

Remember Our Troops

April 22, 2007 - May 12, 2007



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



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

## National Nurse, Teacher Appreciation, and Correction Officer's Week May 6 - 12 , 2007

Each and every day, as Connecticut's correctional professionals, you place yourselves in harms way to ensure that you maintain the safety of the public and fellow staff, as well as provide a secure and humane environment for offenders.

It is with immense pride and with deep gratitude that I salute our staff during National Correction Officer's Week, National Nurse Week and Teacher Appreciation Week.

It is my hope that the observance of this week will elevate the public's knowledge and appreciation for all you do on a daily basis. Ours is a difficult and dangerous job, in which some may feel that our efforts go unnoticed. Your dedication to duty year round continues to keep Connecticut safe and for that, I and the citizens of our state, say thank you.

I am extremely appreciative for the honor of being your Commissioner and I look forward with continued confidence to working with you as we meet and conquer future challenges.

Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz

### 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.

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About and for correctional professionals

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## Vocational Instructor of the Year Named



Superintendent William Barber and the staff of Unified School District #1 would like to announce the Vocational Instructor of the Year: Thomas Prince -Warinsky.

Mr. Prince-Warinsky began his employment with the department in 1998 as a food service supervisor at York CI. In January 2004, he joined the Unified School District #1 staff at York as a vocational culinary arts instructor.

Principal Ron Napper commended Prince-Warinsky by stating, "Thomas not only teaches his students how to prepare food, but also how to perform in a professional manner in areas such as food presentation, how to work together as a team, ethics, and trustworthiness."

Superintendent William Barber noted, "Thomas is an excellent role model for both staff and inmates through this commitment to his work. He maintains a positive and effective working relationship with his peers and is extremely approachable and willing to help out whenever possible."

As a concerned public servant Thomas coaches youth soccer and football, and he assists with the youth choir at his church.

In 1984, the National PTA established "Teacher Appreciation Week" as the first full week in May, to honor and recognize these dedicated men and women, who lend their passion and skills in the field of education, for the lasting contributions they make to our lives.

In the April 1-21, 2007 issue of the PRIDE at Work Newsletter, we published an article announcing the 2007 Teacher of the Year-Suzanne Silengo. Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz would like to congratulate these two educators and recognize and say Thank You to all the Educators within the agency for exemplifying our agency motto of PRIDE during National Teacher Appreciation Week

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## Agency Good Neighbors

**Brooklyn** - On April 13<sup>th</sup>, Captain Michael Murphy of Brooklyn CI was on his way home when he came upon a school bus that had run off the road into a stone wall. As he was the first responder, he assessed the accident scene, assisted the bus driver and two small children that had sustained minor injuries and made certain 911 was activated. Captain Murphy remained on the scene until the state police and ambulance arrived.

**Hartford CC** - Lieutenant Kenneth Oltsza was recently recognized by Warden Lori Ricks for his keen and precise observation as he assisted staff who was in need of medical attention suffering from an allergic reaction. Warden Ricks commented, "If Lt. Oltsza was not so attentive, this officer could have suffered severe consequences. We appreciate your quick-thinking skills."

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

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## CT-DOC Commissioner Receives Markle Award



Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz was recognized with the 2007 Markle Symposium Leadership Award for her contributions to corrections and criminal justice by world renowned scientist Dr. Henry Lee on behalf of the University of New Haven and its Henry C. Lee College of Criminal Justice and Forensic Sciences. The presentation was made at the

16th annual symposium which was attended by law enforcement professionals from across the country and this year was entitled "Serial Killer, Serial Crimes."

## Around The Cell Block

**Iowa** - The state paid \$6,000 to have the exterior locks change at the state prison after what were claimed to be prison keys turned up for sale on e-Bay.

**New Zealand** - Artwork created by an inmate rehabilitation program raised \$30,000 to aide the children of at risk families.

**Utah** - One hundred and thirty-one years after Warden Matthew Burgher was killed trying to stop the escape of seven inmates, a stone was finally placed at his grave.

**Oregon** - Four inmates are accused of using a prosthetic leg to smuggle chewing tobacco into prison. The leg has been kept as evidence.

## MVP'S

Ahern, Scott, CO	CCI	LeFebvre, William, CFSS2	GCI
Barros, Luis, CO	BCC	Lewis, Peter, CO	BCC
Bellemere, Richard, CO	BCC	Mayes, Gary, CIS	CCI
Boncal, Mary, Sec.	CCI	Mitchell, Crystal, CO	CCI
Bradford, George, CFSS2	GCI	Muhammad, Nasif, Chapln	BCC
Bulger, James, CO	CCI	Parker, Rodney, CS	MYI
Butricks, Kenneth, Capt.	CCI	Petkevich, Mark, Capt	BCC
Carter, Ryan, CO	BCC	Potz, David, CFSS3	GCI
Chesters, Sarah, CC	BCI	Reshard, Erica, CC	BCC
DeCusati, Frank, CFSS3	YCI	Reveron, Jose, Lt.	BCC
Deedon, Warren, CO	BCC	Rodriguez, Glenda, CO	CCI
Deschaine, Keith, CO	CCI	Rodriguez, Nick, CS	CCI
Dinkins, Juanita, Chpln	BCC	Shays, Pamela, OA	WCCI
Downer, Joanne, CO	CCI	Silva, Wilfredo, CO	CCI
Fabiano, Carla, CFSS1	YCI	Smith, Dana, CO	BCC
Fasino, Lisa, CFSS2	GCI	Sweat, Rocco, Capt.	MYI
Fasino, Michael, CFSS2	GCI	Teele, Annie, Clk Typ	BCC
Fasino, Peter, CFSS2	GCI	Trahan, Linda, CC	BCI
Gaughran, Michael, CFMS	YCI	Walton, Nancy, CHN	BCC
Genovese, Giovanni, CO	CCI	Walton, Ted. Rec.Supvr	BCC
Green, Laura, SST	CCI	White, Shane, CO	BCC
Hibbard, Thomas, CO	BCC	Whiteley, Scott CO	BCC
Hopkins, Nicholas, CO	BCC	Williams, Maureen, CO	BCC
Hourigan, Richard, CO	CCI	Williams, Tyrone, CO	HCC
Koellmer, David, CO	BCC	Wittig, Glen, CFSS2	GCI
		Zebrowski, Eugene, CFSS2	GrnCI

**Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
May 1, 2007  
23,650  
On May 1, 2006  
the population was  
22,893**

## MWCI Officer Wins Powerlifting Title



Correction Officer Brian Lapila of MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution earned 1st place in the National Powerlifting Tournament held on March 25th at the Rhode Island/ Northeast Sports and Rehabilitation Complex.

He achieved 1st place in the 275lb-308lb Weight Class/Overall Best Heavyweight Lifter Award. He was the only lifter in the competition from a correctional agency.

He is currently preparing for the AAV National Powerlifting Championship for Law Enforcement which will be held at the Wide World of Sports Complex in Orlando, FL from October 12th -14th.

Officer Lapila has been with the agency since October 2003.

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## 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 week's article was written by Plant Facilities Engineer 1 Don Hallabeck. If you have any questions or comments, he can be reached at 203. 806.2664.*



Initially, I wanted to do an article on fuel prices and what controls them, but since we have no control over that, I felt it would be better to focus on something we can control. My thoughts then turned over to getting what you pay for or need, and octane came to mind.

Does everyone know what octane is? If you remember, the high compression higher horsepower cars of the 60's and 70's they needed the higher-octane fuel or they would ping (knock) like crazy. This pinging was usually improper ignition timing or the octane of the fuel you were burning was too low.

Which brings me back to the question, what is octane? Basically, the octane rating given to gasoline tells you how much the fuel can be compressed before it spontaneously ignites. When gas ignites by compression rather than a spark plug, this causes knocking (pinging) and is not good for the engine. Lower octane gas (regular 87-octane gas) can handle the least amount of compression before igniting. Now let's get into exactly what octane means.

The name octane comes from the following fact: When you take crude oil and "crack" it at a refinery, you end up getting hydrocarbon chains of different lengths. These different chains can then be separated from each other and blended to form other fuels.

For example, methane, propane, and butane are all hydrocarbons. Methane is a single carbon atom. Propane is a three-carbon atom and butane has four carbon atoms chained together. This continues through pentane, hexane, and heptane until we reach octane that has eight carbon atoms chained together.

Octane handles compression very well without spontaneously combusting. All that being said, an 87 percent octane gasoline contains 87 percent octane and 13 percent heptane (or some other combination of fuels that produce the same performance of this mixture).

Continued on Page 6, See *Did You Know*



## WCCI & HCC Celebrate Staff Retirements

Warden Esther Torres and the staff at Willard-Cybulski CI are sad to announce that another true professional has retired from DOC. Officer Lamel Smith retired April 1, 2007 with 20 years. He started his career with the agency at Hartford CC in March of 1987. He also worked at Northern CI in 1999 and MacDougall-Walker CI in 2000. He returned to Hartford CC in 2002. In 2006, he transferred to Willard-Cybulski CI, where he retired.



(l-r) Major Michelle Pidgeon, Warden Esther Torres, Captain Ronald Pittman, Officer Lamel Smith, Captain Anna Dorozko, Major Kimberely Weir, and Captain Maurice Butler.

Officer Lamel Smith states that his 20 years of state service were very productive and rewarding and will cherish the wonderful relationships and lasting friendships that he has made over the years. Officer Smith says “GOODBYE to Corrections, but not to my FRIENDS. You have touched my life in a remarkable way.” We wish him well in his future endeavors.

Warden Charles Lee and the staff at Hartford CC wish Correction Officer Harris Porter the best of luck in his retirement. Officer Porter retired April 1, 2007 after 20 years of dedicated state service. Officer Porter began his career at Litchfield CCC in January of 1987 and then transferred to Hartford CC in 1988,

where he finished the remainder of his career. Officer Porter, always a professional, mentored new staff, served as Chief union steward and as a member of various committees at the facility including the QWL, Diversity and Health &



Pictured in front (l-r) Rev. James Pitts, Major Scott Erfe, Officer Harris Porter, Major Janet Sicilia, Lieutenant James Wilkins, Administrative Assistant Joyce Scarlett, and Captain Michael Davis along with Hartford CC staff members as they gathered to recognize the retirement of one of their own.

Safety Committees. He epitomized the motto “Fair, Firm and Consistent” in his interactions with staff and inmates. He will be missed by the staff at HCC!

## 2007 Nightingale Award Recipients



Stephen Badura



Arleen Lewis-Mesquita



Colette Morin



Diana Sidlik

National Nurses Week begins each year on May 6th and ends on May 12th, Florence Nightingale's birthday. In celebration of National Nurses Week, the Connecticut Department of Correction would like to recognize the 2007 Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing recipients from UCONN Correctional Managed Health Care. They are: RN Stephen Badura/Correctional Hospital Nursing Supervisor-Functional Unit One, RN, BSN Arleen Lewis-Mesquita/Infection Control Program, RN Colette Morin/Correctional Head Nurse-Functional Unit One and MS, APRN, BC Diana Sidlik/Halfway House Programs.

The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing program was originally developed by the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central CT (VNA/SCC) to be a collaborative effort to celebrate outstanding nurses and elevate the nursing profession. The goals of the program are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practice at the local level.

RNs and LPNs (full or part time) who demonstrate excellence may be considered for recognition if they are involved in clinical practice, leadership, and/or education. The Nightingale Awards are non-competitive and inclusive of all health care settings - hospitals, home health care, health centers, schools, health departments, long-term care facilities, nursing schools, agencies, and medical practices. Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz would like to congratulate the Nightingale Award recipient's and thank all the medical and mental health workers throughout the agency for all you do on a daily basis.

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## Did You Know Cont'd

During World War 1, chemists discovered that you can add a chemical called tetraethyl lead (Tel) to gasoline and improve its octane rating above the octane/heptane combination. This meant that cheaper grades of gasoline could be made usable by adding Tel., which led to the wide spread use of "ethyl" or "leaded" gasoline. Unfortunately, the side effects of adding the lead were not environmentally sound. This caused lead to be banned, which caused gas prices to rise because refineries could no longer boost the octane rating of cheaper grades of gas.

Airplanes are still allowed to use leaded gasoline (known as AvGas) and octane ratings of 100 or more are commonly used in high performance and airplane engines. In the case of AvGas, 100 is the gasoline's performance rating, not the percentage of actual octane in the gas. The addition of Tel., boosts the compression level of the gasoline, it doesn't add more octane.

Now you know what octane really is. Don't use a higher octane than your owner's manual calls for and you will only be paying for what you need.

**May 7<sup>th</sup> - June 1<sup>st</sup> - 2007**  
Health/Dental Insurance Open  
Enrollment. (See *Health Fair*  
*dates below*)

**May 9** - MYI Diversity Council is sponsoring a CT Law Enforcement Cruise to benefit the CT Special Olympics. A Cruise Informational Night will be held at Cugino's Restaurant in Cheshire at 6pm. Representatives from the Norwegian Cruise Line will be on hand to discuss the cruise and there will be prize give-aways.

**SAVE THE DATE – March 15, 2008** - An 8 day/7 night cruise on the Norwegian Cruise Line's GEM. Ports of call are New York, Florida, and the Bahamas. For info attend the Cruise informational or call Lt. V. Martin & Capt. Rocco Sweat, at 203.806.2500 or Barbara Westerberg at 203.806.2502.

**May 11** - Department of Correction Memorial Service at MCTSD at 6:30 pm.

**May 11** - Retirement Party in honor of Captain Keith Hightower will be held at the Hilton Garden Inn in Windsor. Cocktail Hour: 7-8 Dinner: 8-9 Music by Jimmy Jam Tickets are \$40 and can be obtained by contacting: Christian Moore at 860.692.6291, CTO Reid at 860.292.3400, Capt. Davis at 860.240.1860, Capt. Esposito at 203.250.2753, CS Bernard at 860.566.7500, or CS Pemberton at 860.691.6700.

## Calendar

**May 17** - Tip-A-Commissioner at Outback Restaurant - 3210 Berlin Turnpike in Newington from 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm to benefit Special Olympics-CT.

**May 19** - Department of Correction Annual Volunteer Conference and Forum will be held at Maloney CTSD. Call Director Doug Kulmacz for more information at 860.692.7580.

**May 20** - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Law Enforcement Carnival Day to benefit Special Olympics. This event will be held at the Officer's beach at Robinson CI in Enfield from 8am to 5pm. There will be demonstrations, children's games, a softball tournament, CHIPS program (State Police Child Identification Program) and much more. Tickets are \$2 in advance and \$3 at the door. For tickets or info please contact your facility Special Olympics Liaison or any of the following: Liz Francini at 860.763.6527, David Abruzzi at 860.763.6157 or Jeff Beiler 860.763.6557.

### *Health/Dental Insurance Open Enrollment Fairs*

**May 21** - Central Office, Wethersfield-Lobby (9-3)

**May 22** - MCTSD, Cheshire-Gym (8-4)

**May 25** - York CI, Niantic-East Gym (8-4)

**May 29** - Robinson CI, Enfield - Visiting Center (8-4)

**May 31** - Bridgeport CC, Bridgeport- VNA Building (8-4)

**May 29** - 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Anthony Tramantano Memorial Education Golf Open will be held at the Watertown Golf Club in Watertown, CT. This scramble format event is limited to the first 144 golfers. Registration is due by Tuesday May 22<sup>nd</sup>. Fees are \$175 for golf, lunch and dinner or \$50 for dinner only. Registration is at 10:00 am, lunch at 11:00 am the tournament will begin at noon. The reception dinner & awards ceremony will be held from 5:30 pm – 7:30 pm. Proceeds from this event will go towards an educational fund for Anthony Tramantano's children. For more info contact Rich Blanc at 203.228.2681, Joe Petruzzi at 203.910.3027, or Rich Dubay at 203.725.5493.

**June 3-6** - 2007 MASCA Conference at Mystic Marriot Hotel & Spa.

**June 8** - State Employees Appreciation Day at the New Britain Rock Cats Stadium. The Rock Cats will be playing the Bowie Baysox (Orioles). Game time is at 6:35 pm. Each ticket is only \$7. This price is for STATE EMPLOYEES ONLY, all seats are reserved. To get tickets E-MAIL Jan Gwudz directly at [jan.gwudz@po.state.ct.us](mailto:jan.gwudz@po.state.ct.us) Checks can be made out to: CSEC and mailed to: CT State Employees' Campaign, 24 Stott Avenue, Norwich, CT 06360.