

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 reintegration

## Manson Scholarship Awarded

Congratulations to Allen Copas, son of Substance Abuse Counselor Catherine Copas of the Manson Youth Institution, for being named the recipient of the 2011 Manson Scholarship Award. With family and friends including Mrs. Carolyn Manson looking on during the annual John R. Manson Scholarship Breakfast held March 16, at Central Office's Café 24, Commissioner Leo C. Arnone presented Mr. Copas with the award.

Currently a freshman at the University of Connecticut, Mr. Copas is majoring in Mechanical Engineering, with a minor in Material Science. see Making the Grade/page 2



Commissioner Leo C. Arnone (R) and Allen Copas.

March 6, 2012  
through  
April 11, 2012

Distributed monthly  
to 6,200 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



As we begin the month of April, it is with a springtime like change that we are seeing a significant pay off in our ongoing efforts to redefine the Connecticut Department of Correction as a smarter and smaller agency. For the first few days of the month, our population has dropped below 17,000 for the first time since 1999, some 13 years ago! While the reasons for this are many, a drop in the crime rate and resulting arrests, our reentry preparation programming, Risk Reduction Earned Credits (RREC), Intensive Probation, etc.; what's truly important is that this is the result of our criminal justice community working together, as a whole, with a shared goal of a more efficient and effective system. This is and will pay continuing dividends for our staff, for the inmate population and, ultimately, for the taxpayers of our great state. Contributing to what has been a very innovative time for our agency and our state is a new program that is also starting to come into its own. The DUI/Home Confinement statute was passed by the Connecticut Legislature along with the RREC program last year.

see DUI Home Confinement /page 3

Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor

Leo C. Arnone  
Commissioner

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## DoC K-9 Unit Assists in Locating Missing Teen

A 14-year-old who left his house in Wethersfield in the early morning hours of Wednesday, April 4<sup>th</sup>, was reunited with his family and friends by Wednesday evening thanks to the help of the Department of Correction's K-9 Unit. According to Wethersfield police, Alexander Lin's mother heard her son leave their home through a window around 12:30 AM. After failing to locate him on their own, the family contacted police around 6:30 AM.

In addition to search dogs from the Connecticut State Police and a local municipality, K-9 handler Lieutenant Henry Gasiorek and his partner Red also took part in the search. After getting the teenager's scent from his pillow, Red led Lt. Gasiorek through several backyards to a swamp-like area filled with heavy brush. The initial search failed to locate the teen, so dog and handler returned to the house for another attempt. Once again, Red led Gasiorek to the same spot. There was no



**K-9 Handler Lieutenant Henry Gasiorek with his partners Viton (L) and Red.**

doubt in Gasiorek's mind that the missing boy was close by. Police concentrated their efforts on the area and by approximately 5:30 PM Alexander Lin walked out of the brush-filled area unharmed.

"After about 20 minutes of searching in the swamp, I couldn't feel my feet anymore," said Lt. Gasiorek. "But after seeing the mother pleading with us to help find her son, there was no way I was going to give up looking."

## Making the Grade

from page 1

As part of his impressive commitment to community service, he has participated in 15 short-term mission trips to rebuild areas in Mississippi since Hurricane Katrina and has also helped to construct a hospital in the Dominican Republic.

Not only is Allen's mother employed by the Department of Correction; Allen's sister, Shanon Copas, also works for the agency as a Correctional Counselor at the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution.

An alumni of Lyman Hall High School in Wallingford, Mr. Copas earned 12 varsity letters, compiled a 3.86 grade point average, and was his class' graduation speaker. The John R. Manson Scholarship Fund was established by friends and colleagues of John Manson, the Commissioner of the Department of Correction from 1971-1982, in memory of his many positive contributions to the field of corrections. The scholarship provides an undergraduate student enrolled at the University of Connecticut, who is a dependent of a Department of Correction employee, with financial assistance. Although the award amount varies from year to year, depending in large part on the number of recipients; as the only recipient this year Mr. Copas received a \$1,200 scholarship.

Recipient selection is based not only on scholastic achievement, but also on community service, establishment of goals, and efforts made to offset tuition through part-time employment.

# DUI/Home Confinement Colonel Barwikowski

from page 1

Conceived with the support of Mothers Against Drunk Driving, it recognizes that merely locking up some drunk driving defendants does little to alter their future behavior, and in the long run, does more harm than good, by disrupting their ability to continue to be a contributing member of society. Under the oversight of Director Patrick Hynes, a multi-disciplinary advisory committee has been hard at work since last fall, developing the implementation of this statute. Key to its success is a full assessment of the offender that will take place during the early stages of incarceration, which will determine their appropriateness for this new approach and revised treatment model. The program will ultimately also involve an ignition interlock device on the offender's car that will be required in some cases by the Department of Motor Vehicles. We have also set up a special unit within our Parole and Community Services Division that will provide special oversight of these community based offenders. At the beginning of April we so far have placed nearly 50 appropriate DUI offenders into this home confinement program. As with any such program we will be eagerly watching and measuring their success in terms of compliance and recidivism. I want to express my gratitude to Director Hynes and his staff for the hard and detailed work that went into making this program a reality. For me and I hope for you, this is a very exciting time for our agency. Corrections may be a very old profession, but we can still teach the old dogs some new tricks that will benefit all who come in contact with our work.

Recently retired Parole Manager Gary Barwikowski was promoted to Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserve during a ceremony held on February 18, 2012. In attendance

were numerous friends and family including both of Colonel Barwikowski's sons, who are also in the military. Unbeknownst to retired Parole Manager Barwikowski, his eldest son Nick (pictured with Gary), who is currently a Captain in the Army, and serving overseas, was in attendance. Gary's other son



Recently retired Parole Manager Gary Barwikowski (L) is congratulated by his son Nick after the elder Barwikowski was promoted to the rank of Colonel in the U.S. Army Reserves.

Alex, is a lieutenant in the Air Force and is a B-52 pilot. Colonel Barwikowski continues to serve on active duty and has been deployed numerous times over his career to include Kosovo, Iraq two times, and Afghanistan, as well as several other locations.

## Code Orange @ BCC

Correction Officer Antoinette Allen of the Bridgeport Correctional Center is currently hospitalized recovering from a stroke. She is in the process of significant physical therapy to improve/regain motor function to the right side of her body. Staff members at the facility have already begun fundraising efforts. Officer Allen is in need of accrued NP-4 leave donations, as she will be exhausting her balances shortly. If you wish to contribute, please contact Correction Officer Patricia Daniels at the Bridgeport Correctional Center at (203) 579-6131.

Employee Assistance Program

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1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

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

## An Appreciative Attorney

*The following is a letter from Assistant Attorney General Terry O'Neill to Commissioner Leo C. Arnone*

Dear Commissioner Arnone:

As you know, Steve Strom and I recently had the honor of representing the department and 18 current and former employees in a civil rights action brought by inmate Ira Alston. This was one of several hundred lawsuits pending in our office that are brought by Northern Correctional Institution (NCI) inmates. Our attorneys work exceptionally hard to defend NCI staff, administration, policies and practices in our state and federal courts. In addition to the extraordinary dedication of Warden Maldonado and his management team, we have come to rely upon the assistance of officer Sokolowski and officer Blais in our defense of the many complicated, challenging suits that come out of NCI.

Our recent experience with both officer Sokolowski and officer Blais during the Alston trial was typical of the dedication and effort each brings to his job. Virtually every day, the court and/or the inmate would make a claim or advance a legal theory that could not have been anticipated, and that required immediate response. Working off-hours, nights and weekends, officer Sokolowski and especially officer Blais gathered critical documents, videos and logs that were used to show the inmate and his witnesses were dishonest and their claims were meritless. All of this work was done with considerable court pressure and absurdly stringent deadlines.

Both officer Sokolowski and officer Blais are consistently, extraordinarily helpful and supportive of our efforts, and demonstrate the highest level of commitment to their colleagues by working so hard to defend against the multitude of legal claims brought against NCI staff. We could not do our jobs without this assistance.

I have been remiss in not acknowledging their superior effort sooner, and take this opportunity on behalf of the attorneys in this department to thank you, Warden Maldonado and his staff for all of your support. More particularly, please allow us to single out officer Sokolowski and officer Blais for their dedication, hard work and professional guidance in the defense of NCI.

Very Truly Yours,  
Terrence M. O'Neill - Assistant Attorney General



**Officers Christopher Blais (L) and Todd Sokolowski**

## Around the Cell Block



**WISCONSIN** – Governor Scott Walker has signed a bill that allows judges to order GPS monitoring for people who violate restraining orders. The measure calls for the state DoC to use GPS monitoring to track violators and call police if they enter areas they must avoid under their restraining orders. Anyone on monitoring would have to pay a \$200 to cover tracking costs.

**NEW YORK** – A federal judge has ruled that authorities are not allowed to import sodium thiopental, a drug used to knock prisoners unconscious in executions, because it is has not been approved for use in the United States by the Food and Drug Administration. The judge also directed five states that had imported the drug to return their supplies to the FDA immediately.

**Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
April 11, 2012  
21,187  
On April 11, 2011  
the population was  
22,364**

## 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 Jay Harder, Plant Facilities Engineer I, and questions relating to it may be answered by contacting him at 860-692-7558. Any questions related to this article may be answered by contacting him at 860-240-1878. If you have any questions, or have an idea for a future column, please leave a message on the Director of Facilities Management and Engineering’s phone at (860) 692-7554.*

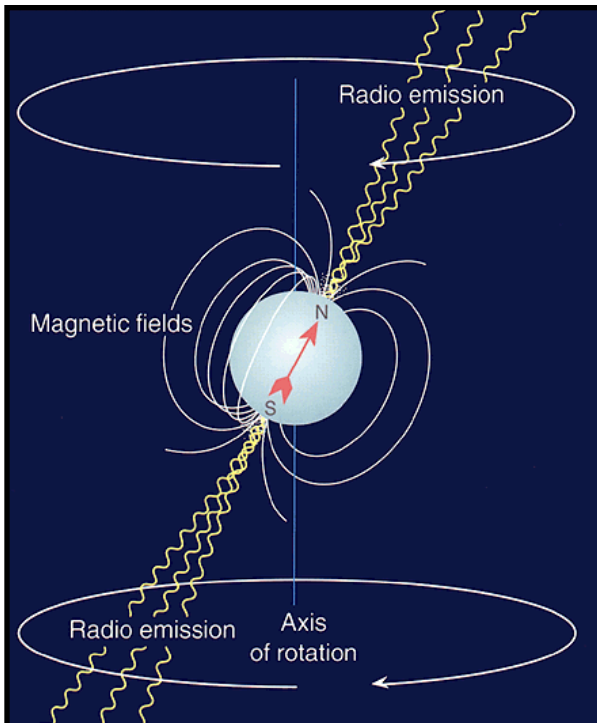
## Weighty Matters of the Celestial Cosmos

### Einstein’s Theory of General Relativity

I’m sure everyone is aware that Albert Einstein theorized laws concerning gravity which he wrote over 90 years ago. To date, his theory has proven to be correct but scientists and astronomers are always finding new ways to test it and attempt to prove it wrong. One such test astronomers have used to try to prove or disprove Einstein’s law is to observe binary pulsars. Binary star systems are two stars gravitationally held together and revolve around each other in an orbit similar to the earth and moon, but on a much larger scale. A pulsar is a massive star that has collapsed after exploding in a supernovae, but was not quite large enough to collapse all the way down to a black hole. As the pulsar spins at incredible speeds, radio waves like a beam of light are emitted from its North and South Pole and if they are pointed towards Earth, they are seen as a pulse of radio

waves every time they make one revolution. While Earth makes one revolution every 24 hours, pulsars can make tens of thousands of revolutions in a second.

In my mind, I envision a pulsar as a big steel ball bearing spinning in the vacuum of space. They spin so fast and with such accuracy, they are used as atomic clocks. Astronomers have found a binary pulsar system, two pulsars orbiting around each other with the radio wave beam from each aimed towards the Earth. Astronomers have used these radio wave beams to test Einstein’s Theory. If you can envision, two pulsars at opposite sides of their orbit as seen from Earth, each pulsing radio waves. As one passes behind the other, as viewed from Earth, the radio wave pulse has to pass through the pulsar’s gravity in front of it before it can continue towards us. As that pulse passes through the gravitational field of its companion, the gravitational field will slow the radio waves down a fraction of their speed. As each pulsar passes behind the other, as viewed from Earth, the radio wave beam should slow down according to Einstein’s Theory by a precise amount. And it does, exactly as Einstein’s Theory predicts. So far, Einstein’s Theory which was written more than 90 years ago has proven to be correct even with exotic particles like photons (light), radio, X-rays and gamma rays. The bottom line is that everything in the observable universe that has mass, no matter how small, is affected in a predictable way by gravity.



**A pulsar is a highly magnetized, rotating neutron star that emits a beam of electromagnetic radiation. This radiation can only be observed when the beam of emission is pointing towards the Earth, much the way a lighthouse can only be seen when the light is pointed in the direction of an observer, and is responsible for the pulsed appearance of emission.**

# Witness to History

*The following article was written by Correctional Commissary Operator Wayne Durst*

When I was nine-years-old, my father sold our Guernsey farm in Coleman Station, N.Y. and rented a house in nearby Amenia, while he returned to UCONN to supplement his Agriculture Degree with education credits so that he could teach Agriculture in Northeast CT. The property adjacent to the rental house was a large tract owned by the Spingarn family. The house was a grand Tudor built in the late 1800's with a very large library, philosopher's faces carved into exposed beam ends and an expanse of lawns shaded by sycamores and white oaks. Joel Spingarn had died in 1949; the house was no longer occupied and was bare, but his wife Amy came up from New York City with friends most weekends to stay in the largest of the "cottages" that were on the property. To an inquisitive nine-year-old boy in 1954, property lines were advisory rather than particularly restrictive, so I became very familiar with the grounds, the trout stream, the regular guests from New York and even the inside of the main house (by way of the unlocked doors- illicitly but fairly often). It was peaceful and I never gave my presence away with evidence of visitation. Sometime before our family left to continue life elsewhere, my mother mentioned that Mr. Spingarn was one of the founders of the NAACP. And at some point I began to realize that the weekend guests were notable, somehow, as I talked to them ... the outgoing and uninvited neighbor kid who would carry a suitcase, pick them flowers for their table or sell them Spingarn trout for a dollar apiece. These were pleasant times and the connection to civil rights did not gain foothold with me until my wife and I took a delayed honeymoon to Washington, DC—inadvertently at the same time as the burning in Northwest DC and civil unrest of Resurrection City which occupied all of the National Mall with tents. It is only since that time that I have put together the effects of coincidental proximity with the family, the Spingarn contribution to civil rights, the changes in civil rights law; I now feel that I have a "been there" appreciation of that change. In the late 1800's and early 1900's there was a massive migration of rural blacks from the south to northern industrial cities in order to find employment. They found work, but also the same prejudice as in the south. Within black communities, the talk of revolution developed. Joel Spingarn, who was Jewish, had met black historian W.E.B. Dubois at Harvard and Booker T. Washington; together they formed the NAACP. Spingarn and Dubois had an opposing view to revolution. They organized the "Amenia Conference" which convened August 24<sup>th</sup> to 26<sup>th</sup> 1916 at Spingarn's estate, Troutbeck. They invited approximately 50 black leaders to endorse a "Unity" platform that affirmed all forms of education and political freedom for blacks. They also pledged to work together to improve race relations and forget old "hurts and enmities". The Amenia Conference marked the NAACP's ascent as the dominant force in the civil rights movement. It was in 1915 that the NAACP initiated the yearly award of the Spingarn Medal which is given to a member of the black community who has shown "incredible service to the community". Past recipients include George Washington Carver (1923), Thurgood Marshall (1946), Ralph Bunche (1949), Martin Luther King (1957), Langston Hughes (1960), Medgar Evers (1963), Bill Cosby (1985), Colin Powell (1991) and, last year, Cicely Tyson. Spingarn's estate is now an executive conference facility. In 2005, the general manager found a letter in the attic addressed to Amy Spingarn written in Martin Luther King's hand. An excerpt of the letter reads: "The experience of receiving the Spingarn Medal, made possible by the devotion and good will of your late husband, will certainly stand as one of the high moments in my life." At the reading of the entire letter, King's way with words, powerful and elegant, had many in tears.



**Correctional Commissary Operator Wayne Durst.**

# History Lessons

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My perspective on this is that I am thankful for my own brief and insignificant, but real exposure to this part of our history. And I am glad for all of us that, though there are many sad chapters in the story of civil rights, progress is substantial and written into law. It could have turned at some point in a direction that is evident in other lands that do not respond with even a slow justice—acts so heinous and unforgivable that hatreds will continue to boil over with regularity.

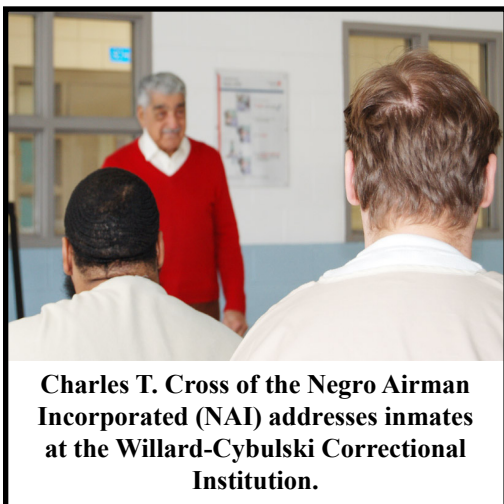
Since reading Martin Luther King's "Letter from the Birmingham Jail" many years ago, I have re-read it now about six or seven times. He wrote this in response to Birmingham clergymen who pleaded with him not to bring protest to Birmingham, not to upset an area that kept the peace through repression. Though nine pages in length, the writing is concise and the reasoning is moral and as relevant today as when he wrote it on April 16, 1963. And though the subject is civil rights, readers can apply the message of courage to do the right thing for so many problems that we face.

King's entire letter is inspirational, but to quote several lines that seem apt for this month: "I have no despair about the future. I have no fear about the outcome of our struggle in Birmingham, even if our motives are at present misunderstood. We will reach the goal of freedom in Birmingham and all over the nation, because the goal of America is freedom. Abused and scorned though we may be, our destiny is tied up with America's destiny.... We will win our freedom because the sacred heritage of our nation and the eternal will of God are embodied in our echoing demands."

Most events do not happen, they are caused to happen. So often hate and immorality seems stronger than love and decency. But around us everywhere is evidence of good...the work of the very many who believe in and live by high personal principle.



## WWII Airman at Willard Cybulski CC



Charles T. Cross of the Negro Airman Incorporated (NAI) organization visited the Willard Cybulski Correctional Institution recently to provide an overview about his experiences while in the army.

Mr. Cross enlisted in the Army Reserve on October 5, 1942 and was on active duty until February 4, 1946. He is the only surviving member of the NAI and continues to speak publicly to keep the mission of the organization, which is to share the story of the history of Negro men in the armed forces and how they paved the way for others that followed, alive.

After the service Charles obtained his private pilot's license and volunteered to give children plane rides to enhance their interest in aviation.

He is the president of his local chapter of NAI in Massachusetts, where he currently resides.

## Years Of Service February 2012

### Employees with 20 Years of Service as of February 2012

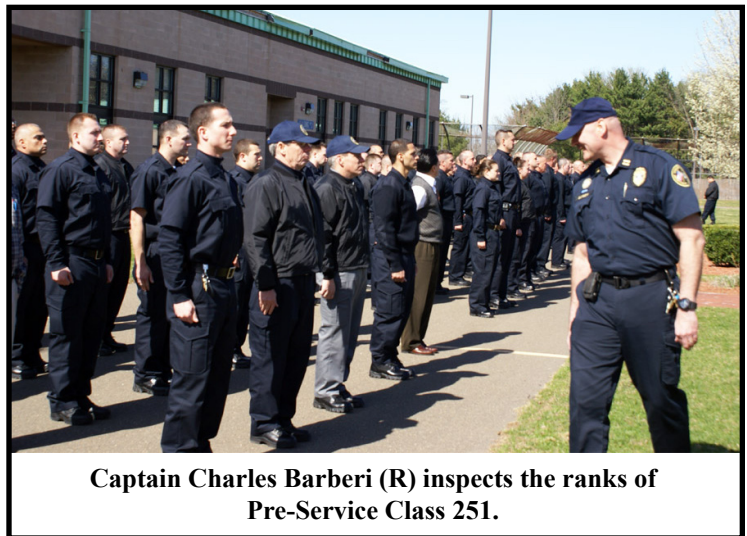
<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Willett, Teresa	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	1/24/1992
Silva, Patricia	Principal HR Specialist	Central Office	2/21/1992
Brunetti, Paul	Corr Stores Supervisor	Central Office	1/24/1992
Matthews, James	Corr. Gen. Main. Off.	Cheshire CI	2/21/1992
Sousa, Erik	Corr. Lieutenant	Cheshire CI	1/24/1992
Newton, Robert	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	1/24/1992
Noren, Bruce	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	1/24/1992
Domizio, Donald	Correction Officer	MYI	1/24/1992
Terry, Charles	Correction Officer	MYI	1/24/1992

### Employees with 25 Years of Service as of February 2012

Paquette, Susan	Corr. Counselor	CRCC	2/27/1987
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## Class 251 is Underway

Members of Pre-Service Class 251 began their first day of training on Friday, March 23 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development with a total of 135 trainees. The group is comprised of 114 Correction Officers, four Correctional Counselors, two Correctional Industries Supervisors, two Chaplains, and one Commissary Operator. Filling out the ranks of Class 251 are 12 newly hired Correctional Managed Health Care (CMHC) employees, including seven Nurses, two Licensed Practical Nurses, one Clinical Social Worker, one Clinical Social Worker Licensed Clinician, and a Licensed Professional Counselor.



**Captain Charles Barberi (R) inspects the ranks of Pre-Service Class 251.**

Commissioner Leo C. Arnone addressed the class on Wednesday, March 28<sup>th</sup> and welcomed the group to the Department. After completing six weeks of training at the training academy, members of Class 251 will complete four weeks of on-the-job training at their assigned facilities. Upon successfully completing their training, the group will return to the training academy for their graduation ceremonies on June 7, 2012.