Governor M. Jodi Rell has officially proclaimed July 18-24, 2010 as Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week in the State of Connecticut. I would like to take this opportunity to publicly thank all those working in our Parole and Community Services Division for their tireless service. It is through your commitment to public safety that our communities are a safer place for everyone.

You are essential to our departmental mission of successful offender reentry. Faced with the dual challenge of maintaining the public safety (remanding offenders when necessary) and assisting offenders in their attempts at successful reintegration, your day-to-day efforts rarely are recognized or rewarded, but are no less essential to our success. As parole officers, you must wear many hats including those of counselor, problem solver, motivator, educator, detective and enforcer. Sometimes facing real dangers while doing your jobs, you also have the opportunity to positively influence the lives of those who are being supervised.

You have repeatedly proven yourselves to be dedicated, hard-working individuals who are truly concerned about making a difference in our communities. What I find most impressive is that you are able to perform your extremely difficult jobs under adverse conditions, in a consistently professional manner. The way in which you meet your every day challenges is simply remarkable. Recognizing these dedicated individuals is a small expression of gratitude for the invaluable service they provide. Their tremendous contributions should never be overlooked.

It is with a special sense of PRIDE that I extend to you a heartfelt thank you on behalf of the Department of Correction and the citizens of the state of Connecticut. Stay safe.

Sincerely,

Brian K. Murphy

June 5, 2010 through July 7, 2010

Distributed bi-monthly to 7,000 staff and via the Internet throughout Connecticut and the nation by the Department of Correction

24 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109

M. Jodi Rell
Governor

Brian K. Murphy
Acting Commissioner

Web address: www.ct.gov/doc

Public Information
Office telephone: (860) 692-7780
Fax: (860) 692-7783
Promotions and Assignments

Commissioner Brian K. Murphy recently announced the following promotions and administrative transfers:

- Warden Scott Erfe transfer to Corrigan-Radkowski CC;
- Warden Edward Maldonado transfer to Hartford CC;
- Deputy Warden Anne Cournoyer promoted to Warden at Enfield CI;
- Deputy Warden Michelle Pidgeon transfer to Willard-Cybulski CI;
- Captain Timothy Burke promoted to Deputy Warden at Enfield CI (effective July 16, 2010).

The promotions and administrative transfers took effect on July 1, 2010. Please join Commissioner Murphy in wishing them well in their new positions.

Intensive Care at Bridgeport CC

More than a dozen staff members, along with Warden Walter Ford of the Bridgeport Correctional Center crowded into a hospital room at the Smilow Cancer Center to present Correction Officer William Harrington and his wife $6,300 raised from t-shirt sales and donations. An eight-year veteran of the department, Officer Harrington contracted stomach and brain cancer.

According to Warden Ford, Officer Harrington was overwhelmed and effectively speechless by the outpouring of support and generosity from his fellow DoC staff members. “As for myself,” Ford wrote in a Roll Call Memo to his staff, “I am blessed to work in a facility with staff that care and support their co-workers unconditionally, and I thank you all for that.”

Apparently, the staff’s magnanimous gesture was just the beginning. A cancer awareness ribbon has been painted on the wall of the lieutenant’s office, and for a donation of $5.00, individuals can have their names added to the wall. This money will go towards paying for Officer Harrington’s monthly insurance benefit, in the event his accrued time (including donated time) is at zero – which is expected to transpire at the end of July.

According to Warden Ford, Officer Harrington has since been discharged from the hospital, and feeling better. He has been following a protocol to ensure that his stems cells are healthy and viable for a transplant. Once the protocol is complete, there is a high dosage round of Chemotherapy in the not too distant future. Warden Ford asks that you please keep Officer Harrington, and his family, in your thoughts and prayers.
Climate Change Award

The Connecticut Department of Correction was honored recently with the 2010 Connecticut Climate Change Leadership Award for their innovative efforts to address global climate change. Along with six other award recipients, the Department of Correction was honored in a ceremony held at Wesleyan University on June 7, 2010.

The Connecticut Climate Change Leadership Awards Program was developed by the Governor’s Steering Committee on Climate Change to: recognize individuals and organizations that have taken exemplary action in the past year to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and adapt to climate change, and increase awareness of climate change solutions. The awards were first presented in 2006. This year’s award recipients were chosen from 23 nominations received statewide.

The Governor’s Steering Committee, established in 2003, includes the Commissioners of the Department of Environmental Protection, Department of Transportation, Department of Administrative Services, and the Department of Public Utility Control, the Under Secretary of the Office of Policy and Management, and the Chairman of the Board of the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund. This committee is charged with leading a collaborative effort to develop and implement the Connecticut Climate Change Action Plan and the Connecticut Global Warming Solutions Act.

The Connecticut Department of Correction over the course of the past decade has committed itself and dedicated staff to reducing energy and resource consumption, as a means of conserving the environment while maintaining fiscal responsibility to the state’s taxpayers. The Facilities Management & Engineering Unit has successfully achieved this goal through energy efficient design and implementing innovative solutions. The Department has significantly reduced its energy profile and greenhouse gas emission footprint by implementing 14 energy conservation projects at 12 correctional facilities.

In 2009, the Department completed six (6) energy efficient lighting upgrades replacing 5,174 lamps and ballasts, installing 1,867 new fixtures, 120 occupancy sensors and eliminating 460 incandescent bulbs. As well as, two (2) Heating, Ventilating, and Air Conditioning and one (1) kitchen hood demand controlled ventilation installation helping to improve indoor air quality and improve efficiency. Implementing these energy conservation projects has saved the agency $299,514.00 annually and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by 884 metric tons annually. The remaining projects included the installation for low flow fixtures, time control regulators, ozone laundry system, insulated garage doors, and putting in place premium efficiency motors as replacements. Carrying out these simple energy conservation projects has saved the agency an additional $29,867.00 annually and reduced carbon dioxide emissions by another 191 metric tons annually.

The overall agencies’ 2009 savings were $329,381.00 annually and a total reduced carbon dioxide emission of 1,075 metric tons annually.

On hand to accept the Climate Change Award were Deputy Commissioner Carol Salsbury, Director of the Facilities Management & Engineering Unit Dave Batten, and Plant Facilities Engineer I Joseph Suchecki.
New Dogs in the House

Commissioner Brian K. Murphy (center) welcomes the newest members of the K-9 Unit; Officer Shawn Dexter and his K-9 Triton and Officer Carmen Vicenty and her K-9 Kimbo. The Officers and their dogs graduated from the Connecticut State Police K-9 Training Academy on May 27, 2010.

Getting a Perspective on Gangs

Security Risk Group Coordinator John Aldi led an informational workshop on gangs at Enfield CI.

New York – More than 1,200 inmates, including 241 serving life sentences, defrauded the government of $9.1 million in tax credits reserved for first-time homebuyers, according to a Treasury Department report.

California – Despite facing a multimillion dollar deficit, the California prison system fields a 20 member inmate tennis team at its San Quentin facility. Composed of mostly lifers, the 20 member team plays with donated racquets on a single court built by the US Tennis Association.

Pennsylvania – A Philadelphia woman hid in a coffin in a funeral home in an effort to escape custody. The 19-year-old woman escaped from deputies while being transported from one jail to another. The owner of the funeral home found her and held her until police arrived.

Total Supervised Population on July 7, 2010
23,113

On July 7, 2009 the population was 23,441

On July 7, 2010
23,113
Did You Know?

“Did You Know” is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Services Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This article was written by Mike Sirois, Plant Facilities Engineer I. He can be reached at 860-253-3649 with any questions. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at (203) 806-2666.

Home Energy Audit - Locating Air Leaks

You can reduce your home’s heating and cooling costs by as much as 30 percent through proper insulation and air sealing techniques. These techniques will also make your home more comfortable. Reducing your home heating and cooling bills begins with conducting a home energy audit to assess where your home may be losing energy through air leaks.

First, make a list of obvious air leaks (drafts). Check for indoor air leaks, such as gaps along the baseboard or at the edge of the flooring and at junctures of the walls and ceiling. Also, check to see if air can flow through these places: electrical outlets, switch plates, window frames, baseboards, weather stripping around doors, fireplace dampers, attic hatches, wall or window mounted air conditioners.

Also, look for gaps around pipes and wires, foundation seals, and mail slots. Check to see if the caulking and weather stripping are applied properly, leaving no gaps or cracks, and are in good condition. Inspect windows and doors for air leaks. See if you can rattle them, since movement means possible air leaks. If you can see daylight around a door or window frame, then the door or window leaks. You can usually seal these leaks by caulking or weather stripping them. Check the storm windows to see if they fit and are not broken. You may also wish to consider replacing your old windows and doors with newer, high-performance ones. If new factory made doors or windows are too costly, you can install low cost plastic sheets over the windows.

If you are having difficulty locating leaks, you may want to conduct a basic building pressurization test. First, close all exterior doors, windows, and fireplace flues. Then, turn off all combustion appliances, such as gas burning furnaces and water heaters. Next, turn on all exhaust fans (generally located in the kitchen and bathrooms) or use a large window fan to suck the air out of the rooms. This test increases infiltration through cracks and leaks, making them easier to detect. You can use incense sticks or your damp hand to locate these leaks. If you use incense sticks, moving air will cause the smoke to waver, and if you use your damp hand, any drafts will feel cool to your hand.

On the outside of your house, inspect all areas where two different building materials meet, including: all exterior corners, where siding and chimneys meet, areas where the foundation and the bottom of exterior brick or siding meet. You should plug and caulk holes or penetrations for faucets, pipes, electric outlets, and wiring. Look for cracks and holes in the mortar, foundation, and siding, and seal them with the appropriate material. Check the exterior caulking around doors and windows, and see whether exterior storm doors and primary doors seal tightly.

When sealing any home, you must always be aware of the danger of indoor air pollution and combustion appliance “backdrafts”. Backdrafting is when the various combustion appliances and exhaust fans in the home compete for air. An exhaust fan may pull the combustion gases back into the living space. This can obviously create a very dangerous and unhealthy situation in the home. Anytime a fuel is burned for heating (i.e. natural gas, fuel oil, propane, or wood), be certain the appliance has an adequate air supply. When in doubt, contact your local utility company, energy professional, or ventilation contractor.
Honoring Our Soldiers

Louis Brault, Facility Management North District, is also the Commander of the American Legion Post 275 in Chicopee, Massachusetts. On Memorial Day during the town ceremony, Lou presented two distinct awards, the Gold Star and Blue Star flags, to families of local servicemen and women.

The Blue Star flag was presented to families who have sons and/or daughters currently serving in the military. These flags are displayed on the outside of their homes to identify service men and women who are currently in active duty serving their country.

The Gold Star flag and a bible were presented to two families whose sons were killed while fighting in combat during the past year. Among those receiving the Gold Star flag were Mr. and Mrs. Dupont, whose son Kevin was killed after receiving injuries from a road side bomb.

In addition to presenting the flags, Commander Brault assisted with escorting World War II and Korean Gold Star Mothers with placing ceremonial wreaths in front of the four memorial statues, each representing a specific branch of the service. After placing the wreaths, taps was played and a nine-gun salute was conducted by the Honor Guard.

Facilities Manager Brault also plans and conducts fundraising events, ceremonies and guest speakers for his local American Legion Post. He has also been an active volunteer at the Veteran’s Hospital in Holyoke, Massachusetts for more than ten years.

Murphy to Murphy

Captain Daniel Murphy (L), who recently returned from his deployment in Iraq with the 192nd Military Patrol Unit of the Connecticut National Guard, presents Commissioner Brian K. Murphy with a DoC flag that was flown in Iraq. The flag is signed by the seven DoC employees that were stationed in Iraq with the 192nd Unit, and will be proudly displayed at Central Office.

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Ever Ready

North District Administrator of Operations Michael Lajoie and Warden Edward Maldonado (now the warden at Hartford CC) recently conducted a Command Center emergency drill at the Enfield Correctional Institution. In addition to the DOC CERT and Tactical Operations Unit, District Administrator Lajoie invited representatives from Connecticut State Police and East Longmeadow, Massachusetts Police Department to participate in the drill. During a debriefing session after the drill, District Administrator Lajoie commended all of the Enfield custody and treatment staff for their participation in the drill, and readiness to act in the event of a real emergency.
Habla Espanol?

The Department of Correction, Translation Committee Unit is recruiting new members.

The Translation Committee translates all Departmental Administrative and Unit Directives, Institutional and Board of Parole forms and Facility Inmate Handbooks from English to Spanish. The Translation Committee meets once or twice a month and is now looking to expand with hopes to have a North and South District team. If you are interested in becoming a Translation Committee Member you are required to have a strong command of the Spanish language, both in verbal as well as written form.

All inquiries may be addressed to Captain Yadira Otero at MacDougall-Walker CI from 2-10 PM 860-292-3406.

Central Office Blood Drive

The American Red Cross will conduct a blood drive at Central Office on Wednesday, August 4th in the Gym. Appointments are from 9:00 AM to 1:45 PM.

Please sign up as soon as you can if you are able to participate in this very worthy cause. One blood donation can help save the lives of up to three people! Give the gift of life, all you feel is good.

As incentives for those who donate, the Red Cross will be holding separate drawings for an Acer netbook and Boston Red Sox tickets. One Acer netbook will be given away each week during the month of August.

To schedule an appointment to give blood, please e-mail Susan Levey or contact her at (860) 692-6808.

Award of Excellence

Congratulations to Cheryl Cepelak, Director of the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development, on recently being named a recipient of the Connecticut Training and Development Network (CTDN) Awards of Excellence – Outstanding Staff/Organizational Award for 2009/2010. The award is given to a CTDN member who typifies an outstanding staff and/or organizational development practitioner, and actively contributes to one or more CTDN programs.

Director Cepelak received the award at the CTDN annual conference held June 4, 2010, at the St. Clements Castle, Portland, CT. The Connecticut Training and Development Network (CTDN) is an organization of people who manage the staff and organizational development functions in state agencies. The CTDN, formerly known as the State Training Managers’ Network, has been in existence for over 20 years. While the group generally includes staff development specialists, personnel and curriculum managers, and training program staff, the common bond is a concern for the development of state employees, agencies’ most valuable asset. Investing in developing the competencies that state employees need to successfully do their jobs, and linking learning with performance, improves the effectiveness and efficiency of state government and aids in the recruitment and retention of State employees.

Pomp and Circumstance

Lieutenant Dan Leone, Bergin CI, recently received his Master’s degree in Criminal Justice from Boston University. Leone graduated with honors with a 3.6 GPA.

Correctional Substance Abuse Counselor Edwin Silva, Enfield CI, recently graduated Summa Cum Laude from Springfield College with his Bachelors of Science in Human Services.

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Humble Pie at Osborn CI

There was quite a role reversal recently at the Osborn Correctional Institution. Warden Carol Chapdelaine, her Deputy Wardens at Osborn CI and Shift Commanders weren’t giving orders anymore, they were taking them - lots of them. Food orders, that is. The warden, Deputy Warden Steven Frey and Deputy Warden Andrew Iweka, along with Osborn’s many captains, filled every one of those orders for hungry staff. It was National Correctional Officers’ and Correctional Employees’ Week and Warden Chapdelaine and her staff wanted to show their appreciation for the great job their staff does each and every day by serving up delicious meals of chicken parmesan, pizza or bacon and egg sandwiches. Warden Chapdelaine said that she has been nothing but proud during this past year for the professionalism, pride and generosity the Osborn staff consistently demonstrates. She cites that Osborn earned the title of top contributing facility in the Campaign for Charitable Giving as well as the overwhelming response in many pay-to-park fundraisers, Haiti assistance, as well as toy and food drives.

“The Osborn staff has made me a very proud warden during my first year here, and I wanted to thank everyone for all of the support during my transition,” said Warden Chapdelaine. “The luncheon was a small token of appreciation for all of my staff’s efforts.”

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<th>Employees with 25 Years of Service as of May 2010</th>
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<tr>
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Tip-A-Cop

Manson Youth Institute Staff participated in Tip-A-Cop events at Aunt Chiladas restaurant in Hamden and Dunkin Donuts in Cheshire recently. Thanks to the support of our staff and the generosity of the public, they were able to raise a total of $1,667 between the two events.

Staff members from York CI raised $1,638.89 at their recent Tip-A-Cop function at three local Dunkin Donuts coffee shops. The owner of the three Dunkin Donuts franchises, Mr. Andrade, has agreed to match that amount for a grand total of $3,267.78 raised.

To date, ongoing department-wide fund raising efforts for the Connecticut Special Olympics total $26,685.