

Remember Our Troops



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



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

## 2007 Commissioner Award Announced



Commissioner Lantz poses with CFSS Dave Potz of Garner CI, winner of the 2007 Commissioner's Award.

"You exemplify what we aspire to be in this field." With those words, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz informed Correctional Food Services Supervisor 3 David Potz of the Garner Correctional Institution, that she had selected him as the recipient of the 2007 Commissioner's award. Called to Central Office under the pretense of a planning meeting, Potz met the surprise of the announcement with a humble, "Thank you, I love my job." Commissioner Lantz told the former state and national Medal of Valor winner that she had become

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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.

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About and for correctional professionals  
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May 27, 2007 - June 16, 2007

Continued on Page 2, See *Award Recipient*

## CT DOC Staff Honored At 2007 MASCA Conference



Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy, Commissioner Theresa Lantz and Director Mary Marcial at the 69th MASCA Conference.

Like the late Warden Carl Robinson, Deputy Commissioner Brian Murphy is a national authority in the field of corrections. And like Warden Robinson, who played pro-football for the Boston Patriots, Deputy Commissioner Murphy has his own pro sports background having pitched for the New York Yankees. It was those parallels and others that made clear to the Middle Atlantic States Correctional Association that Deputy Commissioner Murphy was the obvious choice to be selected for this year's Carl Robinson Award. The presentation was made recently at the Association's 69th annual conference in Mystic. The Robinson Award is presented to an individual

Continued on Page 3, See *MASCA*

## State Representative Sayers Speaks At Class 236 Graduation Ceremony



Training Lieutenants and Class Managers prepare the graduates of Class 236 in formation prior to the graduation ceremony.

After a stirring rendition of the National Anthem by Counselor Supervisor Leigh Ware of York CI, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz extended her appreciation to the families and friends who were on hand to help support and celebrate a milestone, as the 116 graduates of Pre-Service Class # 236 were awarded their diplomas and badges, among an audience filled with friends, family and loved ones.

State Representative Peggy Sayers (D-Windsor, Windsor Locks), provided the ceremony's keynote address. She shared with

the audience her extensive knowledge and experience as a state representative. Chair of the Public Health Committee Peggy Sayers discussed the progress that is being made on health care legislation they have been working on this session. Among the initiatives discussed: chronic disease management, telemedicine, electronic health information technology, and improved access to healthcare.

Continued on Page 7, See *Class 236*

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### Award Recipient Cont'd

impressed with not only his job performance but also what he does in his off hours. Potz and his wife Penny have been foster parents for a number of years. "The Potzs stand out for their unfailing willingness to open their home at a moments notice," said Michele Levine of the Wheeler Clinic Foster Care Program. "They possess the greatest assets for fostering; good humor, nurturing, commitment and reliability." Potz received the DOC Medal of Valor in 1993 at Garner CI when he intervened in a brutal assault on an inmate. He has also received the Medal of Distinction for his efforts in saving an inmate during a suicide attempt. Potz's son is a Food Services Supervisor at the York Correctional Institution. Also announced were the other award winners for 2007, which will be featured and listed in future issues of PRIDE. They will all be officially recognized during this year's ceremony which will be held on Friday, August 17<sup>th</sup> at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. Congratulations!!!

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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# Tips For Special Olympics

They may not have been the fastest waiters in the restaurant, but Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz and Deputy Commissioner Brian K. Murphy put their hearts into delivering each order as they sought tips for Special Olympics. The Tip a Cop/Commissioner night was held recently at the Outback Steakhouse in Newington with a number of state department heads



(l-r) Deputy Commissioner Brian K. Murphy, Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz, and DOC Special Olympics Coordinator Captain Joseph Carlone.



Commissioner Lantz takes a moment from "earning tips" to chat with Officer Brent Cote of York CI, who came to the Outback to support the event.

and members of law enforcement taking part. While their serving tray technique may have needed a little practice, there was no doubt as to their tip gathering potential. Commissioner Lantz and Deputy Commissioner Murphy raised nearly \$500 in just a couple of hours. When all the tips were totaled, the evening had raised nearly \$2,500 for Special Olympics.

# Around The Cell Block



**Australia-** Inmates at one prison are being restricted to one three-minute shower and six toilet flushes a day as part of a water saving measure.

**California-** A large orange prison jumpsuit, reportedly tried on by Paris Hilton is already up for sale on E-bay.

**North Carolina-** A neighborhood party to celebrate a man's release from prison ended up in a knife fight with the man hospitalized for a stab wound.

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## MASCA Cont'd

who has demonstrated extraordinary leadership and made significant contributions to the correctional field. Deputy Commissioner Murphy was selected based on his creation of the gang management model, which has now been copied around the country as the standard in the field. In accepting his award, Murphy thanked the many staff who he said have been responsible for his success. Also recognized was Director Mary Marcial for her past service to MASCA and Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz was presented with an appreciation award for her continuing support. The two-day conference was coordinated by DOC staff including Warden Christine Whidden and Major Christina Polce.

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| <p><i>Total<br/>Supervised<br/>Population<br/>on<br/>June 15, 2007<br/>23,567<br/>On June 15, 2006<br/>the population was<br/>22,959</i></p> |
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## Council 4 Members Host Cook-Out for Veterans at State Home

As part of its continuing commitment to assist our state's war veterans, Council 4 hosted the annual Memorial Day Cook-Out in honor of the war veterans at the Veterans Home in Rocky Hill.

Ray Soucy of Local 387 of Council 4 said, "It's an honor for our union to help Connecticut veterans and improve their quality of life. We will continue to do everything we can to make a difference."

Thanks to the donations of union members, local businesses and state agencies such as the Department of Correction, Council 4 in the last three years has done the following:

- Completely refurbished the exercise room at the Veterans Home and Hospital, providing high impact rubber flooring, cardiovascular exercise machines and weight machines.
- Purchased six 52" flat screen color televisions for the Veterans Home and Hospital.
- Donated \$3,000 to Homes for the Brave, a vocational and rehabilitation center in Bridgeport.



(l - r ) Peter Thor - Council 4, Officer Patty Katz, Officer Bob Katz, retired Officer Gene Tewksbury and Officer Luke Leone, President of local 1565.

Continued on Page 6, See *Veterans Cook-Out*

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## 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 article was written by Architect John Rogers and questions relating to it may be answered by contacting him at 860.692.7560.*

### ***What Do Americans Drink?***

The Beverage Marketing Corporation says that we spend approximately \$10 billion per year in the USA on bottled water and that it is about to replace soft drinks as the most popular beverage. While I am proud to make bottle water available to the Third Floor Water Club (at Central Office), I feel we should also be aware of the bigger picture.

### ***Why do we drink Bottled water?***

Although most people will say they prefer the taste of bottled to tap water it is very difficult to distinguish between the two (at least in our better water districts). It is also very difficult to say that bottled water is healthier than tap water since the rules regulating the safety of bottled water are not as stringent as those governing our public water supply. As we notice the water fountains disappearing from our public places, we might sense a contrast with other countries that are struggling to develop the same facilities.

Continued on Page 5, See *Did You Know*

## MA Sheriff Visits Robinson CI



Sheriff Michael J. Ashe, Jr. of the Hampden (MA) County Sheriff's Department and Correctional Center.

On Friday, May 4th, The Robinson CI Education Department staff and Warden Bruce Cuscovitch met with Michael J. Ashe, Jr., Sheriff of the Hampden (MA) County Sheriff's Department and Correctional Center and two of his staff members. Although a county jail operation is different from a prison environment, the constituent's being served have many similar characteristics and issues in areas such as education, substance abuse, and employment, that require on-going attention.

In 1975, the Hampden County Jail had 89 staff members, 150 inmates, and a budget of \$1.9m; today, some 32 years later there are 955 staff members, 2200 inmates, and a budget of \$66.2m. Inmates come from four cities and 19 towns within the county. The longest an inmate stays in their facility is about 2 ½ years and the average length of stay is about one year. Culture of the facility is reflected in the following: "Firm, but fair; strength reinforced with de-

gency." They currently have 268 partnerships with various employers, agencies, and organizations to help with "reintegration" which has been a primary focus for the last ten years.

Known as a "facility of second chances," efforts are constant to accentuate the positive and help each inmate develop a portfolio of achievements. The culture manifests accountability and being productive.

In sum, this meeting served as a great opportunity for the staff of the Robinson CI Education Department to learn what other correctional centers are doing to help offenders.

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## Did You Know Cont'd

### *What does the rest of the world drink?*

The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that 80 percent of all illness in the world is directly caused by water-borne disease and that, at any time, approximately half of the developing world's population is suffering from a disease caused by the inadequate sanitation of water.

Problems with a poor water supply have other implications as well: in many countries, women and children must spend an extraordinary amount of time walking to fetch water. As a result, children are deprived of education and women are not permitted to help improve their community's economic productivity.

As one of their Millennium Development Goals (MDG), the United Nations (UN) has promised to cut in half the number of people living without sustainable access to safe drinking water by 2015. The World Health Organization and UNICEF are also contributing to this effort.

### *Does it sound impossible to do?*

The International Water Management Institute, <http://www.iwmi.cgiar.org/index.htm> estimates that clean water could be given to everyone on earth with an additional \$1.7 billion a year beyond the current spending on water projects. Given that we voluntarily spend \$10 billion a year for bottled water the cost to provide other people with the water they need to stay healthy and live does not sound impossible.

## CT DOC Staff Present at Annual ICISF Conference

On August 31, 2006, the Connecticut Department of Correction Critical Incident Stress Response Team was chosen from over 200 proposals to present at the International Critical Incident Stress Foundation's (ICISF) Annual World Congress in February 2007.

Director Sandra Sawicki directed and guided Counselor Supervisor Jacqueline Jennett of Garner CI and Captain Heather Ziemba of York CI to develop and deliver a presentation entitled "Stress Management in Corrections; Unique Perspective from the Inside." The conference brochure read as follows, *"Those involved in... first responding civil service positions have a unique set of stressors that they encounter while doing their jobs. These professions include but are not limited to, the police officer, military personnel, the firefighter, ... and correctional professionals. Although these professions have many common stressors ..., the Correctional Professional has these and a complete set of unusual stressors they must contend with due to their work environment. This presentation will identify the stress commonalities among ... first responding personnel and then take it one step further and identify the unique stressors that correctional professionals face and why."*

Continued on Page 7, See ICISF Conference

## Veterans Cook-Out Cont'd



(l-r) Officer David Testa, President of Local 387, with Mark Blumenthal of Local 566 (Event Chair) and AFL-CIO President John Olsen.

"Council 4 has been a tremendous help to us," said James McKinnon, Director of Residential and Rehabilitation Services for the Department of Veteran Affairs. "They've truly adopted us and made a generous commitment to our veterans."

With 35,000 members across Connecticut, Council 4 is the largest AFL-CIO union in the state. Council 4 is affiliated with the 1.4 million-member AFSCME (American Federation of State County and Municipal Employees) International Union in Washington, D.C.

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## Calendar



**June 23 - Live Strong for Joan Benefit** will be held at the Elks Club, 431 Granby Road in Chicopee, MA. An evening out for adults that includes dinner, DJ and dancing is \$20 per person. Joan Glanville was a correction officer at Robinson CI and was badly injured during a riot. Last August Joan was seriously injured when she was struck by a drunk driver. She suffered a traumatic brain injury. For tickets and info call Jimmy at 413.348.1958. Donations can be made to the Live Strong For Joan Family Fund-Aldenville Credit Union-710 Grattan Street-Chicopee, Ma-01020. Please keep Joan in your prayers.



**SAVE THE DATE - March 15, 2008** - An 8-day/7-night cruise on the Norwegian Cruise Line's GEM. Ports of call are New York, Florida, and the Bahamas. For information, call Capt. Rocco Sweat and Lt. V. Martin at 203.806.2500 or Barbara Westerberg at 203.806.2502.

### Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

[www.theEAP.com](http://www.theEAP.com)

## Class 236 Cont'd



Commissioner Lantz as she presents Representative Sayers with a plaque.

“The Department of Correction plays an important role in the delivery of health care in Connecticut. How offenders are treated while they are under your care is crucial to the success of our healthcare system. Commissioner Lantz has initiated policies that ensure i n t e r - a g e n c y

collaboration in the area of health care. My colleagues and I have been working hard to create a more streamlined healthcare process that delivers quality service and benefits to all in need of care,” Rep. Sayers said. She welcomed the new graduates and wished them well as they embark on their careers with the agency.

## Congrats



Congratulations to Heitor Miranda, (Central Office- Accounting Unit) and his wife Luiza on the birth of their daughter, Millena, who was born on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Their beautiful little girl was 7 lbs and 18 ½ inches long.

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## ICISF Conference Cont'd

*One of the stressors in the correctional environment is ... receptivity to the idea that staff need stress relief care. Participants will learn how to develop a Critical Incident Stress Response Team in a correctional environment using the CT DOC model. This presentation identifies ... a step-by-step account of how to get the buy in of the stakeholders, how to recruit team members, and identify and overcome obstacles. The final piece of the training identifies types of interventions, tweaked for correctional staff, and the way that each intervention assists in dealing with correctional-unique stress....”*

Over 1,200 people from around the world attended the conference. As many as 17 countries and 47 states were represented. There were over 20 professions represented from a wide range of organizations. These included representatives from various branches of the military, Federal Bureau of Investigations, state and municipal law enforcement agencies, and several universities. CS Jennett & Captain Ziemba’s class had over 25 participants, representing three different countries and eight different states.

Thomas McSherry, President of the ICISF said in an appreciation letter to Commissioner Lantz, “Please accept this letter of thanks for allowing two excellent representatives of your agency, Counselor Supervisor Jacqueline Jennett and Captain Heather Ziemba, to participate in our conference. Their presentation was well done and I know that those who attended benefited from the information that was shared. I have been involved with correctional facilities that do not have crisis intervention programs or a support system in place for their personnel, and it shows in the turnover, worker’s compensation claims, sick time, and low morale. You are to be commended for putting in place a system that helps those who work so hard to keep everyone safe.” Mr. McSherry also thanked Deputy Commissioner Carol Salsbury, Director Sandra Sawicki, Warden James Dzurenda and Warden Lori Ricks.