

**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.*

**Governor Swears In Commissioner**

With his wife, daughter and son-in-law proudly looking on, Commissioner Leo Arnone was officially sworn in as the seventh Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Correction by Governor M. Jodi Rell during a ceremony held in the Governor’s Office on October 8, 2010.

Arnone has been serving as Commissioner since July 31, 2010, when Acting Commissioner Brian K. Murphy’s second 120-day contract expired.

Commissioner Arnone transitioned to the Department of Correction from the Connecticut Department of Children and Families, where since 2007, he has served as Bureau Chief of the Juvenile Services Bureau. In this position he was responsible for juvenile offenders who have been committed to the custody of the department.

After administering the oath, Governor Rell congratulated the Commissioner and wished him well.



**Governor M. Jodi Rell  
Administers the Oath of  
Office to Commissioner  
Leo C. Arnone**

October 1, 2010  
through  
October 29, 2010

Distributed bi-monthly  
to 6,500 staff  
and via the Internet  
throughout Connecticut  
and the nation  
by the  
Department of Correction  
24 Wolcott Hill Road  
Wethersfield, CT 06109

**From The Commissioner**



Back in the day, corrections was in many ways its own, self contained world. The public rarely saw in and unless there was a major incident, we normally had very little communication with the outside world about what was going on inside the state prison. Needless to say, things have changed and continue to change in a very rapid manner, especially in the arena of technology. The battle that correctional agencies around the world are now facing regarding the conveyance of cell phones to inmates, which undermines the security measures built into our phone system, is just one example of how evolving technology is affecting how we do business on a daily basis. Add to this growing list the issues that social networking websites are now presenting — not only for us, but for many other governmental agencies and private businesses as well. Whether by means of Facebook, My Space, Twitter or a host of others, it seems we have become a world obsessed with filling each other in on our every thought and daily routines.

see **Social Networking/page 3**

M. Jodi Rell  
Governor

Leo C. Arnone  
Commissioner

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## DoC Gets Second Chance Act Grant

**\$750,000 grant will help to launch a reentry project in the City of New Haven.**

The Connecticut Department of Correction was recently awarded a 2010 Second Chance Act Prisoner Reentry Initiative competitive Category I State Government grant by the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance. The application was submitted in March 2010, with approval from Governor M. Jodi Rell.

The grant is for \$750,000 (renewable up to 3 years) and requires a match of 25% cash and 25% in-kind services for a total project value in year one of \$1.5 million. Due to the current financial hardship, CTDOC requested a waiver from the full cash requirement which means a larger portion of the match will come through in-kind contributions of staff and contributed services from partner agencies.

The grant will be utilized to launch a reentry project in the City of New Haven while supporting implementation of the State's *Partners in Progress Reentry Strategic Plan*. Among the State's reentry goals are to reduce recidivism and build capacity of local communities starting with the *New Haven ReEntry Initiative* that aims to establish a working partnership between state and local government. Partnering with the Department of Correction on this project are the: City of New Haven, Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division, Annie E. Casey Foundation, Board of Pardons and Paroles, Office of Policy and Management, Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services, as well as other state agencies.

Between 100-125 male and female offenders who meet the selection criteria of moderate/high risk for recidivating will be served during the 12-month grant period. The project period may be extended by up to 6-months, if necessary. The project will target offenders on either parole, probation or at end-of-sentence at "feeder facilities" who would then be transferred to New Haven Correctional Center for a 2-month Pre-Release Reentry Program that begins with risk and need assessments and features intense case management and pre-release "in reach" from service providers, community organizations and others, including faith-based groups. The Pre-Release Reentry Program will also be offered at Gates Correctional Institution as an overflow facility, if space becomes an issue at the New Haven facility, and also at York Correctional Institution for female participants.

Once back in the community, program participants will receive pre and post release services from a community-based Reentry Center contracted by the department with grant funds to work with clients to implement their reentry plan, coordinate services and address core needs. Participants will benefit from pro-social affiliation, family reunification, employment, and housing.

Grant funds will be spent primarily for new and expanded services, including employment/vocational training and job development, education, social reunification, housing, substance abuse, mental health treatment, aftercare and follow-up. The Annie E. Casey Foundation has made a grant award of \$100,000 to a community provider to establish transition employment and has committed another \$50,000 cash and in-kind support.

The goals of the New Haven Reentry Initiative are to: reduce recidivism by 50% over a 5-year period; and maintain public safety.

Parole and Community Services Director Joseph Haggan and Program and Treatment Director Patrick Hynes, PhD are serving as project co-directors. The Grant Manager is Christine Fortunato. Linda Frisman, PhD with the DMHAS Research Unit and UConn School of Social Work will track participants for up to 3 years and perform process and outcome evaluations.



**Commissioner Leo Arnone with John Padilla, Senior Associate with the Annie E. Casey Foundation and Jack Brooks, Director of Administration for the Judicial Branch Court Support Services Division, shortly after Commissioner Arnone officially accepted a \$750,000 Second Chance Act grant from the U.S. Department of Justice.**

## Eric Ellison – Statewide Manager of the Year

Congratulations to Parole Manager Eric Ellison for being selected as a recipient of the State of Connecticut Distinguished Managerial Service Award. The award was presented at the Statewide Managers Day at the Aqua Turf Club in Southington on October 1, 2010.

The statewide honor comes on the heels of Parole Manager Ellison having been selected as the Department of Correction Manager of the Year for 2009. He currently oversees the Special Management Unit – which is tasked with supervising paroled sex offenders statewide.

Thanks in large part to Parole Manager Ellison's exceptional work ethic, the agency will be able to save more than \$400,000 through the use of a more effective drug-testing mechanism. In addition, through a federal grant, he has been instrumental in the introduction of a victim advocate to the Special Management Unit.

The Distinguished Managerial Service Award program is administered by the Management Advisory Council (MAC). Parole Manager Ellison was nominated by Director of Human Resources, Dan Callahan, for consideration for the 2010 award. In the nominating form Director Callahan wrote, "Eric Ellison's exceptional leadership, integrity, work ethic and interpersonal skills are only a few of the reasons he has excelled as a manager within Connecticut's largest state agency."

Please join Commissioner Leo Arnone, and Director of Parole and Community Services Joseph Haggan in congratulating Parole Manager Eric Ellison on having been selected for this auspicious award.



**Parole Manager Eric Ellison recipient of the 2010 State of Connecticut Distinguished Managerial Service Award.**

## Social Networking Policy

from page 1

All of this may be fine, (I will discuss this later), but only up until the point where it starts to intrude into the business of that government agency or private business. As a Connecticut school superintendant found out recently, posting details on a social networking site about his work and how he counseled and disciplined staff ended up costing him his job. Our own staff has been warned about postings in chat rooms referencing specific high profile inmates, which ultimately were noticed by attorneys who viewed the posts as running afoul of court restrictions on public comment in that particular case. Like many private businesses and government agencies, the Connecticut Department of Correction is currently working on a social networking policy, to reinforce the boundaries of what is acceptable and what isn't. Let me make very clear at this point, that the agency fully respects every individual's first amendment rights. However, our directives already establish the sort of information that should not be shared with the outside world. Administrative Directive (A.D.) 1.13, Code of Ethics, includes the language, "Honor the confidentiality of information that has been entrusted to you." A.D. 2.17, Employee Conduct, cautions against "...Releasing . . . any confidential information or inaccurate release of information..." And A.D. 1.5, Public Information and New Media Relations, provides that "...no department employee...shall be allowed to speak on behalf of the Department of Correction in a public forum...without...authorization" Even if you are at home, on your own computer, on your own time, you are legally responsible for comments that may run afoul of these guidelines and the social networking policy that will be forthcoming. And it goes without saying that staff that post to their Social Networking pages from their cell phones while at work — yes, this has occurred — will be dealt with accordingly.

As I said earlier, given the risks of our profession, I think it behooves any of us who has a social networking page to be especially careful of what is posted there. Please realize that while you may be very careful about not providing inmates with any of your personal information while at work, that can quickly all be undone if all of that confidential information is already on your Facebook page where the inmate's friends and family and the rest of the world can easily access it.



## Willard-Cybulski Facility Awards

On September 16, 2010 the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution held its Annual Facility Awards Ceremony celebrating the exemplary performance of their staff. The ceremony was attended by both facility staff and family members to honor the accomplishments of the past year. Directly following the ceremony, family members were presented with a tour of the Willard Building to give them an understanding of the environment that correctional personnel work in every day.



Warden Esther Torres accompanied by Deputy Warden Brian Bradway and Deputy Warden Michele Pidgeon had the honor of presenting the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution's Annual Facility Awards.

**Correction Officer of the Year 1<sup>st</sup> Shift** – Fred O’Neal  
**Correction Officer of the Year 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift** - Charles Rojas  
**Correction Officer of the Year 3<sup>rd</sup> Shift** - Douglas Mayer  
**Maintenance Employee of the Year** – Kevin Roy  
**Food Service Supervisor of the Year** – Tim Martin  
**Health Services Employee of the Year** – Brian Bracci  
**Unit of the Year** – Intelligence Unit – Captain Mark Donahue, Captain Dewayne Rodwell, Secretary I Kristine Randolph, Correction Officers Edgar Maldonado, Francis Teta, Fred O’Neal, Marco Fiore, Dennis Culhane  
**Counselor of the Year** – Tara McEwan  
**Teacher of the Year** – Tom Samperi  
**Lieutenant of the Year** – William Lusardi  
**Supervisor of the Year** – Dewayne Rodwell, Captain  
**Captain of the Year** – Ron Pittman  
**Clerical Support of the Year** – Sheryl Burnell, Office Assistant  
**Support Staff of the Year** – Tracey Harrelson, Records Specialist  
**Employee of the Year** – Kristine Randolph, Secretary I  
**Circle of Merit** – Greg Denote, Counselor  
**Preservation of Life Award** – Francis Teta, Correction Officer  
**Preservation of Life Award** - Adam Morgan, Lieutenant  
**Service to America** – Christopher Jones, Correction Officer  
**Warden’s Award** - Patti Wollenhaupt, CHNS

## Around the Cell Block



**Texas** – For the past five years, the Gaston County Sheriff’s Office has required sex offenders who are on probation or parole to meet from 6 to 9 p.m. at the county courthouse on Halloween night. This is done to keep potentially dangerous sex offenders from opening their doors to trick-or-treaters.

**Washington D.C.** – The Supreme Court won’t take the case of Massachusetts prison inmates who say they should be able to vote. Massachusetts and 47 other states generally prohibit incarcerated felons from voting. Maine and Vermont allow it.

**Kentucky** – A federal judge has put a stop to new legal actions by an inmate in Kentucky who has filed more than 5,000 lawsuits, targeting the famous, the infamous and even the long-dead.

**Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
October 29, 2010  
23,095  
On October 29, 2009  
the population was  
23,379**

## 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 Ronald Mattias, Plant Facilities Engineer 1. If you have any questions, feel free to call him at 860/253-3645. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at (860) 692-7554.*

## Protecting From Backflow

The majority of time water flows “forward” from the water supply system into your home. Backflow is the term used to describe the “backward flow” of water into the water supply system. In other words, backflow would occur when water from your home “flows back” into the public water supply. Or backflow can be caused when water from a garden hose “flows back” into your home. Backflow is caused by either backpressure or back-siphonage of your plumbing system. If water flowing backwards contains hazardous chemicals or bacteria, it can cause an unhealthy or dangerous situation.

In order to deal with this possible problem on a community-wide level, The Safe Drinking Water Act requires that every customer install backflow preventers at their own expense. A backflow preventer acts as a physical obstruction to water flowing in the wrong direction. Today, the majority of water customers have backflow preventers installed in their homes.

Your garden hose is one of the most common offenders as a cause of backflow. Say you are watering your garden with a fertilizer or pesticide applicator attached to your hose, the phone rings and you leave the garden. While you are on the phone, there is a drop in water pressure in the supply system that causes a vacuum. Like sucking on a straw, the vacuum will pull the pesticide-laced water into your home. Then the next time you or your neighbors turn on a faucet, the water could be laced with toxic chemicals. Water pressure drops are not uncommon. It may happen when firefighters battle a nearby blaze or when there is a broken water main.

Once a backflow preventer is installed in your home, water will be unable to flow back into the public water pipes. The backflow preventer creates an isolated or closed plumbing system. Most homeowners do not know they alone are responsible for the safety of their domestic water system. It is up to the water supplier to inform them. This is why you get the informational inserts with your bill or at the very least an annual water quality report.

Plumbing codes are very specific. They require backflow protection by cross-connection control and many important safety devices as follows:

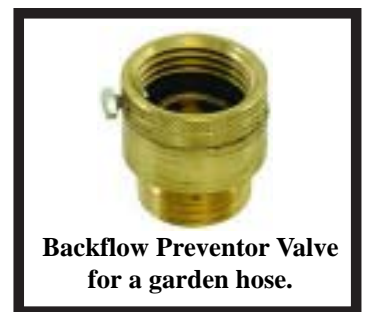
- Air gaps built into sink, tub, and basin faucets
- Anti-siphon type ball cocks in water closets (toilets)
- Vacuum breakers on hose bibbs and sill cocks
- Backflow preventers or vacuum breakers on lawn sprinklers
- Reduced Pressure Zone device on supply lines to boilers or other equipment containing non-potable fluids cross-connected to the potable water system.

Since some local authorities modify existing national codes, certain areas require backflow protection on the following as well: residential swimming pools, hot tubs, and spas; solar heating systems; private wells and other auxiliary water supplies.

Consult a certified plumber if you have any doubts about your plumbing system. With the installation of a backflow preventer, you can feel confident that you are helping to protect yourself and your family as well as your neighbors and community.

### **A Few Ideas On How To Prevent Backflow:**

- Never submerge hoses in buckets, pools, spas, tubs or sinks. They may contain toxic chemicals or dangerous bacteria.
- Do not use any spray or cleaning attachments on your hose without a backflow prevention device on the hose. This includes pesticide applicators, portable pressure washers, drain openers and radiator flush kits. All of these devices utilize chemicals, detergents and waste water which are toxic and can be fatal if ingested.



**Backflow Preventor Valve  
for a garden hose.**

# Enfield Donates “Cabbage” to Local Food Pantry

Warden Anne Cournoyer along with Deputy Warden Timothy Burke, and Recreation Supervisor Joseph Petrella recently visited the Enfield Food Shelf to present the organization with a check for \$500. The funds were raised through the Inmate Photo Program, which donates to a variety of non-profit organizations throughout the year.



Executive Director of the Enfield Food Shelf Linda K. Bridge (center) accepts a donation from Warden Anne Cournoyer and Deputy Warden Timothy Burke of the Enfield Correctional Institution.

# Higher Ranks at Brooklyn CI

Congratulations to Correctional Nurse Donna Adams-Conahan who works at the Brooklyn Correctional Institution. She was the only woman, out of 81 individuals promoted to Chief Petty Officer in the Navy during a pinning ceremony on September 16, 2010 aboard the Nautilus Museum in Groton.



Chief Hospital Corpsman Donna Adams-Conahan, salutes the current chiefs as she walks the bow of the Nautilus and is piped into the Chief’s Mess during Chief Petty Officer Pinning Ceremony for the Navy Operational Support Center Command at the Nautilus Museum.

## Hartford Correctional Center 2010 Facility Awards

- |   |                     |
|---|---------------------|
| <b>Manager of the Year</b>                      | Captain Dorozko     |
| <b>Supervisor of the Year</b>                   | Lieutenant Cotta    |
| <b>Correction Officer of the Year</b>           | Officer Marac       |
| <b>Employee of the Year</b>                     | Counselor Fitzner   |
| <b>Department of the Year</b>                   | Food Services       |
| <b>Health Services Emp. of the Year</b>         | CHNS Avery          |
| <b>Counselor of the Year</b>                    | Counselor McCann    |
| <b>Maintenance Emp. of the Year</b>             | CMS Marinaccio      |
| <b>Kitchen Supervisor of the Year</b>           | CFSSII Mitchell     |
| <b>Service Employee of the Year</b>             | Chaplin McKissick   |
| <b>Clerical of the Year</b>                     | Secretary II Weekes |
| <b>Warden’s Award</b>                           | Lieutenant Green    |
| <b>Distinguished Service Award</b>              | APRN Fritz          |
| <b>Excellence Training &amp; Staff Dvlpmnt.</b> | Lt. Cheverier       |
| <b>Hartford CC Military Prestige Award</b>      | Lieutenants Wood    |
- and Brown; Officers Richardson, Blackstock, Anderson, Maldonado

Congratulations also go out to Counselor L. Darren Sorensen from Brooklyn CI who was promoted on October 1, 2010 to the title of Air Force Intelligence Officer in the Air National Guard. Counselor Sorensen has 16-years of service with the Department, and 20-years of service with the Air National Guard.

**Employee Assistance Program**

**1-800-252-4555**

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

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



# Garden Wrap-up

## York CI

This fall season concluded the second year of the York C.I. Garden. This project begins each spring when seedlings are grown in the York C.I. (East) greenhouse. Numerous fruits and vegetables including: tomatoes, corn, pepper (jalapeño, habanero, banana, green bell), okra, eggplants, beets, sugar peas, green beans, zucchini, summer squash and strawberries begin their existence in this greenhouse. Once the seedlings are large enough and the weather permits (no more frost), they are transplanted to the West Compound where they are planted in an approximately one-half acre parcel.

These fruits, vegetables are then tended and cared for by approximately twenty inmates, supervised by West Grounds Officer Jimmy Anderson. These inmates are “long-term” inmates who are housed in the “0” South Building.



**Officer Jimmy Anderson plows the crops at York CI under for the winter.**

As the crop ripens, they are harvested and supplied to the New London Homeless Shelter for inclusion in meals for the homeless. This year approximately two hundred pounds of produce was donated. In addition, some of

the harvest is given to the Food Service Unit for use in the inmate meals.

Once the growing season has ended, the field is plowed and turned in order to ready it for the next growing season. Each year the garden grows with additions of other crops and yields increasingly more produce.

## Brooklyn CI

The garden at Brooklyn produced an impressive yield of one-and-one half tons of produce.

Total Season Yield -Poundage: **3,102 lbs.**

Total Season Yield -Value: **\$ 2,931.42**

## Willard-Cybulski CI

The Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution gardens were very productive this season. They provided the kitchens with a steady supply of fresh vegetables and herbs all season. They grew more than 850 pounds of pumpkins and were able to donate a portion of them to the Town of Enfield for the day care facilities in town.



**State School Teacher Tom Sampieri (L) and Counselor Gregory DeNote of the WCCI proudly display some of their gardens' pumpkins.**

## Two Heads are Better Than One

Commissioner Leo Arnone is pleased to announce the following changes at the Maloney Center for Training & Staff Development. Warden Jose Feliciano and Assistant Human Resources Director Tracey Butler will serve as co-directors of the Academy on a temporary basis.

Warden Feliciano will oversee the pre-service, in-service, new supervisor's, and firearms training areas. He will also continue to oversee the Manson Youth Institution as the Warden.

Assistant Human Resources Director Butler will be overseeing the Organizational Development area, which includes succession planning, Learning Management System, strategic planning, specialized training, curriculum development and the library. Ms. Butler will maintain her current roll in Human Resources as well. The changes took effect on October 18. Please join the Commissioner in wishing them the best in this new endeavor.

## Why I Chose to Join the Best Class 247

### Melissa Bragg

I believe my desire to work in corrections, as well as social work, stemmed from watching my mother work hard and have a successful career



Melissa Bragg

as a correctional head nurse at Northern CI. My mother taught me many valuable lessons: maintaining kindness with strict boundaries; showing respect to both staff and inmates; and never becoming institutionalized. When I told other staff members I was her daughter, I was told how lucky I was to have her as a mother because of her hard work, dedication and respectfulness.

### Thomas Titus

I applied three times before I was accepted into the Connecticut Department of Correction. My father is Officer Thomas Titus, Needless to say,



Thomas Titus

he loved his job. Unable to work, due to a long battle with cancer, hundreds of co-workers donated their sick time to him to help support his family. The comradery these people share is awesome, and that is why I want a career with the DoC.

## Years of Service

### Employees with 20 Years of Service as of September 2010

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Bufalini, Mario	Training Officer	MCTSD	9/7/1990
Byers, Mary	Fscl./Admin. Asst.	Central Off.	5/11/1990
Cook, Angela	Secretary II	NHCC	9/7/1990
Dargan, Stacy	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	8/24/1990
Faryniarz, Darlene	Office Assistant	MCTSD	9/7/1990
Forkey, Mary	Lieutenant	WCCI	8/24/1990
Grant, Roland	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	9/21/1990
Green, Dorthula	St. Sch. Prin. II	NHCC	9/21/1990
Grucci, Susan	Admin. Assist.	WCCI	9/7/1990
Hernandez, Edward	Correction Officer	MWCI	9/21/1990
Jackson, Frederick	Counselor	Enfield CI	9/14/1990
Johnson, Bruce	Captain	Gates CI	9/6/1990
Kasthuber, Kenneth	Correction Officer	MYI	7/13/1990
Markey, Kevin	Gen. Main. Off.	Cheshire CI	8/24/1990
Montesi, Sandra	Deputy Warden	Bergin CI	9/21/1990
Schook, Francis	Correction Officer	WCCI	8/24/1990
Staub, Dee	Subst. Abuse Cnslr.	Central Off.	9/7/1990

### Employees with 25 Years of Service as of September 2010

Flenke, Wayne	St. Sch. Tch.	Brooklyn CI	9/6/1985
Murphy, Peter	Warden II	MWCI	9/6/1985
Ouellette, Paul	Counselor Supr.	CRCI	9/6/1985
Smith, Bruce	Correction Officer	NHCC	9/6/1985



## A Place for Books

Osborn CI has some new residents. Dora the Explorer has decided to drop by. So have Cookie Monster and his friends Ernie and Bert. Even Princess Ariel and Porky Pig have come to Osborn CI, in book form, of course.

Parenting Teacher Laurie Schaefer has spent the past several months soliciting donations of children's books from public libraries, book stores and colleagues to fill up a newly built book case in the Osborn CI Visiting Room. The books cover a wide range of interests and age groups. "We have books for toddlers who are just learning how to read all the way to books for young teenagers," said Mrs. Schaefer. "It is my hope that inmate fathers will be able to connect with their visiting children through these books. I also hope that having books in the Visiting Room will help to make the visit more enjoyable for young children."



**Vocational Instructor Joe Czech (L) and State School Teacher Laurie Schaefer proudly display their collaborative effort.**

The book case was made by Vocational Instructor Joe Czech using donated and scrap materials. "It was a great project for my Carpentry class to work on," said Mr. Czech. "It gave the inmates an opportunity to give something back to the young people of their community."

"This entire project showed tremendous cooperation between custody and treatment staff," said Principal Gabe Riccio. "I am very pleased that we were able to work together so well to achieve such a great result."

## International Luncheon at Hartford CC



**(LtoR) Counselor Garcia, Captain Dorozko, Counselor Joseph, Captain Reyes, and Counselor Crandall**

On October 8th, the QWL members at Hartford Correctional Center organized an international luncheon. The staff donated dishes from many cultural backgrounds. The array included Spanish rice and beans, macaroni and cheese, baked chicken, curry shrimp, stuffed cabbage, pasteles, pizza, sausage pasta, jerk chicken, corned beef, potato patties, Jamaican beef and chicken patties, Asian noodles, potato and pasta salads, and much more. There was also a dessert table that included flan, chocolate cake, cookies, rice pudding, coconut cake and death by chocolate. The total amount raised for this event was \$493. The QWL also sponsored a "chance to win" a sports team jersey of the winner's choice. The "chance to win" event raised \$154. Thank you to the QWL and staff for helping make this such an impressive event.

## On the Run from Parole

Considering they spend their working hours chasing after parolees, it should come as no surprise that six members of the Parole and Community Services staff recently participated in the ING Marathon in Hartford. Congratulations to the following:

- Director Joseph Haggan** - ran half marathon
- Deputy Director Rebecca Fleming** - ran half marathon
- Parole Manager Jennifer Bennett** - ran half marathon
- Parole Manager Danial Bennett** - ran full marathon
- Parole Officer Peter McDevitt** - ran half marathon
- Parole Officer Larry Bransford** - ran half marathon