

1968-2008

40

Years of Excellence
in Public Safety
Through Staff
Professionalism



Connecticut
Department of Correction

P.R.I.D.E.

at Work

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

York C.I. : Medical Facility of the Year



Warden Angel Quiros with members of the York C. I. Staff

The National Commission on Correctional Health Care, upon the recommendation of its Accreditation Committee, has selected the York Correctional Institution to receive this year's NCCHC Facility of the Year Award. This prestigious award is presented each year to only one facility selected from among the 500 prisons, jails

From The Commissioner



The agency recently held an all day Re-Entry Summit at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development to inform and gather ideas for the further enhancement of our efforts to assist in the successful reintegration of the offenders who are rejoining their communities. Our work in this regard so far has been exemplary and has allowed us to manage our offender population to an extent that other states have not been able to achieve. The keynote speaker of the event was Ira Barbell, Ph.D. of the Annie E. Casey Foundation, which has done significant work in the area of the effect of incarceration on the community. He summed up the current state of corrections in America as being, "...in the midst of an unprecedented ground swell of change." He stated that this was due in large part to the continuing expansion of the U.S. prison population. "The United States has five percent of the world's population and 25 percent of those incarcerated and we are the only industrialized nation still using incarceration as the primary means of dealing with crime," he stated. He also complimented our agency as being "light years" ahead of others.

see Commissioner page 3

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.

June 20-July 15, 2008

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Commissioner

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Commissioner *cont./page 1*

While we should be very proud of where we are, there is still work to be done. With an eye toward the potential assistance of the Federal Second Chance Act, I told the Summit that we will be moving toward the creation of a statewide re-entry strategy. We already have the foundation for this in our Offender Management Plan and in the re-entry preparation that we now provide departing offenders. But still, more than half of our discharging offenders leave us end of sentence. We must do better, and we will. The Summit was extremely positive and full of pride over what we have accomplished. Above all it demonstrated that we have and will continue to hold true to the standard that we set for ourselves when we enhanced our mission for re-entry. We have shown that the foundation of facility good order and security supports our efforts or re-entry and enhances

A License for Success

Inmates at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution were lining up to get their photos taken



recently, but these were not your standard CAPI photo. Instead these were driver's license and identification photos taken as part of a new collaborative effort between the Connecticut Departments of Correction and Motor Vehicles. The program is intended to support the DOC's re-entry mission

by insuring that offenders who are rejoining law abiding society have an appropriate form of identification that is needed for such things as opening a bank account, cashing a check and renting an apartment. Of the first dozen offenders through the program, 10 received a state identification card, which looks much like a driver's license. Two other offenders, both near the end of their sentence, were able to renew their commercial driver's licenses, allow them to begin working as soon as they are released. The portable license machine operated by DMV staff will be utilized throughout the agency.

DOC Dials Up Video Conferencing

Across the state inmates are attending court cases, parole and immigration hearings, all without ever leaving the secure confines of their correctional facility. In keeping with our mission of public safety and in an era of \$4 plus gasoline, the Connecticut Department of Correction is expanding its use of video conferencing.



Assistant Attorney General Steven Strom makes remarks in an inmate matter via video conferencing

Sitting before a television set with a small camera unit on top, the inmate sees and hears the judge or hearing panel just as the officials presiding in Rockville, Bridgeport, Waterbury or Hartford see and hear the inmate on the screen before them. Nearly all 18 correctional facilities have been set up for the video conferencing, which is being done in collaboration with the State Judicial Branch, the Board of Pardons and Paroles as well as the federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement Division. At this point, only civil court matters are being heard via the conferencing, but discussions continue as to how criminal matters might likewise be handled.

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

www.theEAP.com

National Award for York cont./page 1

and juvenile detention and confinement facilities that participate in NCCHC's nationwide accreditation program.

"We are all incredibly proud of the York CI health care and custody staff who worked so hard to achieve and maintain the NCCHC accreditation," said Dr. Robert Trestman, Executive Director of Correctional Managed Health Care. "The fact that York was selected as the NCCHC 2008 Facility of the Year is a wonderful, and well-deserved, recognition of a team of professionals who demonstrate dedication, collaboration, and an ongoing commitment to excellence."

The accreditation surveyors and committee were impressed with how the staff at York C.I. consistently demonstrated excellence in health service delivery and correctional health care professionalism, and noted the variety of positive programs available to the population.

The award will be presented on October 20, 2008 in Chicago as part of the opening events of the NCCHC's National Conference on Correctional Health Care.

The Detective James W. Matthews Sr. Scholarship Foundation

**10th Annual National Law Enforcement
& Firefighters Basketball Tournament**

September 20-21, 2008

**Hartford Public High School
55 Forest Street, Hartford, CT**

Hosting Hotel: **The Hartford Hilton**
For More Information: www.jmscholarship.org

A Job for a Job Developer

As part of the Department's ongoing commitment to the successful re-integration of inmates back into the community, a "Job Developer" position was recently created. Elisabeth Cooper assumed the position of the new Job Developer in the Offender Programs and Victims Services unit at Central Office in January 2008.



DoC Job Developer Elisabeth Cooper

Her primary role is to cultivate working relationships with employers who are willing to provide employment opportunities to formerly incarcerated individuals. Ms. Cooper will act as a liaison between the Job Centers within the facilities and the DOC-contracted agencies out in the community that provide employment services, to better streamline the job search process. She is also working with Correctional Enterprises and Vocational Education programs such as Culinary Arts to create real career tracks to Connecticut employers throughout the state.

Prior to joining the DOC, Elisabeth Cooper was the Job Developer for STRIDE, a Department of Labor funded program at Quinebaug Valley Community College, working with female offenders at York Correctional in Niantic. In that role, she taught a ten-week pre-employment curriculum to prepare individuals for successful reintegration into the working community. Ms. Cooper graduated from Southern Connecticut State University with her BSW in Social Work and is near completion of a CJS (Criminal Justice Studies certificate) from U-Mass in Amherst. Her work experience includes time spent as a counselor for Boston's urban youth, a discharge planner at Windham Hospital, and a medical social worker for Community Health and Home Care in Northeast Connecticut.

The Week Went "Well"

After several months of planning, the Department of Correction's Wellness Committee kicked off the inaugural edition of "Wellness Week," at Central Office last month, and by all accounts it was a resounding success.

"The response has been tremendous," said Wanda White-Lewis amidst the overflow crowd for health screenings in Café 24. "It just proves that people are concerned about their health, and that there is a need for such activities."

During the course of the week, employees were afforded the opportunity to participate in a variety of activities ranging from, stress management seminars, mammogram screenings, cooking demonstrations, and retirement planning overviews.



Central Office Staff gather health-related information during recent Wellness Week activities

The genesis of *Wellness Week* began last year when Commissioner Lantz, concerned with the toll that stress takes on correctional staff, asked Director of Health Services Pat Ottolini (recently retired), and Health Services Program Director Wanda White-Lewis to form a wellness committee. Other members of the committee include, Ginger Frasca,

Josephine Shabbott, Lynne Neff, who with the help of United Health Care and Oxford Health Plans put together the weeks' activities.

The hope is that the



Project Manager Sumit Sajnani tests his grip strength

Central Office *Wellness Week* is just the first in a series of similar events in various facilities. Next on the list is Bridgeport C.C. in September, and then MacDougall/Walker C. I.

Around the Cell Block



New York- The state's top court has ruled small amounts of marijuana do not constitute dangerous contraband and has ordered felony convictions be reduced to misdemeanors.

California- The state prison systems medial overseer says \$7-billion is needed to bring inmate health care up to constitutional standards.

Wisconsin- More than 120 minimum security inmates have been used to assist in sand bagging efforts to hold back flood waters.

Washington- The Bureau of Justice Statistics reports 1,595,034 inmates were in state and federal prison on June 30, 2007, a 1.6 percent increase over the previous year.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
July 14, 2008
23,679
On July 14, 2007
the population was
23,590**

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 was written by Rick Hamel, Plant Facilities Engineer 1, and questions relating to it may be answered by contacting him at 860 692-7566.

PREVENTING FUEL RELATED SMALL ENGINE PROBLEM'S

I have been hearing from a lot of people complaining of hard starting (or not starting) small engines (i.e. lawn mowers, chain saws, and out boards). Normally they get the "Did you store it properly" speech. After years of hearing this speech from me, they have finally caught on and for the most part are following the basic guidelines, which years ago would have been fine - change the oil, pull the spark plug, put some mystery oil in the cylinder, turn it over a few times, replace the plug and add stabilizes to the fuel to keep it from varnishing during storage.

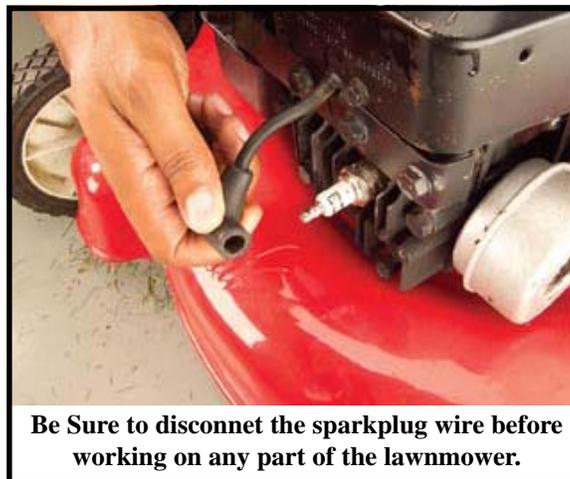
However, with the fuel that is now available to us, there is another step that has been thrown in and I will tell you why. With the oxygenators that are being added to fuel today, like in the case of ethanol, it attracts water particles and creates separation from the gas when left alone for extended periods of time. Once separated in this nature the alcohol and water attacks the seals and seats in the carburetors of the equipment in question. At the same time that this is taking place the oxygenated fuel is eating away at any built up scale on the walls of the fuel tank causing it to release and plug fuel filters.

Remember all the things you had to do to in order to properly store a small engine for the winter? You can now add drain your fuel system and it wouldn't hurt to fog your carburetor with a little WD-40 or any other light lubricant to coat the surfaces to prevent any corrosion from residual oxygenators left hanging around.

So the list of things to do before storage should go like this: Drain fuel from gas tank, start and let run until the fuel is emptied from the fuel lines and carburetor, remove air cleaner (clean or replace), fog carburetor, replace air cleaner, change the oil, pull the spark plug, examine the plug for damage and if needed replace it, lightly oil the cylinder, replace the plug, turn the engine over a few times with the plug wire off to distribute the oil, replace the spark plug wire.

As I said at the beginning of the article these are only basic guide lines for the care and maintenance of small engines. Before storage you should refer to your owners manual for any specific requirements your equipment might need. Having done all this in the spring or fall when you go to use your equipment add fresh fuel and get to work instead of calling your local parts store for a rebuild kit.

This article was written by Plant Facilities Engineer I, Don Hallabeck. If you have any questions or comments, he can be reached at (203) 806-2666.



Be Sure to disconnect the sparkplug wire before working on any part of the lawnmower.

K-9 Unit to the Rescue

The Connecticut Department of Correction K-9 Unit is holding a T-shirt sale fundraiser to benefit Officer Jaime Rivera of the Connecticut Department of Correction K-9 Unit. Rivera, a 15 year veteran of the Department, has a wife and four children; their oldest son, Johnny Ray was born with a condition involving

Last year was a very trying time for the Rivera family, physically, emotionally and financially. Myra is unable to work because she had to leave her job in Connecticut to be with Johnny Ray in Pennsylvania. Jaime, who is the sole provider, had to stay in Connecticut to work so they could keep up with the mortgage and other bills. The expenses of running two households, keeping Alyssa in school and extensive traveling back and fourth are overbearing for a sole income.

Johnny Ray will be in Pennsylvania until his transplant and recovery, which means a lot of travel for the Rivera's, as well as the expense of living in two states. The Rivera family needs our help so they can concentrate on the most important thing, which is getting Johnny Ray home again.

All proceeds from the T-shirt sale fundraiser will go directly to the Rivera Family.



Officer Jaime Rivera and Jake

his major organs. Johnny Ray has undergone hundreds of surgeries including a four-organ transplant of his stomach, pancreas, liver and small intestine causing him to spend most of 2007 at the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. His mother Myra and sister Alyssa lived at the Ronald McDonald House in Pittsburgh to be with him and help with his recovery.

Meanwhile, Jaime remained in Connecticut, where he continued to work to support his family financially while traveling back and forth to Pittsburgh often to spend time with his family and to be near Johnny Ray during his recovery. In addition, Jaime was enrolled in the Connecticut State Police 127th Patrol Dog Training Troop, training a new patrol dog. Participation in that 14 week course limited Jaime's ability to be with his son to just a few weekend trips to Pittsburgh.

Johnny Ray improved to the point that in January 2008 he was allowed to return home to Connecticut. Recently, Johnny Ray's health has deteriorated and he has been re- admitted to the Children's Hospital in Pittsburgh. It has been determined that his body has rejected the organs and he requires the complete transplant again. Unfortunately, he also needs a kidney in addition to the other four organs. Once again Myra is living at the Ronald McDonald House in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania waiting with Johnny Ray for a donor while the people at the hospital keep him healthy enough for the transplant.



**You can buy a T-shirt for \$15.00
by contacting one of the following:**

- North Dist. Kennel – Enfield 860-763-5362**
- South Dist. Kennel – Cheshire 203-806-2595**
- South Dist. Kennel – Niantic 860-691-6338**

Or any Canine Handler



Honor Guard Openings

New members are being sought for the Department's Honor Guard Unit, specifically for the positions of **Color Guard members** and **Bagpipers**.

Interested employees are encouraged to review Administrative Directive 2.16, *Honor Guard* for eligibility requirements including sick leave usage, discipline history, sexual harassment and workplace violence history, service ratings and physical appearance standards.

In reference to the Color Guard selection, any member of the Department of Correction with a minimum service of three years shall be eligible. A letter of interest and/or resume is requested to include date of hire, three years of time and attendance records, the last three years evaluations and two letters of reference from shift commander and immediate supervisor.

In reference to the Bagpiper selection, any member of the Department with a minimum service of one year shall be eligible. A letter of interest and/or resume is requested to include date of hire, 1 year of time and attendance record, last evaluation and 2 letters of reference from shift commander and immediate supervisor.

Interested employees may mail their interview packets to Honor Guard Commander Lieutenant Tony Cusano at Maloney CTSD, 275 Jarvis Street, Cheshire, CT 06410, (203) 271-5178, or Director Richard Miele at Central Office, 24 Wolcot Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109, (860) 692-7506 to be placed on an interview list.

Closing date is August 21, 2008. Interviews/auditions will be conducted shortly thereafter.

Play Ball

or at least watch

**The New Britain Rock Cats
Are hosting the DoC Big Brother
Big Sister Program
At New Britain Stadium**

Tuesday, July 22, 10:30 AM

- Staff will be recognized for their years of services as Bigs.
- Littles will be able to interact with the baseball team.
- One Little will be chosen to throw the first pitch.

RSVP by July 18th - (860) 692-6881 or Mary Dunn on the LAN



Announcements

Warden John Sieminski of Corrigan/Radgowski C.C. is pleased to announce that Jessica Taylor, X-ray Technician for UHC and Randy Hubert, K-9 Officer, are proud parents of a new baby girl, born 6/17/08. She weighs 8lbs, 4oz and is 22-1/2 inches long. Mom, Dad and baby are doing well.

Warden Bruce Cuscovitch of Robinson C.I. is pleased to announce the birth of Emmanuel Xavier Lee, son of Correctional Counselor Grace Lee. Emmanuel was born on July 6th, and weighed in at 6lbs., 14 oz. Mother, father, big brother and baby are all doing fine.



The staff at Osborn C.I. are saddened to inform of the death of William Medina, Sr., father of Correction Officer William Medina, Jr. (Mr. Medina, Sr. also was an ex-Correction Officer/Counselor at Osborn).



York C.I. Warden Angel Quiros and staff are saddened to announce the passing of Attiglio Carini, Father of C/S Bob Carini.



Warden Charles Lee and the staff of Cheshire C.I. are saddened to announce the passing of Correction Officer Wender Garland.



Warden Peter Murphy of MacDougall/Walker C.I. is saddened to announce the passing of Corrections Officer Kevin Williams on July 6th.



Warden David Strange and the staff of Osborn C.I. are saddened to announce the passing of Alan H. Begin, brother of Elaine Skiles, CSW/Health Services on July 5th.

MVP'S

Adrian Reaves, Adrian Lt.	CRCI	Gray, Richard, CO	Bergin	Osborn, Thomas, Lt.	Bergin
Andrade, Mark, CSS	CO	Griffin, John, CC	MWCI	Ouellette, Michael, CSS	CO
Avery, Ron CFSS3	MWCI	Hallock, Pamela CFSS 2	MWCI	Papciak, James CO	MWCI
Banks, Johon, CCT	BCC	Hanley, Thomas GMO	MWCI	Paradis, Timothy, CO	Bergin
Barone, Thomas, CS	WCCI	Hill, David Welder	CRCI	Piccoli, Karen Off. Asst.	CRCI
Bartlett, James, Voc. Inst.	MWCI	Huddleston, Roshell Lt.	MWCI	Powers, David CFSS2	MWCI
Bellerose, Edward CC	NCI	Hughs, Tim, CFSSIII	MYI	Ramsey, Edward, Capt.	WCCI
Bernd, Robert Chaplin	NCI	Jacques, Robert, CSS	CO	Rebick, John, CFSSII	MYI
Boss, Susan, Librarian	MWCI	Jaghi, Deen, CO.	WCCI	Reilly, James, Lt.	CCI
Boucher, Robert Lt.	CRCI	Johnson, Christopher, CO	CCI	Reshard, Erica, CC	BCC
Bowles, William CFSS 2	MWCI	Jones, Richard CO	NCI	Rollo, Christopher, CO	CCI
Bradway, Brian CS	NCI	Katz, David, CO	WCCI	Romero, Ben Laundry Sup.	MWCI
Brunetto, Michael, GMO	CO	Kidd, David CO	NCI	Rovins, Derek, CO	HCC
Bujnicki, Brian CO	MWCI	Kitt, Tawanda CO	NCI	Ryan, Joe GMO	MWCI
Butler, Maurice, Captain	WCCI	Knapp, Robert Cpt.	MWCI	Sal Rosato, Sal GMO	NCI
Byne, Harry, FC.	CO	Krevolin Adam, SST	MWCI	Seaver, Richard CO	NCI
Callahan, Dennis, Capt.	MYI	LaMontagne, Mark, CO	Bergin	Seney, Norman, CO	Bergin
Carberry, Mike, CFSSIII	YCI	Landry, Thomas CFSS2	MWCI	Shain, Berina Sec I	WCI
Carra, Paul CFSS 2	MWCI	Lavery, Sean, CFSSII	CO	Simonelli, Alexandria, CFSSII	MYI
Carucci, Ralph, CFSSIII	YCI	Lawerence, David, CO	Bergin	Simpkiss, Michael CO	MWCI
Chagnon, Amy, SST	MWCI	Lemery, Lisa, FC	CO	Smith, Arthur Lt.	MWCI
Chemmanur, Robert Fire Safety	MWCI	Ligenza, Richard, Lt.	WCCI	Smith, Russell, PSS	MWCI
Christiano, Brian, CFSSII	MYI	Lopez, Osvaldo CO	NCI	Sowell, William Lt.	Bergin
Clifford, William Maint. Sup.	MWCI	Loubier, Bernard Lt.	MWCI	St. Pierre, Nathan CO	Bergin
Corbett, Frank, CO	WCCI	Lynch, Daniel CO	MWCI	Stapleton, Gary, CSS	CO
Corriveau, William Lt.	MWCI	MacDonald, Jeffrey, CO	Bergin	Stawiarski Diane, SST	MWCI
Costa, Mario Maint. Sup	MWCI	Mangual, Maria, CO.	WCCI	Stawiarski, Cindy CHNS	MWCI
Coutant, Christopher Cpt.	MWCI	Manley, Kevin Cpt.	MWCI	Strange, Raquel Off. Asst.	MWCI
Craig, Kevin, Lt.	Bergin	Mannette, Stephen CFSS2	MWCI	Stygares, Jolanta, SST	MWCI
Craig, Kevin, Lt.	Bergin	Manocchio, Laura, CS	WCCI	Suse, Mark CS	NCI
Dagenais, James CO	CRCI	Marandino, Jason, CO	Bergin	Sweat, Rocco, Capt.	MYI
David, Frank, CO	Bergin	Marandino, Jason, CO	Bergin	Szaban, Scott CC	NCI
Delaney, Ann Marie, SST	MWCI	Martinez, Ray, CFSSII	MYI	Szlanga, Andrew, CO	Bergin
Delorge, Scott, CO	WCCI	Mathiau, William, CO	Bergin	Tata, Joseph Training Lt.	MWCI
DeMars, Alicia Comm. Op. II	CRCI	Mathiew, Eldred, CHN	CCI	Tefoe, James, CO	CCI
Deschaine, Keith, CO	CCI	McCarroll, Brian, Rec. Supvr.	MYI	Thompson, Idette Lt.	Bergin
DeSousa, Carlos CO	MWCI	McDonald, Chris DW	CRCI	Torres, Geraldo Cpt.	MWCI
DeSouza, Philip, Voc. Instructor	MWCI	McKenna, John, Lt.	CCI	Turcotte, Richard Locksmith	MWCI
Donovan, Jon CO	NCI	Mead Jr., Donald. CO	Bergin	Vamos, John GMO	MWCI
Dorozko, Anna Cpt.	MWCI	Messier, Justin, CO	Bergin	Velez, Gregorio, CO	HCC
Durham, Rick, CFSSIII	YCI	Miclette, Logan, CFSSII	MYI	Velez, Liza Sec I	MWCI
Durward, Robert, CO	Bergin	Mills, Robert CFSS2	MWCI	Vitali David, Voc. Ed	MWCI
Erikson, Russel, CO	MYI	Mitsou, Michael CFSS2	MWCI	Waite-Landrette, J. CFSSII	MYI
Estanislau, Connie CT	NCI	Moller, Robert Cpt.	MWCI	Watkins, Kelly CC	CRCI
Evelich, Brian, Capt.	MYI	Morales, Monserrate, LPN	BCC	Watson, James, Lt.	CCI
Fagan, Daniel Training Lt.	MWCI	Morant, Huge, CO	Bergin	Werner, Richard, CC	MWCI
Faneuff, William Cpt.	CRCI	Mulhall, Stephen, CFSSII	MYI	Williams, Doug Comm. Op.	CRCI
Fargo, Jeffrey CC	NCI	Murry, Mark Lt.	MWCI	Wilson, Debra, CHN	CCI
Figiela, Donald, Lt.	Bergin	Muse, Katherine, CC	BCC	Wolowicz, Richard CO	MWCI
Francis, Richard, Voc. Instr.	MWCI	Nesbit, John, CFSSII	MYI	Woodard, Theaophilas, CO	Bergin
Furey, Richard CMHC Admin.	MWCI	Newton, John, CSS	CO	Wyzik, Edward CO	MWCI
Gandolfo, Roberto, CO	WCCI	Newton, Robert, CO	CCI	Zimmitti, Gino CO	MWCI
Garcia, Diana, CC	BCC	Newton, Timothy Cpt.	WCCI	Jackson, Willie CO	CRCI
Gaughran, Michael, CFSM	YCI	Novak, Scott CO	MWCI	Rodriguez, Cheryl CO	CRCI
Golfieri, Joseph CO	CRCI	Ocasio, Kervin, CO	Bergin	Kathy Griffith, Kathy CO	CRCI
Gordon, Jacqueline, CC	MWCI	O'Connor, Carl CO	MWCI	Hosmer, Louisa CO	CRCI
Gorman, Frank, CC	MWCI	Ortiz, Miguel, CO	WCCI	Cairelli, Jared Electrician	CRCI