

Remember Our Troops



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



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

2007 Correction Officer and Employee of the Year Award Winners Announced



Correction Officer of the Year
Carl Morin of Northern CI

In his nomination for Correction Officer of the Year, Lieutenant Bryan Rae wrote "Officer Carl Morin is currently assigned to the Morning Watch and is the facility detail officer, who is tasked with cleanliness and sanitation. He continuously performs his duties in a manner that is above and beyond what is expected of him, which is why the facility is always inspection ready."

Warden Jeffrey McGill of Northern CI added, "Officer Morin is a vital asset to our facility. He is always striving to be a positive role model and mentor junior staff."

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**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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June 17, 2007 -  
July 21, 2007

## National Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week July 15 - 21, 2007

It is with immense pride that I and the Connecticut Department of Correction recognize the dedicated men and women of the Parole and Community Services Division and the Board of Pardons and Parole who securely supervise offenders as they return to a law abiding life style in our communities. Your guidance and vigilance insure that public safety is enhanced, recidivism is reduced and the process of re-entry that began on the first day of incarceration is ultimately successful. Your jobs can be difficult and dangerous. But without your commitment, corrections would rapidly become a revolving door for offenders. Your efforts have helped insure that our entire system and its inmate population can be managed in a safe and orderly fashion. During this week, and every week during the year, I salute your contributions to the citizens of our state.

  
Theresa C. Lantz  
Commissioner

## Award Winner's Cont'd



Employee of the Year  
Richard Bartholomew  
South District Office

He is deserving of this recognition as he displays all the characteristics of Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, and Excellence.”

Officer Morin’s consistently high level of concern for the facility’s appearance has been praised by our Department’s Executive team, members of the judicial branch, staff from the Department of Protection and Advocacy, as well as by visiting dignitaries from the states of Washington, Delaware, New Jersey and Maryland.

“Employees are the centerpiece of our organization, and I am proud of Officer Morin, Counselor Supervisor Bartholomew, and each of this year’s award recipients because of their leadership skills and exemplary job-performance,” said Commissioner Lantz.

In the nomination for Employee of the Year, District Administrator Mark Strange wrote “Rick has been with the department since 1992 and with the South District Office

since 2004. In that time he has supported the office in an outstanding manner.

He responded to 116 Level 2 grievances, reviewed approximately 1,500 halfway house packages, reviewed over 250 halfway house denials and Transitional Supervision (TS) packages, correlated information for STAR Panel reviews, assisted in investigations, taught In-Service classes and responded to inmate correspondence for the Deputy Commissioner and the District Administrator.”

Continued on Page 6, See *Winner's*

## Pomp And Circumstance

Warden Bruce Cuscovitch of Robinson CI and Major Elizabeth Martinez of the Health and Addiction Services Unit extend hearty congratulations to Correctional Addiction Services Counselor Jazmin Molina. After many years of hard work and dedication she graduated on May 5<sup>th</sup> from the University of Connecticut School of Social Work with a Masters Degree in Social Work. Counselor Molina has been with the agency since 2001.



Counselor Jazmin Molina, MSW  
Robinson CI

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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Governor

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# CT DOC and CT Crush



(l-r) Counselor Jerri Kelly (Robinson CI), Assistant Coach - Captain Ron Pittman (WCCI), Head Coach -Retired Counselor Robert Gray (Robinson CI), Officer Vernetta “Veri” Sharp (MWCI).

Congratulations to Correction Officer Vernetta Sharp (MacDougall-Walker CI) and Counselor Jerri Kelly (Robinson CI) on playing their rookie season with the Connecticut Crush Women Semi-Professional Football Association. Their season record was 6 – 2. The 4<sup>th</sup> seeded CT Crush made it to the 2007 play-offs. Out of the 40 teams in the league, The Crush was one of fourteen teams that qualified for the play-off bracket to reach the World Championship game in Nashville, Tennessee.

The National Women’s Football Association (NWFA) and The Connecticut Crush were formed in 2001. Since its inception, the Connecticut Crush has compiled a record of 22-18. It is the mission of their team to develop a long-standing commitment to the economic and social development of the community as well as the social and athletic development of their players.

## Calendar

**September 20** - Retirement Celebration in Honor of Major Melvin Wells at the Coutry House Restaurant in East Haven from 6:30 pm -10:30 pm. Tickets are \$40 and include gift, DJ and buffet dinner. For tickets contact Captain Brian Evelich at MYI at 203.806.2560.

**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 information, call Capt. Rocco Sweat or Lt. V. Martin at 203.806.2500.

# Around The Cell Block



### South Carolina-

Two correction officers have been arrested and charged with stealing a cow from the prison farm.



### England-

Some 1,500 non-dangerous inmates will be released early as a means of relieving an all-time high prison population of 81,000.



### New Hampshire-

A state study says the new federal prison will result in hundreds of jobs and bring millions of dollars to the county where it’s being constructed.



### Louisiana-

Ruth Graham, the wife of evangelist Billy Graham was laid to rest in a wooden coffin that was built by prison inmates.

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|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p style="text-align: center;"><b>Total<br/>Supervised<br/>Population<br/>on<br/>July 15, 2007<br/>23,595<br/>On July 15, 2006<br/>the population was<br/>23,183</b></p> |
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## Lantz Swears -In New Director



Pictured at left, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz, and the newly appointed Director of Food and Nutrition Services Michael Bibens after the swearing-in ceremony that was held recently at Maloney CTSD in Cheshire.

Director Michael Bibens joined the Connecticut Department of Correction in 1994 as a Food Service Supervisor I at the New Haven Correctional Center. At this intake facility, he oversaw meal preparation for more than 750 offenders, training and supervising the inmate workers while insuring the safety and security of the kitchen area. This position also required extensive coordination for the population's court meals as well as the handling of payroll and inventory. While at this facility, Bibens was promoted to Food Service Supervisor II. In 1997 he was transferred to Gates CI as the Lead Food Service Supervisor. He oversaw the preparation of some 3,000 meals a day, directing eight correctional supervisors as well as 40 inmate workers.

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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 article was written by Plant Facilities Engineer 1 Ron Mattias and questions relating to it may be answered by contacting him at 860.763.3872.*

Did you know that just about everything comes with a set of instructions, from a bottle of shampoo to a table saw? In these instructions there is a warning of some kind. How many people have taken the time to actually read them and take them to heart? Knowing that I am just as guilty as the next, wondering when something goes wrong, we ask ourselves how did that happen?

- How many times have you stepped on the top of a stepladder or just used a chair instead, to just finish the job?
- While using any tool (drill, saw, lawnmower, etc.) do you wear safety glasses or ensure the proper guards are in place?
- Have you ever placed in your dishwasher, in the utensil holder, knives facing pointy end up?
- Do you have medication, cleaning products, weed killer or similar items that are not stored in the proper location?

There are so many things in our daily lives that we do without taking the time or thinking about the safety factors.

There are more than 300 deaths and 130,000 ladder-related injuries reported in the United States each year, according to a study released by the University of Missouri.

Each year, an average of 7,500 Americans suffer from dishwasher-related injuries. Most of these are cuts or punctures caused by upturned knives or forks. In the past 10 years 32 people were killed when they slipped and fell onto open dishwasher drawers and landed on sharp knives.

Continued on Page 5, See *Did You Know*

# Governor Signs Bill Initiated by DOC Counselor

Connecticut Governor M. Jodi Rell signs Public Act 07-03 into law on June 26, 2007. The act provides state employees who are certified American Red Cross Disaster Relief workers up to 15 paid leave days per year to respond to national or local disasters. Herbert Furhman of the Connecticut Department of Correction diligently worked to have the Connecticut General Statutes amended following his Hurricane Katrina related service in Mississippi in 2005. The bill was co-sponsored by Representatives Mary Ann Carson (R-108) and Roberta Willis (D-64). Also attending the bill-signing ceremony was Commissioner of Emergency Management & Homeland Security James Thomas.



From left to right: Representative Roberta Willis, Herbert Furhman of the Connecticut Department of Correction, Governor M. Jodi Rell, Representative Mary Ann Carson, and Commissioner of Emergency Management & Homeland Security James Thomas.

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## Did You Know Cont'd

Table saws are great at ripping through wood, but this power tool can also cause serious injuries, sending upwards of 40,000 people to emergency rooms each year. More than 3,000 of those people — professional woodworkers, hobbyists, and students in high school shop class — suffer amputations. A lot of these could have been avoided if the saw guard was not removed. As consumers, we buy more than a quarter of a million different household products that are used in and around the home for medication, cleaning, cosmetic purposes, exterminating insects, and killing weeds. These items are valuable in the home and for yard maintenance, but misuse, especially when products are used in inappropriate applications or quantities, can cause illness, injury and even death.

Each year more than 6,000 people die and an estimated 300,000 suffer disabling illnesses as a result of unintentional poisoning by solid and liquid substances. Unintentional poisonings can happen to anyone, at any time, in any situation.

People in general are not taking the time to observe the precautions that are necessary to complete the job safely and correctly. Simple things should be done such as plan ahead, prepare your space, wear your safety gear, read the labels, use the right tool for the job, pace yourself and decide what you can realistically do.

If people took the time there would be a lot less accidents at work, home, driving, basically everywhere. This is just a reminder with a few facts thrown in because I did remove my guard on my table saw and cut my hand, I have fallen off of a ladder, I did spray bleach in my bathroom thinking it was something else and I have also cut my hand putting utensils in the dishwasher. All of these things happened because I was rushing and did not **take the time**.

So everyone should slow down, be safe and most of all take your time because I know I am not the only one.

## Northern CI Tip-A-Cop

Northern CI hosted their second annual Tip-A-Cop event on June 21<sup>st</sup> at the Red Robin Restaurant in Enfield. The event was held to benefit Special Olympics Connecticut. Many Northern CI staff volunteered their time, which made this event a huge success. Northern CI and Red Robin staff worked very well together, and a great time was had by all! General Manager of Red Robin, George McLean, stated that the event was “very well organized and professional. We were glad to have you back, and can’t



Pictured above (l-r) Officer James Zuccalo, CTO Andrew Bukowski, Counselor Tara McEwan, CTO Leonard Brown, Officer Carl Morin, Officer Timothy Goodhall, Officer Angela Maiorana, three managers from Red Robin, and Officer Carl Badeau

wait to see you next year.” Correctional Counselor Tara McEwan, who organized the Tip-A-Cop, was proud to present a check for \$711 to SOCT.

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## New Director Cont'd

In 2000, Director Bibens was promoted to Food Service Supervisor III and was transferred to York CI. This position required managing the day-to-day operations of the food service requirements of the state’s only female correctional facility.

He oversaw the production of more than 4,100 meals a day including medical and special religious diets.

Bibens was placed in charge of the agency’s Food Production Center Cook/Chill kitchen in 2004 and was elevated to the rank of Correctional District Food Service Manager. The Cook/Chill operation prepares meals that are distributed to all 18 correctional facilities across Connecticut. Among his duties was the management of the Department’s two inmate-staffed Cafes, which provide a realistic restaurant work experience preparing them for employment upon release.

Bibens earned an Associates Degree in Culinary Arts from Johnson and Wales University. He holds certifications in Sanitation/Qualified Food Operation from the National Restaurant Association, as a Dietetic Service Supervisor from Middlesex Community Technical College and as a Food Service Inspector from Southern Connecticut State University.

## Winner’s Cont’d

As if that weren’t enough, CS Bartholomew worked on numerous special projects that included the annual review of the Department’s classification manual, the development of a protocol for releases to parole, halfway houses and transitional supervision and participation in the development of an accountability plan and tracking mechanism for halfway house packages at the facility and community level.

Officer Morin and CS Bartholomew will be recognized along with the agency’s other award recipients at the Department’s annual ceremony on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

# Lee Among Best In Business Condolences

When you think about corrections you may not immediately also think about computers. But much of what we do today in a correctional facility, from phone monitoring to classification wouldn't be possible without these modern marvels and the experts who insure they fulfill our needs. That's likely why Corrections Today magazine, included Senior Systems Analyst Pei Ti Lee in its recent "Best in the Business" edition. The national



Pei Ti Lee, CT-DOC MIS Unit

publication, produced by the American Correctional Association headlined the full page story about Ms. Lee as, "Technology Wiz Leads And Mentors With Patience." The article quotes Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz as saying that, "Without Pei Ti Lee, the Connecticut Department of Correction would no doubt struggle in tasks that we now take for granted because of her." The 18-year veteran is described as being known for her rapid accomplishment of difficult tasks and for increasing the computer literacy of agency staff through her method of patiently teaching staff how to carry out an action on the computer instead of merely doing it for them. Management of Information Services Director Robert Cosgrove is quoted as saying, "She never ceases to amaze me!" Ms. Lee was recognized by the agency in 2006 as its employee of the year.



Warden Robert Correa and the staff of the New Haven Correctional Center are saddened to announce the passing of Captain Timothy Ingham.

Warden Christine Whidden and the staff of the Manson Youth Institution are saddened to announce the passing of Correction Officer Thomas Faherty.

Director Dave Batten and the staff of the Facilities Management & Engineering Unit are saddened to announce the passing of Roseann Guerrero, mother of Correctional Plumber/Steamfitter Richard Guererra.

Warden Robert Correa and the staff of the New Haven Correctional Center are saddened to announce the passing of Captain Everton Bailey's mother.

Warden Charles Lee and the staff of the Cheshire Correctional Institution are saddened to announce the passing of Aldolph Young, father of Correction Officer Carole Outlaw and father-in-law of Correction Officer James Outlaw of New Haven CC.

Warden Robert Correa and the staff of the New Haven Correctional Center are saddened to announce the passing of Cherry Allen, mother of Deputy Warden Theresa Kearney.

## Code Orange

**Correction Officer Stephen Anderson of the Utah Department of Correction was killed in the line of duty on June 25, 2007. A white supremacist prisoner who was taken to the hospital complaining of lower back pain stole Anderson's gun and killed him. A memorial fund has been set up for his family and donations can be sent to:**

**Zions Bank  
1 South Main Street  
Salt Lake City, UT 84111**

**The Branch Manager is John Seaman whose email address is [J.Seaman@zionsbank.com](mailto:J.Seaman@zionsbank.com) If you need to speak with him by phone, please call 801-974-8800 and ask for John Seaman**

**Checks should be made payable to:**

**Donation for Officer Stephen Anderson**

**On the back of the check, please write: For Deposit Only**

**Thank you for remembering him.**