



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 restitution, rehabilitation and successful community integration.

Happy Holidays

During the holiday season, it is traditional to give thanks for our good fortune and the achievements we enjoyed over the course of the previous year. It is also a time to take stock of where we are and what we have learned in preparation for a new year of challenges ahead.

As I reflect on this year, there's nothing that stands out more than the dedication of our employees. Too often, in the course of our busy workdays, we forget to say "Thank You" to those who have helped to shoulder our burdens. Let me take this opportunity to thank all of you for being part of one of the best correctional agencies in the nation.

You have worked tirelessly to enhance public safety and improve the quality of life, not just for ourselves and our loved ones, but for all the citizens of our great state as well. You should look back with PRIDE on what you have achieved during the past year. Despite numerous challenges, our facilities continue to operate in a safe, secure and humane manner.

This time of year causes us to reflect on the things most dear to us; our ability to live in the most wonderful country in the world – to enjoy freedoms that others do not. To that end, I offer a special holiday 'thank you' to the men and women serving (or who have served) in our armed forces for helping keep us free, and allowing us to feel warm and safe with our loved ones.

I would like to add that I feel immensely proud and humbled by the honor of being asked by Governor Dannel P. Malloy to lead this great Department into the future. I personally have high hopes for the coming year.

I wish you and your families a very happy holiday season, and an upcoming year that is filled with health, peace and prosperity - a New Year awaits us all.

November 30, 2013
through
December 23, 2013

Distributed monthly
to 6,200 staff
and via the Internet
throughout Connecticut
and the nation
by the
Department of Correction
24 Wolcott Hill Road
Wethersfield, CT 06109

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

James E. Dzurenda
Commissioner

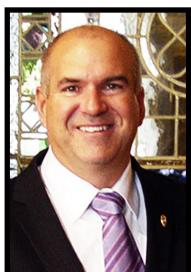
Web address:
www.ct.gov/doc

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

Sincerely,

James E. Dzurenda
Commissioner

From the Commissioner



Most of you are no doubt aware that Governor Dannel P. Malloy recently appointed me to serve as the eighth Commissioner of the Department of Correction. I am thankful to the governor for the trust he has shown, by selecting me to guide our agency into the future. I am truly humbled by the honor.

I also feel a debt of gratitude to you, the men and women of the Department of Correction, for without you, we would not be among the best correctional agencies in the country. Thank you for your dedication and commitment to this agency. Just as the Governor has placed his faith in me, I too have faith in you - faith that you will continue to not just meet, but exceed our current and future goals.

Let me reassure you that my top priority remains our primary mission of public safety. We shall continue to maintain safe, secure, and humane correctional facilities, while continuing to work with offenders, through our re-entry efforts, preparing them to become productive members of society.

To help carry out our mission, I have selected Scott Semple to serve as the Deputy Commissioner of Operations. I have worked closely with Deputy Commissioner Semple in the past, and have no doubt that he will prove to be an invaluable asset in his new role.

Speaking of new roles, I have made several new appointments, as well as promotions ([see chart/page 3](#)), at the Warden and Deputy Warden levels. First off, Henry Falcone has been promoted to Warden and will take the helm of the Garner Correctional Institution, where he has worked in various capacities since 2006.

The next two moves are historic in nature: Anne Cournoyer will be the Warden of the Northern Correctional Institution; and Carol Chapdelaine will serve as the Warden of the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution. Never before has a woman been warden of either facility. Once again, I am fully confident that both Warden Cournoyer and Warden Chapdelaine are more than up to the challenge.

Rounding out the changes at the Warden level, Peter Murphy will oversee the Enfield Correctional Institution, while Edward Maldonado will be the new Warden of the Osborn Correctional Institution.

As this year draws to a close and the promise of a new year just around the corner, I again offer a sincere thank you for all you have done and look forward to working together with all of you in the future.

K-9 Graduation

Two Department of Correction K-9 teams graduated as part of the 164th Patrol Dog class, which graduated on December 12, 2013, during a ceremony at the Connecticut State Police Training Academy in Meriden.

Pictured in the photo at right are the proud graduates along with department administrators (L to R): Officer Laura Paniccia and K-9 Bosco, Director William Colon, Deputy Commissioner Scott Semple, and Officer Ron Zaczynski and K-9 Tower.



Promotions & Transfers

Warden Transfers

Warden Carol Chapdelaine – Transfer to MWCI
Warden Anne Cournoyer - Transfer to Northern CI
Warden Edward Maldonado – Transfer to Osborn CI
Warden Peter Murphy – Transfer to Enfield CI

Promotions

Captain Danielle Borges - Promoted to Deputy Warden of the Manson Youth Institution
Counselor Supervisor Nathan Hein - Promoted to Deputy Warden at Garner Correctional Institution
Counselor Supervisor Deborah Henault - Promoted to Deputy Warden of Addiction Services
Counselor Supervisor Thomas Hunt - Promoted to Deputy Warden of the Manson Youth Institution
Captain Yadira Otero – Promoted to Deputy Warden at the York Correctional Institution

Deputy Warden Transfers

Deputy Warden Sandra Barone – To Osborn CI
Deputy Warden Stephen Bates – To York CI
Deputy Warden Allison Black – To New Haven CC
Deputy Warden Brian Bradway – To MWCI
Deputy Warden Michael Davis – To Hartford CC
Deputy Warden Denise Dilworth – To Garner CI
Deputy Warden Amonda Hannah – North District
Deputy Warden Andrew Iweka – To Cheshire CI
Deputy Warden Robert Martin – To CRCC
Deputy Warden William Mulligan – To Northern CI
Deputy Warden William Murphy – To WCCI
Deputy Warden Dennis Roche – To CRCI
Deputy Warden Nick Rodriguez – To Enfield CI

Bailey Honored by CEA

Pupil Services Specialist Bea Bailey of the Manson Youth Institution received the Correctional Education Association's (CEA) Director's Award at the CEA's Region I Conference in Falmouth, Massachusetts held on May 20, 2013.



L to R: Steve Ultrino, President of the Massachusetts CEA; Sheriff Cummings of Bristol County, MA; Pupil Services Specialist Bea Bailey; and Luis Spencer, Commissioner of the MA Department of Correction.

Ms. Bailey has been an active member of CEA for 22 years and has served on its board for 15 years. During her time with the CEA, she has also served as the President of CEA-CT, a Co-Membership Chair, Conference Proctor at numerous conferences, represented CEA-CT at National Presidential Council meetings in numerous states and CEA National meetings, and Co-Chair for the CEA Region 1 Conference in Mystic, Connecticut in 2005. Ms. Bailey is currently on the board as the CEA-CT Representative.

Please join Superintendant of Schools Kim Holley in congratulating Pupil Services Specialist Bea Bailey on her well deserved award.

Breast Cancer Awareness at Bridgeport CC

The Bridgeport Correctional Center's Diversity Committee sponsored a "pot luck" luncheon in an effort to raise breast cancer awareness on November 4, 2013. The event took place during all three shifts and donations were collected from staff. The event raised a total \$500.00 which was presented to the St. Vincent's Medical Center's "SWIM Across the Sound" fund. The SWIM's mission is to help individual cancer patients and their families on a case-by-case basis with specific needs so that patients can concentrate on feeling better and family members can concentrate on caring for their loved ones.



Bridgeport Correctional Center staff members enjoy the "Pot Luck Luncheon" sponsored by the facility's Diversity Committee.

The SWIM Marathon involves amateur solo swimmers and relay teams, swimming 25 kilometers from Port Jefferson, Long Island to Captain's Cove in Bridgeport. The swimmers raise pledges to help donate to the charity. The SWIM Across the Sound raised a total of \$5,000 in its first year in 1987. Since then, the SWIM has grown dramatically, raising \$2.6 million in 2008 and helping more than 20,000 individuals annually. A debt of gratitude goes out to the many staff who donated food, money and their time to make this event such a success. Special thanks to Correction Officers Robin Brown, Raponza Johnson and Dana Smith for their tireless efforts in setting up the event, decorating the room and serving the food. St. Vincent's Medical Center, through Secretary 2 Pam Neuendorf, donated tee shirts, ornaments and other tokens for the occasion. It was a team effort by all and just another example of Department of Correction staff thinking of others.

Around the Cell Block



SWEDEN - A 51-year-old Swedish inmate broke out of prison in November because he had a toothache and wanted to go to the dentist, officials said. The inmate, who was scheduled to be released the next day anyway, turned himself into police after getting his tooth treated. His sentence, originally one month, was increased by only one day.

FLORIDA – A Florida man went to jail hungry, after police arrested him for allegedly impersonating an officer in an effort to buy discounted doughnuts. The Trinity, Fla., resident had previously made multiple visits to Dunkin' Donuts, flashed his deceased father's New Jersey police badge and claimed to be a U.S. Marshal in order to receive discounts on doughnuts, police said.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
December 23, 2013**

20,718

**On December 23, 2012
the population was
20,851**

Did You Know?



"Did You Know" is an informational column aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This article was compiled by Public Information Officer Andrius Banavicius. Any questions related to this article may be answered by contacting him at 860-692-7780. If you have any questions, or have an idea for a future column, please leave a message at 860-692-7780.

The Persistent Poinsettia Myth

It's common around Christmas time for people to warn one another about the alleged toxicity of poinsettias. This is one of those beliefs that is so widespread that a survey of florists found that most of them believed it to be true. The consensus of government agencies, health centers, veterinary groups, and plant and flower organizations however, is that poinsettias are not toxic and do not pose a health threat to children or pets.



Poinsettias - pretty, not poisonous.

According to the POISINDEX information source - the primary resource used by the majority of poison control centers nationwide - a child who weighed 50 lbs. would have to eat over 500 poinsettia leaves to reach an even potentially toxic dose of compounds in the poinsettia plant. Doctors at the Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh and the Pittsburgh Poison Center conducted a review of 22,793 reported cases of poinsettia exposures, the majority (93%) of which occurred in children, and found that 92% of those exposed did not develop any symptoms at all. Furthermore, no deaths resulting from poinsettia ingestion have ever been documented.

The myth of the poinsettia being poisonous appears to date back to 1919 when the two-year-old child of a U.S. Army officer died. It was believed that the death was caused by the child ingesting poinsettia leaves. The American Society of Florists has looked into the matter extensively and says there was never any proof that poinsettia leaves were responsible for the child's death and the report was later determined to be hearsay. The American Society of Florists says no other consumer plant has been tested for toxicity more than the poinsettia. The ASPCA Animal Poison Center says it regards poinsettias as having such low toxicity risk that it doesn't even recommend decontaminating animals that may have ingested them. The center says that there can sometimes be gastrointestinal distress from having ingested something alien to the digestive system. Since the taste of poinsettia leaves is reportedly very unpleasant, it is unlikely that a child or animal who attempts to eat or chew the leaves will continue to do so after the first taste. The American Veterinary Medicine Association of America does not include poinsettias on its list of plants that are a threat to animals. Because of the belief that poinsettias are toxic, there are numerous visits to hospitals each year by concerned parents or pet owners whose children or pet have ingested or in some other way been exposed to poinsettias. The plant to really beware of this season is mistletoe. Standing under mistletoe may earn you the pleasure of a kiss or two, but ingesting the stuff will cause severe stomach cramps and diarrhea and can even be fatal. If you decide to hang a sprig over your doorway, make sure it's secured well and that it won't be knocked to the floor where a pet or young child could happen upon it.

Valuable Lessons at Willard-Cybulski CI

The benefits reaped by the Horticulture Class at the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution are felt far outside the classroom. In addition to teaching students about horticulture, the class led by Vocational Instructor Dave Murray also provides community assistance through food donations; cost saving measures to the facility through recycling and water conservation.



**Willard-Cybulski's Vocational Instructor
Dave Murray shows off some of his produce.**

The garden produced approximately 1,209 pounds of organic vegetables at an estimated retail value of more than \$4,000.

The 3,730 gallons of rain water collected to water the garden during the year reduces the use of city water and sewer fees.

The compost/recycling process helps to defray the cost of fees charged by waste removal companies.

During the winter months, Mr. Murray will be working with the staff of local food pantries to create a list of produce most often used by the pantries. He will then, in turn, purchase the appropriate seeds to grow the crops to meet the needs of the community providers.

MYI Employees of the Quarter

Warden John Alves is happy to announce that Correction Officer Ladawn Jacobs and Secretary 2 Suzanne Hinz are the Manson Youth Institution's Employees of the Quarter for October - December, 2013.



Correction Officer Ladawn Jacobs

Correction Officer Jacobs was nominated for the Employee of the Quarter and honored for demonstrating professionalism in maintaining order and discipline as well as safety & security in her

Housing Unit. Officer Jacobs' interpersonal skills are valuable and respected by the inmate population, which enable her to handle any unit issues at her level. Officer Jacobs is not only an asset to her co-workers on the third shift, but also to the entire MYI facility.

Secretary

Secretary 2 Suzanne Hinz was also honored and described as a team player who demonstrates a high work ethic, takes pride in the accuracy of her work and sharpens & continuously updates her skills. She volunteers to aid and assist when she recognizes that help is needed. Ms. Hinz takes the time to mentor other staff members, and is an asset to the MYI facility.



Secretary Suzanne Hinz

Garner CI Honors Staff - Past and Present

Staff members of the Garner Correctional Institution were honored on November 14, 2013, at the facility's 2013 Annual Employee Recognition Ceremony. In celebration of the facility's 20-Year Anniversary, Warden Scott Semple and staff recognized Frank Crose, the first Warden of Garner CI with a plaque honoring his contributions during the facility's inception that laid the foundation for Garner's 20 years of correctional excellence.



Front Row from Left: Supervising Psychologist Dr. Tod Bogdanoff, Recreation Supervisor Carl Ruegg, Warden Scott Semple, Retired Warden Frank Crose, Retired Correction Officers Scott Standish and Jennifer Hall. **Second Row from Left:** Correction Officer Frank Cuevas, Deputy Warden Amonda Hannah, Retired Correction Officer Dwain Gatling, Correction Officers Frank Falcone, Bruce Pelletier, Robert McGowan, Administrative Assistant Alesia Hall, Correction Officers Mark D'Alessio, Joseph Fernandes, Jeremy Chicano, Retired Correction Officer Richard Hinlicky, Correctional Nurse Terry Paluf, and Retired Correction Officer Linden Higgins.

Garner Correctional Institution's 2013 Award Recipients:

Correction Officer of the Year:

Robert McGowan

Supervisor of the Year:

Jason Gagnon, Lieutenant

Counselor of the Year:

Sandra Wynkoop

Correctional Treatment Off. of the Year: Karl Morrison

Preservation of Life: Lieutenants Belkys Camacho, Scott Hadlock, Kyle Mitchell

Correction Officers Frank Cuevas, Gary Gray, Christopher Robson

Circle of Merit:

Carl Ruegg, Recreation Supervisor

Medical Staff Member of the Year:

Chassity Rosado, Correctional LPN

Mental Health Staff Member of the Year:

Tod Bogdanoff, Supervising Psychologist

Unit of the Year:

Maintenance Department

Distinguished Service Medal:

Kelli Meeker, Lieutenant

Dedicated Service to Our Country:

Frank Falcone, Correction Officer

Brooklyn Awards Ceremony

The Brooklyn Correctional Institution held its Annual Facility Awards Ceremony recently. Warden Jonathan Hall expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Quality of Work Life Committee, Correction Officer Jim Owen and all of the staff that helped make the ceremony and luncheon (meals for all three shifts) a huge success.



Brooklyn CI's Preservation of Life recipients – they came to the assistance of a fellow officer that was suffering from a serious medical issue. L to R: Correction Officers Jeffrey Clang, Brian Therrien, Matthew Bomster, George Keeling, Captain John Lepaoja, and Deputy Warden Chris Corey.

Brooklyn Correctional Institution Facility Awards Recipients 2013

Supervisor of the Year:

Captain John Lepaoja

Correction Officer of the Year:

1st Shift

Officer Michael Behrle

2nd Shift

Officer Jonathan Dubeau

3rd Shift

Officer Richard Hurm

Employee of the Year:

Food Service Supervisor 2 Peter Hassell

Counselor of the Year:

Counselor David Gwiazdowski

Teacher Extra Mile Award:

School Teacher Lynn Kapszukiewicz

Health Services

Employee of the Year Award:

Professional Counselor Dennis Strandson

Unit of the Year:

Counseling/Records

Preservation of Life Award:

Deputy Warden Chris Corey, Captain John Lepaoja, Officers Brian Therrien, Matthew Bomster, Jeffrey Clang, and George Keeling

Warden's Recognition Award:

CMS Joseph Impellizeri

Perfect Attendance Award:

Officer John Lesniewski