



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.

Season's Greetings

The arrival of the holiday season and end of the calendar year give cause for reflection and review. As an agency, we can take a deep breath and relish, if just for a moment, our progress. Certainly, the successes of the past year are the result of the skill and effort of our dedicated staff. It is without question because of you, the men and women of the Connecticut Department of Correction, that our facilities continued to operate in a safe and efficient manner. Our accomplishments are even more impressive in light of the retirement this past June of more than 400 employees, and unprecedented budget deficits.

Looking beyond the new year, there can be no denying that we will face many challenges. However, thanks to your professionalism and commitment, I have no doubt we will continue to increase in stature as one of the finest correctional agencies in the nation.

In this season of giving, please make sure you show your appreciation to those who support us, our families and friends, in carrying out our mission.

I also ask that we remember the men and women of our staff that serve in the armed forces who sacrifice daily so that we may enjoy the comforts and blessings of living in this great nation.

Happy holidays and may the coming New Year be your best ever. Be safe.

Commissioner


Brian K. Murphy

November 7, 2009
through
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From the Commissioner



As you are no doubt aware, I have directed that the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire be closed in response to a request from Governor M. Jodi Rell that the Connecticut Department of Correction explore the feasibility of closing and consolidating one of our 18 correctional institutions. The decision was made with public safety first and foremost in the process. We had already been able to close two of the facility's four housing units over the course of the past year. The remaining 220 inmates will be dispersed to other level two and three facilities. I personally went to Webster CI to talk to staff about this decision. I thanked them for their 19 years of supporting our mission of protecting the public and made clear that they should have nothing but pride for a job well done. I am very happy to tell you there will be no layoffs as a result of this action. We are working closely with staff, and their unions through our Human Resources Unit, to insure that this process will be as non disruptive as possible on their lives.

While this is a very necessary and timely decision given the current state of the State of Connecticut's budget, and is in keeping with our ongoing efforts as an agency to do more with less, I think there is a much more important message underlying this request that we all should be proud of. The fact that the closure of a facility can even be considered at this point in time is truly testament to the level of success that we as an agency have been able to achieve. It was less than two years ago, in February of 2008 when our population hit an all time high of 19,894 offenders within our facilities. But as we had done before utilizing our offender reentry model, we have been able to safely and securely reduce the offender population to the 18,300 range. Projections conducted by the Office of Policy and Management show continued reductions and most months we exceed their expected reductions. In short, we have available beds in which to place these offenders.

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Haggan Appointed

Commissioner Brian K. Murphy officially appointed Joseph R. Haggan as the Director of Parole and Community Services during a recent swearing-in ceremony at Central Office. Haggan had been the acting Director since the retirement of Randy Braren in June of 2009.

Director Haggan began his career in criminal justice in 1988 as a counselor with Community Addiction Services. In 1989, he became a parole officer serving with both the Department of Correction and the Connecticut Board of Parole. In 2001, Director Haggan was appointed as a parole manager with responsibility over the Hartford and Norwich district offices. He oversaw more than 30 parole officers and developed procedures to streamline the release process. He served as a member of the Parole Transition Committee, established in 2003, which was charged with consolidating the community operations of the Department of Correction with the former Board of Parole. In 2007, Director Haggan was promoted to deputy director.

In addition to his many responsibilities as deputy director, he also acted as the principal liaison with the Office of the Attorney General, the Office of Policy and Management and the Board of Pardons and Paroles. Director Haggan holds a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from Eastern Connecticut State University.



**Director Joseph R. Haggan with
Commissioner Brian K. Murphy**

During the swearing-in ceremony Commissioner Brian K. Murphy praised Director Haggan for being a "loyal, dedicated and quality person."

Mosque Renamed



Imam Abdul-Majid
Karim Hasan

On Saturday, November 7, 2009, the Muhammad Islamic Center of Hamden, CT was officially renamed the Abdul-Majid Karim Hasan Islamic Center in honor of Dr. Hasan, who was for all intents and purposes the “founding father” of the Islamic Chaplaincy for the Connecticut Department of Correction, and still continues to this day as our Islamic Advisor.

The historic name change was made in conjunction with a gala celebration marking the 50th Anniversary of the evolution of the Muslim communities in southern Connecticut.

Elks Award Brooklyn Staff

The staff of the Brooklyn Correctional Institution was recently recognized for their contributions to the local community during the Danielson Lodge of Elks 1706 awards dinner. Correctional Officer Jeffrey Raymond attended the ceremony to accept a citation on behalf of all the staff at Brooklyn CI. The purpose of the awards ceremony is to recognize outstanding members of the local police, fire and ambulance departments.



The Wright Man



David Wright

Correctional Officer David Wright of the Northern Correctional Institution is currently deployed as a Sergeant in Iraq. He also is involved with Operation Any Soldier, which sends packages to soldiers overseas. Information regarding this program can be found at: <http://www.anysoldier.com/>

The agency’s Military Peer Support Program is sending care packages to each DoC service-person who is deployed overseas. Staff can donate care packages for service men and women at their facilities.

From the Commissioner

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As the Governor pointed out in her letter, the collaborative efforts of the state’s criminal justice system have played a key role in the management of the size of the incarcerated population. The reconstituted Boards of Pardons and Paroles, as well as the Judicial Branch and the Criminal Justice Policy and Planning Division have been essential partners in all that we have been able to achieve. We have at the same time been able to increase the number of offenders being appropriately supervised in the community, at a much lower cost. The Governor and the Legislature must also be credited with providing the tools and support that we have needed to carry out this mission. When you look around the country and see other states struggling with ever increasing populations in their prisons and the need to in some cases revert to mass releases to meet budgetary restrictions, our success takes on even more significance.

Ultimately though, it has been you, the staff of this Agency, which has professionally and diligently carried out our mission and has allowed us to move forward with closing a facility. This is truly an accomplishment that allows us to take PRIDE in all we do on a daily basis. We expect that the facility will be fully closed within eight to ten weeks.

Employee Assistance Program

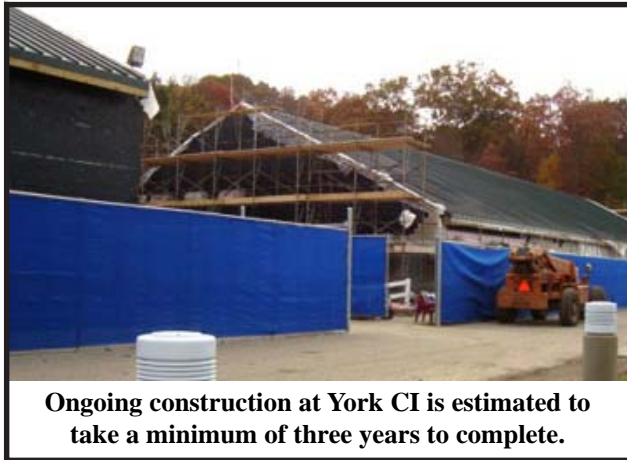
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Major Renovations at York CI

On July 27, 2009 the Building Envelope Integrity Re-mediation Project at the York Correctional Institution finally started. Taking over ten years in planning and costing \$14.6 million dollars before change orders. The project is estimated to be completed by July 22, 2012.



Ongoing construction at York CI is estimated to take a minimum of three years to complete.

The project consists of removal and replacement of the block facade on approximately 19 buildings, installing water drainage, weatherproofing of the buildings and roof repair. The East compound is the area primarily affected at this time. No housing

units on that portion of the compound are included in the project. The construction crews and materials have inconvenienced the normal routines of the compound. Inmate programs, recreational activities, Eastside Commissary, and the East Dining had to be relocated. Inmates are re-directed to walk across parking lots. Some parking lots are closed to staff and volunteers due to the high foot traffic and construction vehicles. Roadways are occasionally closed during the day due to congestion and constructional needs. Despite all the inconveniences, staff members at York CI are to be commended for taking every precaution to maintain a secure facility.

Banquet for Barrett-Browning

Hartford Correctional Center recently held a banquet at Trios on Franklin Avenue to raise funds for Officer Barrett-Browning. Staff donated food and the owner of Trios, Jerard Gibbins, donated the use of the club for the evening. Officer Barrett-Browning has been suffering from cancer and has been out of work for more than a year. Proceeds from the banquet, individual donations, sale of t-shirts donated by Warden Erfe, and a raffle, totaled \$3,160.00. The good news is that Officer Barrett-Browning is expected to return to work in the near future.



Officer Barrett-Browning thanks staff for their efforts on her behalf.

Around the Cell Block



TEXAS – A police department’s gift of fruit to a Texas prison turned out to contain 25 pounds of marijuana. The fruit originally came from a produce truck that also had about 1,000 pounds of pot that was confiscated. The additional marijuana apparently was missed by officers and drug-sniffing dogs.

NEVADA – State leaders recently gave most Nevada prison workers a one-year reprieve from legislator-mandated furloughs, deciding the plan to implement the furloughs would create unsafe conditions in the state’s correctional centers.

LOUISIANA – Louisiana locks up one in 55 of its residents. It’s the highest rate in the nation. Despite all the prison cells, only 144 beds in the entire state are dedicated for the treatment of adolescent drug abusers.

<p>Total Supervised Population on December 15, 2009</p> <p>23,071</p> <p><i>On December 15, 2008 the population was 23,457</i></p>
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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 Plant Facilities Engineer I, Thomas Levesque, if you have any questions regarding this article you may contact him @ (203) 806-2667. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at (860) 692-7554.

Bathroom Exhaust Fans

The main purpose of a bathroom exhaust fan is to remove moisture from your bathroom. Another added benefit is that it also removes foul smells from your bathroom.

While taking a shower, a bath or washing your hands, hot water vaporizes and rises to the ceiling. Then, hitting a cooler surface, it condenses leaving moisture on the surface. If the moisture remains on the surface for a period of time, it will give way to mold. Perhaps the best way of preventing this from happening is to install an exhaust fan.

There are many options available when considering purchasing a bathroom exhaust fan. There are fans that have heaters, lights, timers and even ones with night lights. A key consideration when purchasing a fan is the Sone (unit of loudness) number. The lower the Sone number, the quieter the fan is. There are also different methods you can choose to activate the bathroom exhaust: a timer, using your existing light switch, or installing a separate switch.

The method of determining what size exhaust fan you need for your bathroom is as follows:

For an eight-foot high ceiling – measure the square footage of the room and multiply by 1.1 this will give you the minimum recommended CFM (Cubic Feet per Minute). For Example: 10’ x 10’ room = 100 sq. ft. x 1.1 = 110 CFM. For a ceiling that is more than eight-feet high – take the height of the ceiling and multiply it by .1375, then multiply the square footage of the room. The resulting number represents the minimum recommended CFM for the particular room. For example: 9’ ceiling 10’ x 10’ room – 9 X .1375 = 1.2375 X 100 sq. ft. = 124 CFM.

Whenever you renovate your bathroom, it would be very beneficial to install an exhaust fan. This would prevent any potential damage to your paint from blistering or peeling and prevent any damage from water or mold building up in the structure of your home.

Where should the fan be located? Exhaust fans should be located in or near the shower or tub, and in an enclosed water closet. Keep exhaust points opposite the supply air source to ensure that the fresh air is drawn through the room. Bathroom doors should not be sealed too tightly at the bottom in order to allow “makeup air” to enter the room when the door is closed.

You can either have a propeller, axial or centrifugal fan. A propeller or axial fan is similar to a regular house fan, or one used in a laptop to keep it cool. These fans do not need a lot of pressure and move large amounts of air by moving in circular movements. A propeller or axial fan is the most common type of fan simply for the fact they are the cheapest and most productive. The majority of the time they are quite small as well. Centrifugal fans are the least popular of bathroom fans and can be compared to water pumps. They work by forcing air out of the radial vanes in the plates by using centrifugal force, hence the name of the fan. These fans are normally used when getting rid of smoke from a pellet stove, as they are stable and have a long life expectancy.

Additional information regarding bathroom fans and their installation can be found on the internet.

DoC Season of Giving

Filled With PRIDE

A cold rain did not put the slightest damper on the generous spirit of the staff of Osborn CI during their *Fill The Truck* food drive held November 20, 2009. A total of more than 800 pounds of food, along with \$1552.10 were collected and donated to two deserving area charities: My Sister's Place in Hartford, CT and The Emergency Food Pantry in Springfield, MA. My Sister's Place is an emergency shelter that provides a safe and secure haven for battered women and their children as they escape abusive home situations. The donation from the Osborn CI staff played a large roll in allowing The Emergency Food Pantry to distribute food and supplies to more than 250 needy families. The *Fill The Truck* food drive was headed by team members Warden C. Chapdelaine, Captain G. Murray, Captain J. Jeannotte, Captain N. McCormick, Captain R. Maggio, Counselor Supervisor W. Murphy, Counselor Supervisor R. Cyr, Officer L. Evans, Officer J. Wright, Officer K. Martin, CFSII R. Glass, CSR L. Berger, and Rec. Supvsr. A. Romano. Due to the overwhelming success of this year's food drive, plans are already under way to make this an annual event.



Osborn CI Staff collect food for local charities

Osborn CI Donates to Shriners'

On the heels of the *Fill The Truck* campaign staff at Osborn CI opened their hearts to ensure a warmer Christmas for children hospitalized at the Shriners' Hospital in Springfield, MA.

It wasn't long after the request for donations was made that the lieutenants' office began resembling a toy store. The satisfaction of knowing that their gifts helped bring joy to the children's faces, is all the recognition that the staff needs. Officers Josefina Diaz, Barbara Hawkins, Lieutenants Maria Rios and Michael Ruggeri coordinated this effort. In both instances, Warden Carol Chapdelaine was excited and PROUD to be part of such an outpouring of generosity from the staff at Osborn.



Staff from MacDougall-Walker CI collect food for the Enfield Loaves and Fishes food pantry.

MacDougall-Walker Gives Back

On November 20, 2009, staff at the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution showed their tremendous support for those less fortunate this holiday season by sponsoring a Food Drive for the Enfield Loaves and Fishes food pantry. Staff donated over 800 pounds of food and over \$1,025.00 (enough to purchase roughly 5,100 pounds of food) which will be used to help operate the only soup kitchen serving meals daily in north central Connecticut. This is just one more example of the tremendous generosity shown by the MWCI staff to the communities they serve.

More DoC Season of Giving

Toys for Tots

Once again, thanks to the resourcefulness of Vocational Education Instructor Joe Czech, would be garbage has been turned into toys for deserving children. For several years now, Mr. Czech has taken scraps of wood and had his carpentry students at Osborn CI fashion them into wooden toys. In past years the wooden cars, puzzles and checkerboard sets have been delivered to homeless shelters, as well as Department of Children and Families foster children, but this year they were brought to the Gengras Center in West Hartford. Associated with Saint Joseph's College, the Gengras Center is a unique, special education program for elementary, middle and high school students with intellectual, developmental and learning disabilities, along with related behavioral challenges.

Along with State School Principal Gabe Riccio, and State School Teacher Eileen O'Neill, Vocational Education Instructor Joe Czech delivered several boxes of wooden toys to a classroom of young children. All those involved with the donation were touched by the experience of how a simple toy could bring such joy to the children.



Vocational Educational Instructor Joe Czech donates toys to an instructor from the Gengras Center.

Big Donations

In yet another longstanding tradition within the Department of Correction, Big Brothers Big Sisters Facility Coordinators arranged toy drives at several facilities. Once collected, the toys were turned over to officials from the Big



Executive Director of Big Brothers Big Sister of Southeastern Connecticut Joseph Petroff (with bag) gets to play Santa thanks to the generosity of DoC staff. Also pictured are (from l to r) Fiscal Administrative Officer Tracey Hollins, Office Assistant Debra Brodersen, and Director of Volunteer Services Douglas Kulmacz (far right).

Brothers Big Sisters organization for distribution to deserving children for the holidays. The effort was spearheaded by Big Brothers Big Sisters agency-wide coordinator Mary Dunn. Participating facilities included Bridgeport CC, Central Office, MacDougall Walker CI, Manson Youth Institution, New Haven CC, Northern CI and Osborn CI.

Family Tree

This year's Rockefeller Christmas tree has ties to the Connecticut Department of Correction. The tree comes from Maria Corti, aunt of Jennifer Corti who works at Manson Youth Institution. It is a 76-foot Norway spruce from Easton, Connecticut, and was lit in Manhattan on December 2nd. This tree is believed to be about 70 years old, weighs 10-tons and was cut down on Veterans' Day.

After Christmas, the tree will be donated to Habitat For Humanity to use as wood for a home in Connecticut. So, if you wander into the city this holiday season, make sure to stop by Rockefeller Center and see Connecticut's finest display and know that it is part of the DOC family.



The Horses Are Out of the Barn

An auction conducted by the Department of Agriculture of rescued and rehabilitated horses that were cared for by inmates at the Second Chance Ranch on the grounds of the Gates Correctional Institution raised more than \$10,000 for the state's Animal Abuse Cost Recovery Account.



Warden John Tarascio of Gates CI is interviewed by Channel-8 reporter Tina Dejetel about the recent auction of horses from the Second Chance Corral.

The auction took place on Saturday, November 21, at the University of Connecticut's Horse Barn Hill Arena in Storrs. Up for bid were 14 miniature horses, six quarter horses, one Arabian mare, one Morgan-Arab mare, six horses owned by UConn and four goats. Also, two quarter horses and one thoroughbred-cross will be available for adoption to good homes.

The animals were seized by authorities investigating animal cruelty and neglect cases in May of this year. They were brought to the stables at Gates where inmates along with staff from the Department of Agriculture helped return the animals to good health. Since its inception in 2003, more than 125 animals have been rehabilitated at the Second Hand Ranch.

Osborn CI Sends Three to War

Warden Chapdelaine is proud to announce that three officers from Osborn CI will soon serve their country overseas. Army National Guard SGT Edward Santos and SGT Marcos Batista, both third shift officers at Osborn and both members of the Connecticut Army National Guard Company C 1-102nd Infantry in New Britain CT, will deploy to Afghanistan on November 18, 2009. This is SGT Santos' and SGT Batista's second tour of duty.

Additionally, Officer Scott Cunningham, a ten-year veteran of the DOC, will be deployed to an undisclosed location on November 18, 2009. Officer Cunningham is a member of the Connecticut National Guard, Company B1-102nd Infantry. This is also his second deployment. Please join the Osborn staff in wishing these fine officers safe tours of duty.



Officer Scott Cunningham of Osborn CI was presented with a state flag prior to his deployment in November.

Hey There Dililah

Commissioner Brian K. Murphy greets the Department's newest, and youngest, member Dililah. At the tender age of just four-months-old, the adorable Golden Labrador puppy is being trained by K-9 Officer Luis Melendez for use as either a narcotics or cell phone sniffing dog.

Even before Officer Melendez ever met the puppy, Dililah already had a connection to the Agency; she was donated to the Department by Lisa Lemery, a financial clerk who works at Central Office. One of the dogs she was breeding had just had her fourth litter when the idea to donate one to the Department's K-9 Unit struck her. Soon after Officer Melendez obtained permission to receive the puppy, Dililah officially became a member of the DoC K-9 Unit. "I would do it again if I could," said Lemery of the dog donation. "It's for a good cause."