



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 intergration

Teachers of the Year Named

Unified School District #1 Superintendent of Schools Angie Jalbert announced the 2011-2012 Teachers of the Year. Matt Reinke, who teaches ABE/GED students at the Garner Correctional Institution, was chosen as the teacher of the year. The Vocational Instructor of the Year was awarded to Kevin Cairns of the Cheshire Correctional Institution. Mr. Cairns was the first and only Vocational Instructor hired to train inmates how to repair computers. He also established the "Computers for the Community" program in which the students refurbish old computers and redistribute them to deserving individuals or groups. In his nomination letter School Administrator Fred Sgro said of Mr. Reinke that "he is one of the hardest working teachers I have supervised in my eighteen years as principal."



(L to R) Matt Reinke, Commissioner Leo Arnone, and Kenneth Cairns.

From the Commissioner



It is always a pleasure to be able to share important milestones with you as the agency progresses forward in its mission of improving, not only how we protect the citizens of our state, but also how we can accomplish that in a more efficient and appropriate manner. After what has been years of discussion and debate, the Connecticut Department of Correction has finally begun the implementation of Risk Reduction Earned Credits.

Unlike the "good time" of old, which was taken off of Connecticut's books in 1994, and instead of what many other states still offer, this is not a handout of time off of a sentence. Texas, for example, gives up to 10 days a month of good time based solely on behavior.

Connecticut's program provides up to a maximum of five days of credit off a sentence per month, providing the inmate is engaged in programming mandated in his or her Offender Accountability Plan (OAP) and is compliant in terms of behavior. As of the beginning of October, we have discharged 164 offenders, all of whom were already in the community under supervision, through the retroactive application of the earned credits.

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September 14, 2011
through
October 13, 2011

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Up to the Challenge

Special Operations Group Places 12th Overall in National Competition

For three days in late August, with hundreds of well-armed law enforcement officials around, the residents of the quiet town of Simsbury must have thought the Hueblein Tower on top of Talcott Mountain was under siege. August 23, 2011 marked the beginning of the rigorous 2011 Connecticut SWAT Challenge and the Department's Special Operations Group (SOG) was on-site to participate for its fifth year of competition.

The Connecticut SWAT Challenge is an annual event sponsored by the West Hartford Police Department, consisting of three full days of competitions that challenge the physical and mental capabilities of even the strongest competitors. This year's Challenge saw participation from 33 individual SWAT and Special Ops teams, spanning the country from federal, state and local levels. The event was held at the Connecticut State Police Range and Metacon Gun Club in Simsbury, and at the Metropolitan District Commission Reservoir in West Hartford.

Under the guidance and direction of this year's Team Captain, Officer Justin Anderson, the 10-man team from the Department of Correction's Special Operations Group placed 12th overall, with three top ten finishes in individual events.

"It was a great honor for the team to be able to compete this year, and I am very proud of our ranking - our highest yet," said SOG Commander Dennis Roche. "It may seem like a fun event to participate in, but we all know just how easily the scenarios presented to us could become real."

With each year the SWAT Challenge grows in popularity, and the events get more difficult. In one of the challenges team members had to be immersed in a pool of ice water for a full minute, then come out, get set up and aim at a target. As if trying to aim a gun at a target while you are shivering isn't hard enough, a plywood barrier was lowered, after just a few seconds, completely obscuring the target. The competitors would have to wait for the barrier to be raised, and hope to get an accurate shot off, in time before the barrier was lowered once again.

The event is part training and part competition, with the DoC team having spent countless hours preparing for the rescue scenarios presented at this year's event. "To be able to participate in these live-fire events and to see just how cohesively our team works together makes all our training worthwhile," Commander Roche said. "Knowing that our SOG unit is prepared to handle those situations within our Department makes me extremely proud." Commander Roche also wished to express his sincere gratitude for the support of Commissioner Leo C. Arnone, Deputy Commissioners James Dzurenda and Cheryl Cepelak, as well as to the Director of Tactical Operations and Correctional Transportation William Colón.



Lieutenants Jason Beaulieu (L) and Robert York chill-out during the SWAT Challenge.



Now you see the target...



...Now you don't.

Giving From the Heart to the Heart Association

On September 27, 2011 Warden Carol Chapdelaine proudly presented a check in the amount of \$1020 to Jennifer Ksiazek, Director of the American Heart Association Heart Walk. "I was thrilled to be able to present such a large check to such a worthy and wonderful organization," Warden Chapdelaine said. "However, all of the credit goes to the very dedicated and generous staff here at Osborn." The Heart Association fundraiser was

organized by Captain Gemini Murray and Correctional Food Service Supervisor II Lance Oliver, and activities included the sale of paper hearts, a bracelet sale and a couple of grinder sales. "The entire staff rallied together to make this fund raiser such a

tremendous success. Because of their generosity, we actually exceeded our fund raising goal," Captain Murray said. "CFSS2 Oliver and I'd like to thank the whole staff for their continuing support and generosity." In addition, Captain Murray wanted to be sure to thank Officer Alonzo Peggins, Officer Brown, Counselor Ruffin, Counselor Mia Lawrence and Nurse Clinician Perkins for donating their time to coordinate the making and serving of the fundraiser meals."

The 2011 Hartford Heart Walk is scheduled to take place in Bushnell Park on October 29, with registration from 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM.



The staff at Osborn CI displayed a lot of heart(s) during the recent fund-raiser for the American Heart Association.

Risk Reduction Earned Credits Begins from page 1

The credits were applied utilizing an April 1, 2006 start date, which was the introduction date of our OAP. The concept is simple. Provide inmates with an incentive to do something other than lay on their bunk and count the ceiling tiles and instead productively address their deficiencies, whether they be lack of education, substance abuse, anger management, etc. By giving offenders a reason to take advantage of these opportunities, which support successful community reintegration, their potential for becoming a productive member of society upon release is increased, reducing recidivism and ultimately, improving public safety.

I need to point out that the credits can also be taken away for non-compliance, and there are exceptions as to who is eligible including those on administrative segregation and inmates with sentences for the most serious of crimes such as murder.

None of this would have been possible without a lot of incredibly hard work by many of our agency's staff. The statute permitting the credits was passed by the legislature with an effective date of July 1st. Now, less than three months later, what turned out to be a very complicated path has been traveled to implementation. To begin with, the OAP of every offender was reviewed to insure that this foundation for program compliance was up to date and complete. A new Administrative Directive 4.2A Risk Reduction Earned Credit was completed. The RT-3M program that keeps track of each offenders program completion was updated. The list goes on and the work continues to this day. It certainly has not been an easy job, but staff including Wardens Monica Rinaldi, Anne Cournoyer and Director Lynn Milling have put in many long hours to insure our success. I am very proud of what has been accomplished.

While inmates who pose a danger to the public will always have a secure cell in our system, there are many other offenders who given the opportunity can and will redirect their lives. Our Earned Risk Reduction Credits will provide them with the direction to put incarceration in their past.

Moving Mass

The 21st Annual Blue Mass was held for law enforcement members and their families at the Cathedral of St. Patrick in Norwich on Sunday, September 25, 2011. The service honored those who have lost their lives in the line of duty, as well as recognized those that currently serve. Special prayers were recited for law enforcement members and law enforcement representatives participated in the celebration of the mass.

The mass was celebrated by the Most Reverend Michael R. Cote, Bishop of Norwich, while Father Mario Juan-Diego Brunetta, Director of Catholic Information Services of the Supreme Council of the Knights of Columbus gave the homily. Father Brunetta shared with the congregation that his father served 43 years in law enforcement. The recently departed law enforcement officers who were honored during the ceremony included: Chief Richard Abele, Lieutenant

Thomas Forbes, Trooper First Class Kenneth R. Hall, Trooper First Class Paul H. Protzenko, Lieutenant Colonel Robert J. Root, Captain Brian Tuttle, Chief Gary Tyler and Detective Raymond Veillette, Jr.

A particularly poignant moment came at the conclusion of the mass when Bishop Cote presented Mrs. Sheila Hall, the widow of Trooper First Class Kenneth Ray Hall (who lost his life last year), with a memorial plaque.



The Department of Correction's Honor Guard exits the 21 Annual Blue Mass held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in Norwich.

Around the Cell Block



TEXAS – Prison officials stopped the practice of letting condemned inmates choose their last meal after a state senator complained about the extravagant request from a man who was recently executed. The condemned man did not touch the food he requested.

TEXAS – A former Lone Star State inmate who cooked the final meals for hundreds of condemned prisoners is offering to start doing it again at no cost now that officials have ended the practice of allowing special last requests.

OKLAHOMA – Despite Texas' end of the long-standing tradition, Oklahoma will continue to grant last meal requests to death row inmates before they are executed. The state has strict guidelines concerning last meals that protect against inmates wasting huge quantities of food.

<p style="text-align: center;"><i>Total Supervised Population on October 13, 2011 22,356 On October 13, 2010 the population was 23,200</i></p>



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 Environmental Analyst III Tim Carey, who is also a meteorologist. Any questions related to this article may be answered by contacting him at (860) 692-7897.

Tornadoes

A tornado is one of the most fearful and violent storms in Mother Nature’s arsenal. Tornado winds can be much more violent than those of a hurricane, and are very concentrated and extremely localized. One house can be untouched, while the next house over can be totally devastated. They are also the hardest to forecast as all of the ingredients have to come together almost instantly, and advanced notice of tornado warnings can be only 10-15 minutes.

Peak tornado season for the country is the month of May. Tornadoes are ranked based on how much damage they cause by using the “Enhanced Fujita Scale” (EF Scale) and are categorized from EF0 (minor damage) to EF5 (extreme damage). An EF5 tornado can bring swirling winds of over 200 miles per hour (mph).

Tornadoes usually form ahead of or is blowing at different speeds or surface and at higher altitudes in the surface is blowing 15-25 mph, but is blowing 90-100 mph. Then you convective updrafts of rising, unstable moves over an area with significant altitudes (known as a rolling column equals possible tornado formation. severe weather to determine how fast an area radar site for tornadoes.

Connecticut has averaged 1.4 tornadoes 2010, according to the National Severe to affect the Wethersfield area occurred 90 mph. According to the National on the ground for less than 3 minutes touched down near the intersection Avenue, lifted back off the ground as

again near Elm Street and ended near a corn field along I-91. The storm brought large golf ball sized hail to the area, uprooted trees, and significant damage to residents and business. Those working at Central Office or living nearby undoubtedly remember that day. Almost a year to the day, on June 24, 2010, an EF1 tornado rumbled through the city of Bridgeport with 100 mph winds. This year has been a historical year for tornadoes. The April 25 – 28, 2011 outbreak produced 334 tornadoes, three of which were EF5, causing extensive damage and fatalities. Even more recently were the three tornadoes affecting the Springfield area on June 1, 2011. The largest was the EF3 Westfield-Charlton tornado, causing severe damage as it crossed the Connecticut River into Springfield.

The 2011 outbreaks have reminded us how powerful these storms can be; occurring anywhere, disproving the myth that city dwellers are safe from tornadoes. The safest thing to do during a tornado warning is seek shelter in a basement or find an area away from windows in order to be protected from flying debris.



A classic funnel cloud.

along a frontal system where wind directions between the earth’s ground atmosphere. For example: wind at the 5,000 feet in the atmosphere the wind need a thunderstorm with powerful air. As the thunderstorm/supercell differences in wind speeds at different of air) combined with intense updrafts Meteorologists also look at radar during wind is blowing toward or away from

per year for the period of 1950 to Storms Laboratory. The last tornado on June 26, 2009 – with winds nearing Weather Service, the tornado traveled and less than 2 miles. The tornado of Wolcott Hill Road and Robbins a funnel cloud, and then touched down

Hollywood East

For the third time in three years, a movie crew shoots scenes in Cheshire

Once again inmates are walking the halls of the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire, but this time the “inmates” are only actors. For two days in late September, a local production crew set up shop on the grounds of the Webster facility to film a portion of the full-length independent movie *Diamond Ruff*.

The movie *Diamond Ruff* is being produced by Joe Young Jr., and is based on the book of the same name which he wrote eight years ago. This is the first time Young has delved into live-action film. Set in Hartford, the movie revolves around the title character, a local con man whose drug-addicted parents were murdered on Christmas when he was only seven years old.

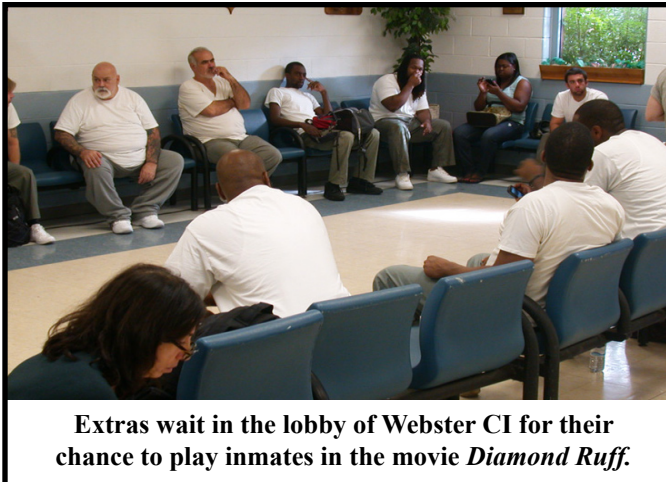


Director Alec Asten (Center) discusses a scene with Fredro Starr (Right) during the filming of *Diamond Ruff*.

A couple of supporting actors from HBO’s “The Wire” have signed on for lead roles. *Diamond Ruff*, is being played by actor Fredro Starr, a member of the ‘90s rap group Onyx, who has appeared on the “The Wire” and “CSI: NY.”

Felicia Pearson, who played the assassin Snoop on “The Wire,” also has committed to the movie. The Baltimore native will play K.K., a brash criminal who first encounters Ruff as she holds up a convenience store.

Keeping with the local flavor, the film is being directed by Alec Asten, who is a native of Mystic. Two casting calls in Hartford drew a few hundred prospective actors, and at least 10 crew members are graduates of the state’s 3-year-old film industry training program. Once finished, the production can also expect a 10 percent film tax credit from the state.



Extras wait in the lobby of Webster CI for their chance to play inmates in the movie *Diamond Ruff*.



Once more with feeling.

The filming of *Diamond Ruff* is the third film in as many years to have at least in part have been filmed on the grounds of the Cheshire facility. In 2009 the much anticipated, yet ultimately disappointing, movie *Everybody’s Fine* starring Robert Dinero, shot a few scenes in and around the Cheshire Correctional Institution.

In April of 2010, the lower key, yet more successful movie *We Need to Talk About Kevin* setup shop for one day – filming scenes outside the Webster facility. The film starring Tilda Swinton and John C. Reilly deals with the aftermath of a high school massacre was first shown at this year’s Cannes Film Festival - has been widely praised by critics. The film is scheduled for limited release in the United States this coming December.

Appreciative Attorneys

The Connecticut Criminal Defense Lawyers Association in conjunction with the Chief Public Defender's Office hosted an informational session on September 23, 2011 at the Legislative Office Building at which Commissioner Leo C. Arnone, Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda and several of the Agency's Top Managers were invited to speak. They addressed various issues with the attorneys such as visitation procedures, as well as new laws establishing Risk Reduction Earned Credits and change to Driving Under the Influence laws.

What follows is a reprint of a letter that Commissioner Arnone received following the "training" session. The Commissioner noted that the letter was only one of the many comments he received regarding the training. "I was proud of everyone that participated and the way that you represented the Department," said Commissioner Arnone. "It is at functions like this that the broader Criminal Justice Community can see first-hand the depth of professionalism that exists in our Department. Thank you for another job well done."

September 26, 2011

Dear Commissioner:

I would like to congratulate you for your department's excellent presentation to criminal defense lawyers last Friday in Hartford. I have worked in criminal defense since joining the Public Defender's office in 1972, and I must say that I have never seen the Department of Correction as well run and as helpful to the defense. As a lawyer who was denied access to a client in the middle of a trial at the Bridgeport Correctional Center many years ago, your open policy is a delightful change.

In addition, I was impressed by the attendance of the various wardens at the program. The professionalism of the department is a credit to you and the State.

*Very truly yours,
James J. Ruane
Attorney at Law*

Best of the Best

Congratulations to Vocational Instructor Mike Bald and his students for winning Best of the Best at the Durham Fair for the sign they created for the University of Connecticut. The sign which commemorates the accomplishments of the UConn men's basketball team as 3-time national champions. The sign was displayed at the state's largest agricultural fair from September 22-25, 2011. After the fair, the sign was transported to the University of Connecticut campus in Storrs.



Years of Service

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of September 2011

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title Job</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Omari, Sauda	Fiscal Admin. Off.	Cen. Off	8/23/1991
Buckingham, Kevin	Corr. Officer	MWCI	7/13/1990

Employees with 25 Years of Service as of September 2011

Zawilinski, Brian	Corr. Captain	Cen. Off.	9/19/1986
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Sauda Omari

Golfing News

Hartford Open

The 6th Annual Hartford Open sponsored by the Hartford Correctional Institution's Quality of Work Life Committee which was held at the University Club of Connecticut in June was a huge success raising a total of \$1,415. Pictured below, staff from HCC enjoy a day on the links.



North Vs. South

Back in July, both the North and South Districts squared off on the links to support the Gilbert/Northwestern football program. The North District charged out early taking a five shot lead led by MacDougal/Walker's Captain Scott VanOudenhove's team who carded a score of 11 under par. The other North base teams did not fare as well, collectively finishing two over par for a North District total of nine under par. VanOudenhove was overheard telling fellow Macdougal/Walker Captain Scott Salius "Hey Pal, we did our part."

The South finished at 13 under par led by Garner Correctional Institution's Warden Scott "the horse" Semple who motivated his team by telling them "I can't do it all guys." The event raised nearly \$3,000 for the program.

Calling All Softball Teams

The York Correctional Institution's Quality of Work Life Committee is sponsoring a coed softball tournament on 10/29/11, beginning 9:00 AM at Bridebrook Park in Niantic, Connecticut.

The event is a double elimination, law enforcement tournament. The cost is \$20 per player/\$200 per team. The registration fee includes a meal, drinks, and a commemorative T-shirt.

More teams are needed to fill this tournament. Any law enforcement agencies/departments that are interested please contact: Correction Officers Fenn, McGhee, Harris or L. Ward at the York facility

