foundation will only help strengthen CSEA so it's important for as many members as possible to attend.

January 30 at 7:00pm [Register here.](#)

February 1 at 7:00pm [Register here.](#)

"I Love My Union" Contest start date: Jan 26th

The "I Love My Union" member pride contest is back this year! Show your Union some LOVE and you could be eligible to win one of ten \$50 gift cards! Tell us a brief story of why you love your union and you'll be entered to win. Or, if you prefer to SHOW your Union love, upload a picture or video no longer than 30 seconds of yourself showing your union pride to the form linked below.

***Only active members of CSEA are eligible to win, and the contest runs from 8:00 am on Friday, January 26 through Monday, February 12 at 11:59 pm. Only one entry per member will be accepted and the winners will be chosen at random from all those who enter.

Winners will be announced on Wednesday, February 14, 2024. Enter the contest by submitting your stories, photos and video using the form at <https://cseany.org/i-love-my-union-contest-2024>.

Membership Applications are now available in Spanish

Our Membership Department is pleased to announce that CSEA's Membership Applications are now available in Spanish. The *online form* can be found and filled out on our website at <http://tinyurl.com/ye5cscpr> (within the Join Us drop down menu at cseany.org). It is also available on the MyCSEA App under "SIGNUP APPS."

To place an order of the *hard copy Spanish-Membership Applications*, please call the Membership Department: 518-257-1278 or send an email to: annemarie.raymond@cseainc.org.

January is National Mentoring Month

January is a time to celebrate the diverse array of mentoring relationships, from professional mentorships to guidance within communities, and showcase the transformative power of guidance and encouragement. National Mentoring Month recognizes that mentorship comes in various forms and plays a vital role in professional and personal development. To learn more about National Mentoring Month, visit <https://www.mentoring.org/campaigns/national-mentoring-month>.

Regional News:

Member in Long Island Region 1 assists in elementary school threat

Thanks to the heroic efforts of CSEA North Bellmore School District Unit President Mary Grace-Roach, Newbridge Road Elementary School was quickly and successfully put into lockdown following a swatting incident. Swatting is described as making a prank call in hopes that authorities will dispatch a large number of armed police officers to a particular address. Grace-Roach received the call from the individual, who was using a voice changer to falsely report that there was an armed man shooting inside the school. Grace-Roach alerted the proper authorities who had the school locked down. Her quick thinking is a testament to the importance of having dedicated union employees in public facilities, who are prepared for an emergency.

Southern Region members needed for the Fishkill Polar Plunge!

CSEA members in the Southern Region are urged to support Special Olympics New York by signing up for Team Region 3 in the Fishkill Polar Plunge, which will take place at 9 a.m. on Saturday, February 17, 2024 at Camp Mariah in Fishkill. Sign up for the team or make a tax-deductible donation by visiting <https://tinyurl.com/FishkillPlunge2024>. For over 15 years,

CSEA members in the Southern Region have been “Freezin’ for a Reason” to raise funds allowing people with disabilities to participate at no cost in Special Olympics athletic events. The Fishkill Polar Plunge is a fun event where the entire Southern Region comes together for an important cause. Those with questions may email jessica.ladlee@cseainc.org for more information.

Member Benefits Spotlight: CSEA sponsored insurance plans built with CSEA members’ needs in mind.

Life is full of surprises. Some will be filled with joy; others can be devastating. Pearl Insurance provides a variety of insurance solutions to help protect you and your loved ones when life events occur. By using group-buying power, Pearl can get CSEA Members the best possible rates on their insurance programs. Plus, it is easy to pay premiums with convenient payroll deduction options—no bills to pay, no checks to write, and no missed payments! Visit: <https://cseainsurance.com/>

Required Union Representation **IN-PERSON Trainings:**

Local Government Discipline and Interrogation – Beacon (Region 3)

Saturday, February 3, from 8:30 am to 3:30 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

Local Government Discipline and Interrogation – Binghamton (Region 5)**

Tuesday, February 13, and Wednesday, February 14, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (607) 338-1130 to register.

State Government Grievance – Fallsburg (Region 3)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (845) 831-1000 to register.

State Government Discipline and Interrogation – Oneonta (Region 5)**

Tuesday, February 20, and Wednesday, February 21, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (315) 433-0050 to register.

Local Government Grievance Representation – Commack (Region 1)**

Tuesday, March 19, and Wednesday, March 20, from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm. Call (631) 462-0030 to register.

*****This is a 2-part training, participants must complete both sessions to receive credit for completion.***

Required Union Representation **VIRTUAL Trainings:**

Grievance Representation Recertification

Monday, January 29, from 12:00 pm to 2:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1216>

Private Sector Discipline and Interrogation

Saturday, February 24, from 10:00 am to 12:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1240>

Discipline & Interrogations Recertification

Monday, February 26, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1241>

Grievance Representation Recertification

Wednesday, February 28, from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm.

<https://memberlink.cseany.org/Event.axd?e=1244>

For a full list and description of workshops offered by the Education & Training Department go to: <https://cseany.org/training-workshops>

Required Officer Trainings:

Contact your region to register.

Region 1 – (631) 462-0030 Region 4 – (518) 782-4400

Region 2 – (212) 406-2156 Region 5 – (800) 559-7975

Region 3 – (845) 831-1000 Region 6 – (716) 691-6555

***There are no scheduled officer trainings at this time.*

What do you want to read about?

I'm asking for your feedback on any topics you'd like to see covered in future editions of this weekly leadership update. If you have ideas, please take the time to fill out our quick online survey at: <https://forms.office.com/r/seCVpFhVaG>.

I appreciate your response.



Mary E. Sullivan, President

