

Remember Our Troops



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



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

Commissioner Lantz Sworn In By Governor

With her Executive Team looking on in the Governor's Office, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz raised her right hand and for a second time, took the oath of office as Connecticut's Commissioner of Correction. "She is doing a great job isn't she," said Governor M. Jodi Rell after swearing in Commissioner Lantz who is the sixth Commissioner in the agency's nearly 40 year history. Based on the Department's continuing success, Governor Rell re-nominated the Commissioner after the November election.



Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz being sworn to uphold her official duties by Governor M. Jodi Rell.

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2007 John R. Manson Scholarship Winners Announced

On Friday, March 9th, Commissioner Theresa Lantz announced the 2007 John R. Manson Scholarship recipients at the annual breakfast held to commemorate the occasion. She stated, "It is with great pride that I recognize Celestina Hodge and Jacob Herrewyn, two very deserving stu-



(l-r) Celestina Hodge, Jacob Herrewyn, Commissioner Theresa Lantz, Carolyn Manson, and Meg Lupo.

dents, with the honor of being the recipients of the John R. Manson Scholarship. "

In attendance at the breakfast this year was Meg Lupo, daughter of John R. Manson. She thanked the Commissioner for including her in this annual tradition. Also present and representing the Manson family was John Manson's widow, Carolyn Manson. She stated, "We are appreciative for your continued support and endorsement of the Annual Scholarship Breakfast. The agency makes it possible for the scholarship winners to have the opportunity to be recognized for their many accomplishments."

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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.

About and for
correctional
professionals

March 11-31, 2007

Agency Welcomes Supervisor Class #22



The Department of Correction welcomed twenty six newly promoted individuals at a recent graduation ceremony. Director of Security Dennis Jones delivered motivational words of wisdom to the graduates during his commencement address. Pictured above with Class Managers Captain Andrea Knott and Captain Brian Zawilinski are the following (alphabetically): Lieutenant Kenneth Allen, Lieutenant Cathy Candelaria, Lieutenant Luis Castro, Lieutenant Herman Colvin, Lieutenant Daniel Czikowsky, Lieutenant Raymond Danner, Counselor Supervisor Denise Dilworth, Lieutenant Steven Gallo, Lieutenant Alison Giannini, Counselor Supervisor Geovanna Grimmatt, Lieutenant Eric Griswold, Lieutenant Kenneth Jensen, Lieutenant Christopher Lamy, Lieutenant Francisco Mangual, Correctional Maintenance Supervisor Anthony Edward Marinaccio, Lieutenant Angel Medina, Lieutenant Sean Murray, Lieutenant Ronald Poidomani Jr., Lieutenant Bryan Rae (Distinguished Graduate), Lieutenant James Shabenas, Lieutenant Zandra Sheppard, and Lieutenant Russell Taylor. Congratulations to all the graduates and Good Luck in your future endeavors.

DOC Vests Sent to Iraq

The Department of Administrative Services has authorized the Department of Correction to scrap 352 ballistic vests that are more than five years old and are no longer safe to use as personal vests. DOC staff transferred the vests to The Connecticut State Police, who will arrange transport of the vests from the Enfield CI Armory to Iraq. The material from the vests will be used to line the interiors of military vehicles.

Armor manufacturers are being called upon to design protective systems for vehicles and personnel that can meet not only increasing levels of threat, but also withstand damage delivered by a variety of weapons wielded by unlikely combatants. High Mobility Multi-Purpose Wheeled Vehicles (HMMWVs), commonly referred to as "Humvees," are lightweight, lightly armored vehicles that were originally designed to perform behind-the-frontline duties. In Iraq, however, they are highly vulnerable in a war where enemies and civilians are often indistinguishable and "frontline" defies definition.

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

Theresa C. Lantz, Commissioner

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York CI Announces Employees of the Quarter

Correctional Counselor Kris-Anne Kane was nominated for the EOQ and was honored for being a team player and always offering her assistance when staff are in need. She is kind, considerate, pleasant and self-sacrificing. Counselor Kane has a great attitude, has excellent job knowledge, produces a large quantity and high quality of work. She never hesitates to volunteer to assist in crisis.



Counselor Kris-Anne Kane



Officer Lisa Rizzuto

Correction Officer Lisa Rizzuto was also honored as EOQ. Officer Rizzuto is described as being dedicated in all aspects of the job and described as “one of the departments finest.” Officer Rizzuto’s interpersonal skills with both staff and inmates exemplifies the highest degree of professionalism. Officer Rizzuto is respected by supervisors and her fellow staff.

She is an excellent officer due to her outstanding performance on a daily basis. She possesses a positive demeanor and is a blessing to work with, and she is an example and mentor to her peers.

Condolences



Warden Eileen Higgins and the staff at Bergin CI are saddened to announce the passing of Correction Officer Susanne Hicking. Officer Hicking was a 17-year veteran with the agency and the wife of Correction Officer Richard Gray.



Warden Michael Lajoie and the staff of Corrigan – Radgowski CC are saddened to announce the sudden and unexpected passing of Correction Officer Joshua Peterson. He had been with the agency since September of 2006.



Deputy Commissioner Carol Salsbury and the staff of the Engineering and Facilities Management Unit are saddened to announce the passing of Mary Batten, mother of Director David Batten.

Around The Cell Block



South Carolina- A state lawmaker has proposed reducing the sentence of inmates who make an organ donation.



California- A two carat, \$25,000 diamond ring, stolen two years ago was found in the shower drain of a prison where the accused thief was being held.

MVP'S

Bennett, John, CO	MYI
Birmingham, Fred, CC	MYI
Branson, Ann, CC	MYI
Brown, Marion, CC	MYI
Caron, David, CO	CRCI
Cleveland, David, Lt.	CRCI
Corden, Jamie, CTO	MYI
Hunter, Gary, Lt.	CRCI
Hurley, Eric, CO	CRCI
Kinnebrew, Deborah, CC	MYI
Lantieri, Vincent, CO	CRCI
Lindgren, John, CTO	MYI
Massa, Raymond, CC	CRCI
Michaud, David, CC	MYI
Moss, Cassandra, CTO	MYI
Olkowski, Kathleen, CC	MYI

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
March 25, 2007
23,535
On March 25, 2006
the population was
22,858**

From Our Troops

The following excerpt is a letter and an update from Officer Paul Saucier- of Bergin CI, who is currently deployed overseas in the military.....***“Hello All, Times have been very busy and we are looking forward to getting back home. I hope all is well with you all SFC Raymond Caron (Northern) and SSG Robert York (Corrigan) send their regards. We are looking forward to coming home and seeing everybody. SFC Caron took the photos seen here of us (see left) Raymond Caron has been a close friend of mine for many years. He has done a great job with running his platoon . As far as us, we are still in great spirits, very tired, but over all we are doing very well. We are taking a great pride in representing our country and state. All of the DOC members here are in the leadership positions SFC Caron is a platoon sergeant, and SSG York is a squad leader. God Bless you all and CT-DOC is still the best. Sincerely yours, Best wishes from a Pakistani border, Paul C. Saucier.”***



Officer Paul Saucier (Bergin CI), Officer Raymond Caron (Northern) and Officer Robert York (Corrigan) in Afghanistan.

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. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860.692.7554. This week's article was written by Design Engineer 3 (Elec) Joseph Suchecki. If you have any questions or comments, he can be reached at 860.692.7592.

Produce Your Own Electricity

Has your electricity bill doubled, as mine has, and are you willing to make a difference? Well than think solar. Solar power, otherwise known as Photovoltaic (PV) power has been around for more than 60 years and used all around the world to provide electricity. With oil prices hitting all time highs and the world's unending appetite to consume energy, people from all over the globe are trying to understand what they can do. The answers most have found is what scientists call Renewable Energy. The most commonly known renewable energy is the Photovoltaic (PV). These PV systems have been installed to provide power to the Space shuttle, buildings, along highways, and most recently on residential homes.

This article will give a brief and simplified explanation of what a PV system is and the cost to install one on your home. Basically, a PV panel generates electricity from the sun when light hits the surface of the panel. They will also produce electricity during overcast and cloudy days. This is accomplished with the use of a special and unique semiconductive material that absorbs sunlight and in return, freely and easily loses electrons, which produces an electrical current.

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Scholarship Winner's Cont'd



The Hodge Family

As part of their nomination process, applicants for the John R. Manson Scholarship are asked to describe their career goals “in 200 words or less.” In the first paragraph of her essay, UConn Freshman Celestina Hodge advised that she wants “to give back to the community” and “have an impact on young people, giving them hope that they can succeed.” She noted that her passion is writing and that her intended major is English.

Celestina graduated from New London High School with a grade point average of 4.078 and a class rank of 5 out of 151 students. During recent summers, she attended sessions at Choate Rosemary Hall under the Connecticut Scholar’s program. She was inducted into the National Honor Society and was a member of the varsity girls’ swim team, art club, cooking club and calculus club. She worked for her school’s literary magazine and newspaper and, within her community, she was Secretary of the NAACP Youth Council of New London, Co-President of the Key Club, and Vice President of her local chapter of SADD- “Students Against Destructive Decisions.” She has also worked as an intern to support the cost of her education. She expects to graduate from the University of Connecticut in May of 2010. Corrigan Radgowski CI Correction Officer Philip Hodge is Celestina’s father.



The Herrewyn Family

Jacob Herrewyn was also selected to receive the John R. Manson Scholarship. Jacob is a Business major in his sophomore year at UConn. In addition, he has enlisted in the Connecticut Air National Guard as a communication navigation and electronic warfare avionics specialist and, in that capacity, he has attained the rank of senior airman.

Jacob was elected to the position of “Justice” in the University of Connecticut’s undergraduate student government. He is also Vice President of the Gamma Omega chapter of the Sigma Chi Fraternity. Jacob’s transcripts indicated his grade point average was 3.569 at the time of his application for this scholarship. In high school, he was President of the Student Council, a member of their Mentoring Program (“Helping Hands”) and a Board of Education representative. To augment his impressive college, military and high school activities, Jacob has also volunteered within his community as an Officer in the Public Interest Research Group for the campaign against hunger and homelessness. This scholarship winner is the son of Carolyn Herrewyn, who works in Data Entry at Central Office in Wethersfield.



(l-r) Manson Scholarship Committee members Pam Connelly, Kathy Howe, and Marissa Mazzone pose with Meg Lupu(2nd from left) and Carolyn Manson (center).

The John R. Manson Scholarship Fund Committee does recipient selection. A special thanks to the committee members for all their efforts in coordinating the Scholarship Breakfast as well as Unified School District #1 and Correctional Enterprise of Connecticut staff for the colorful and informative invitations and programs that they designed for the event.

Vests to Iraq Cont'd

When the Humvees in Iraq were retro-fitted with legacy steel armor kits, the excess



(l-r) DOC armory staff Officer F. Collier, Captain D. Roche, Officer T. Halloran, Josephine Shabbott (Central Office- Fiscal), Officer D. Willett, and Officer G. Guillot.

weight hampered vehicle performance. The suspension of the vehicle suffered early failure trying to support the heavy steel armor. Soldiers need lightweight armor that is easy to handle. The ballistic vests will provide an additional layer of armor for Humvees and other vehicles vulnerable to roadside explosions.

Lantz Sworn In Cont'd

Commissioner Lantz was then warmly received and approved by the Executive and Legislative and Nominations Committee and was unanimously approved by the State Senate after some glowing reviews of her administration by the lawmakers. Commissioner Lantz was first appointed by Governor John Rowland in March of 2003. She has led the agency through its evolution into a Re-Entry Model that contributed to three consecutive years of inmate population reduction after more than 20 years of continual increases. Commissioner Lantz, who came to the Department of Correction in 1989 as the agency's training director, now dedicated 30 years of her life to the field of corrections.

Seeking K-9 Handlers

The Department is currently accepting applications for K-9 Handlers. To qualify you must have been an Officer for at least three years. If you are interested and meet the qualifications outlined in the posting, send a cover letter, PLD1 (state application) and your last (3) performance appraisals to: Patricia Meskers at Central Office. The fax number is 860.692.7615. This posting closes at 11:59 p.m. on Tuesday, April 10, 2007.

Donations For Dignity Campaign

The Chamber of Commerce of Eastern Connecticut Leadership Group is gathering personal hygiene items for needy people. A simple gift of personal hygiene items can improve an individual's quality of life. Toiletries will be collected from March 12th - April 27th. Donations will be distributed to local shelters and schools. [If you use it every day, we need it today!](#) Donations can be made to Financial Clerk Tracey Hollins at Central Office - 2nd Floor-Fiscal Services Unit or call 860.692.6875 for more info.

Calendar

April 18-19 - The 11th Annual Melanie Ilene Rieger Memorial Conference will be held at the Maloney CTSD. For registration and more info call 203.756.8080.

May 19 - Department of Correction Annual Volunteer Conference and Forum will be held at Maloney CTSD Please call Director Doug Kulmacz for more info at 860.692.7580.

June 3-6 - 2007 MASCA Conference at Mystic Marriot Hotel & Spa. **FOR CT DOC STAFF** - Please send or email all registrations to Major Christina Polce(860.627.2103) at MWCI to determine if you are eligible for DOC Conference Training Funds.

New CNA Program at MWCI



(l-r) Wanda White-Lewis and Director Pat Ottolini proudly displaying the DOC- CNA training manual.

Sixteen offenders graduated from a new Certified Nursing Assistant vocational program at MacDougall/Walker CI on October 25, 2006. A Certified Nursing Assistant, or C.N.A. is a Health Care Career, a profession that provides personal hands on care to those that need it-the elderly, the infirm, the disabled. After 70 hours of theory and 120 hours of clinical supervision the offenders are qualified to help their peers and deliver their most personal care in the MacDougall infirmary and when they are discharged they will have not only a career , they will be certified by the state.

Wanda White-Lewis, RN, MS, CCHP, DOC Director of Field Services in the Health and Addiction Services Unit, developed, taught and implemented the program. The process was long and tedious.

Ms. White-Lewis would like to express her appreciation to Warden John Sieminski and his staff as well as to Health Services Administrator, Richard Furey, Correctional Health

Nursing Supervisor, Cindy Starworski, Kathy Weiner, Yvonne Francis and Barbara LaFrance who helped her teach the classes.

This program will be developed and offered in other infirmaries across the state. This program is another way that DOC is meeting its mission to “support community reintegration.”

Did You Know?...Cont'd

This PV panel simply and silently sits there and produces electricity with no moving parts. The key to producing the maximum electrical output power is the location and orientation of the panels. Most PV installations are roof mounted. Mounting the panels on the roof helps elievate the shading effect of trees and adjacent structures providing a clear view of the sun, as well as, keeping the system up and out of harms way. Orientating the PV modules to the south provides the optimum amount of energy production throughout the entire year. The most appealing factor is there 30+ years reliability and producing energy totally pollution free.

According to statistics the average size PV system installed in 2005, on a residential home was 2 kW or 2000 watts. This however, would only provide a portion of the required electricity needed to run a standard 2100 S.F. house in CT. In no way can a PV modular provide all your energy needs, they are meant to only supplement your electrical needs. So what does this all mean, as you are at work and the kids are at school? Your system would be working sending power back to the utility company, which then is credited to your account. So how much smack do you need for this project. The total cost to install a roof mounted system including parts and labor is approximately \$18,000.00. That's a lot of money to dish out to save a \$1000.00 a year on your bill, but the good news is that the State of CT will reimburse the home owners approximately \$10,000.00 as an incentive to promote clean renewable energy. Based on these numbers it would take almost 8 years to get a pay back on your investment. There are many programs, no interest loans, tax deductions and grants that are in place to help you and me get started or we can continue paying more for our energy. I know what choice I will make, how about you.