



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 restitution, rehabilitation and successful community intergration

Three of A Kind

The third edition of “cold case” playing cards soliciting information in unsolved homicides and missing person cases was unveiled recently by Chief State’s Attorney Kevin T. Kane and Department of Correction Acting Deputy Commissioner Monica Rinaldi at a press conference held October 21, at the Chief State’s Attorney’s offices in Rocky Hill.

The playing cards were produced by the Cold Case Unit within the Office of the Chief State’s Attorney in conjunction with the Connecticut Department of Correction and other law enforcement agencies working to solve cases that have gone “cold,” or unsolved for a prolonged period of time.

see **New Deck/page 7**



Acting Deputy Commissioner Monica Rinaldi Helps Introduce the 3rd deck of Cold Case Cards.

From the Commissioner



With the elections behind us, and Governor Dannel P. Malloy having been reelected, we can now look forward to the future with some degree of clarity.

One thing that we can be certain of is that given the current fiscal climate, there will be a renewed emphasis on our agency, as well as state government in general, to operate as effectively and efficiently as possible. I strongly believe that one of the best ways to accomplish both these goals is through the use of performance based measurements. Not only will they help us to be fiscally responsible, the use of performance measurements can also help us to improve the climate within our facilities and the community at large.

Simply put, performance based measurements are mechanisms that assess what we do and how well we do it. They will enable us, through structured feedback, to improve our performance and achieve our desired goals.

see **Measuring Our Successes /page 6**

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Radon Remediated

The installation of a radon remediation system at Garner CI has been completed

The Department of Correction's Facilities Management and Engineering Unit is pleased to announce that the radon remediation project at the Garner Correctional Institution was completed on October 3, 2014. The construction and installation of the six radon systems was performed by A & R Environmental LLC.

The need for the mitigation systems was discovered earlier this year when, after the completion of federally mandated radon testing of schools throughout the department, radon levels above the action level of 4 picocurie/liter were found at Garner CI. Current Environmental Protection Agency guidelines suggest that action be taken if the radon level in any occupied part of a building reaches or exceeds 4 pCi/L. Radon is measured in picocuries per liter of air (pCi/L). To better understand the relative amounts a person may be exposed to, the average indoor level is 1.3 pCi/L, and about 0.4 pCi/L is normally found in the outside air.

Testing was repeated including the entire facility and levels above the action level were discovered. As a result of the testing, the Department of Correction (DoC) in conjunction with the Department of Public Health (DPH)



One of the six Active Soil Depressurization units installed at the Garner Correctional Institution.

initiated an emergency radon remediation project. An environmental consultant was hired to evaluate the situation and develop an action plan. Two licensed radon remediation contractors with experience in large facility remediation were invited to design and bid on a system to lower the radon levels. The system designs were evaluated by an environmental consultant along with staff members from the DoC's Facilities Management and Engineering Unit. They settled on a design consisting of six Active Soil Depressurization System units.

Elevated radon levels are primarily due to the infiltration of soil gas entering a building through cracks in the concrete slab or exposed soil. The flow of soil gas

into a building is usually being driven by a slight negative pressure above the slab that draws soil gas into the building. Most radon mitigation systems use Active Soil Depressurization (ASD) to reverse the normal flow of soil gas. A fan and piping is used to draw air out from under the concrete slab(s) or from under a membrane. The withdrawal of air causes the sub-slab or sub-membrane area to be a lower pressure than the air in the building. This lower or negative pressure prevents the soil gas from entering the building. The radon gas vents to the outdoor air above the facility where it quickly dilutes into the atmosphere.

Installation of the system began on September 8, 2014, and was completed on October 10, 2014, at a cost of \$60,000. Post testing has indicated all the systems are working as designed and are achieving radon levels below the 4 picocurie/liter action level. Further testing will be done in the winter to verify that the system is working properly.

The following link to the DPH website provides additional information about radon:

http://www.ct.gov/dph/cwp/view.asp?a=3140&q=387592&dphNav_GID=1828&dphPNavCtr=#47072



Quitting Smoking : The Best Gift You Can Give

This article was written by Molly Burke, an intern with the External Affairs Division.

As the holidays near gift giving is on everyone's agenda, material things are always the first to come to mind when thinking about what to give family and friends, but what about something that could potentially cost you nothing, something that would not only be a gift to others but to yourself as well. Instead of a gift underneath the tree, or knick knack in a stocking, think about quitting smoking and showing your loved ones that you plan to be around for many more holidays to come. Give yourself and others the gift of your well being and

better health.



November is Lung Cancer awareness month and in an article located on the Connecticut's Public Safety website smoky thinking (as opposed to clear thinking) is a topic that discusses smoky thinking attacks which lead people to believe there are good reasons to smoke. Smoky thinking is essentially when one's craving/need for a cigarette kicks in and all clear thinking is overtaken by the thought of smoking. The benefits of quitting are endless but smokers often lose sight of the positives that can come out of quitting which makes it difficult to stay smoke free.

The American Cancer Society estimates that in 2014 there have been 224,210 new cases of lung

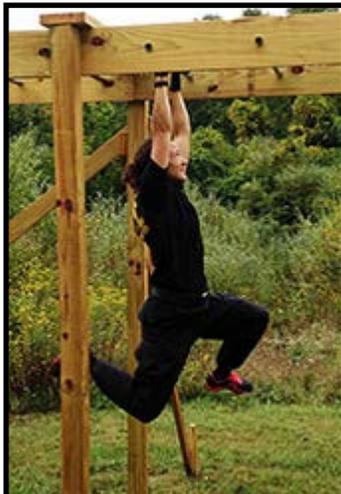
cancer in the U.S and an estimated 159,260 deaths from lung cancer. This disease accounts for 27% of all cancer deaths in the U.S. more than colon, breast and prostate cancer combined. It is known that smoking and any tobacco use is the single largest preventable cause of death/disease in the United States.

Some smoky to clear thoughts include: When thinking you may be grumpy without cigarettes and that you are doing your friends and family a favor by smoking, think again, quitting is the best gift you can give them. Thinking that just one cigarette won't hurt is as well a smoky thought, one always leads to another. Think the urge to smoke is too strong? This is where you may be wrong and where your own mind may take over your actual urge, the strongest of cravings last less than three minutes and the urge will go away whether you smoke or not. Thinking you deserve a cigarette is another smoky thought, there are far better rewards to a long stressful day than smoking, for instance spending time with family or doing anything that will relax you and eliminate your urge to smoke.

Quitting is hard, stressful, and may feel like a losing battle, but the day you realize you have overcome the urge, want and need to smoke will be the day you and your loved ones win. This holiday season look around the room at those surrounding you and know that there is no better gift to give them than your presence, health and overall well being.

A Challenging Course

In an effort to promote healthy lifestyles and overall wellness, staff members of the Connecticut Department of Correction recently ran through mud, flipped massive truck tires, and carried heavy logs as part of the first ever DoC Confidence Course Challenge held on the grounds of the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development on September 21, 2014.



**30 feet of Monkey Bars -
The first obstacle on the
DoC Confidence Course.**

The Confidence Course (read: obstacle course) is an offshoot of the Employee Wellness Committee started by Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak, with the goal of promoting healthier lifestyles for Department of Correction staff members. The driving force behind the creation of the two-mile long, 24 obstacle Confidence Course was Corrigan-Radgowski's Warden, Scott Erfe. A total of six teams, made up of five persons each participated in the inaugural challenge. Additionally, five individuals also completed the recently rain soaked course. The teams raced through the course with the goal of having every member of the team complete all of the

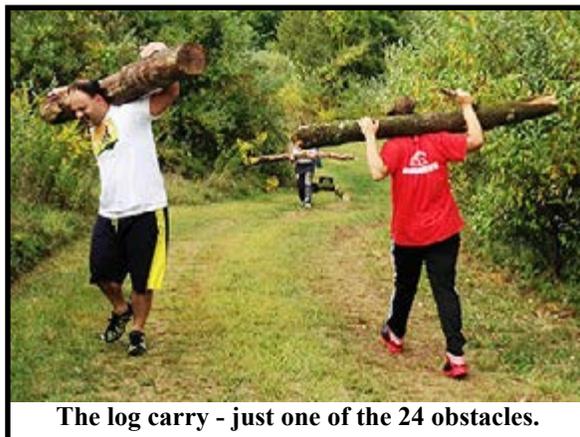
obstacles in the shortest amount of time. Taking home first place bragging rights was the Colonel Crew, made up of staff members from the Osborn Correctional Institution. Coming in second was team Wepa from the Cheshire Correctional Institution. Third place belonged to a team made of CERT members.

The event raised a total of \$848 being donated to Connecticut Special Olympics.

On the heels of the successful inaugural DoC Confidence Course Challenge, the Employee Wellness Committee planned a Halloween themed

fitness challenge. Held on October 25, participants were encouraged to dress up in costume, with all proceeds benefitting the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation.

Anyone who missed the first two events should not despair, as another Confidence Course Challenge is planned for the spring.



The log carry - just one of the 24 obstacles.

Around the Cell Block



CALIFORNIA - Mass murderer Charles Manson plans to marry a 26-year-old woman who left her Midwestern home and spent the past nine years trying to help exonerate him. Afton Elaine Burton, who goes by the name "Star", said she loves the 80-year-old man convicted in the notorious murders of seven people, including pregnant actress Sharon Tate.

MICHIGAN - A Legislature-sanctioned program allowing retired correction officers to come back to work without giving up their pensions was supposed to save the department \$10 million in a year by reducing overtime costs associated with a worsening employee shortage. But, throughout the state's 2013 and 2014 fiscal years, just \$563,000 has been saved.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
November 21, 2014
20,445
On November 21, 2013
the population was
21,069**

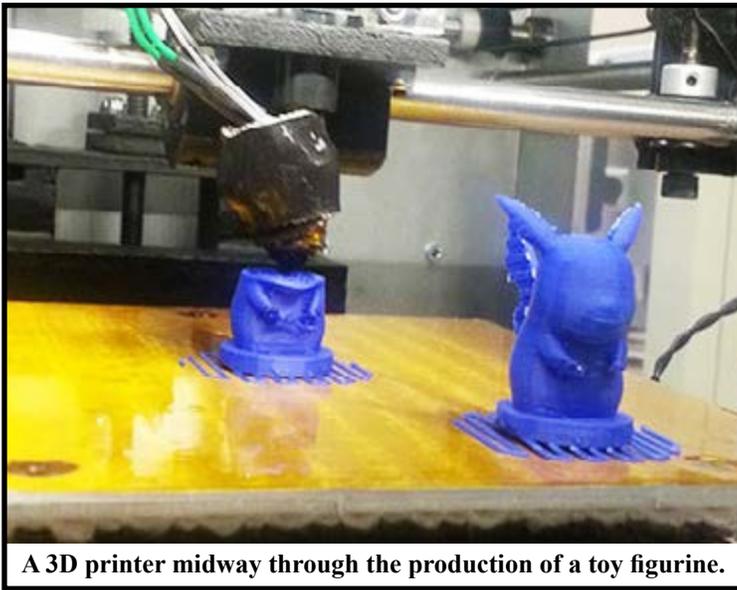
Did You Know?



“Did You Know” is an informational column aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This article was compiled by Public Information Officer Andrius Banevicius. Any questions related to this article may be answered by contacting him at 860-692-7780. If you have any questions, or have an idea for a future column, please leave a message at 860-692-7780.

3D Printing

While many people have yet to even hear the term 3D printing, the process has been in use for decades. Manufacturers have long used the printers in the design process to create prototypes for manufacturing. But until the last few years, the equipment has been expensive and slow. Now, fast 3D printers can be had for tens of thousands of dollars, and end up saving the companies many times that amount in the prototyping process. Also known as additive manufacturing, 3D printing is a process of making three dimensional solid objects from a digital file. To prepare the digital file created in a 3D modeling program for printing, the software slices the final model into hundreds or thousands of horizontal layers. When this prepared file is uploaded in the 3D printer, the printer creates the object layer by layer. The 3D printer reads every slice (or 2D image) and proceeds to create the object blending each layer together with no sign of the layering visible, resulting in one three dimensional object.



A 3D printer midway through the production of a toy figurine.

Some companies are using 3D printers for short run or custom manufacturing, where the printed objects are not prototypes, but the actual end user product. As the speeds of 3D printing go up and the prices come down, this manufacturing trend will, no doubt, become more widespread. For example, Nike uses 3D printers to create multi-colored prototypes of shoes. They used to spend thousands of dollars on a prototype and wait weeks for it. Now, the cost is only in the hundreds of dollars, and changes can be made instantly on the computer and the prototype reprinted on the same day.

The benefits of being able to instantly print parts and entire products anywhere in the world are obvious, virtually eliminating the time and cost

associated with the shipping of products. As the prevalence of 3D printers continues to increase, it is not hard to imagine that they will affect almost every aspect of industry and our personal lives as well.

Medicine will forever be changed as new bio-printers, which will actually print human tissue and eventually entire organs and bones, for use in pharmaceutical testing.

Architecture and construction are changing as well. Now, 3D-printed models of complex architectural drawings are created quickly and inexpensively, rather than the expensive and time-consuming process of handcrafting models out of cardboard. Additionally, experimental, massive 3D printers are printing concrete structures, with the goal of someday creating entire buildings with a 3D printer.

So far we've only talked about commercial 3D printers. There is a whole other world of 3D printers: personal and DIY hobbyist models. And they are getting cheap, with prices typically in the range of \$300 – \$2,000.

USD #1 Teacher Of the Year

Ms. Nickko Checovetes, a State School Teacher at Cheshire C.I., was selected to represent Unified School District #1 as 2015 Connecticut “Teacher of the Year.” Nickko started with USD#1 in 2008 as a teacher at MYI.



The 2015 Teacher of the Year,
Ms. Nickko Checovetes.

Principal Robert Strawson says of her, “Ms. Checovetes is an accomplished teacher who creates a very comfortable and nurturing learning environment for her students. Nickko maintains a positive rapport with her pupils who reciprocate by showing genuine respect

and attentiveness to her on a daily basis. She delineates clear and specific rules within the classroom and ensures that all students have an equal opportunity to grow academically.”

Her instructional style emanates from her personal education philosophy. “As an educator, I have high expectations for every student. I have the awareness and understanding that each student learns in a different way and I believe that all students can succeed.” She continues, “When teaching adults, it is important to me to maintain a classroom environment that is safe and comfortable for all students to learn.” Candidates for the Connecticut “Teacher of the Year” initiative are recognized at a formal ceremony held at The Bushnell each year. Nickko will be congratulated for her selection by Education Commissioner Stefan Pryor at this year’s December 2nd ceremony.

Measuring Our Success

from page 1

By testing, modifying, and retesting programs and practices, we as an agency can learn about what works and just as importantly, if not more so, what does not. Of all the goals that I hope we as an agency attain, there is none more important to me than the goal of safety: the safety of our staff, the safety of the offenders, and of course, the public’s safety. To that end, I am determined to make every effort to explore and enact reasonable practices within our system to reduce the exposure of trauma to you, the staff of the Department of Correction, our most valued asset.

The impact of trauma, both short and long term is something that all too often is taken for granted. Although many people who experience a traumatic event will go on with their lives without lasting negative effects, others will have more difficulty and experience negative consequences to their exposure to trauma.

Ideally the goal is to prevent, or at least reduce, exposure to traumatic events. Unfortunately, within the context of a correctional environment preventing trauma is not always possible. However, through the implementation of performance based practices it is possible to decrease that amount of trauma that occurs in a facility; furthermore, we can find ways to minimize the negative effects of trauma when it does occur.

Make no mistake, developing these new performance measures will involve change, and change is never easy. Doing things the way we have always done them in the past may be familiar and comfortable, but at what cost? If changes are implemented in a purposeful and controlled manner, they can result in positive outcomes resulting in organizational as well as personal growth.

We must continue to learn and grow, and a system of performance-based measurements can allow us to do just that, resulting in a healthier and safer environment for all.

In the meantime, my wish for all of you and your loved ones is that you have a happy, healthy, and safe Thanksgiving.

Years Of Service

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of August 2014

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Allredge, Lawrence	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Amonda, Hannah	Deputy Warden	Central Off	8/19/1994
Avery, Brian	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Baker, Shawn	Correction Officer	CRCI	8/19/1994
Beaulieu, Leo	Correction Officer	CRCI	8/19/1994
Beaulieu, Ronnie	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Brighthaupt, Jon	Warden	WCCI	8/12/1994
Capasso, Salvatore	Correction Officer	CRCI	8/19/1994
Clifford, William	Main. Supervisor	MWCI	8/26/1994
Colon, Victor	Lieutenant	Hartford CC	8/19/1994
Corbett, James	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Corcoran, James	Correction Officer	MWCI	8/19/1994
Costanzo, Phillip	Captain	Manson YI	8/19/1994
Cotto, Luis	Correction Officer	Hartford CC	8/19/1994
Crawford, Elsa	Lieutenant	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Cruz, Karen	Counselor Sup.	CRCI	4/29/1994
Depalma, Allen	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Donahue, Mark	Captain	Central Off	8/19/1994
Ennis, John	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Failla, Louis	Corr Svcs Mgr	Central Off	8/26/1994
Farrior, Leroy	Correction Officer	WCCI	8/19/1994
Franco, Mark	Parole Officer 2	Central Off.	8/19/1994
Garofalo, Maurizio	Correction Officer	MWCI	8/19/1994
Golas, Tracy	Correction Officer	York CI	8/19/1994
Granville, Gregg	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Holland, David	Fscl/Admin Asst	Central Off.	8/15/1994
Herrmann, Kathleen	Payroll Clerk	Central Off.	8/16/1994
Hunleth, Dieter	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Hunter, Garry	Correction Officer	NHCC	8/19/1994
Johnson, Modikiah	Lieutenant	York CI	8/19/1994
Jordan, Robert	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Kapitzke, Alan	Corr Rec Supv	WCCI	8/19/1994
Koblosh, John	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Lariviere, Todd	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Lemay, Cathleen	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	8/19/1994
Long, Steven	Correction Officer	CRCI	6/24/1994
Martin, Viveca	Lieutenant	Manson YI	6/24/1994
Matthews, Patricia	FAO	Central Off.	8/15/1994
Noffsinger, Glenn	Plnt Facil Engr 2	Cheshire CI	8/26/1994

New Deck from page 1

Each card in the deck of 52 features a photograph and brief details about a homicide or missing person case and lists telephone numbers and mailing addresses inmates can use to supply information. The cases featured on the cards are changed in subsequent decks to allow for the maximum number of cases to be circulated through the correctional system. To date, investigators have received more than 470 tips generated by the cards. Since the first two decks were distributed, arrests have been made in nine homicide cases featured on the cards.

The cold case playing cards are the only playing cards available for purchase by inmates in the facilities operated by the Department of Correction. Revenue from sales is used to produce subsequent decks, making the project self-sufficient and operating at no cost to taxpayers.

“Aside from the closure that results when an arrest is made in an unsolved case, these Cold Case Cards provide all of us in the law enforcement community with an additional opportunity to work collaboratively,” acting Deputy Commissioner Rinaldi said. “We are stronger when we work together – these cards are a reminder of the power of collaboration.”

All three editions of cold case playing cards can be seen on the Department of Correction’s website: <http://www.ct.gov/doc/cwp/view.asp?a=1502&Q=464172>

A New Place for Women and Children

The Department of Correction, in collaboration with Community Solutions, Inc. proudly dedicated the Johnson-Silliman House, a new 26-bed, Residential Women and Children’s Program in the Hartford community on October 17. This program is dedicated to assisting female offenders with reintegration into the community, targeting those who are pregnant, have recently given birth or are attempting to reconnect with their children upon completion of their sentence.

The only program of its kind in Connecticut, Johnson-Silliman House allows female offenders and their children to live together while providing social supports, parenting classes and employment services in a gender-responsive environment. The program utilizes a holistic approach to reintegration that is targeted at addressing



The Johnson-Silliman House in Hartford.

all of the barriers to being a single mother with a criminal history. This approach builds upon local community supports that offenders can continue to access upon their release.

Dedication of this program comes after 12 months of extensive planning, targeted hiring of experienced professionals and collaboration of department staff and Community Solutions staff on the design of a comprehensive, integrated, gender-responsive model that includes supports for offenders attempting to obtain custody of their children, offenders with custody of their children and offenders whose children live on-site with them.

Years Of Service cont.

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of August 2014

O’Donnell, John	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
O’Keefe, Brian	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Palmieri, John	Correction Officer	Manson YI	8/19/1994
Patalik, Joseph	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	8/19/1994
Pszczolkowski, Mark	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Pulster, Barry	Correction Officer	Central Off.	8/19/1994
Quattromani, Joseph	Correction Officer	York CI	8/19/1994
Reilly, James	Captain	NHCC	8/19/1994
Rivera, Edwin	Correction Officer	Hartford CC	8/19/1994
Rodriguez, Hipolito	Deputy Warden	Enfield CI	8/19/1994
Sanderson, Derrick	Correction Officer	MWCI	8/19/1994
Sczurek, Edward	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Stewart, Sabina	Correction Officer	WCCI	8/19/1994
Shannon, Robert	Correction Officer	MWCI	6/24/1994
Synott, Debra	Captain	Central Off.	8/19/1994
Trowbridge, Timothy	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
Vitanza, Kelsey	Treatment Officer	Manson YI	6/24/1994
Watford, Ronald	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/19/1994
White, Christopher	Correction Officer	Northern CI	8/19/1994

Employees with 25 Years of Service as of August 2014

Sylvester, Nancy	AFAO	Central Off.	8/7/1989
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