



Connecticut
Department of Correction

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

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

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.

The Next Wave

As part of the next phase of reorganization after the recent retirement of more than 470 Department of Correction employees, Acting Commissioner Brian K. Murphy is pleased to announce the following promotions. Counselor Supervisor Karen Bernard formerly of Osborn C.I. has been promoted to Deputy Warden at York C.I.; Captain Kenneth Butricks has been promoted from Captain to Deputy Warden of Cheshire C. I.; Captain William Colon is the new Deputy Warden of Operations and Tactical Unit; and Captain Nick Rodriguez of Cheshire C.I. will be the new Deputy Warden of New Haven C.C.

Along with the four new deputy wardens, 14 lieutenants were promoted to the rank of captain. All promotions take effect on August 14, 2009. Please join Acting Commissioner Murphy in congratulating these newly promoted individuals, and also wishing them continued success in their careers within the Connecticut Department of Correction.

see **New Captains/page 7**

July 18, 2009
through
August 13, 2009

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Governor

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Acting Commissioner

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From the Commissioner



The recent critical incidents within our agency must serve as a reminder to us that in the unpredictable world of corrections, we need to always be prepared and we must take all appropriate actions to do what we can to prevent these occurrences. There are few things more basic to our mission than conducting tours and being vigilant of our surroundings. Preventing an inmate from carrying out self harm, or harm to others, is an extremely challenging part of our duties. Combating this potential is something that we are first taught about in the training academy and is reinforced through in-service training. The need for the high degree of emphasis that we place on this matter is clear. Your eyes, ears and your gut feelings need to be on high alert each and every day you are in a correctional facility. What is the atmosphere like in the housing unit that day? Are offenders going to recreation and chow as normal or are some staying back. Those simple observations can predict and potentially prevent a major incident.

see **Always Vigilant/page 4**

Dog Day Afternoon

For anyone who has ever had difficulty getting their dog to “sit” or “stay” the Connecticut Canine Olympics, held July 25th at the University of Connecticut’s Western Campus in Mansfield, is at once both a humbling and awe inspiring experience.

This was the 18th year for this competition, during which more than 30 teams from the Department of Correction, State and local police department are evaluated in an arena-style setting in demonstrations of obedience, obstacles, evidence recovery, building search, marksmanship, and other drills.

Officers and their dogs were taken through their paces – though the dogs had the harder job of it – splashing into a moat, jumping through a car window, climbing over obstacles (including a pile of metal drums), and taking on the bad guy in a mock apprehension of a criminal.

Officers also were in the spotlight, however, demonstrating how well they had trained their dogs to pay attention – not the easiest thing to do with a crowd around you and other dogs running by – as well as obey hand signals and verbal commands.

As in past years the K-9 teams from the Department of Correction faired well in the competition. Of the seven DoC K-9 teams that entered the competition, three garnered individual awards. Robert Sabourin and his dog Blade came in second in the overall competition, while Randy Hubert and his dog Otto placed first in the obstacle course. Cathy Lemay and her dog Pharoah received the award for the Most Experienced Canine Handler.



Jaime Rivera and his dog Jake take on the obstacle course



Luis Melendez braces for an attack from a K-9 Olympian

In addition to the K-9 demonstrations, visitors could learn about dog obedience training, talk with one of the members of the Connecticut Bomb Squad, check out the UConn Police Department’s high-tech mobile command unit, or the Connecticut State Police Emergency Services Unit, Trooper 1 Helicopter.

The Shriners were also on hand with their Keystone cop routine, creating balloon creatures and otherwise having fun with the children. Parents were able to take advantage of the CHIP child-identification service, which creates a take-home kit including a recording

of the child’s voice, a DNA swab, fingerprints, and photo – all to have on hand if a child is lost or abducted.

More than \$7,000 raised from the event was donated to local charities including, the Child Identification Program or “CHIPS” Program, Special Olympics Connecticut, and Shriners Children’s Burn Centers.

Guard and Reserve Honor DoC

The Connecticut Department of Correction was recently honored by the Connecticut Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) for its support of DoC employees who are also members of the National Guard or National Reserve.

During a ceremony held July 18th, at Bradley Air National Guard Base, the ESGR recognized the Department of Correction with its 2009 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award. Colonel Frank N. Detorie, commander of the Connecticut Air National Guard's 103rd Airlift Wing served as host for the event.



From left, CT-ESGR Executive Director-Wayne E. Travers Jr. presenting the Award with C.O. Joel Christofori and D.W. Neftali Rodriguez.

Correction Office Joel Christofori of Northern Correctional Institution nominated the Agency for the award. He along with Deputy Warden Neftali Rodriguez accepted the award on behalf of the Department. Also attending the event from the Department of Correction were Captain Kyle Godding, Counselor Supervisor Jaqueline Jennett, Correction Officer Kevin Salerno, Lieutenant James Watson, and Captain Heather Ziemba.

“This event is one of the highlights of the year for Connecticut ESGR,” said Chairman Lew Vasquez. “The commitment these state employers have shown to their employees in the National Guard and Reserve is truly amazing. It’s great to see the nominees and the nominators together enjoying the event and sharing their stories.” The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the U.S. Government to employers for their outstanding support of their employees who serve in the National Guard and Reserve.

Sharing Intelligence, a Captain Prevents Crime

The following is an excerpt from an article which appeared in the June 2009 edition of the ACA's Corrections Today.



The Connecticut Department of Correction (CDOC) has a unique asset in 17-year veteran Armando “Eddie” Valeriano, captain of the Security Division’s Special Intelligence Unit. This unit lends corrections’ expertise to the community through initiatives to reduce gang-related violence from the inside out. Valeriano says that corrections professionals can have a big impact on public safety by working on the streets, to further protect communities from violent offenders.

Valeriano’s work as a gang specialist has helped Connecticut’s program gain national commendation, with six states implementing prison programs based on the Connecticut model. Valeriano came to corrections because it “offered many benefits other law enforcement agencies couldn’t.” By 1998, after almost a decade in the field, he was assigned to the Security Division to work with security risk groups, such as gangs. In 2001, he was promoted to captain, and has since served as a primary coordinator for gang and criminal intelligence. He responds to gang activity in Connecticut’s 18 correctional facilities, with the specialized knowledge needed to cope with diverse, volatile populations.

He supervises the lieutenants in charge of the state’s cold case unit, the Connecticut Intelligence Center, New Haven’s Project Safe Streets and Hartford’s Violent Crime Impact Team.

Always Vigilant from page 1

Is a particular offender acting differently than usual and if so why? It's that kind of attention to detail that may allow you to refer the inmate to a supervisor and/or mental health staff, and head off the offender's plan for self harm. Carrying out tours in a thorough, complete and timely fashion can and will prevent many of the issues that corrections can be faced with.

We must guard against complacency to jeopardize these fundamental aspects of our profession thereby affecting the safety, security and order of our facilities. Adherence to our Administrative Directives and Post Orders is what is expected of staff in these regards. Our duty of protecting the public, our fellow staff and the offender population is the responsibility of all of us who work within the correctional environment.

Remembering Robin Sutherland

In loving memory of Robin H. Sutherland, her mother, Yvonne Hammond, is fighting heart disease and stroke by participating in the Greater Hartford American Heart Association's Start! Heart Walk. Please support this cause by making a donation that will help provide research and education to stop our No. 1 and No. 3 killers. Thank you in advance for your support.

Donations can be made in memory of Robin, or in support of Yvonne's mission, to: **American Heart Association - FDA Greater Hartford, CT.** Mail your donation to:

**American Heart Association
2009 Greater Hartford Start! Heart Walk
5 Brookside Drive
Wallingford, CT 06492**

Please note on your memo section of check: Participant's Name - Yvonne Hammond for Robin H. Sutherland

Donation forms can be printed from the following link and mailed, or you can make an online credit card donation (minimum of \$25.00 required for online credit card donations) directly from the website.

<http://heartwalk.kintera.org/faf/r.asp?t=4&i=297810&u=297810-261438749&e=2561470259>

In addition - walkers are more than welcome to participate on Saturday, October 17th at Bushnell Park, Hartford, CT at 9:00 a.m. (see web link for additional details).

Around the Cell Block



Paris – In the past eight years there have been at least 14 successful helicopter jailbreaks worldwide and all but three have been in Europe. One possible reason for the phenomenon is national regulations in some countries that prohibit prison guards from shooting at helicopters.

Virginia – State corrections officials have quietly begun banning cigarettes in some state prisons and plan to make the entire system tobacco-free by February 2010. Public-safety advocates worry that inmate control could become more difficult.

Little Rock – The state Board of Corrections recently voted to ban maximum and medium security inmates from manufacturing guard uniforms after the May escape of two murderers who walked out of a prison unit dressed as prison guards.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
August 13, 2009
23,666**

**On August 13, 2008
the population was
23,840**

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 Mike Caron, Plant Facilities Engineer 1, District 1 Facilities Management & Engineering and can be reached at 860-253-3647 or e-mail MichaelR.Caron@po.state.ct.us.

Proper Tire Inflation

Did you know that you can help maximize your vehicle's fuel efficiency simply by maintaining your car's proper tire pressure? This seemingly simple task can help you consume less fuel and also make your tires last longer. Inaccurate tire pressure can cause poor gas mileage, uneven tire wear, reduced tire life, affect vehicle handling and/or even contribute to a tire blow-out.

Due to the seasonal changes throughout the year, you can expect your tire pressure to drop or increase. A temperature swing of about ten degrees can cause your tire pressure to drop or increase by one pound. Proper inflation is the single most important factor in tire care.

The proper tire pressure is listed in your Owner's Manual and is also printed on a sticker on the door jamb or the glove box of your vehicle. Do not use the pressure listed on the side of the tire. This is the maximum allowable pressure of the tire and may not represent the manufacturer's recommended operating pressure for optimum performance of your vehicle. You should check the tire pressure on your vehicle once a month.

While a single pressure setting may be acceptable for a passenger car, pick-up trucks by nature (especially 3/4- and 1-ton) vary greatly in weight. The recommended pressure setting for a loaded truck will result in a grossly over inflated tire when the truck is not loaded. Always check inflation when tires are COLD, (the vehicle has been driven less than a mile, or at least one hour after driving so that the air has not expanded from the heat). Use a good quality tire pressure gauge.

Tire Over inflation - Pressure Too High

If your vehicle's tires are over inflated, they have less contact with the road, resulting in less grip and roadway traction. This can decrease the braking power and increase the effective stopping distance. Over inflation can also increase tire wear in the center portion of the tread, and expose the tires to damage from potholes and road debris.

Tire Under Inflation - Pressure Too Low

Under inflated tires have too much of the tire in contact with the road, making the tire too hot and possibly causing overheating and/or failure. Under inflation will increase tire wear at the edges of the tread and decreases fuel economy. Under inflated tires will also cause a loss of steering precision, cornering stability and have an overall negative impact on vehicle handling.

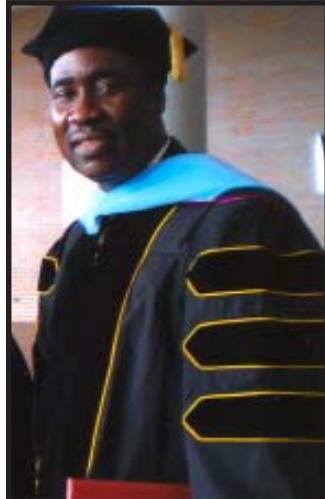
Uneven Tire Pressure

If all the tires don't have the same tire pressure, your vehicle will pull to the left or right. You can feel this pull through your steering wheel and will also result in uneven tire wear.

With the right amount of air pressure, your tires wear longer, save fuel, enhance handling, and prevent accidents.

A Degree of Excellence

Having successfully completed the course study and all elements required for the degree of Doctor of Education, Congratulations are in order to Sir/Dr. Sebastian Obioma Gubor, GED Instructor at the New Haven Correctional Center. Dr. Gubor graduated on May 8th 2009, with his Doctor of Education from the Graduate Theological Foundation University,



Sebastian Obioma Gubor PhD.

South Bend, Indiana. His dissertation topic is entitled, *The Effectiveness of GED Programs on Recidivism In Selected Connecticut Prisons*. Those Selected Prisons Included; the Manson Youth Correctional Institution, Cheshire, Osborn Correctional Institution, Somers and New Haven Correctional Center, New Haven.

Research Analysis of the data collected on inmates who participated in GED Programming while incarcerated and Adult Basic Education (ABE)/GED educators in the three selected Connecticut prisons from 2005-2008, showed that prisoners who participated in the GED programs while incarcerated were *much less likely* to return to prison after their release.

Calling All Cagers

The Detective James W. Matthews Sr. National Law Enforcement and Fire Fighters Basketball Tournament

Hartford Public High School
55 Forest Street, Hartford, CT

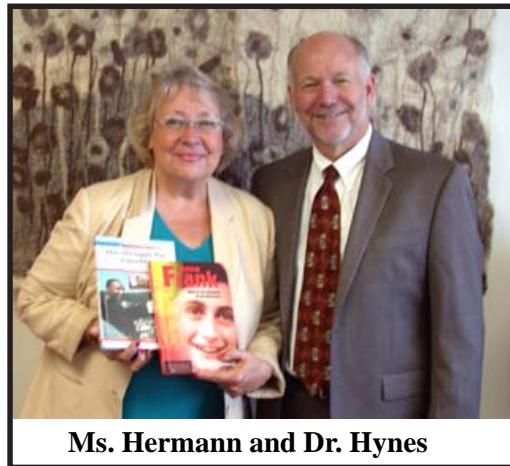
**September 19th & 20th
10:00 AM – 8:00 PM**

**Sign-up Deadline
August 30, 2009**

**Cost: \$500.00 per team
For further information: jmscholarship.org**

Teaching Children about Intolerance

The Central Office Diversity Council recently considered how the question of how to educate our children about intolerance from the viewpoint of an author of children's books on the topic. Spring Hermann has approached the issue of bigotry from the perspective of the Native Americans with a book on Geronimo; through the story of Anne Frank and the Holocaust as well as with the story of American minorities and the suffragettes who struggled to win the vote for women in the United States.



Ms. Hermann and Dr. Hynes

During the very well attended and lively discussion, Ms. Hermann spoke of a Farmington Valley women whom she had interviewed and who even at the age of 100 cherishes her right to vote, because of her appreciation of what it took to achieve that right. Ms. Hermann entitled her book about the Indian chief *Geronimo, Apache Freedom Fighter*, pointing out that he remained powerful, even during his final 20 years of imprisonment and was very much a legend in his own time. The lecture was arranged by the chair of the Diversity Council, Dr. Patrick Hynes, who is Ms. Hermann's son-in-law.

Gated Estates

Everyone knows that prison life is in a word - bad. However, if the rankings of CNNMoney's list of America's best places to live are any indication, life **near** a prison is pretty good. Of the six Connecticut towns that made CNN's 2009 list — Cheshire, East Lyme, Somers, Simsbury, Tolland and Trumbull — three are home to large prison complexes run by the state.

CNN chooses its most desirable towns according to such factors as town finances, cultural amenities, median home prices and the quality of schools. According to a story that recently appeared in the Hartford Courant, the managers who run many of the winning towns and scholars of America's prison history say it's no surprise that towns that contain prisons also show up on lists of desirable places to live.

"I think we were probably pushed over the top in the CNN rankings because of the cultural amenities like summer concerts and an active theater group, but state prisons in town actually represent quite a financial advantage that people don't often look at," said David Pinney, the first selectman of Somers, where the state Department of Correction maintains two prisons, Osborn and Northern Correctional Institutions.

Although prisons are not subject to local property taxes, Connecticut makes "in lieu" payments to towns with prisons, which in Somers' case came to \$1.8 million this year, Pinney said. The state's formula for distributing casino revenues also favors towns with prisons, which is reflected in Somers' \$2 million in state funds under that program. Finally, prisoners are considered residents of the town and help skew education aid formulas in the town's favor. All told, Pinney said, Somers benefits from prison locations by as much as \$4 million a year — a considerable advantage in a town with a \$28 million budget.

The other two prison towns that won in CNN's ranking this year are Cheshire, home to the Cheshire, Webster and Manson youth facility; and East Lyme, the home of the York and Gates Correctional Institutions. Ethan Kleinberg, an associate professor of history at Wesleyan University, believes there is a logical connection between how states originally chose locations for prisons and why many people consider them desirable places to live today.

"The original idea for locating prisons, not to mention colleges and prep schools, was that these were places far from the corruptions of the city where criminals would find solitude and natural beauty to contemplate their lives and consider a plan for reformation," Kleinberg told Courant reporter Rinker Buck. "For different reasons, people want to get away from cities today, and all the things that were thought to help transform prisoners in the 19th century are still there today — it's a rural area, quiet and safe.

New Captains

from page 1

The names and assignments of the new Correctional Captains are as follows:

William Carey	Gates CI
Joseph Casey	Robinson CI
Jennifer Feitel	Gates CI
Donald Figiela	Bergin CI
Robert Hartnett	MWCI
Jeffrey Jeannotte	Osborn CI
Robert Judd	CRCC
Kevin Kelly	Hartford CC
Russell Maggio	Osborn CI
Ned McCormick	Osborn CI
Yadira Otero	MWCI
Bryan Rae	Northern CI
Nelson Ramos	Enfield CI
Cynthia Scarmozzino	York CI

DOC Day @
New Britain Stadium

Rock Cats
 Vs.
 Reading Phillies

Sunday, August 23rd, 2009

Gates Open 12:05 pm
Picnic Time: 12:35 pm -2:05 pm
Game Time: 1:05 pm

General Admission Seat: \$8.00
Includes an All-You-Can-Eat Buffet

For more information contact:
Stephanie Bryant: (860) 692-7613

Condolences

Warden Chapdelaine and staff at Osborn CI are saddened to inform of the death of Joseph E. Eichorst, the son of Food Services Supervisor Cheryelle Eichorst.

Intelligence Man from page 3

A proponent of civic engagement as a means to combat youth violence, Valeriano also reaches out to identify, assess and control gang activity in schools across the state. Information sharing is crucial for this gang specialist; he gathers intelligence by observing the incarcerated, and disseminates it to those who deal with youth gang members before they reach the correctional system.

One of Valeriano's projects is the implementation of a new inmate identification system, linking offenders to their records with the Department of Motor Vehicles. All surveillance, from overt devices to covert confidential informants, is his responsibility. He serves as the correctional liaison to the Connecticut Anti-Terrorism Advisory Council in conjunction with the National Joint Terrorism Task Force, Correctional Division, keeping officials apprised of possible terrorist activity and thwarting recruitment efforts by radical inmate groups. Because offenders trust him enough to talk to him, Valeriano has recently been given yet another assignment: The Cooperative Shooting Task Force solves Hartford's gun crimes using intelligence gleaned from inmates. CDOC interviews witnesses and suspects who are currently incarcerated or on parole — a population Valeriano says is usually "very reluctant" to cooperate with police. "I run into offenders out in the community who remember me and the way I conducted myself [during the offender's incarceration] by remaining firm, fair and consistent. ... I have learned that offenders have a great deal of respect for that type of treatment and remember that. When I make contact with them as a witness or suspect, they trust that I will treat them in the same manner."

A Father's Appreciation

Dear Commissioner Murphy,

I have a son who is a recently new inmate at the Gates Correctional Institute in Niantic Connecticut. This situation, as well as having my young son as an inmate is not only difficult, but confusing. On my first visit, I must state that I was more than impressed at the grounds, and the building. The officers were also informative, and polite. This evening, my second visit, in which I drive about 35 miles one way, I realized after I filled out my visitation form, I could not locate my drivers license. I went to my vehicle only to find an old one, that expired about a year ago. I went to the window very concerned, which was operated by C.O. Piper. I gave him the license and my Veteran's Administration card, and explained the situation. He stated that although I must bring a new license next time, he allowed me in.

This officer is very polite, and always cheerful and willing to help. I must say that this officer made me feel relaxed, and not nervous or uptight. Even when I asked about information, he was willing to get me whatever paperwork that was available. I just left feeling better and not worried that at the least there are officers there with my son like him, is somewhat a comfort to me. I am sure most of the officers there are good also, but this officer is the first and only I've had contact with. I am not certain if in fact any of the officers there are shown any gratitude for their professional behavior, and politeness, being what they are and what they do. I am hoping that you or someone from your office, would please pass this letter to C.O. Piper, and the Warden and his supervisors. This is a very good officer, and as a parent he is appreciated.

Sincerely,
Dr. Joseph A. Anastasio PhD. Ed. D.

**Another example of the high level of professionalism of our staff, which makes me proud to serve as your Commissioner.*

