



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.

Correction Officer's Week May 4-10, 2008

It is with immense P.R.I.D.E. and sincere gratitude that I salute you during National Correction Officer's Week.

Each year, this week is set aside to honor the commitment that correctional staff brings to its rewarding yet, dangerous career. This week is also set aside to recognize the contributions made by health services employees and our teachers.

Our work is an untiring job, one with a huge responsibility to maintain public safety, as well as to help inmates develop the skills necessary to become productive members of society.

Additionally, many of our staff members often perform exemplary services, for their communities in times of need and crisis. It is my hope that the public fully appreciates correctional officers' effective response to the physical and emotional demands made upon them daily.

I would like to take this opportunity to officially, and publicly thank you for the outstanding work that you do. There is a direct correlation between your dedication and personal sacrifice, and the fact that we are the best correctional agency in the country.

I am honored to serve as your Commissioner.

Theresa C. Lantz
Commissioner

Dates covered
April 1 - May 2, 2008

Distributed bi-weekly
to 7,000 staff
and via the internet
throughout Connecticut
and the nation by the
Department of Correction
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Wethersfield, CT 06109

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Governor

Theresa C. Lantz
Commissioner

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Reiger Conference 2008

Peter, Sam and Wanda

With the simple yet profound plea to, “ don’t laugh at me, don’t call me names,” Peter Yarrow a member of the iconic 60’s folk trio, Peter, Paul and Mary, captured the spirit of the 12th Annual Melanie Ilene Rieger Conference held April 23 and 24 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. The theme of this years’ conference was “Angry Youth: School and Community Tragedies,” it was attended by more than 500 hundred people on each of the two days of the event. The conference honors the life of Mellanie Rieger, who, in 1994, at the age of was a 19 was strangled by her boyfriend.



Peter Yarrow with Wanda and Sam Rieger



250 Pairs of shoes, each representing a murder victim in Connecticut from 2006-2007

Yarrow, founder of Operation Respect, an organization which aims to reduce bullying and violence among children, performed several of his classic songs including: *If I Had a Hammer*, *I’m Leaving on a Jet Plane*, and *Puff the Magic Dragon*, to a crowd that at times was moved to dance and sing, and at other times was moved to tears. After his performance, Yarrow sold and signed more than 300 copies of his book, “Puff the Magic Dragon.”

Despite the sometimes feel good trip down memory lane, there was no mistaking that the overall tone of the conference was a somber one. For example, upon signing-in, conference attendees were greeted by the sobering image of more than 250 pairs of shoes in all shapes and sizes lining the path to the auditorium, each representing an individual murdered in Connecticut between 2006 and 2007.

Reiger conference was a presentation entitled “Rachel’s Challenge.” Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. Her acts of kindness and compassion coupled with the contents of her six diaries have become the foundation for a presentation given in schools and communities across North America by members of her family. It combines stark video footage of the Columbine High School massacre with Rachel’s drawings and writings in a campaign to quell school violence, bullying, and teen suicide.



Larry Scott, honors his neice,s memory, Rachel Scott, while issuing Rachel’s Challenge

Melanie’s father, Dr. Samuel Rieger, presided over the closing ceremonies, and thanked everyone annaully hosts the event, for helping to make the conference such a resounding success.

involved, including Commissioner Theresa Lantz who

Supporting Our Troops

Since September 11, 2001, more than 130 of our fellow staff have been called to active military duty in defense of our country. Currently some 25 remain in service to our country around the world.

From the beginning, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz has directed that our agency do all we can to support these individuals and their loved ones who are left behind. Through the effort of two members of the agency's Critical Response Incident Stress Team, the Department is now taking the next step in providing assistance through a Military Peer Support Program. (See recruitment Announcement on Page 4)



Commissioner Lantz addresses DoC Staff/Veterans

The two staff members, Counselor Supervisor Jacqueline Jennett of Garner CI and Captain Heather Ziemba of York CI, recently facilitated a focus group regarding the development of a structured support system for our military service members.

The focus group was comprised of thirteen selected DOC staff/veterans representing a diverse perspective.

Commissioner Theresa Lantz addressed the group, expressing her deepest appreciation and admiration for all the Department's service

members who have sacrificed and continue to sacrifice themselves for our country. She explored the veterans' concerns and suggestions on how the agency may assist all employees who have served our country. Military staff enthusiastically shared ideas to assist in these efforts.

The agenda included Col. Bob Mullaly (Ret.) of EAP discussing a Veteran's Perspective, OEF/OIF Program Manager Erin Blatchley presented Accessing VA Services, and PTSD Clinician LCSW Wendy Bassett spoke on the "The Road Home: The Transition from Warrior to Citizen." Program Manager Blatchley and LCSW Bassett are employees of the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Connecticut HealthCare System.

The Military Peer Support Program will offer pre, active and post deployment support.

Deployment Assistance – This service is intended to support the DOC service member and their needs Pre, Active and Post Deployment. Peer Support Team members will act as a link for the service member and their family with the Department of Correction and other state and federal agencies.



Captain Heather Ziemba and Counselor Supervisor Jacqueline Jennett facilitate the focus group.

Homecoming Awareness - This service is intended to educate all DOC staff of the potential needs and concerns of our military personnel surrounding their return to the workplace. The goal is to create a welcoming environment, supportive atmosphere and a smooth transition back to work. Education will include deployment and return to work issues, impact of the deployment on the service member's family and friends, and behavioral health concerns.

Military Peer Support Program-Now Recruiting

(see related article on page 3)

Commissioner Theresa Lantz has announced that the agency is creating a Connecticut Department of Correction Military Peer Support Program (MPSP) and is recruiting personnel to become MPSP members.

The Military Peer Support Program will provide Deployment Assistance and Homecoming Awareness for those staff serving or having served in the military. The Department has recognized the growing need of service members and his/her family to have support during all phases of deployment. Team members will work with each service member to identify individual needs before deployment, offer assistance and maintain communication with the service member and his/her family during deployment, and help the service member with a smooth transition back to work upon his/her return. In addition, team members will be tasked to educate DOC staff of the potential needs and concerns of our military personnel surrounding his/her return to the workplace. The peer supporter must be a good communicator, empathic, and committed to the mission of serving the military staff of our agency.

The Critical Incident Stress Response Program (CISRP) will provide oversight and management for the MPSP. MPSP case managers will report to the CISRP coordinator. Team members will be trained in outreach and referral resources, active-listening skills, group-facilitation skills, and recognizing stress symptoms. Peer support members are needed throughout the Department.

Eligible candidates for the Military Peer Support Team must have worked for the Connecticut Department of Correction for at least one year and must currently be a service member or a veteran of a military branch (military requirement will be waived for fulltime DoC clergy members).

To apply, please submit all of the following:

- A letter of interest
- Your Resume
- Your last two performance appraisals
- A letter of recommendation from your Unit Administrator
- A letter of recommendation from immediate supervisor
- One personal reference letter
- A letter of reference from your current military commander, or your DD214 papers, if you have been discharged from military service

Application must be submitted to C/S Jennett at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development by **May 30, 2008**.
Fax number 203.271.5176.

Why I Chose to Join the Best



“I was not born a United States citizen... I joined the military...after I served in Iraq...I needed something that gave me the opportunity to continue giving, while feeling proud at the same time. A friend, whose husband, once worked for the DoC, told me they were hiring...being a correctional officer represents the order, standards, and structure that I am looking for.”

Correction Officer
Marsha Rose

**Total Supervised
Population on
May 1 , 2008
23,841**

*On May 1, 2003
the population was
23,162*

DoC Hosts NIC Audit Program



Warden James Dzurenda, along with other DoC staff members, welcome National Institute of Corrections auditors to Garner C. I.

From March 17 through March 20, the Connecticut Department of Correction welcomed members of the National Institute of Correction, along with 22 correctional professionals from other states (Colorado, Georgia, Iowa, Missouri, Oregon, and Washington, D.C.) to participate in a Security Audit Program. Cheshire CI, Manson YI and Garner CI were among the three Department of Correction facilities that hosted the program.

Participants received classroom training in such areas as: how to conduct audits of prison security systems, how to assist in a security audit at their assigned facility as part of a supervised audit team, and how to provide verbal, as well as written, audit reports to the unit administrator of each host institution.

While conducting the security audit, participants reviewed the host institution's security policy, post orders, staffing pattern, operational procedures and practices, equipment, training, in addition to other factors related to internal and perimeter security.

Each team was comprised of correctional professionals who are currently responsible for security operations at their assigned facilities. Upon completion of the audit a thorough report was presented to Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy, District Administrator Mark Strange and host institution staff members at a commencement ceremony held at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

Do you have vehicle you would like to donate?

The Department of Correction's Unified School District#1 is providing the opportunity for staff to donate a used vehicle (car , truck , van) to be used for student instruction in our auto body shops. Vehicles must come with a title. Here's your chance to make that " old clunker or broken down gas guzzler " give you some pay back by claiming a donation tax deduction .

If interested send your name , a facility , phone number or e-mail address where you can be reached to :
Ron Napper, Director of USD Vocational Programs Department of Correction
Education Division, 24 Wolcott Hill Road
or via Internet to: Ron.Napper@po.state.ct.us

Special Staff

There are larger facilities than the Willard/Cybulski CI, but if a unit is measured by the size of its heart, the Enfield based prison takes a backseat to no one. In 2006, the facility raised a little more than \$5,000 for Special Olympics. This year they more than doubled that amount with a grand total of \$11,799.

Facility, Special Olympics Coordinator, Recreation Director Jeffrey Beiler says everyone gave of themselves, but that special thanks should go to retired Recreation Supervisor Dave Abruzzi, Correction Officer John Cournoyer and Secretary Liz Francini.

In recognition of their efforts, a handsome plaque was awarded for being ranked number seven of all Law Enforcement agencies in the state. Warden Esther Torres says she was not surprised at the result. "Making a difference in the lives of others is what we do" said Torres. She pointed to Beiler's leadership as a key reason why her unit continually surpasses its goals. Beiler has been associated with the Special Olympics for more than 15 years, beginning when he was in college. From that time until now, he has brought his magic to several facilities. In addition to cash donations, pledges and merchandise, Beiler organized several fundraisers that included a "Family Day" at the CRCI Officer's Beach and the "Dream Ride", a motorcycle rally held every August.



Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy with Recreation Director Jeffrey Beiler at the Special Olympics Law Enforcement Torch Run kick-off ceremony.

MVP'S

Adamatis, Brian CO	MWCI	Brown, Anthony CO	WCCI	Faucher, Steven Capt.	CRCC
Acramo, Alix Plumber	CRCI	Brown, Michael CO	CRCC	Fernandes, Lee CO	CRCI
Ames, Sidney CO	CRCC	Bush, Kenneth CS	NHCC	Perkins, Fred CO	MCTSD
Andras, Kenneth CO	CRCI	Caccavalle, Paul Rec. Spvr	CRCI	Ferrero, Albert PO	WPO
Archer, Shawn CO	NHCC	Chagnon, Amy SST	MWCI	Field, William CO	CRCC
Asija, Teres CN	BCC	Colon, Julio Chaplain	CRCI	Field Todd CO	CRCC
Atchue, Joseph CO	CRCI	Cook, Kenneth CO	CRCC	Flanagan, Roberta Sec.II	WPO
Auclair, Christian CO	CRCI	Boland, Rachel Counselor	MWCI	Foligno, Jeffrey CO	WCCI
Avezzie, Richard HVAC Tech	CRCI	Cox, Carl CFSSII	WCCI	Fortuna, Kathryn PO Trainee	WPO
Baker, Nancy LPN	BCC	Credit, Gary CC	CRCC	Fulcher, Brett CO	CRCC
Barber, Earl CO	CRCI	Cronin, Timothy CO	CRCC	Galan, Edison CO	CRCI
Baribeault, John CO	MWCI	Cruickshank, Murray C/S	CRCC	Gallagher, Peter CO	CRCI
Bartlett, Jim Voc. Ed.	MWCI	Samuel-Reid, Shawn CTO	MWCI	Galligan, Gavin CC	BCI
Bassett, Gary OA	BCI	Cusano, Anthony Capt.	MCSTD	Glenney, Irvin, CFSSII	WCCI
Beaulieu, Leo CO	CRCI	Dagenais, James CO	CRCI	Glover, Edward CO	MWCI
Beaumier, Vicky Clerk Typist	CRCI	Davies, Adebanke CHN	BCC	Golas, Steve CO	CRCC
Behney, Helen Rec. Spvr.	CRCC	Davis, Gregory CO	CRCC	Golfieri, Joseph CO	CRCI
Bellacicco, Vincent CO	NHCC	Davis, Martha CO	CRCI	Goudreault, Paul CO	CRCI
Bergagna, Richard CO	MWCI	DelBarba, Richard CO	CRCI	Graham, Jamie CO	CRCI
Bessette, Lisa OA	CRCI	DeSousa, Phil Voc. Ed.	MWCI	Graser, Leonard CO	CRCC
Bishop, Robert CO	MWCI	Dillard, Lewis CO	CRCI	Greci, Thomas Plumber	CRCI
Blanchard, Deloris CO	MWCI	Dinguis William Lt.	CRCC	Greeno, Kathy Lt.	CRCC
Boozar, Eric CO	CRCC	Dougherty, Daniel CO	CRCC	Gregory, Michael CO	CRCI
Boyd, Gary CO	CRCI	Faccinto, Janet Chaplain	CRCI	Griffith, Kathy CO	CRCI
Bradford, George CFSSII	YCI	Faneuff, William, Capt.	CRCI	Guillot, Greg CO	CRCC

The Son Also Rises

Technical Sergeant Joseph P. LoCasto, son of Fiscal Administrative Supervisor Joseph LoCasto, distinguished himself by outstanding achievement as Weather Technician, 379th Expeditionary Operations Support Squadron & Group, Air Expeditionary Wing, Al Udeid Air Base, Qatar.

On April 4th, of this year, a B-1 Bomber exploded into flames within 700 meters of Sergeant LoCasto's primary work center. During the fire, an extremely dangerous situation developed as onboard munitions began to explode. Sergeant LoCasto's calm demeanor and professionalism allowed him to quickly evaluate the safety of the situation, secure all classified material, and prepare to evacuate.



Upon evacuation, he achieved full operational capability at the alternate weather operations site within an amazing 15 minutes. Immediately evaluating alternate air traffic routes, he updated the Supervisor of Flying with critical weather forecasts for the entire area of operations, while simultaneously supporting the on-scene commander with current and forecast weather conditions.

In the finest traditions of an Airman, Sergeant LoCasto's achievement reflects credit upon himself, the United States Air Force, and his understandably proud father.

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

www.theEAP.com

Boy Scouts of America Honor DOC Employees

The Boy Scouts of America Connecticut Rivers Council held its annual District Awards Dinner on April 21st at the Continental Room in Naugatuck. This event recognizes volunteers in the Mad River District who have graciously provided their time and expertise to benefit youth scouting initiatives over the past year. Among this year's recipients were the Connecticut Department of Correction, District 2 Canine Unit. The Canine unit received the "Good Turn Award," which recognizes an organization that has demonstrated consistent commitment and support toward the scouting program from an agency perspective.



Officer James Kabusk and Louis Melendez

The Department's Canine Unit has volunteered at several unit, district and state level scouting events over the past year. Accepting the award on behalf of the department were representatives of the Canine Unit, Officer James Kabusk and Officer Louis Melendez.

Also honored at the event was Counselor Ray Migliaro of Garner C.I. who was the recipient of the "District Chairman Award." Counselor Migliaro has spent the last year serving as the Mad River Districts Cub Activities Chairman organizing events for the 29 designated Cub Scout Packs within the Mad River District while also taking time to lead a Cub Scout Den for Pack 230 in Wolcott, CT.

3rd Annual Cheshire Cup In memory of Tom Faherty

**Southington Country Club
Friday, June 20, 2008**

9:00 a.m. Registration

Shotgun Start

\$100.00 per golfer

All Fees due by June 1, 2008

For more information contact:

Ken Kuhr 203.806.2550

Brian McCarroll 203.806.2500

Tony Cusano 203.271.5178

Chris Case 203.806.2500

Retirement Party for Rich Egner

Saturday, May 24, 2008

1:00 pm - ???

Stash's Cafe, 95 Pequot Ave.

New London, CT

\$15.00 - Appetizer Buffet, Gift

For Tickets Contact:

Capt. Robert Martin	York CI
C/S Erin Murphy	York CI
Lt. Antonio Cusano	South Range
Lt. Jack Watson	North Range
Lt. Phillip Princevalle	Corrigan CI
C/O Peter Gingras	Corrigan CI
Cpt. A. Corcella	Gates CI
Lt. Lisa Jackson	York IST Site
C/O Larry Tyler	Robinson CI
C/O Chris Rollo	Cheshire CI
PO David Skarzynski	Parole Unit
C/O Henry Gasiorek	K-9 Unit



**Officer Steven Ireland (center) with reservists from
MacDougall/Walker C.I. outside the facility**

Officers Freddy Bogalhas, Steven Lafond, John Morin, Edwin Cay and Lt D'Ordine, all reservists who have deployed, presented Officer Steven Ireland with a flagpole, American flag and Marine Corps flag to thank him for all the support he has shown to the staff and family members of staff who have deployed over the years. Officer Ireland, a Marine Corps veteran himself, took it upon himself to spearhead the drive to show support for the troops in many different ways. He has raised money and for telephone cards, Commissary cards and care packages have been sent on behalf of all the staff who have donated.

Announcements

Warden Bruce Cuscovitch of CRCI, is pleased to announce the birth of Captain Matthew Regan and his wife's son, Mathew Michael Regan, Jr. Matthew was born on April 23, 2008, weighing 8 lbs., 7 ozs. Mother, father and baby are all doing fine.

May 9th: The Annual DOC Memorial Ceremony, 6:30 PM, at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development

Warden Ricks is saddened to report the death of Pheobe Lewis, mother-in-law of Record Specialist Kathy Lewis of Hartford C. C.

Warden David Strange and staff at Osborn C. I. are saddened to inform of the death of retired Correctional Laundry Supervisor George Boredeau who retired from Osborn a few years ago.