



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 reintegration

Correctional Employee, Nurses', Teachers' Week May 6 – 12, 2012

Somehow it doesn't seem fair to try to squeeze the appropriate recognition for all of these worthy and beneficial professions into one week's time. But this convergence of appreciation is in many ways indicative of the world of corrections, which requires the talents and services of so many professional men and women if we are to be successful in the reintegration of offenders back into law abiding society.

My 38-years in criminal justice has spanned both the custody and treatment ranks. These are the two legs that our agency stands on. One cannot exist or flourish without the other. Our already highly successful Risk Reduction Earned Credit program is an example of this co-dependence. Participation in programming combined with appropriate behavior leads to the reward of sentence reduction. None of this would be possible without you, the best correctional professionals in the country.

I am constantly impressed by the can do attitude you employ on a daily basis, despite the constraints of time, staffing or funding that are the realities of our world. As always your duties are carried out with a commitment first and foremost to our mission of protecting the public. Our facilities are safe, secure and orderly, enjoying a record over the past decade that many states wish to they could aspire to. This is a direct result of your daily interaction with the offender population, which views you and your actions as a role model for their future direction in life.

So on this week, know you are appreciated for all you do and make sure that you pass on that gratitude to your fellow correctional professionals who support you and our daily duties on behalf of the citizens of the great State of Connecticut.

Sincerely,

Leo C. Arnone
Commissioner

April 12, 2012
through
May 7, 2012

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From the Commissioner



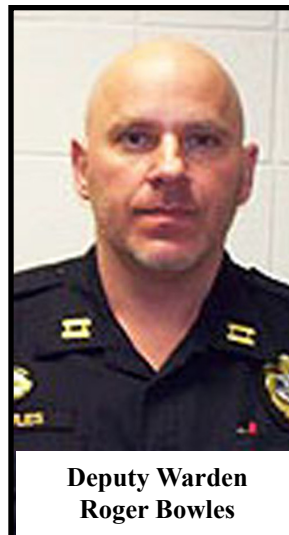
Usually in this column I am talking, in the past tense, about another significant accomplishment that the Connecticut Department of Correction has achieved due to the professional men and women who on a daily basis commit themselves to the protection of the citizens of our great state. However, this time I am able to promote something that is coming up. It too is a major kudo for our agency, and it also involves protection of the public, but on the larger scale of the entire nation. I am talking about the Second Annual, Military Veterans, Armed Forces Day Celebration and Family Picnic that will be held on May 19th at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. Our Military Peer Support Program which put together our highly successful first program last year has been extremely busy planning this year's celebration, which will recognize those staff that have and continue to serve our country and protect our freedoms. Let us not forget that currently we still have 15 colleagues who remain on active military duty around the globe, placing themselves in harm's way to safeguard our freedoms. As you may know, the Department of Correction has had more staff called to active military duty post 9/11 than any other state agency. The total at this point is in excess of 200 staff that have traded our DOC uniform for one of our country's service branches. You will soon be seeing these staff members displaying insignia on their DOC uniform indicating which branch they have served with as part of another program the Peer Support Program is putting together. I urge you to attend the celebration which will feature a formal recognition ceremony and then fun for the whole family with a touch a truck feature, a clown, music and other entertainment. I would be terribly remiss if I also did not tell you that our Governor, Dannel P. Malloy, is also scheduled to come and be with us for this special day. I know you join with me in deep gratitude for what all of our military men and women do, and especially for what our own colleagues have and continue to sacrifice on our behalf. So come enjoy the fun and say thank you for the freedoms we enjoy each and every day.

Promotions & Reassignments

Please join Commissioner Arnone and Deputy Commissioners Dzurenda and Cepelak in congratulating Counselor Supervisor Sandra Barone and Capt. Roger Bowles on their promotion to Deputy Warden effective May 4, 2012. DW Barone will be assigned to MacDougall-Walker C.I. and DW Bowles will take on the role of Deputy Warden at New Haven C.C.

In addition to the promotions, the following re-assignments went into effect on Friday, May 4, 2012. Please wish them well in their new roles.

DA Michael Lajoie	South District
DA Angel Quiros	North District
DW Gary Wright	Osborn C.I.
DW Stephen Bates	Corr.-Radgowsk C.I.
DW Chris Corey	Brooklyn C.I.
DW Antonio Santiago	Cheshire C.I.
DW Michael Davis	South District
DW Nick Rodriguez	North District



Special Recognition

The Department of Correction Garners two Awards from Special Olympics



(L to R): Michael Mason, Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Special Olympics Connecticut, York CI Warden Kevin Gause, Marc Mercadante, Eastern Regional Director - Special Olympics Connecticut, Matt Glad, Sargent Shriver Global Messenger and Athlete with Special Olympics Connecticut, and York CI Lieutenant Eric Dessales.

Staff members of the Department of Correction were the recipients of not one, but two awards during the Special Olympics Connecticut Hall of Fame Awards Dinner. The annual event which honors outstanding athletes, volunteers and supporters was held on March 21, at the Aqua Turf Country Club in Plantsville, CT. What should not come as much of a surprise considering the staff's yearlong commitment to the cause, the York Correctional Institution received the award for the Outstanding Organization for the Eastern Region. In addition the "group" award, Captain Theresa Penn of the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center received an Unsung Hero Award, to volunteers who work tirelessly behind the scenes to benefit Special Olympics.

In presenting the Outstanding Organization Award Special Olympics Connecticut's

Eastern Regional Director Marc Mercadante said, "Under the direction of Warden Kevin Gause and Lieutenant Eric Dessales, York CI has put together a committee that takes on fundraising events such as the LETR Basketball Tournament at St. Bernard's School, the Tri-town Cop on Top, the VFW Tip-A-Cop, Tip-A-Cop at Waterford Dunkin Donuts, the York CI Poker Ride, the most recent Over the Edge event held at Mohegan Sun and various other fundraisers. Also, each year, they recruit 25-30 runners and walkers to participate in leg 2 of the annual law enforcement torch run. In the last five years York CI has raised \$90,000 to benefit Special Olympics and is always there to support the Eastern Regional events, this truly makes them deserving of this award."

Unsung No More

Captain Penn has been involved with Special Olympics since 2001, and has served as the Town Captain and Leg 2 Coordinator for the Law Enforcement Torch Run. She was the first correction officer and woman to complete a three-day Cop on Top fundraising event. Since 2001, Captain Penn has helped staff members of the Corrigan-Radgowski facility raise more than \$40,000 to benefit Special Olympics. In the words of her nominator, "she has shown a true dedication to our athletes and our mission with her efforts."

The event was hosted by the Bozzuto and Calvanese families, with Brad Field of NBC Connecticut and Renee DiNino of Clear Channel Community Access Radio served as the emcees for the event.



(L to R): Rick Allen - Board Chairman at Special Olympics Connecticut Corrigan-Radgowski CC's Captain Theresa Penn, Alison Smith - Sargent Shriver Global Messenger and Athlete with Special Olympics CT.

“Big” Award for Beaton

Correction Officer Michael Beaton of the Northern Correctional Institution recently received the 2012 Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters Exceptional Mentor Award. Officer Beaton who has been a Big Brother since 2004, received the award during the Big Brothers Big Sisters Volunteer Recognition Event held April 10, at the Keeney Memorial Cultural Center in Wethersfield, CT.

In a letter written by Nutmeg Big Brothers Big Sisters President and Chief Executive Officer Andy Fleischmann, received by Northern’s deputy warden Don Cyr informing him of Officer Beaton’s selection, “Winning the recognition isn’t easy. Most important, candidates must be outstanding mentors, which Mike definitely is.”

Mr. Fleischmann went on to add, “You should know too that Mike was selected from a wide field of contenders by a panel of Nutmeg staff members, who both recognize and applaud his dedication to the emotional, intellectual and social development of children.”



Northern CI Correction Officer Michael Beaton(L) with his Little Brother Nicholas.

Dog Show



Captain Anna Dorozko, Captain Jose Angeles and Officer Marzena Tasarz of the Hartford Correctional Center accompanied by K-9 Handler Lieutenant Greg Chandler and his K-9 Partner Brianna recently spoke with fifth, sixth, seventh and eighth grade students at the St. Cyril & Methodius School in Hartford about future

career opportunities with the Department of Correction. Students were reminded about how important getting an education was and staying out of trouble.

Around the Cell Block



WASHINGTON – He’s on the lam, but Travis Nicolaysen still had time to update his facebook page. His first day on the run, one friend posted to his account: “Cops all over you.” Nicolaysen responded the next day with: “ya got away thanks bro.”

Florida – Using empty food containers from the kitchen and anything else they could find in the trash staff at a Charlotte County prison built a hydroponic garden that has produced 7,500 pounds of produce since 2009.

WISCONSIN – Hundreds of prisoners, fleeing felons, and probation and parole violators in Wisconsin have been illegally receiving food stamp benefits, costing the state an estimated \$1.8 million according to a state audit.

*Total
Supervised
Population on
May 7, 2012
21,093*

*On May 7, 2011
the population was
22,317*

Lieutenant Tata Named Head Football Coach at Fermi High School

Was assistant coach on three state championship teams at New Britain

Lieutenant Joseph Tata, a 20-year veteran of the Department of Correction has been named head coach of the Fermi High School football program. A longtime assistant football coach in Connecticut and a defensive specialist, Tata served as assistant defensive coordinator at New Britain High School during a streak of three 2001, 2003 and 2004 Class LL state championships. He coached Tebuck Jones, who went on to a nine-year career in the National Football League, including a Super Bowl XXXVI championship with the New England Patriots.

Following his tenure at New Britain, Tata moved



Lieutenant/Head Coach
Joseph Tata

to Western New England College as defensive coordinator and linebackers coach. Under his tutelage, two of his linebackers were selected to the All-Conference team. Most recently, Tata spent four years as assistant defensive coordinator at Wethersfield High School. Lieutenant Tata inherits a Fermi High School (located in Enfield, CT) program that was winless in 2011, and was outscored 394-65. The team's last victory was Nov. 5, 2010 against Weaver. "This is a very big opportunity for me. I plan to establish a great relationship with the parents and get involved with the Booster Club. A winning program is not just on the field; it's in the community, and in academic success."

Hynes Named Professional of the Year

Congratulations to Patrick Hynes, Ph.D., director of the Department of Corrections' Best Practices Unit for being selected as the Professional of the Year by the Council of Churches of Greater Bridgeport. Hynes was honored at the Bridgeport Reentry Collaborative Award Ceremony on March 26, at Housatonic



Patrick Hynes, Ph.D.

Community College's Beacon Hall Events Center located in Bridgeport. Winners were nominated by over 40 different member agencies of the Bridgeport Reentry Collaborative.

More than 80 people received recognition in such areas as outstanding student, advocacy, personal achievement, business partner of the year, community partner of the year and, of course, professional of the year.

The awards were presented by a variety of local dignitaries including: Bridgeport state Rep. Andres Ayala; William Carbone, State Director of Court Support Services Division; Rina Bakalar, Executive Director of Workforce Competitiveness, state Department of Labor; Bridgeport Mayor Bill Finch; Michael Lawlor, Deputy Secretary, State Office of Policy and Management; U.S. District Judge Stefan Underhill; Jarvis Johnson, aide to U.S. Rep. Jim Himes, and by director Hynes himself. A special honor, the Urdang-Torres Community Impact Award, was given to John Santa, the Department of Correction's volunteer of the year, for his role in educating the employer community about the importance of hiring ex-offenders.

The Bridgeport Reentry Collaborative is a voluntary association of more than 40 local and state agencies that have worked together since 2007 to create a comprehensive network of services for men and women returning from incarceration to the greater Bridgeport community.

Collaborative Research Grant Update

For the past year and a half the Connecticut Department of Correction has been working in partnership with the University of Connecticut School of Nursing and UCONN Health Center on a three-year federal grant-funded project to build up infrastructure for research and evaluation at the Department of Correction (DoC).

It is hoped that the results of this project will enhance criminal justice researcher-practitioner partnerships and facilitate projects that will be beneficial to the department. Research and evaluation at the DoC will lead to evidence-based practices to validate what the agency is doing well, reveal things that it could do differently, while discovering cost-effective solutions.

Three teams are working toward the goals of this grant: Leadership, Education & Training, and Information Technology/Management Information Systems. The working teams expect to see several changes implemented as a result of their efforts:

- 1) Planning and carrying out research at the DOC will be easier. The application and approval process will be spelled out more clearly, and may be posted on a website.
- 2) Uniform data elements and codebooks will be made accessible to DOC staff and researchers. The grant is supporting the expansion of Connecticut Health Information Network (CHIN) to include the DOC and Correctional Managed Health Care CMHC data and to link these data with information from other state agencies, including the Departments of Public Health, Children and Families, and Developmental Services.
- 3) In addition, more DOC staff members will be encouraged to discuss implementing the outcomes of research and evaluation projects to benefit facility practices.

Members of CT DOC staff who are involved on all three teams of this partnership are Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak; Colleen Gallagher, Health Services Program Director for Health and Addiction Services; and Michelle Altomare, Associate Research Analyst. Dan Bannish, Health Services Program Director; and Pat Hynes, Ph.D., Director of Best Practices Unit, participate on the Leadership Team. While Tracey Butler, Director of Human Resources and Training, along with Warden Jose' Feliciano are on the Education & Training Team. Bob Cosgrove, Director of Management Information System, works with the IT/MIS Team. Brian Garnett, Director of External Affairs, has provided very helpful feedback as well.

From the UCONN Health Center, Robert Trestman, Professor and Executive Director of the Correctional Managed Health Care division (CMHC), sits on the Leadership Team. Robert Aseltine, Professor and Director of CHIN and the Institute for Public Health Research, is on the IT Team, along with Pat Cooney, Applications Developer, and Mike Vasquezna, Director of IT for CMHC. Michael Nicholson, CMHC Director for Education, participates on the Education & Training Team.

From the UCONN School of Nursing, Deborah Shelton, Professor, is the Project Director; William Barta is the Evaluator, and Nancy Dittes is Research Coordinator. Megan Ehret, Assistant Professor at the UCONN School of Pharmacy, works with the Education and Training Team.

If you'd like more information about this project, please contact Michelle Altomare, at the Connecticut Department of Correction: 860-692-7815, or Michelle.Altomare@po.state.ct.us



Years Of Service

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of March 2012

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Aleskwiz, John	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	3/6/1992
Allen, Thomas	Lieutenant	MWCI	3/6/1992
Autunno, David	Correction Officer	MYI	1/24/1992
Beaudry, Michael	Captain	MWCI	3/6/1992
Briatico, Robert	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Bridgman, Shawn	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Burke, Donald	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Caissie, Russell	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	3/6/1992
Carabine, William	Correction Officer	CRCI	3/6/1992
Cleek, Robert	Correction Officer	WCCI	3/6/1992
Colley, Timothy	School Principal 2	MYI	3/6/1992
Corl, Edward	Lieutenant	MWCI	3/6/1992
Dearden, Elizabeth	State School Teacher	CRCI	3/24/1992
Deleon, Robert	Parole Officer 2	Central Off	3/6/1992
Derota, Fred	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Diaz, Jose	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Dubish, Keith	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	3/6/1992
Evans, Sandra	Correction Officer	Hartford CC	3/6/1992
Figliola, Donald	Captain	Central Off	3/6/1992
Fullard, Willard	Lieutenant	WCCI	3/6/1992
Garcia, Hector	Correction Officer	BCC	3/6/1992
Gay, Leroy	Corr Electrician	MWCI	3/6/1992
Gidman, Daniel	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Godding, Kyle	Captain	Osborn CI	3/6/1992
Goyzueta, Daniel	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Guarino, David	Counslr Supv	Brooklyn CI	3/6/1992
Hackett, Darrell	Correction Officer	MYI	3/6/1992
Hunt, Thomas	Counslr Supv	Garner CI	3/6/1992
Jones-Callands, Nancy	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	3/6/1992
Jurewicz, John	Correction Officer	Hartford CC	3/6/1992
Kirwin, Susan	Counselor	MWCI	3/6/1992
Labieniec, John	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Lamy, Christopher	Lieutenant	MYI	3/6/1992
Lembrick, Gene	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Maddox, Eileen	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Martin, Michael	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Mulhall, Stephen	Food Svcs Supv 2	MYI	3/6/1992

Copas Commended

Thanks to the hard work of Correctional Counselor Shannon Copas of the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution, a suspected terrorist has been identified as being in the custody of the Department of Correction. In a letter written by Warden John Tarascio, he thanked counselor Copas for her "outstanding efforts" in performing a background check on an inmate, which led to a review by the Terrorist Screening Center in Washington D.C.



**Willard-Cybulski's
Counselor
Shannon Copas.**

Her review revealed a positive match for the inmate whose name was on a list of suspected terrorists. Counselor Copas' efforts were shared with many other federal agencies, state and local law enforcement departments, as well as the United States Intelligence community.

Warden Tarascio concluded the letter by writing, "the Connecticut Department of Correction and the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution are thankful for your professional performance of your duties. I am lucky to have you here at WCCI."

Years Of Service cont...

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of March 2012

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Murphy, Daniel	Captain	MCTSD	3/6/1992
Murphy, William	Deputy Warden	Osborn CI	3/6/1992
Nesta, Gregory	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Nichols, Wallace	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	3/6/1992
Oien, James	Captain	CRCC	3/6/1992
Pentell, Isabel	Subst Abuse Cnslr	Central Off	11/15/91
Perry, David	Lieutenant	York CI	3/6/1992
Perry, Stephen	Correction Officer	WCCI	3/6/1992
Rice, Richard	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Rinaldi, Monica	Corr Warden 3	Central Off	3/2/1992
Rodriguez, Marisol	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Rodriquez, Ricardo	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Rosas, Victor	Correction Officer	Hartford CC	3/6/1992
Ryba, Rosanne	Counslr Supv	Central Off	3/6/1992
Sarsfield, Mark	Parole Officer 2	Central Off	3/6/1992
Saundry, Linda	Secretary 2	Cheshire CI	3/6/1992
Schaub, Scott	Fire Svc Supv (RC)	Central Off	3/6/1992
Soberal, Edgardo	Parole Officer 2	Central Off	3/6/1992
Sokolow, Eugene	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Stenson, Judith	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992
Strozier, Wilbur	Correction Officer	WCCI	3/6/1992
Sulewski, Joseph	Correction Officer	MWCI	3/6/1992
Tata, Joseph	Lieutenant	MCTSD	3/6/1992
Von eisengrein,Paul	Correction Officer	Northern CI	3/6/1992
Walton, Kim	Correction Officer	NHCC	3/6/1992
Welch, Mark	Correction Officer	Northern CI	3/6/1992
White, Harry	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	3/6/1992
Williams, Paulette	Counselor	Hartford CC	3/6/1992
Williams, Velma	Correction Officer	WCCI	3/6/1992
Yannacci, John	Correction Officer	York CI	3/6/1992

Employees with 35 Years of Service as of March 2012

Washington, Robert	Food Svcs Supv 2	CRCI	3/25/1977
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35 Years and Counting



Congratulations to Correctional Food Service Supervisor 2 Robert Washington of the Carl Robinson Correctional Institution for reaching the impressive milestone of 35 years of state service. A youthful 72-year-old, Mr. Washington says he is, “thinking about retiring.”

Condolences



Christopher W. Brockenberry, Sr. who retired as a Correction Officer from the New Haven Correctional Center, passed away on February 25, 2012 after a long illness. He was the fiance of Jane Ventrella, Correctional Head Nurse at NHCC.