



Connecticut
Department of Correction

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

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



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.

It's Official: new administrators and wardens sworn-in

In front of family, friends and the Department's Top Managers, Acting Commissioner Brian K. Murphy officially swore in the newly appointed district administrators and wardens. The ceremony took place on August 27th, a beautiful sunny afternoon, in front of the Department's Memorial at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

After calling each Administrator up to the podium one at a time, Commissioner Murphy shared their work histories and accomplishments with the gathered throng. The Commissioner congratulated them, they then each received a badge and plaque (along with offers of congratulations) from Acting Deputy Commissioners Carol Salsbury and Mark Strange.



From the Commissioner



On a recent tour of the Bridgeport Correctional Center, the intake units were exceptionally clean, quiet and orderly, even with the large volume of offenders who pass through them on weekly basis. This despite a recent reconfiguration of the available unit managers at the facility. At the Manson Youth Institution, the school, which is a vital part of that facility, recently touted its continuing success with the young offenders, again even though we have realigned our educational staff across the agency in the wake of the recent state retirement incentive program.

What's important to note in both cases is that safety and security of our facilities, as well as our important core programming have not been affected as we as an agency successfully do more with less. For the foreseeable future, this will be our charge within the Department of Correction, as good stewards of the taxpayers' dollars here in Connecticut.

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August 14, 2009
through
September 10, 2009

Distributed bi-monthly
to 7,000 staff
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Governor

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Acting Commissioner

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DOC SOG In CT SWAT Challenge

For the third time in five years, members of the Connecticut Department of Correction's Strategic Operations Group (SOG) participated in the CT SWAT Challenge. Hosted by the West Hartford Police Department, the three-day event was held August 25-27 at the Connecticut State Police Range in Simsbury.



Members of the DoC SOG Unit that competed in the 2009 CT SWAT Challenge

A total of 37 SWAT teams competed in the 2009 edition of the CT SWAT Challenge. Participants hailed from Connecticut, Massachusetts, Pennsylvania, New York, New Jersey and Rhode Island. They represented agencies including military units, regional SWAT teams, the Connecticut State Police, Metro Police SWAT teams, the Army National Guard and Air National Guard and corrections (state and federal: CT, NY and Danbury Federal Prisons).

The competition featured seven events including handgun challenge, hostage rescue, rifle challenge, sniper challenge, vehicle assault, mystery challenge and PT challenge. The PT challenge consisted of a 5.9 mile run with 27 grueling obstacle stations at various points along the route.

Aside from local dignitaries including West Hartford Mayor Scott Slifka and numerous Chiefs of Police, Governor M. Jodi Rell attended the event and addressed the competitors on August 26th. Another feature of the event was the more than 105 vendors on-hand displaying the latest in tactical gear.

The North Central Emergency Services Unit from Connecticut claimed the title as 2009 Connecticut SWAT Challenge champion, narrowly holding off the Connecticut State Police West Team (#1). The Department of Correction teamed placed 24th overall.

According to the event's organizers, the intrinsic value of SWAT Challenges can be measured on a variety of levels. Tactics, movement techniques, equipment trends, professional contacts, inter-agency familiarization, fitness levels and shooting proficiency are just a few of the areas that can be positively impacted by such competitions.



Members of the Department's SOG Unit compete in the "Vehicle Assault" event, which starts with snipers hitting downrange targets and ends with the six to seven man teams carrying an "injured" officer to safety.

DOC Preparing for Flu Season

It is right up there with the inevitability of taxes. Flu season is on the way and with the potential that this year will see a resurgence of the H1N1 “Swine” Flu, the Connecticut Department of Correction is making preparations now to insure our staff is protected and our operations can effectively adjust to the effects of the disease. Much of the preparation is building upon the intensive work that was done a few years ago on the Department pandemic planning. How to staff facilities with a substantial number of our professional men and women home sick is one of many situations that are being addressed. Turning away visitors who appear sick and closing down visits entirely is another potential that is being included in the emergency manuals for the potential outbreak. The Department is working closely with the University of Connecticut Correctional Managed Health Care (CMHC) as well as with the State Department of Public Health (DPH). Our warehouses are being stockpiled with the appropriate masks and gloves and other materials should those be required. Already on the agency’s Intranet site, under Flu-H1N1 is a brochure from the Centers for Disease Control entitled “Take 3 Steps.” This will soon be included in employee pay checks as well. It suggests that in the event of any variation of the flu those important three steps are get vaccinated, take everyday preventative actions, and take antiviral drugs if you do come down with the disease. The availability of a vaccine is something the Department continues to watch in association with both CMHC and the DPH. At this point, we are being advised that the H1N1 vaccine may not be available until sometime into the fall season. As is always the case however, the best advice to follow is to wash your hands. The experts, including our own Clinical Director Dr. Edward Blanchette stress that this is the best preventative. As a result, expect to see more signs urging both staff and inmates to utilize hand washing and hand sanitizers will be installed throughout the facilities for the use of staff. If you do get sick, the medical professionals suggest staying home for at least 24 hours after your fever is gone. The Department will continue to keep staff updated with the latest on the flu season and what we as an agency are doing to protect against it.

TB Testing Time

The TB Testing Program will begin the week of **September 21, 2009 to October 9, 2009**. Once the date has been determined by the facility, it will continue for a two-week period.

- Hazardous Duty employees hired on August 14, 2009 do not have to be retested.
- If after the initial two-week period the employee fails to be in compliance with our TB Testing Program, they will be required to make an appointment with the facility Medical Unit to have the test completed. If testing materials are not available, they will have to see their own doctor.
- The employee should have the TB Planted and Read at the same facility/location to prevent non-compliance issues. A multiple part receipt will be provided to the employee when they go to have their TB test read.
- An employee will be considered not in compliance and may face disciplinary action if the test is not completed by **October 9, 2009**.
- Employees who previously had a positive reading must still report during the TB testing period to complete a form with the facility Medical Unit.
- Any employee who is out on leave during the TB Testing period must call and make an appointment with their facility Medical Unit to have the testing done prior to returning to duty. If testing materials are not available, they will have to see their own doctor.
- ID’s are to be presented when getting Planted and Read.

***At this time we do not know when Flu shots will be given or how many will be made available to DOC.**

Hartford C.C. Awards

Hartford Correctional Center held their Annual Awards Ceremony on August 11, 2009. At each roll call, the Warden and the Deputy Wardens announced the winners. Each shift had their own cook-out and during day shift's cook out, award certificates were given to the recipients.

Left to Right: Officer Gregorio Velez, HCC's First Shift Officer of the year, Lieutenant Greg Cheverier First Shift Lieutenant of the year, Deputy Warden Sandy Bundy, Brian Mazvrek Rookie of the Year.



Willard-Cybulski Honors Staff

Congratulations to Lieutenant Deborah Nieroda and Office Assistant Sheryl Burnell for being selected as Willard-Cybulski CI's Employees of the Quarter for April-June of 2009.

Receiving Honorable Mention for Employee of the Quarter for the same time period were Correctional Counselor Trainee Jaime Babich and Correctional Officer Victor Owens.

Each of the award winners received a personal letter from Warden Esther Torres thanking them for a job well done.

Telephone Directories on X-Drive

In an effort to improve Telecommunications Services to the agency, and also due to the considerable number of recent staff retirements throughout the Department, the Engineering and Facilities Maintenance Services is requesting that new telephone directories from all of DOC's Facilities and Central Office Units be sent to the Telecommunications Unit. They, in turn, will be posted on the "X" drive, for all DOC staff members to access.

In addition, whenever an internal telephone directory for a DOC Facility and/or Unit is updated, a copy should be forwarded to the Telecommunications Unit for posting on the "X" drive. This will insure that the information that is available is current and up-to-date.

Around the Cell Block



FLORIDA – A former inmate was injured while trying to sneak back into jail. The recently released inmate suffered severe cuts from barbed wire while trying to climb a 12-foot fence at the Brevard County Detention Center. Having accepted a plea deal on a manslaughter charge, the inmate feared retaliation from the victim's family.

ENGLAND – After examining the food offered to prisoners and the food served in the country's hospitals, researchers from Bournemouth University, in England, claim that the prison food is better.

WASHINGTON – Five inmates who earned early release, now living in King, Pierce, and Spokane counties are each benefiting from \$1,500 in housing assistance. The money, for up to three months rent, is thousands of dollars less than the state would spend caring for the inmates behind bars.

*Total
Supervised
Population
on
September 10, 2009
23,461
On September 10, 2008
the population was
23,853*

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. This article was submitted by Rich Pease, Environmental Analyst who can be reached at 860.692.7562. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860.692-7554.

Water Conservation

August is peak water use season and with a few simple tips from EPA's WaterSense program homeowners can save water and as much as \$110 annually on their water bills. On average, an American household uses about 260 gallons per day, but this amount climbs to around 1,000 gallons per day during peak water use season with some households using as much as 3,000 gallons a day.

Here are 10 tips to help reduce water use:

1. Water yards only when needed.
2. Consider using WaterSense labeled toilets, faucets and faucet accessories.
3. Water landscapes only when needed. Watering in the very early morning or evening is best.
4. Wash only full loads of laundry and dishes, and scrape dishes instead of rinsing when loading the dishwasher.
5. For summer refreshment, keep a pitcher of water in the fridge instead of running the tap until it is cold.
6. Capture water for your garden. Rain barrels, which divert rainwater from your downspouts, are an old-fashioned idea that's regaining popularity. You can buy them at a nursery or make your own.
7. If you need a new washer, buy a front-loader. Front-loading washers, because there is no tub to fill, conserve many gallons of water per use.
8. Set lawn-mower blades one notch higher. Higher grass means less evaporation, which means less watering.
9. Use organic mulch around plants, shrubs and trees to reduce water lost to evaporation.
10. Install sink aerators. Now required in all new construction, faucet aerators — the little screen "thingies" on the ends of the faucets - improve the effectiveness of the spray, thus decreasing the gallons per minute used.

Leaks waste an average of 11,000 gallons of water per home each year. The vast majority of leaks can be eliminated after retrofitting a household with new WaterSense labeled fixtures and other high-efficiency appliances. **Leak Detection:** A good method to check for leaks is to examine your water usage. Check your water meter before and after a two-hour period when no water is being used. If the meter does not read exactly the same, you probably have a leak.

Faucets and Showerheads: Leaky faucets can be reduced by checking faucet washers and gaskets for wear and replacing them if necessary. If you are replacing a faucet, look for the WaterSense label. Most leaky showerheads can be fixed by ensuring a tight connection using pipe tape and a wrench.

Toilets: One way to find out if you have a toilet leak is to place a drop of food coloring in the toilet tank. If the color shows up in the bowl without flushing, you have a leak. Make sure to flush immediately after this experiment to avoid staining the tank. If your toilet is leaking, the cause is most often an old, faulty toilet flapper. Over time, this inexpensive rubber part decays, or minerals build up on it. It's usually best to replace the whole rubber flapper—a relatively easy, inexpensive do-it-yourself project that pays for itself in no time.

Outdoors: An irrigation system should be checked each spring before use to make sure it was not damaged by frost or freezing. Adjust irrigation systems for changes in weather and season. Consider installing a rain sensor on an automatic irrigation system to prevent over-watering.

WaterSense is a partnership program sponsored by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. For more information and water saving tips, visit www.epa.gov/watersense. In 2008 alone, WaterSense labeled products helped Americans save more than 9.3 billion gallons of water and realize more than \$55 million in savings on water and sewer bills.

More With Less from page 1

I don't need to talk here about the current budgetary straightts that the State of Connecticut finds itself in, nor the fact that like many other state agencies, the Department of Correction lost a significant number (425 to be exact) of veteran staff to the early retirement program. The reality, especially in the field of corrections is that we have a 24/7 mission to protect the public and to provide opportunities to offenders to support their successful re-entry into law abiding society. This cannot and will not change because of the ups and downs of the economy. For nearly the past year now, the agency has been looking for opportunities to utilize any efficiencies and consolidations it can identify. We have closed buildings at several facilities and individual housing units at others. Our facilities maintenance and food staff has been reviewed and redeployed to most effectively utilize these men and women given our current resources. Again, this was done with the strict mandate that safety and security as well as core programming not be diminished. This must continue to be an emphasis across the agency. We are asking staff in many areas to take on additional responsibilities. Gone are the days that, for example, a counselor has only one housing unit to cover. Having been with this agency for 28 years now, I can tell you that in decades past we did very well without the luxuries that we have come to expect over the past several years. As always, I am confident that we as a department are up to the challenge of doing more with less. This is now our reality. We are professionals, we are the best in the country and we will insure that our mission of protecting the public and preparing offenders for re-entry will continue to evolve and improve as we move forward. I thank you for all you do on a daily basis, and appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we move forward in these difficult economic times.

Class 245 is Onboard



Pre-service Class 245 started on August 14, 2009 with a total of 128 trainees. The group is made up of 118 Correction Officers, four Food Service Supervisors and six Counselor Trainees. The Class will be

reporting to their facilities for On the Job Training (OJT) on September 29th and will Graduate on October 29, 2009.

19th Annual Blue Mass

For Law Enforcement Personnel,
active and retired, of all faiths,
and their families

**Sunday, September 27, 2009
10:15 AM**



**The Cathedral of Saint Patrick
213 Broadway, Norwich CT**

The DOC has actively supported this event for many, many years. Once again, our Honor Guard and Bagpipers will play an active role in this celebration.

Following the mass, brunch
will be served in the
Cathedral Auditorium.

**For more information, call
(860) 887-9294, ext.235.**

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

www.theEAP.com

Baseball Fun for Bigs and Littles

Congested roads and rain didn't stop the fun at the annual recognition event held recently for the department's Big Brothers Big Sisters program. Hosted for the second year by the New Britain Rock Cats at New Britain Stadium, the evening was loaded with activity.

No ballpark experience would be complete without enjoying the usual hamburgers and hot dogs plus soda, cookies and watermelon. As game time approached, Big Joseph Petrella and Little Stephon made their way to centerfield with Acting Commissioner Brian Murphy to throw out the ceremonial first pitch. A souvenir ball



Commissioner Brian K. Murphy and District Administrator Michael LaJoie attend the Rock Cats baseball game with the DoC's Bigs and Littles

was then presented to the Little by one of the Rock Cats players.

District Administrator Michael Lajoie served as the evening's Master of Ceremonies. Certificates were presented to the Big and Littles. Coordinators from throughout the agency were recognized.

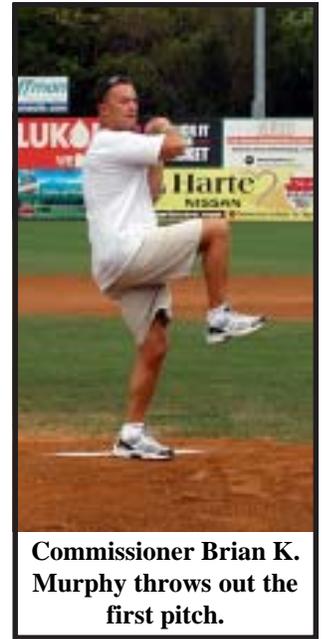
Because of Public Act 98-257, State employees are given the opportunity to earn some extra vacation time through the Governor's Mentoring Program. The Department of Correction has more Big Brothers and Big Sisters than any other department.

If you would like to learn more about becoming a Big Brother or Big Sister contact the coordinator that covers your area (see sidebar for details).

A DoC Day at the Park

Sunday, August 23rd, was Connecticut Department of Correction Day at New Britain Stadium, home of the Minnesota Twins Eastern League affiliates the New Britain Rock Cats. More than 250 Department staff and their family members came out to watch the Rock Cats take on the Reading Phillies.

Before the game, DoC attendees enjoyed an all-you-can-eat buffet of hotdogs, hamburgers, chips and soda. The ceremonial first pitch (a strike) was thrown out by Acting Commissioner Brian K. Murphy.



Commissioner Brian K. Murphy throws out the first pitch.

DoC Big Brother/Sister Coordinators

<u>FACILITY</u>	<u>COORDINATOR</u>	<u>PHONE</u>
Bergin CI	Thomas Conway	860-487-2789
Bridgeport CC	TBA	
Brooklyn CI	Nichole Drea	860-779-2600
Central Office	Tracey Hollins	860-692-6875
Cheshire/Web.	Dirmy Mack	203-250-2600
Corr/Rad	Charlene Baskerville	860-848-5038
CTU	Greg Cyr	860-692-7506
Enfield CI	Ross Sutherland	860-763-7350
Garner CI	Mary Dunn	203-270-2832
Gates CI	Pat Sherrill	860-691-4717
Hrtfd/UConn	Kristine Valente	860-566-2725
Mac-Walker CI	Leroy Gay	860-292-3492
Maloney	Richard Mahoney	203-271-5100
Manson YI	Charmaine Boisvert	203-806-2500
New Haven CC	Lorraine Harp	203-377-8659
Northern CI	Heather Thibodeau	860-763-8600
Osborn CI	T. Johnson/Lynette Berger	860-763-6200
Robinson CI	Karen Knight	860-763-6317
Will-Cybulski	Tara McEwan	860-763-6100
York CI	Robert Hamel	860-691-6700
Par. & Com. Ser.	Norman Breed	203-805-6398
Par. & Com. Ser.	Sheila Thompson	203-805-6398
Agency Liaison	Mary Dunn	203-270-2832

State of Connecticut
Department of Correction

Registration Form



**2009 Commissioner's
Cup
Charity Golf Tournament**

at
The University Club of CT
North Windham, CT
Friday, October 2, 2009

10:00 a.m. Shotgun Start

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State: _____ Zip: _____

Telephone: _____

Please list the golfers that you wish to play with if you plan to enter as a foursome. The Committee will also provide placement for any golfer that does not have a set foursome. The Tournament Committee requests that one member of the foursome be responsible for getting all the registration fees and turning them in along with the registration form. This will help to ensure that the full foursome will have a spot in the tournament.

NAME OF PLAYERS IN YOUR FOURSOME

1. _____

2. _____

3. _____

4. _____

Number of golfers @ \$120 each \$ _____

Dinner ONLY at \$40 \$ _____

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to:

**Commissioner's Cup
Charity Golf Tournament**

Return to:

Department of Correction
Attn: Sarah Fasano-Fernicola (Golf Tourney)
24 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06019

Return no later than September 25, 2009

Announcements

Warden Scott Semple of Garner CI, is happy to announce the birth of Giselle, the baby girl of C/O Ariel Vasquez and his wife Maria. She was born August 20th at 6 lbs., 14 oz., and 20".



Warden Peter Murphy of MacDougall-Walker C.I. and Acting Warden Anne Cournoyer of Willard-Cybulski C.I. would like to extend congratulations to Tony Correa, Commissary Operator at MacDougall-Walker C.I., and his wife Aimee on the birth of their daughter, Olivia Lynn, born on August 27th. Proud Grandmother is Warden Esther Torres of Willard-Cybulski C.I. Baby Olivia weighed in at 7 lbs., 7 oz. and is 20 3/4". Congratulations!