DOC Recognized in Governor’s Speech

The fact that a piper from the Department of Correction’s bagpipe band was chosen to lead her into the General Assembly chamber, provided an indication that the agency was on the mind of Governor M. Jodi Rell as she recently delivered her State of the State address.

Just a short way into the 40-minute long address, the Governor made the following statement, “Let me take a moment to thank our fine correctional officers and officials for their outstanding work. Theirs is an incredibly difficult job and they put in long hours and serve with true professionalism. But they need help.’

Reverend Bruno to receive National ACA Award

The Reverend Anthony Bruno, the Director of Religious Services for the Connecticut Department of Correction, has been notified that he has been selected as one of the two national recipients for the prestigious E.R. Cass Award, which annually is the highest honor bestowed by the American Correctional Association (ACA). “Father Bruno is truly deserving of this incredible honor,” said Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz. “His ministry, his dedication to his community and state, and his 40 years in the priesthood, epitomize the ideals that this award is meant to recognize.” The E.R. Cass Award was created in 1962 to honor the former general secretary and president emeritus of the ACA. It is in the spirit of Edward Cass and in recognition of his ideals of devotion and
Governor’s Speech Cont.
The Governor then continued, “My budget provides for the hiring of 125 new correction officers and additional staff. I also include money for new probation staff, a new warrant squad, youth violence prevention programs, substance abuse counselors and an array of inmate re-entry services.” Specifically, the governor’s proposed budget adds more than $25 million in 2009 to plug this year’s fiscal holes and to meet that new sentencing requirement. That money also would cover rising costs tied to inmate housing, clothing, food, and medical treatment; add 22 parole officers; and cover costs tied to the opening of two quads at Carl Robinson Correctional Institution in Enfield.

“We are extremely grateful for the Governor’s continued support of our agency,” said Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz. “While the fiscal assistance is always important, her praise for our staff was the highlight of the speech for me and the department.”

The budget proposal will now go before the General Assembly for its consideration. The final budget is to be adopted before this year’s legislative session is adjourned the first week in May.

DOC in the Movies
A feature film, starring Robert DeNiro and Drew Barrymore may be filmed in part, at the Cheshire Correctional Institution over the next few months. The movie, entitled “Everyone’s Fine” has DeNiro traveling the country and finding out that his four grown children are not as fine as his wife had always maintained before her death. He learns they had felt the need to exaggerate their success to make their father proud. Advance staff from Radar Films have already visited the facility, which last year nearly ended up hosting part of a John Travolta movie. In the past, a prison film starring James Woods was shot at the prison. Unfortunately for you movie buffs, neither DeNiro nor Barrymore will be in the scenes to be shot in Cheshire.

Manson Scholar
Justin Verrier, son of Central Office Accountant Richard Verrier, was a recipient of a John R. Manson Scholarship during the award’s annual breakfast at Central Office. He is a Journalism/English major at the University of Connecticut where he writes for the Daily Campus.

Retirement Party For Warden Martin
Friday, April 4, 2008 at 6:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn, Norwich
Ticket prices are $45.00 each
Includes: Hors d’oeuvres, Buffet Dinner, DJ and Gift.

Please contact the following for tickets:
Warden Christine Whidden – MYI 203-806-2501
Captain Melissa Murray – Brooklyn CI 860-779-4570
Captain Duane Kelley – Corrigan 860-848-5742
Lieutenant Greg Harpin – South District 203-250-3182
Lieutenant Robert Beers – Central Office 860-692-7527
Officer Chad Martin – Radgowski 860-848-5700
Secretary Neena Beckwith – York CI 860-691-6711

Father Bruno Cont. from page 1.
Reverend Bruno, who will celebrate his 40th year of ordination in 2008, has served with the Connecticut Department of Correction since 1987 and as Director since 1999. He served as a United States Army Reserve Chaplain for 21 years and is one of only about 70 chaplains nationally to be certified by the American Correctional Chaplain’s Association of which he serves as the current national president. The award will be presented in August of 2008.
Cheshire Facilities Join in Remembrance

On the night that the Town of Cheshire pierced the dark despair of last summer’s tragic murders, with thousands of candles, the town’s prominent correctional facilities were among those most deeply involved in the event. The “Lights of Hope Remembrance” honored Jennifer Hawke-Petit and her two daughters who were killed during the home invasion. The memorial event sold luminary candles, which literally lit up the town’s streets with signs of hope. The long front drive of the Cheshire Correctional Institution and its frontage along Route 10, as well as the entrances to Webster CI and Manson YI were fully illuminated by the candles. “I am very proud of how involved and committed this facility is to its host community,” said Warden Charles Lee. The Department of Correction in fact, based on the level of support to the memorial, was one of only a few platinum sponsors for the event. In all more than $100,000 was raised for Michaela’s Miracle and Haley’s Hope, foundations established by the Petit daughters to assist people with multiple sclerosis.

Radio Roundup

In March of 2007, the Director of Facilities Management & Engineering put together a committee to collaborate ideas and thoughts on implementing a new radio communication system. The main focus of the committee was to examine and evaluate the Department’s communication needs and provide recommendations on future radio purchases. Based on this premise, a committee of fifteen (15) members were put together which included District Administrators, Tactical/Armory Operations Personnel, NP4 - Union, Engineering, MIS and District 1 Radio Specialists.

On April 13, 2007 the committee met for the first time and had an open discussion about the current EF Johnson radio system, its limitations and the future direction for the Agency. The committee agreed to purchase, field test and evaluate each manufacturer on the DAS contract capable of operating on the 800 MHz frequency. From this research five (5) manufacturers were

See Talk Radio page

Around the Cell Block

Minnesota- It may not be the Shawshank Redemption, but officials at the Stillwater State Prison have found a sophisticated escape tunnel under the facility.

California- The state’s fiscal watchdog, says correction officers don’t need the Governor’s proposed 5% wage increase since their pay has jumped 34% over five years.

Canada- A woman who killed her common law spouse will be able to keep her 11-month old baby with her in federal prison for the next four years.

Massachusetts- Boston now features the Liberty Hotel, a former jail at the foot of Beacon Hill with a restaurant named the Clink.

Total Supervised Population on March 7, 2008
23,707
On September 15, 2006 the population was 23,124
About the House Mouse

Mice have shared our homes (and our food) for centuries, and have migrated with our ancestors aboard ships throughout the world. No doubt our relationship with the creature commenced when humans began to farm and store grains. Since that time, the mouse has taken up residence in our silos, invaded our basements, and raided our kitchens. In fact, the scientific genus name for the mouse, *Mus*, is derived from the Sanskrit word meaning thief. But for all their troubling characteristics, it is hard not to admit that mice are cute, too. The animal has managed to burrow into our culture with such ambassadors as Stuart Little and, of course, Mickey.

As the outdoor temperature turns cooler, mice begin to seek the warmth of our homes. Even seemingly well sealed houses are susceptible to the mouse because they are exceptional climbers and can squeeze themselves through openings as small as a ¼ inch—about the diameter of a wood pencil.

Inspect around the house and fill in gaps such as found around outside faucets, basement windows, cable television cable entrances, and cracks in stone or brick foundations. Jammed steel wool covered with a silicone caulk works well in this application. Gaps under exterior doors should be sealed with weather stripping. Other preventative measures include blocking exhaust vents with hardware cloth and eliminating breeding areas like piles of leaves or old newspapers. Dirty pet food dishes also attract mice.

Once inside, mice can be trapped with baited spring traps, electronically activated traps and glue traps. Mice have poor eyesight and tend to scurry along walls, so traps placed along walls are more likely to be successful than traps placed away from walls. Mice are constantly recording the subconscious muscle patterns required to move between favorite locations. Therefore, disrupting the position of items before trap placement is a good strategy. Mice immediately explore their surroundings after landmarks are moved to store new files of muscle memories. Mice have small movement territories and spend 70 percent of their time within a 12-foot circular area and over 90 percent of their time within a 30-foot circular area.

If you have fortified the house, and don’t want the hassles involved with trapping, be aware that it has been shown that mice are discouraged by the scent of peppermint essential oil. A few drops of oil are applied to cotton balls, which are in turn placed around the protected area. The peppermint will remain an effective repellent for as long as the scent lingers. This varies according to conditions, of course, but good results should be obtained if new oil is supplied to the balls twice a month.

The peppermint oil helps keep mice away without the danger of poisoning pets and eliminates the need to handle repulsive traps or glue boards. As a bonus, the scent creates a very pleasant atmosphere for human inhabitants.
Leone Hangs Up His Wings

After 22 years of service, Lt. Daniel Leone retired from the United States Air Force Reserves. He served as a Captain with the 439th Air Wing out of Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts. During a retirement ceremony last December, Leone received an American Flag which had been flown over Westover Base by Senior Master Sergeant Bert Quick. Lt. Leone also received a congratulatory letter from Commissioner Lantz, presented to him by his co-worker Lt. Theodore Angelakopoulos. Lt. Leone and Lt. Angelakopolous are both Pre-Service Class Managers at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

Bridgeport Correctional Center Volunteer Banquet

On the night of Saturday, December 8th, at the Bridgeport Holiday Inn our Bridgeport CCC Volunteers celebrated their “Gala” Banquet, coordinated by CSAC Diana Garcia. This year’s theme was: Life Changing Gifts! Warden Walter Ford, Chaplain Juanita Dinkins & Diana Garcia welcomed 225 guests, including volunteers, family members, representatives from different community agencies, Bail Commissioner Vanessa Williams, District coordinators from A.A, N.A., B.C.C. staff members and Columbus Barnes from CCAR. During the event, nine individuals (ex inmates) that are presently role models in the community, shared their recovery testimonies and received the respect and recognition from the B.C.C. volunteers. Volunteers, leaders, community agencies and staff members received appreciation and recognition awards. The reception hall was beautifully decorated by CSAC Garcia with gold, red and green colors, long crystal table centerpieces, red/white poinsettias, and Christmas trees. Inspired in the banquet theme, Diana created a three gifts shape, red velvet cake decorated with gingerbread figures and sugar handmade red and white poinsettias. Calvary church choir and Peniel Band (composed by recovery members) played during the event many Christmas carol songs including “Feliz Navidad.” CSAC Erica Reshard, Recreation Supervisor Ted Walton and school secretary Aphia Griffiths were crucial helping hands in this important B.C.C. volunteers event.

Leone Hangs Up His Wings

After 22 years of service, Lt. Daniel Leone retired from the United States Air Force Reserves. He served as a Captain with the 439th Air Wing out of Westover Air Reserve Base in Massachusetts. During a retirement ceremony last December, Leone received an American Flag which had been flown over Westover Base by a military jet from Senior Master Sergeant Bert Quick. Lt. Leone also received a congratulatory letter from Commissioner Lantz, presented to him by his co-worker Lt. Theodore Angelakopoulos. Lt. Leone and Lt. Angelakopolous are both Pre-Service Class Managers at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.
Talk Radio  

chosen; they were Tait, MA/COM, Kenwood, Motorola and EF Johnson. It was agreed that these radios would be field tested by staff at five (5) locations.

In May 2007, various subcommittees were formed to investigate current technology, gather field data, develop product review sheets, investigate product longevity, manufacturers warranty and technical support availability. On July 10, the committee gathered to discuss and approve equipment costs per manufacturer, facility test sites, and posts which would be utilized for the evaluation of the new radio equipment.

Prior to the onset of this radio project, the Department of Correction had been mandated by the Federal Communication Commission (FCC) to reprogram and reconfigure all of its 800 MHz equipment with the possibility of total replacement of our radio system, at no cost to the State of Connecticut. Unfortunately, the FCC ruled against the Agency. Additional negotiations are being held at this time regarding this ruling.

Based on the FCC ruling and an aggressive timetable, FM&E cut purchase orders in October 2007 for twenty (20) radios with accessories. The committee agreed to purchase four (4) radios from each of the five (5) manufacturers with all hardware, software, batteries etc. for evaluation.

On December 17, 2007 the committee met to examine each of the radios and provide comments. During this meeting a radio deployment schedule was provided which indicated the rotation of radios by facility. The facilities that were chosen to participate in this process were Robinson CI, MacDougall-Walker CI, York CI, Hartford CC and Tactical/Armory Operations.

Following the meeting all the radios were inventoried and delivered to the District 1 Radio Shop for software programming. It is anticipated that the complete rotation and testing of radios will conclude by March 24, 2008. In April of 2008 the committee will reconvene to review the staff evaluation sheets and determine a suitable replacement radio. The new radios will be rotated into District 1 facilities first. We anticipate the complete deployment of radios sometime in the fall of 2009.
### Shining Stars at York C. I.

Captain Robert Rutchik and Captain James Korch coordinated the "STAR" donation program for needy children under Department of Children and Families care. Nearly 200 children between the ages of three months and 17 years of age, were given gifts by the staff of York Correctional Institution.

York C.I. staff members pitched in and donated a Christmas tree from which stars were hung. Each star had the name, age and gift wish, of a deserving child. Employees then selected a star, purchased and wrapped the corresponding gift. Thanks to our generous staff, Christmas was a happy experience for these children and their families.

### Garner(ed) Gifts

Warden James Dzurenda and the staff of Garner C.I. with some of the gifts they collected for the Children’s Home in Cromwell.

### Promotions & Transfers

**January & February 2008**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Name</th>
<th>New Position</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ballaro, Peter</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bush, Kelvin</td>
<td>Corr. Counselor Trainee</td>
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<tr>
<td>Butkiewicus, David</td>
<td>Captain</td>
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<td>Calderon, Michael</td>
<td>Counselor Trainee</td>
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<td>Criscitiello, Thomas</td>
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<td>DelPaine, Anthony</td>
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<td>Huffy, Christy</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lee, Grace</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lofton-McGeroge, Pamela</td>
<td>HR Specialist</td>
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<td>Marshall, Barbara Jane</td>
<td>Administrative Assistant</td>
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<td>Miller, Lauren</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rodriguez, Zelynette</td>
<td>Counselor Trainee</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Santos, Genita</td>
<td>Lieutenant</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Deployed Military

After Serving in IRAQ for one year Lieutenant Noel Brown is back at work. A member of the Connecticut National Guard’s 1048th Medium Truck Company in IRAQ, Staff Sergeant (SSG) Brown acted as a Convoy Commander which entailed providing convoy security for critical supplies as part of the war effort. Convoy security is perhaps the most dangerous duty in the combat zone as over 95% of deaths in IRAQ are from roadside bombs. A few close calls has left SSG Brown bald. SSG Brown would like to thank his Hartford correctional family who kept his spirits up and body well rounded. For his service to his country SSG Brown has received the following awards: Connecticut Wartime Service Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, IRAQ Campaign Medal Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal Ribbon, Armed Forces Reserve Medal, and the Bronze Star Medal.

Third Tour For Howes

Correction Officer Michael Howes from Cheshire Correctional Institution was recently deployed to Iraq. His wife Isabelle and his three (3) daughters Jasmine (7), Brianna (5), and Madison (2) will miss him this and next holiday season. The deployment is currently scheduled for at least 400 days. Officer Howes has been a member of the Army Reserves, 411th Civil Engineers Battalion for the past eight (8) years. He is currently on his third active duty deployment. The first deployment was to Kosovo, the second in Iraq (Baghdad), and now the third is again in Iraq.

The 411th CAB is a unit that coordinates important programs to help involve the people back home help the Iraqi citizens. The unit assists with general support in areas such as Public Health, Public Works and Utilities, Public Safety and Public Education. The unit also hosts conferences for non-governmental organizations who are helping rebuild Iraq.

The staff at Cheshire CI would like to thank Officer Howes for his commitment to our country’s Armed Forces and his pride in being a soldier. We look forward to him accomplishing his mission and safely returning home to his family and friends.

Condolences

Warden Walter Ford and the staff of Bridgeport CC are saddened to announce the untimely passing of Correction Officer Daniel Papcin from complications from surgery on February 28, 2008.

Director Robert Foltz of the Fiscal Services Unit is saddened to announce the passing of B. Marie (Justis) Robbins, Mother of AFAO John Robbins.

Warden John Sieminski, Health Servives Administrator Mary Marto and the staff of Corrigan Radgowski C.C. are saddened to announce the death of Mark Savoie, husband of Correctional Health Nurse Supervisor Emily Savoie. Mr. Savoie passed away on Thursday evening February 28, 2008.

Announcements

The 28th Annual Awards Dinner “Honoring Women Who Are Positive Examples in the Community” will be held on Saturday, March 22, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. at the Holiday Inn in Bridgeport. Among those being recognized is Director of Programs and Treatment, Mary M. Marcial. Tickets for the event are $50.00. For more information please call (203) 333-9244.

Warden Jeffrey McGill is pleased to announce that Officer Andrzej Cwalina is the proud father of a baby boy born 1/28/2008 at 4:00 AM. Jacob Andrew weighed in at 7 lbs., 8 oz., and measured 20 inches in length. Mother and baby are doing fine.