

Remember Our Troops



P.R.I.D.E. at Work



Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence

Governor Rell Attends DOC Graduation

On Thursday, January 25th, the 146 members of Pre-Service Class #234 were graced with the presence of Governor M. Jodi Rell as the keynote speaker for their graduation ceremony.

This marked the first time this governor has attended a pre-service graduation ceremony for the Connecticut Department of Correction.

Commissioner Lantz graciously welcomed Governor Rell to the ceremony and extended her appreciation to the families and friends who were on hand to help support their loved ones celebrate this milestone.

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(pictured above l-r) Department of Correction Honor Guard members, Lt. Anthony Cusano, Lt. Edwin Irizarry, and Parole Officer Tonia McCown pose with Governor M. Jodi Rell (center) prior to the ceremony.

Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support successful community reintegration.

About and for correctional professionals

February 4 - 24, 2007

Northern CI's Holiday Salute to Staff Activated to Iraq



The Caron and Thomas families pose with Warden Jeffrey McGill and staff from Northern CI.

On December 19th Officer Tommy Thomas and his parents along with Mary Reinhard-Caron, (the wife of Officer Ray Caron who was activated in December of 2005), and their children Tyler (14-months) and Colin (4-years old), took part in a staff appreciation meal sponsored by the Quality of Work Life Committee. Several fundraisers were held to provide the meal for all three-shifts. Staff also organized and contributed to fundraisers that were held to honor their staff members who had been activated to Iraq during the holiday season. The funds were used to purchase gifts for the Caron and Thomas families as well as a welcome home present for Officer Thomas.

Continued on Page 6, See *Salute to Staff*

DOC K9 Staff Graduate From CSP Academy

On December 21st two correctional staff from the K-9 unit completed the 16-week rigorous training program at the Connecticut State Police Canine Training Academy. The graduates were Lieutenant Greg Chandler & K9 “Logan” and Officer Randy Hubert & K9 “Otto.”

At the graduation ceremony, Officer Hubert received the Daniel Scott Wasson Award. This award is given in memory of Officer Danny Wasson of the Milford Police Department who was killed in the line of duty. The award is given to a member of the graduating class that best exemplifies Danny’s motivation and enthusiasm in the field of K9 training. Officer Hubert joins three other officers from the Department of Correction to receive this prestigious award: Wayne Dumas in 1987, Mike Belanger in 1989, and James McKenzie in 2001. Congratulations!



(l-r) Major Joseph Chapdelaine, Lieutenant Greg Chandler & K9 “Logan” and Officer Randy Hubert & K9 “Otto,” and Deputy Commissioner Brian K. Murphy after the CSP K9 Graduation Ceremony.

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Commissioner Lantz Renominated and Reconfirmed

By a unanimous vote of all 34 State Senators in attendance, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz was reconfirmed on Wednesday, February 7, 2006 to continue to head the Connecticut Department of Correction. Governor M. Jodi Rell had renominated Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz of the Department of Correction to continue in the agency’s leadership role. “Commissioner Lantz is the consummate corrections professional... who has insured the safety and security of the state’s correctional facilities,” said the Governor. Also renominated were Deputy Commissioners Carol Salsbury and Brian K. Murphy. As a result of the Governor’s vote of confidence, Commissioner Lantz appeared before the General Assembly’s Executive and Legislative Nominations Committee where she spent more than an hour answering a range of questions from lawmakers regarding the Department of Correction. Treatment for the mentally ill, education, and the prison population were a few of the topics discussed. The committee unanimously approved the Commissioner’s renomination. Before the vote in the Senate, Senators Martin Looney, Toni Harp, Edith Prague and Andrea Stillman all praised Commissioner Lantz and her record of success.

Distributed bi-weekly to 7, 000 staff and via the internet throughout Connecticut and the nation by the Department of Correction.

Theresa C. Lantz,
Commissioner

24 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109

M. Jodi Rell,
Governor

Web address:
www.ct.gov/doc

Public Information Office
Telephone:
860.692.7780

Class 234 Graduation Cont'd Around The Cell Block

Governor Rell addressed the graduates and discussed the importance of their work in the agency. Governor Rell stated, "As you start down the path of courage, dedication and commitment to public service, Aim for Excellence." With that advice, the graduates were awarded their diplomas and badges.



Members of Class #234 after taking the oath.



New Hampshire - An elementary school principal has been arrested for attempting to deliver cigarettes to the prison where her son is an inmate.

Did You Know?...



Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860.692.7554. This article has been written by Irving Fallon, Plant Facilities Engineer 1, and questions relating to it may be answered by contacting him at 860.692.7564

Conveying rain away from the home by the means of a gutter system is an imperfect art leaving much to be desired. If water drains naturally away from the home, or if the foundation footings have been provided with a working drainage system which leaves the basement dry, it may be convenient to live in a gutterless dwelling. Oh, the bliss! The inconvenience of a rain soaked entrance can be avoided by placing inexpensive metal rain diverters on the roof above the doorways.

Assuming that gutters are a necessary evil, attention is directed toward their proper maintenance. Water sloshing over the brim of the gutter during a rainstorm with nary a drop coming out the downspouts, and luscious blooms of plants growing along their extent each spring, are signs of lax gutter care. Failed gutters can lead to expensive home repairs due to ice damming and fascia board rot. Pondered water within the gutter is heavy and may deform the gutter or pry it loose from the building.

Authorities in gutter care recommend that debris be removed twice a year. Forays on the perimeter of a roof for this maintenance is a leading cause of homeowner injury and should be avoided. Scaling a ladder to practice the "gushy hand" method of gutter care is slightly safer, but still should be avoided.

Continued on Page 5 , See *Did You Know*

Ohio- A former inmate is suing officials of the state prison in Marion for subjecting him to second hand smoke that he claims worsened his asthma.

California- A stove and a pet lizard were among the finds during a shake down of the state prison at Chino.

Colorado- Olympic bomber Eric Rudolph has complained in a newspaper that he doesn't like his maximum security cell or the exercise area that he calls a dog kennel.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
February 15, 2007
23,658
On February 15, 2006
the population was
22,744**

Enfield CI Staff Make The Holiday Memorable

Warden Peter Murphy would like to express his appreciation to all the staff at Enfield CI for their donation of Christmas gifts. This year, through the generosity of Enfield CI staff, over sixty (60) children and young adults at The CT Children's Place in East Hartford, The Bridge Family Shelter in West Hartford and The Moving On Project in Manchester were provided with Christmas gifts. These programs try to make the holiday special for the kids but are not able to provide that "special present" for every child. Enfield CI staff are second to none in their generosity and each child received not

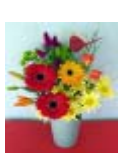


just one gift, but several gifts. All three programs expressed their heartfelt thanks to the staff at Enfield CI for helping to make this Christmas memorable for the kids. Special thanks to Administrative Assistant Flabia Feo and Counselor Ross Sutherland (pictured above) for coordinating and overseeing such a special project.

DOC Bonding Approved

The State Bond Commission approved the Connecticut Department of Correction's request for \$11-million in bond funding for major projects within the agency. Among the request is \$2-million for the replacement of the Department's aging radios over the next three years. This money will also be used to replace the body alarms at the New Haven CC, security cameras will be upgraded at the York CI and nine control centers will be enclosed at the MacDougall-Walker CI. Also on the list of funded projects are : **Cheshire CI**- Back gate replacement; **Bergin CI**- Generator replacement and relocation; **Enfield CI**- Bathroom renovations, and **Bridgeport CC** - North Wing Housing Unit renovations.

Thank You



My family and I would like to thank everyone for your thoughts and prayers during a very difficult time for us. Your cards and prayers were a comfort and meant so much to me and my family. Thank You all so much.

Captain William Colon

S.H.A.R.E.

Opportunity Announcement

The Sexual Harassment Advocacy Response for Employees (SHARE) is accepting applications for volunteers to staff the newly developed SHARE Program.

The SHARE Program provides support to the complainant involved in a sexual harassment complaint process. Support and interventions are conducted in a safe and confidential environment to promote staff wellbeing. All SHARE members are trained in the dynamics of sexual harassment support.

To become a SHARE team member you must have at least two years of service with the Department of Correction and be discipline free (2.11, 2.17, 2.2 or 2.22 issues) for one year. Interested staff will submit a letter of interest, resume, two letters of recommendations (one letter from a supervisor of at least six months), and your last two performance appraisals.

The application package must be forwarded no later than March 9, 2007 to: Director Robert Jackson, AffirmativeAction Unit, 24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield,CT,06109

Donation Assists Domestic Violence Victims



On December 19th, Recreation Director Brian Labrecque (l) presented Pat Settembrino (r) with a donation of \$2000 for the Network Against Domestic Abuse. The funds were raised through the inmate

photo shoot program and the money was used to buy Christmas gifts for victims of domestic violence.

MVP's

Allison, Horace, Lt.	MWCI
Angelo, Joseph, CO	MYI
Annis, Linda, LPN	MWCI
Burns, Joy, CN	MWCI
Carra, Paul, CFSS2	MWCI
Carucci, Ralph, CFSS 3	MWCI
Cauley, Michael, CFSS2	MWCI
Colon, Luis, CO	MWCI
DiMatteo, Tanell, Rec. Spec.	BCC
Doran, Pat, Fire Safety Ofcr	BCC
Feitel, Jennifer, Lt.	MYI
Flood, Yvonne, OA	BCC
Fontano, Nick, Comm. Oper	MYI
Garofalo, Marurizio, CO	MWCI
Gibson, David, CO	MYI
Haberern, Sonya, CTO	MYI
Jackson, Sharon, Lt.	CCI
Jackson, William, CO	MYI

Did You Know?...Cont'd

Professional gutter cleaning services are available and fairly reasonable (the going rate appears to be about \$65 per cleaning on a single story dwelling).

The frugal but cautious homeowner may wish to consider the Gutter Sense™ gutter-cleaning tool marketed by its inventor Bob Segal on the Internet (guttersense.com) or by telephone 847.639.1420. The \$19.95 device consists of a pair of reinforced plastic tongs kept open with a metal coil spring. It conveniently fits to a painter's pole (purchased separately at any hardware store). Once maneuvered into the gutter taking pains to avoid the gutter support ties and electrical service wires, the user pulls on a nylon line to close the tongs around the gutter debris. The pole is lifted out of the gutter and a release of the cord drops the debris to the ground. The tool is fairly efficient and is easy to use on single story gutters. The weight of a longer pole necessary for use on second story buildings makes the process tiring, and the user may want to consider doing one side of a building per day. The activity attracted onlookers. The device is elegantly designed and has a one year warranty, but is not particularly robust. A lightweight mirror would be a useful accessory.

It is possible to develop sufficient suction in a vacuum system to suck up gutter debris and remove it while the user is positioned on the ground. However, the conventional wet/dry vacuum cleaner is not capable of achieving this amount of vacuum.

A more permanent method of maintaining a debris free gutter is offered by the GutterPiller (gutterpillar.com). This is a filter system made of UV protected polypropylene bristles and galvanized steel wire, similar to an oversized artificial tree branch. Leaves and other debris are captured on the top of the bristles where they dry and are removed by wind. Water passes through the bristles in the trough of the gutter to the downspout.

Several systems are now available which utilize the adhesive character of water to permit gutter use while shielding a large percentage of the gutter top with a protective hood. These systems reduce, but do not eliminate, debris buildup in the gutter system. They are also very expensive.

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

www.theEAP.com

Salute to Staff Cont'd



Officer Thomas, center, poses with Warden McGill and some of his 3rd shift co-workers on his first day back at the facility.

On December 1, 2005 Officer Tommy Thomas, a member of the 1BN 25th Marine Unit, was activated to serve our country in Iraq. On March 2, 2006 he was deployed to Fallujah, Iraq. During this deployment he participated in numerous humanitarian missions and offensive operations to assist in halting the insurgency within the city. On December 19th he returned to 3rd shift where his fellow staff members and supervisors welcomed him back.

Introducing.....DOC WEB

The MIS Unit is pleased to announce that we have developed a new internal web-site for the Department of Correction. This web-site will be the Department's new Intranet.

Thanks to the fine work by Technical Analyst 3 Luis Boria and the help of Director Brian Garnett, we now have our own internal information site. The new Intranet should provide the Department the ability to have our own internal site where information pertinent only to DOC staff can be stored and referenced. Even if you do not have Internet access, you will be able to access this site.

To access the site, click on the Internet Explorer icon on your start up screen. Once in Internet Explorer, type <http://DOCWEB> on the Address line and hit enter. This will then take you into the D.O.C. Intranet, the Department of Correction Internal Web-site. If this does not work, then type <http://DOCWEB.CTDOC.org>.

The site is only a couple of months old and we are still working on the content. We would love to have feedback from anyone on staff about what you like and dislike and what you would like to see included in the site. Your input is critical to us putting together a first rate web page.

*If you have any questions, would like to submit ideas or content, or need further clarification on the site, please contact the DOC Webmaster. To contact the Webmaster, click on **WEBMASTER**, in the upper left-hand corner of the page. If you have any PC related issues in getting to this site, please e-mail the DOC helpdesk at **HELPDESK, DOC**. We hope you enjoy the site and benefit from the information that will be presented here.*

Think Golf



Although this has been a unique winter, golfers have been pretty happy. Spring will officially greet us March 21st and daylight savings time begins early this year (March 10th). To that end, the Joe Bongiorno DOC Golf League will have an organizational meeting for last year's members and anyone interested in playing during the 2007 season. The meeting will be held on Tuesday (weather permitting), March 6th at JoAnne's Restaurant on Rte.190 in Somersville, CT from 4p.m.-5p.m. Anyone who is interested in getting more detail about the league is encouraged to call Secretary Larry Soine at 860.763.6391. Newly elected President D. J. Figiela looks forward to seeing you at JoAnne's!

MASCA Award Nominations

The Middle-Atlantic States Correctional Association (MASCA) will convene its 69th Annual Conference and Training at the Marriott Hotel in Mystic, CT, on June 3-6, 2007. During the conference MASCA will confer several prestigious awards. Recipients are by tradition from the host state/jurisdiction. The Nomination Deadline is April 1, 2007. Nominations are now being invited for the following awards:

Carl Robinson Award, The MASCA Founder's Award, and The Sal Russoniello Service Award.

For nomination forms and additional info please contact Major Christina Polce at MacDougall-Walker CI.

C.I.R.S.T. Openings

Director Sandra Sawicki, the Critical Incident Stress Response Team Administrator, from the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development, has announced the need for the Department's Critical Incident Stress Response Team to expand. Team members are needed throughout the Department.

The Critical Incident Stress Response Program provides support for staff adversely affected by a traumatic event. Interventions are conducted in a safe and confidential atmosphere to promote staff well being. All team members are trained in communication skills, crisis intervention skills, recognizing stress symptoms, defusing and debriefing techniques (the ICISF Model), and helping organize thoughts after a stressful event. Here is an opportunity to help your co-worker through a difficult time, help the Department maintain healthy, ready staff, and help yourself to reap the personal satisfaction of showing you care. All candidates must meet the general standards set forth in Administrative Directive 2.18 Critical Incident Stress Response Program. To be a CISRT member you must have worked in a correctional environment for at least three years. To apply: submit a letter of interest, a resume, four letters of recommendation (one from your unit administrator, one from a supervisor of 6 months, and two personal references), and your last two performance appraisals. Application must be submitted to CISRT Coordinator CS Jackie Jennett at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development by February 28, 2007. All required documents must be submitted in one packet. Any potential candidate will not be considered if packet is incomplete. For further information contact Program Coordinator CS Jackie Jennett at 203.270.2800 or CC Laura Jakabauski at 203.250.2600.

Honor Guard Openings

Director Richard Miele has announced new members are being sought for the Department's **Honor Guard and Bagpipe and Drum Band** Unit, specifically for the position of **bagpiper**.

Interested employees may contact Honor Guard Commander/Lieutenant Tony Cusano at Maloney CTSD, 203.271.5178, or Director Miele at Central Office 860.692.7506 to be placed on an interview/audition list.

There is no closing date. In reference to the Bagpipe and Drum Band section, **any** member of the Department with a minimum service of **one (1)** year shall be eligible.

Interested employees are encouraged to review Administrative Directive 2.16/Honor Guard and Bagpipe and Drum Band for eligibility requirements.

Applicants are requested to include their **date of hire** on their letter of interest and/or resume.

Save The Date

The 11th Annual Melanie Ilene Rieger Memorial Conference will be held on April 18-19th at the Maloney CTSD. DOC employees are exempt from registration fees.