



CSEA NEWS

The Voice of Connecticut's Public Service Employees & Retirees

December, 2025

CSEA SEIU Local 2001

VOL. 58, NO. 12

November Special Session Recap

Federal Response Fund, Housing, & UConn Health

The General Assembly returned to Hartford this month for a special session to debate how the state will protect families and communities as federal

funds disappear. With pandemic-era federal dollars gone and new federal cuts on the horizon—from SNAP to housing to childcare—legislators faced the urgent challenge of preventing a cascading fiscal crisis for working people.

At the center of the session

was a bipartisan agreement to create a \$500 million Emergency Relief Fund, a temporary backstop designed to soften the blow of federal funding losses in essential programs. The new Relief Fund allows the state to cover sudden federal cuts to core programs such as SNAP, WIC, childcare, housing supports, and Medicaid-related

services. It also prevents service disruptions, layoffs, and program closures that would directly impact low-income families, seniors, people with disabilities, and frontline workers.

Ironically, the special session took place as Connecticut's headline surplus grew past \$2 billion, driven largely by our

continue onto page 6



Council 400 Retiree Survey

CSEA Council 400 represents more than 12,000 state retirees, the oldest and largest retiree council in Connecticut. In recent years, we've been steadily building our collective power, organizing not only retirees who still call Connecticut home but also the thousands who have moved to places like

Florida, Massachusetts, and the Carolinas.

That strength couldn't come at a more important time. For the first time in 30 years, our pension and healthcare agreement is being renegotiated. Informal discussions for the 2027 Pension and Healthcare Agreement are

underway through the State Employees Bargaining Agent Coalition (SEBAC), where CSEA SEIU Local 2001 has a seat and a strong voice. As this work moves forward, we need to hear directly from the people who know these benefits best: current retirees.

Please take a few minutes to complete our pension and healthcare survey.

continue onto page 6

State Contract Update

SJM Wins Year 1 Arbitration While Other CSEA Units Are At or Moving Toward Impasse

On December 2nd, the Judicial Branch Unions, which includes the Supervising Judicial Marshalls (SJM) of CSEA SEIU Local 2001, won a Year 1 Contract Arbitration Award with a 2.5% wage increase plus step (or lump sum if at max). This award comes months after the Administration offered the same wage increase to the Connecticut State Police Union, and the General Assembly approved it—setting a clear precedent for what is both fair and necessary to stabilize public safety and justice-system staffing.

But with the award arriving nearly six months after contract expiration—and with Judicial workers still months away from seeing any wage increase pending General Assembly

approval—the Administration has lost the recruitment and retention boost these raises were supposed to deliver. As a result, the second and third years of these contracts are now even more critical if Connecticut hopes to rebuild its workforce and fill hard-to-staff positions at a time when state services are more essential than ever amid growing federal instability.

This same story is playing out across state government, with all seven of CSEA's state units having already declared impasse, or are not far off from doing so. The longer these contracts are delayed, the less our agencies will be able to retain critical talent, let alone recruit effectively to fill the thousands of vacancies that have been funded by our Legislature.

approval—the Administration has lost the recruitment and retention boost these raises were supposed to deliver. As a result, the second and third years of

If contracts are not delivered to the General Assembly during the upcoming legislative session through resolution or arbitration-Year 2 wages will miss the legislative window and workers risk losing two full years of raises and step movement. That is entirely unacceptable.

CSEA members along with our union siblings in SEBAC coalition locals are preparing to escalate pressure on the Lamont Administration to underscore these stakes. Governor Lamont must recognize this reality and empower his representatives to reach fair, and honorable agreements for all state employees in a timely manner.

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

Postmaster: Please forward address changes to:
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Also in this Edition:

Page 2:
Council 400 Meetings

Page 3:
Gone Too Soon

Page 4:
Reach

Page 5:
Norwalk Retirees

Page 5:
OPM Secretary Changes

Page 6:
Special Elections in December

Page 7:
Social Activities Committee

Page 7:
Part B Reimbursement

Page 8:
Thanksgiving Dinner Cost Rise



**Meetings
And News**

The December Delegates Meeting will be held as a hybrid meeting on Thursday December 18th at 10am at the CSEA Union Hall and via Zoom

Chapter 401 (Hartford area)
Thurs, January 8th at 1pm
CSEA Union Hall & Zoom
Zoom Mtg ID: 895 3209 6902
Patrice Peterson 860 416-0306

Chapter 402 (Danbury area)
Wed., January 14th - 10am
Speaker: Bernadette Conway
CSEA Retiree Coordinator
United Methodist Church
5 Clapboard Ridge Road
Danbury, CT
Linda Albanese:860 354-6965

Chapter 403 (Norwich area)
Tues., January 13th - 1:30pm
Speaker:Aetna Representative
Rose City Senior Center
8 Mahan Drive, Norwich
Carol Burgess:860 303-7267

Chapter 404 (Waterbury area)
Tues. January 13th - 10am
Speaker: Danny Medress
CSEA Political Director
Trinity Orthodox Church
937 Chase Pkwy, Waterbury

Chapter 405 (New Haven)
Thurs. January 8th - 10:30am
Speaker:Angie Nelson
Cigna Dental Representative
Hamden Government
Center Building, 3rd Floor
2750 Dixwell Ave., Hamden
Sue Pierson (203) 376-7207

Chapter 406 (Middletown)
Tues. January 13th 12:30pm
American Legion Post 75
58 Bernie O'Rourke Dr.
Middletown, CT

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area)
Wed, December 10 - 12:30pm
Riverview Bistro Restaurant
946 Ferry Blvd., Stratford
No need to RSVP or pay
in advance - See you there!

Chapter 407 (Bridgeport area)
Wed., January 21st - 1pm
National Catholic Church
1300 Stratford Rd., Stratford
Zoom ID: 872 4952 3823
Passcode: 000891
Liz Anderson (203) 676-0659

Chapter 408 (Windham Area)
Wednesday, Jan 14th, 1pm
Mansfield Senior Center
303 Maple Rd., Storrs
Doug Racicot (860) 234-2537

Chapter 409 (Retired
State University Professors)
Friday, December 19th - 10am
CSEA Union Hall & Zoom
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Zoom ID: 868 8922 7158
Dave Walsh (860) 684-4773

Chapter 410 (Windsor area)
Monday, January 12th - 1pm
Kent Memorial Library
50 N Main St, Suffield
Amelia Smith 860 687-1848

Chapter 411 (Rocky Hill area)
Thursday, March 19th 1pm
Guest Speaker: Cigna Dental
CSEA Union Hall
760 Capitol Ave., Hartford
Subby Puglisi (860) 529-8336

Chapter 412 (Putnam area)
Holiday Luncheon
Tues., Dec., 16th - 1:30pm
Holiday Pot Luck Luncheon
Putnam Town Hall
200 School Street, Putnam
Don Gladding (860) 933-9998

Chapter 414 (Torrington area)
Monday, January 19th at 10am
Five Point Extension Bldg
852 University Dr., Torrington
Kathryn Doan 860 324-8300

Chapter 415 (Manchester)
Monday, Jan. 26th - 1pm
Speaker: Diana Dean
North Central Area
Agency on Aging
Elks Lodge in Manchester
30 Bissell Street
Stu Clark: (860) 205-0657

Chapter 416 (New London)
Tuesday, Jan 13th at 12pm
Speaker:Angie Nelson
Cigna Dental Representative
Waterford Public Library
49 Rope Ferry Rd., Waterford
John Knaff: 860-857-4244

Chapter 417 (Plainville area)
Wed., January 14th - 1pm
Speaker:Angie Nelson
Cigna Dental Representative
Plainville Public Library
56 East Main St., Plainville
Mark Kirschner
(860) 882-2717

Chapter 418
(Community College Retirees)
Tues., February 10th - 10am
4C's Union Hall in Hartford
907 Wethersfield Ave
Zoom ID: 7421833716
Passcode: 6KUURC
Colleen Richard
(860) 202-4128

Please hold the date for our upcoming Florida & Carolina meetings with Aetna, Cigna and CSEA Council 400 Organizer: Kevin Sullivan

Chapter 421 (Daytona Area)
Thursday, February 19th
Crane's Roost Restaurant,
1850 Crane Lakes Blvd,
Port Orange, FL

Chapter 422 (Ocala Area)
Monday, February 2nd
Francesco's Ristorante,
16770 US-441, Summerfield, FL

Chapter 423 (Boca Raton)
Wednesday, February 11th
Renzo's Cafe & Pizzeria,
6900 N Federal Hwy,
Boca Raton, FL

Chapter 424 (Sarasota Area)
Thursday, February 5th
Carlisle Inn & Conference
Center, 3727 Bahia Vista St,
Sarasota, FL

Chapter 425 (Clearwater)
Wednesday, February 4th
Perkins Restaurant
2626 Gulf to Bay Blvd
Clearwater, FL

Chapter 426 (Ft. Myers Area)
Monday, February 9th
KJ's Steakhouse
10950 S Cleveland Ave
Fort Myers, FL

Chapter 427 (Vero Beach)
Tuesday, February 17th
Elks Lodge 1520,
608 S 5th St., Fort Pierce, FL

Chapter 431 (Myrtle Beach)
Tuesday, March 10th at 11am
Golden Corral,
868 Oak Forest Lane,
Myrtle Beach, SC

Only get Emails for your Chapter

Don't Miss Chapter Meeting Announcements: Get Email Alerts

Local Meeting & Luncheon Info

Important numbers to have on hand: Caremark: 1-800-318-2572 Cigna: 1-800-244-6224
 Retirement Division Payroll: 860-702-3528 Anthem Blue Cross Blue Shield: 1-800-922-2232 HEP Care Management Solutions: 1-877-687-1448 or visit them at their portal:
 Retirement Division Life Insurance: 860-702-3537 CSEA Retiree Organizer, Kevin Sullivan:860-951-6614 x118
 Retirement Division Health Insurance: 860-702-3533 UnitedHealthcare: 1-888-803-9217 <https://www.connect2yourhealth.com/ParticipantPortal/Default.aspx>



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www.CSECreditUnion.com

**CLOSING EARLY: Wed. Dec 24th (1:30PM)
CLOSED: Thurs. Dec. 25th**

Dividend Rates - Third Quarter 2025 Rates

	Dividend Rate	Percentage Yield
REGULAR SHARES	2.50%	2.53%
SHARE DRAFTS (Checking)	1.25%	1.26%
CLUB ACCOUNTS	2.00%	2.02%

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.

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MIDDLETOWN 15 Ward Street 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

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**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 family, friends and loved ones.

- Affrunti, Daniel, Other Non-Bargaining
- Allaire, Marilyn, Uconn Health
- Balzer, David, Department Of Transportation
- Baum, Tammy, Administrative Clerical
- Berrios, Nicholas, Correctional Officers
- Black, Mark, Correctional Officers
- Bontempo, Marie, Administrative Clerical
- Buccitti, Ann, No Designated Unit
- Burdsall, Cynthia, Administrative Clerical
- Cater, Peter, Engineer, Scien, Tech
- Conlon, Hedwig, Other Non-Bargaining
- Dancosse, Rita, Healthcare
- Delaney, William, Correctional Officers
- Devivo, James, Admin And Residual
- Digangi, Paul, Judicial Branch
- Dolan, James, Correctional Officers
- Dowty, Daryll, State University Faculty
- Dragon, Gerald, Admin And Residual
- Durga, Colleen, Social And Human Services
- Elliott, Ann, Correctional Officers
- Elsea, Jeannette, Auditors Of Public Accounts
- Fertig, John, No Designated Unit
- Flannigan, Janet, Healthcare
- Fradianni, Richard, Service & Maintenance
- Fuchs-Luscombe, Josephine, Legislative Management
- Gaetano, Peter, Protective Services
- Gentile, June, Judicial Branch
- Goldberg, Evan, Department Of Transportation
- Hancock, Robert, Healthcare
- Kanter, David, Healthcare
- Kass, Andrew, Managerial
- Kerkin, Joan, Judicial Branch
- Koosa, Joan, Healthcare
- Kramer, Carolyn, Healthcare
- Kubat, Shirley, Administrative Clerical
- Mccall, Anne, Administrative Clerical
- Mckenna, Willa, Healthcare
- Moon, Effie, Administrative Clerical
- Neznek, Patricia, Judicial Branch
- Oddie, Joseph, Judicial Branch
- Owino, Albert, No Designated Unit
- Palmer, Michael, Social And Human Services
- Pattison, Mary, Uconn - Faculty
- Patz, Alice, Other Non-Bargaining
- Peets, William, St Vocation Federation Teacher
- Penn, Jimmy, Healthcare
- Rieve, Michael, Correctional Supervisor
- Romus, Anne, Administrative Clerical
- Rybczyk, Edward, State University System
- Shelton, Mary, Healthcare
- Slesinski, Mary Ellen, Admin And Residual
- Souza, Paul, No Designated Unit
- Stewart, William, Managerial
- Storms, Sally, Confidential Employee
- Stygares, Janusz, State University Faculty
- Supranovich, Dennis, Service & Maintenance
- Tierney, John, Service & Maintenance
- Tripoli, Philip, Correctional Officers
- Walsh, Marie, Administrative Clerical
- Wilkinson, Marie, St Vocation Federation Teacher
- Wren, James, Service & Maintenance

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Local 2001, Service Employees International Union, CTW/CLC

- Travis WoodwardPresident
- Diane MurphySecretary/Treasurer
- David GliddenExecutive Director
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- Jason P. WebsterGraphic/ Technical Assistance

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www.csea-ct.com.

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Giving Drive (formerly the Turkey Drive). It is never too late to make a donation, they will always be accepted! Please make checks payable to CSEA Good Works, and send to CSEA Good Works, 760 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.



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¿Qué hago si tengo comentarios? Este es un programa piloto, así que su opinión es importante. Envíe sus comentarios a Communications@csea760.com. Los correos electrónicos se revisarán al finalizar el programa piloto.

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Norwalk Housing Authority

Retirees Celebrated for their Years of Service

At a recent chapter meeting, Chapter leaders proudly recognized a remarkable group of retirees from the Norwalk Housing Authority unit—union members whose commitment, leadership, and solidarity strengthened our workplace and our union family for decades.

These retirees didn't just show up to work each day—they showed up for their coworkers. As officers, stewards, and active union supporters, they helped build a stronger, safer, and more fair workplace for generations of workers who follow in their footsteps. Their dedication represents the very best of public service and union pride.

We are honored to celebrate the retirements of:

Peter Agosto

40 years of service

Stanley Brzezinski

27 years of service

John Jordan

29 years of service

Alan Sale

32 years of service (not shown in the photo)

Mike Storey

22 years of service



The Norwalk Housing Authority Chapter in Council 760 celebrated the recent retirement of several members at their last meeting.

Congratulations to our retirees—and thank you for everything you have given to your coworkers, your community, and your union.

A New Head of OPM

Beckham Out, Wojcik In

Office of Policy and Management (OPM) Secretary Jeffrey Beckham will step down, and Josh Wojcik, the current Director of the Health Policy and Benefits Services Division in the Office of the State Comptroller, will assume leadership.

OPM is the state's chief budget, planning, and labor-cost agency — the place where decisions about staffing levels, agency funding, and the state's bargaining posture are made. OPM determines whether the state approaches workers with collaboration or with austerity. Having an OPM Secretary who understands the frontline reality of public service, rather than seeing the workforce strictly as a

balance-sheet cost, directly affects staffing, and the quality of services Connecticut residents rely on every day.

During his tenure, Beckham was central to enforcing rigid fiscal controls that prioritized surpluses and debt repayment over reinvestment in Connecticut communities. Connecticut's so-called "fiscal guardrails" or "roadblocks" created significant pressure on agencies, limited staffing levels, and constrained the state's ability to compete for and retain talent.

Josh Wojcik is well-known to state employees, and over the years he has built a reputation for being accessible, pragmatic, and familiar with the day-to-day realities of public service work. Just as

importantly, he understands the structural crises facing agencies and is committed to people-focused solutions. His background means he brings a deeper understanding of how policy decisions land on the workers who actually keep the state running.

For years, workers have warned that rigid fiscal controls and chronic underinvestment were pushing state services toward a breaking point. With federal

funds slashed, costs rising, and demand for services climbing, the next budget cycle will require a course correction— and that begins with who leads OPM.



Governor Lamont (center) announced that Jeff Beckham (left) will be replaced by Josh Wojcik (right).

AI Layoffs & A Rigged System

When Executives Win and Workers Lose

Just open up any newspaper and you'll find more reporting around companies making headlines for mass layoffs tied to "efficiency," "automation," and "AI investment." But while workers are being told to brace for cuts, the same corporations are reporting record profits, rising stock prices, and soaring executive bonuses.

To make it even worse, these major corporations like Netflix, Ford, Tesla, T-Mobile, Duke Energy, DISH Network, MetLife, and Dominion Energy have paid their executives more than they've paid in federal taxes in recent years.

This isn't an accident. It's the business model.

A system that lets multibillion-dollar corporations compensate executives with tens of millions of dollars while contributing little to

the public services that their own workers rely on is not an economy built for stability or fairness. It's one rigged to funnel wealth upward. Walmart for example, has over 15,000 full-time employees on SNAP. McDonald's employees almost 1% of the total of non-elderly, non-disabled people on Medicaid in the county.

The same corporations that pay their top executives more than they pay in taxes are simultaneously telling workers that automation and layoffs are "necessary." Global surveys show that companies are actively planning job cuts tied directly to AI. In some industries, double-digit workforce reductions are already underway.

Corporate leaders are calling AI a "breakthrough." For many workers, it feels like a threat: fewer jobs, more pressure, less stability.

Across the country, workers are organizing and bargaining for AI protections, transparency around technological changes, retraining and upskilling opportunities, and oversight of workplace surveillance.

Writers, actors, tech workers, educators, and public-sector unions have already won new AI guardrails — the first of their kind in the nation.

These victories prove a critical point: workers must have a voice in how technology is implemented. Otherwise, AI becomes just another excuse to cut jobs and concentrate wealth at the top.

A healthy economy does not rely on layoffs to lift stock prices. It does not allow major corporations to contribute little in taxes while extracting enormous value from workers. And it does not reward

executives while punishing the workforce with insecurity.

A fair approach to AI and automation must include job protections, investments in workers, equitable sharing of productivity gains, and tax structures that ensure corporations pay their fair share.

Technology should make work better, not eliminate it. Economic growth should benefit the people who create it, not just those who own the most shares.

The rapid expansion of AI is one of the biggest economic shifts in decades. But the outcome is not predetermined. Workers — especially organized workers — have the power to shape how technology is used and who benefits from it.

November Special Session: \$500M Federal Response Fund

continued from page 1

arbitrary fiscal roadblocks. Most of the surplus is locked behind these guardrails that restrict spending even when needs surge. This has fueled a broader debate—one that will continue into 2026—about whether the guardrails are preventing Connecticut from responding responsibly to real problems in education, healthcare, transportation, and social services.

Housing was a major focus of the session, and lawmakers passed HB 8002, a compromise bill aimed at easing barriers to new housing production. The bill includes a new pilot program allowing a limited number of municipalities to designate fast-track

“priority development areas” where multi-family housing can be approved more quickly. It also requires towns to track accessory dwelling units (ADUs) and report zoning data to the state—small but important accountability measures.

Another closely watched issue was legislation affecting UConn Health, a narrowly tailored bill that requires UConn Health to follow a formal review and approval process before entering into any acquisition or merger involving hospitals or health systems. UConn Health has long been under-resourced, stretched thin by rising costs, and constrained by the same fiscal roadblocks that prevent long-term investment in public services.

The creation of the \$500M Emergency Relief Fund is the first real acknowledgment from the state that the guardrails cannot handle a crisis of this scale. And while this fund will act as a bridge until more permanent state policy solutions and long-term revenue reforms can be developed in the regular 2026 session, legislators have only placed a small bandaid on a much larger problem. Without larger structural reforms—including reevaluating the fiscal guardrails and exploring new, fair, sustainable revenue—the state will face these same crises every year.

SEBAC 2027 Survey

Retirees, Your Input is Needed!

continued from page 1

(Note: This survey is for current state retiree union members only. Active members have already filled out a separate survey, and non-union retirees are not eligible.) The survey is not a vote on specific proposals, but your feedback will guide our priorities at the bargaining table and ensure your voice shapes the future of retiree benefits.

**Does CSEA
have your
correct
contact
info on file?**

**Update your
info by
scanning the
QR code
below.**

Two Special Elections in December

Some Connecticut voters will head to the polls this month to fill two unexpected vacancies in the state House of Representatives.

On December 10, a special election will be held in the 139th House District following the passing of Rep. Kevin Ryan, a steadfast legislator and longtime labor ally. Over his decades in the General Assembly, Ryan was a champion for public workers, higher education, and the rights of working families across the state. His deep policy knowledge and unwavering partnership with labor made him a trusted voice at the Capitol. He will be profoundly missed.

A second special election will take place on December 17 in the 82nd House District, triggered by the resignation of former Representative Bobby Sanchez, who stepped down after winning his race for Mayor of New Britain. We proudly endorsed Sanchez in that mayoral contest, and we're thrilled to see him elected and sworn in as the city's new leader. His victory is not only a major milestone for New Britain but also opens the door for new representation in the Legislature. The upcoming special election gives residents another opportunity to send a strong, pro-worker voice to Hartford.



Representative Kevin Ryan was a longtime ally and will be greatly missed.



Medicare Part B Reimbursement Update

By: Kevin Sullivan, Council 400 Retiree Organizer

We want to keep you informed about important developments regarding your Part B (and Part D, if applicable) reimbursements for the year 2026. The standard amount for Medicare Part B for the upcoming year will be \$202.90.

Standard Part B Premium

If you are paying the standard, basic amount for Part B, no action is required. Your Part B reimbursement will be automatically included in your pension check, as it has been in the past.

Higher Part B Premium (or Part D Premium)

If you pay more than the basic rate for Part B or are enrolled in Part D, you will need to submit the relevant information, as in previous years. The administration of Part B submissions will continue to be handled by the Aetna Medicare Advantage Plan,

our retiree healthcare provider.

As a State retiree, you should never sign up for Medicare Part D on your own. If the State of Connecticut places you on Medicare Part D, the cost will be reimbursed to you. Submitting your documentation for reimbursement is essential to ensure that you receive these funds.

If you are being charged more than \$202.90 for Medicare (including IRMAA, the Income-Related Monthly Adjustment Amount), you must submit a copy of your Medicare Premium Notice by February 27, 2026, to the following address:

Email, Fax, or Mail a copy of your Medicare Premium Notice to:

Email: STCTMailbox@aetna.com
 Fax: 1 (855) 481-3124

Mail:

Aetna, Inc.
 PO Box 7083
 London, KY 40742

Make sure to write your state employee ID number above

your name. If submitting for your spouse, write your name and state employee ID number above your spouse's name.

Important: Do not send via Certified Mail - Certified Mail will be rejected! If you send by email or fax, you have confirmation of when you sent it, but if you send by mail and would like to confirm that it was received by Aetna, you can call 1-855-648-0391.

Rest assured, you

will receive additional notifications through various channels, including CSEA News, emails from our team, and traditional mail from the Comptroller's Office.

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CSEA-CT.com

Social Activities Committee: Yankees v. Dodgers Game

Due to the overwhelming demand, tickets to the Yankees vs Dodgers game in July 2026 have been sold out, but a **new offer is now available!**

Package details - \$469/pp which includes roundtrip transportation, drop off and pickup close to the entry gate, great food made to order, soft chairs, great view of the field, AC room. Soft drinks are included. Cash bar. Deposit must be made by Jan 1, 2026. Could this be an early Christmas gift for you or a loved one? If you are interested in attending contact Tina Franco at (203) 721-4382.

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The Club+ Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal

New members The Club+ Card Membership: \$40 when you purchase a 1-year The Club+ Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal.

The Club+ Card members receive 5¢ off/gal² at BJ's Gas[®] every day and earn 2% back¹ in rewards on most BJ's purchases, plus two FREE same-day deliveries on eligible orders of \$50 or more during each annual membership period²

Existing members:

Renew The Club Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal for \$50: To renew at this discounted offer, you must call the above toll-free number.

Renew The Club+ Card Membership with BJ's Easy Renewal for \$100: To renew at this discounted offer, you must call the above toll-free number.

BJ's Membership Sales Representative: Renewing Members: Must Use Call Center Mon-Fri 9 AM-6 PM

Email: Debbie Lisonbee dlisonbee@bjs.com Offer expires: JANUARY 31, 2026

I agree to BJ's membership terms, available in-club and on BJS.com/terms, and agree to receive membership communications electronically.

Membership expires last day of month/year shown on your receipts and BJS.com account. Membership renewed within 2 months of expiration extend 12 months from expiration date; otherwise extend 12 months from last day of renewal month.

BJ's Easy Renewal enrollment required; you authorize BJ's to charge any payment method on record, an annual recurring charge in the amount of the then-current membership fee for all memberships on your account, plus applicable tax, starting the first day of the month your membership expires ("Start Date"), without notice unless required by law. Visit your BJS.com account, a member services desk, or call 800-BJS-CLUB to manage or cancel BJ's Easy Renewal; cancel before the Start Date to avoid being charged. Not combinable or redeemable for cash. Sales tax may apply. In order to renew at the Corporate Partnership Program discounted membership offer, you must renew via your BJ's Membership Sales Representative. **Expires: 01/31/26**

¹The Club+ Card members earn 2% back in rewards (up to \$500/membership year) on eligible net BJ's purchases in-club and online. Terms apply — see BJS.com/terms.

²Terms apply — see BJS.com/terms.

³Each annual membership period, The Club+ Card primary members receive 2 same-day deliveries with no standard delivery fee on eligible net orders of \$50+ placed on BJS.com or in the BJ's app. Same-day delivery is not available in all ZIP codes or for all orders and is not guaranteed. Residential addresses only. Terms apply, see BJS.com/terms.

Thanksgiving Dinner was Pricy this Year

Cost of Living Skyrockets over Last 12 Months

Everywhere we look, the cost of living is climbing. Groceries, rent, childcare, gas, utilities are getting more expensive. The average gallon of milk is up nearly 10%, a loaf of bread has jumped about 12%, and eggs—already notorious for spiking last year—are up another 8%. Gas prices have climbed back toward \$4 a gallon in many parts of Connecticut, heating oil has risen more than 15%, and renters are facing monthly increases of \$100–\$300 as leases renew. Even childcare costs, which were already out of reach for many families, have surged another 6% nationwide. These aren't luxuries, these are the basics that families depend on, and every uptick adds to the pressure of trying to make ends meet.

But at the same time, America's wealthiest individuals are celebrating the kind of raises working families can only dream about. In fact, just this year alone, 400 billionaires saw their collective wealth jump by 22%.

If you make \$50,000 a year, a 22% raise would mean an extra \$11,000 to cover rising costs. or

a long overdue repair. But for the ultrawealthy those raises are just more money for the bank.

As many families sat around dining room tables last month to celebrate Thanksgiving, it was hard to ignore the spike in prices of that meal. Just take a look at this graphic from AFT that reviews your typical Thanksgiving dinner cost from 2024-2025.

Billionaires are living in a different economy than the rest of us. For them, inflation is an inconvenience, maybe making a luxury car or private jet a little more expensive. For working families, inflation is the difference between paying the heating bill and putting food on the table.

This isn't just about numbers on a chart, it's about power. Corporate CEOs and billionaires use their influence to keep wages low and weaken unions, all while lobbying for tax breaks and loopholes that pad their bottom line. It's time to demand policies—and contracts—that put people over profits and make sure that when costs go up, working people don't get left behind.

ITEM	2025 PRICE	2024 PRICE	% INCREASE
Sweet Onions, 1lb	\$1.64	\$1.05	56%
Smoked Bone-In Spiral Ham, 8lbs	\$11.48	\$7.69	49%
Fresh Turkey, 15lbs	\$24.60	\$18.15	36%
Ocean Spray Jellied Cranberry Sauce, 1 can	\$2.45	\$2.01	22%
Seneca Foods Corp. Canned Cream Corn, 2 cans	\$2.73	\$2.25	21%
Ornau Foods Spreadable Butter, 1 tub	\$6.40	\$5.47	17%
De Cecco Elbow Pasta, 1 box	\$3.01	\$2.59	16%
French Fried Onions, 1 canister	\$2.84	\$2.47	15%
Sargento Shredded Cheese Blend, 2 bags	\$6.89	\$6.07	14%
Butternut Squash, 3lbs	\$4.02	\$3.57	13%
Refrigerated Pie Crust, 2 packs	\$4.62	\$4.10	13%
Collared Greens, 1 bunch	\$1.84	\$1.63	12%
Pecans, 12oz	\$7.73	\$6.95	11%
McCall Farms Canned Yams, 1 can	\$3.39	\$3.12	9%
McCormick Turkey Gravy Mix, 1 Packet	\$1.42	\$1.32	7%
Idahoan Foods Shelf Stable Mashed Potatoes, 1 box	\$1.42	\$1.32	7%

Note: Non-exhaustive list of items making up a typical Thanksgiving basket. Percent increases rounded to the nearest whole number. Source: Research from Groundwork Collaborative, The Century Foundation, AFT.

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[†]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.

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