



insight

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Lobby Day a Resounding Success

By Therese Hervieux

Over 70 Connecticut union members from more than 22 different unions descended on the State Capitol on Thursday, April 23, 2024 to meet with legislators and lobby them regarding HB 5164, Unemployment Insurance for Striking Workers. Kirby Boyce, Therese Hervieux, and Joe Durette stood behind the velvet rope set up for those lobbying and spoke to many legislators that were on the fence about supporting this important bill to level the playing field for working families.



Through all the union member efforts, we relayed personal stories that resonated with these state representatives and many on both sides of the aisle signed up to not only support the bill, but sponsor and co-sponsor HB 5164. This is a huge accomplishment!

Many of us don't realize how important getting involved in politics is and how it can affect the quality of our lives. Politics have been so contentious and dividing. But there at the Capitol, we experienced the power of facing our legislators directly, sharing our feelings about an important issue for our union and the families we represent. They are just people, too, and we vote them in. They need to hear from us more often.

If you're interested in getting involved to help make a difference, please feel free to reach out Kirby or Joe or myself.



It's Crunch Time—We Need Your Help!

By Joe Durette

Since Lobby Day, there have been an amendment to HB 5164, and it's now called HB 5431. The new bill creates a \$3 million relief fund to support striking workers. Governor Lamont was threatening to veto HB 5164 and he's threatening to veto HB 5431 too. This from a guy who benefitted tremendously from union workers knocking on doors and manning phone banks tirelessly to get him elected governor. Our friends at the CT AFL-CIO are asking for our help to persuade Ned the businessman to act like Ned the Governor and do the right thing by signing this bill into law. Please refer to the flyer below and take a moment to reach out to the Governor's office using the QR Code or the link.

CONNECTICUT AFL-CIO

TAKE ACTION NOW!

Legislators passed HB 5431 creating a \$3 million relief fund at the Comptroller's Office for striking workers that have no choice but to go on strike.

Governor Lamont is threatening to side with CEOs and veto the bill!

Urge Governor Lamont to Sign HB 5431 now to take a major step towards leveling the playing field for workers.

TELL GOV. LAMONT TO STAND WITH WORKERS, NOT CEOS!



or use this link: bit.ly/support5431





Brothers, Sisters, and Union Family,

The month of May was first established in 1949 to be Mental Health Awareness Month. This year, I want to take the opportunity to emphasize the importance of taking care of our mental health and well-being. In our busy lives, it's easy to overlook our own needs, but our mental health is just as crucial as our physical health. It's essential to prioritize self-care and make time for ourselves, whether it's through exercise, meditation, hobbies, or simply spending quality time with loved ones.

Incorporating self-care into our daily routine can significantly improve overall quality of life and enhance our health, as well as our relationships at home and at work. Remember, self-care is not a luxury; it's a necessity. Taking regular breaks, practicing mindfulness, and ensuring we get enough rest can help reduce stress and increase our effectiveness in every area of our lives.

Additionally, I want to encourage each of you to seek help when you need it. It's okay to ask for support, whether from a trusted friend, family member, or a professional. If you find yourself struggling, know that you are not alone, and there are resources available to assist you. We have an Employee Assistance Program (EAP) that offers confidential support services for a variety of personal issues. We are available to help with significant mental health issues ranging from anxiety, depression, and substance use, all the way through concerns related to dealing with daily stressors at home or here in the shop. The EAP is here to help. Please don't hesitate to reach out if you need to talk about something. We all need a little extra support sometimes.

If no one else has said this to you lately then hear it from me. Thank you for all you do. You deserve some time to take care of yourself. So please, take some time this month to focus on your well-being and do a little more of whatever brings you joy!

In solidarity and in support,
Sean Marcil, LPC, LADC, CEAP



Fallen Workers Honored at State Capitol in Annual Workers Memorial Day Ceremony

On Sunday, April 28th, workers, elected officials, and students gathered at the Connecticut State Capitol in Hartford for a ceremony to honor workers who have died or suffered illness or injuries on the job. In Connecticut, 34 workers lost their lives to work-related injuries in 2022, the latest data available. An additional 35,700 workers suffered on-the-job injuries or illnesses.

According to the AFL-CIO's annual report, [Death on the Job: The Toll of Neglect](#), 5,486 workers nationally were killed on the job and an estimated 120,000 workers died from occupational diseases in 2022. That means 344 workers died each day job-related injuries and illnesses.

Each year on April 28, the labor movement gathers together for Workers Memorial Day to honor the memory of those workers who have lost their lives on the job. During the ceremonies, we speak of the sacrifices made by these workers and of the families left behind, and we are inspired to work harder on behalf of all workers.



Speakers at the event included Attorney General William Tong, U.S. Senator Richard Blumenthal, Comptroller Sean Scanlon, Connecticut AFL-CIO President Ed Hawthorne, and advocates for worker health and safety. Sen. Saud Anwar received the Health and Safety Legislative Award. Also, scholarships were awarded to the winners of the 2024 Workers Memorial Day Essay Contest.'

(reprinted from ctafcio.org, edited)





As many of you may know, we have stopped renting the hall to the public and have only been renting to our members. This happened as a result of renters disrespecting the property, not following the contract rules and the cops being called to the hall almost every weekend one summer. We tried to prevent this before by raising the price of the deposit and the cost of the rental, but it clearly didn't work and we were forced to shut down renting to the public. For over a year now we've been renting to members only and we are still having problems. We

are forced to be stricter on the rules of renting and many times it has resulted in deposits being kept and people being added to the do not rent list.

As adults and members of this Local, this is very sad. The rules and expectations are clearly set in the rental contract. Most of the issues are happening because members are renting for their friends or family, and it's those people who are causing problems. ***Before you rent the hall for someone, you need think about who you are renting for because YOU, as the member, are responsible for that person and all of their guests!*** You are putting *your name* on the contract and that will affect *your ability* to rent in the future. If you are renting for someone, you should plan to be present at the entire event so that you can ensure that your rental reputation remains in good standing, by monitoring the guests and making sure the rental rules are being followed.

As a renter, you are responsible for the hall, the bathrooms on the main floor, the foyer and parking lot. The janitor picks up trash and cleans around the property every day, so it's pretty evident that if there is a big mess in the parking lot, it's from the party. Trash cans are provided, ash trays for cigarette butts are provided outside... there is absolutely no excuse as to why our property is being disrespected by guests littering, destroying/ vandalizing property and feeling entitled to disregard your reputation as the renting member. And all of this affects your deposit. Thoroughly cleaning and making sure all trash is picked up and trash bags are put in the dumpsters behind the building are extremely important because there is a church that rents the hall every Sunday and it is not their responsibility to clean your messes! Attendees are not allowed to park on any Goodwin property including the American Eagle Bank parking lot next door. There are cameras all over the property, inside and out... and they are monitored!

So please, **use your highest discretion when renting for someone else, as well as who you invite**, and please make sure all the rules are followed by yourself and attendees. We don't want these issues to keep us from renting the hall to our members, and we don't want to have to keep deposits or add people to the do-not-rent list. We want you all to have a good time, but the **property and contract rules must be respected by all who come here.** Another reminder, we do not rent for graduation parties, birthdays under 25 years old and we do not rent the hall during the week, as too many renters have been too loud or rowdy and not respected the fact that there are offices conducting business. **Respectfully, Shay ~**





The next Monthly Meeting will be held on May 19th in Grace Baker Hall at 11 a.m.



CONTRACT NEGOTIATING COMMITTEE ELECTIONS

FRIDAY, MAY 17th , 6 A.M. TO 8 P.M.

YOU MUST VOTE FOR FIVE OF THE FOLLOWING CANDIDTATES

- BILYEU, Jacqueline
- BULLOCK, James
- BURKHART, Kurt
- DURETTE, Joseph
- FUSCO, Angelo
- GRANDON, Nicholas
- HALL, Dave
- HERVIEUX, Therese
- JONES, Eustace
- McLAUGHLIN, Steven
- PARENT, Marc
- PERUGINI, Vinny
- PORTELA, Marco
- SALMAN, Taylor
- TYROL, Ryan
- VALDEZ, Geronlmo

Grinders available, \$5.

Meatball, Ham, Turkey, Roast Beef



Remember Our Troops Red-Shirt Fridays!!!
Remember those who gave ALL on Memorial Day



WEBSITES:

- www.iamll1746.org
- www.iamdistrict26.org
- www.goiam.org
- www.ctaflcio.org

LOCAL LODGE EXECUTIVE BOARD

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John Hanusovsky, Dave Hall

NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE

Joe Durette, Editor
Therese Hervieux, Co-Editor
 1746news@gmail.com

March RIDII Winners

- Angela DiBianco
- Jesus Arroyo
- Zbigniew Dalczyński
- Jacqueline Bilyeu
- Timothy Shafer
- Hector Gonzales
- Christopher Plunkett
- Sasha Feliciano

April RIDII Winners

- Natanael Rodriguez
- Justin Maldonado
- Kevin Miller
- Debra Possardt
- Michael Tomanelli
- Louis Candelas
- Daniel Mitchell
- Bryan Canfield

