

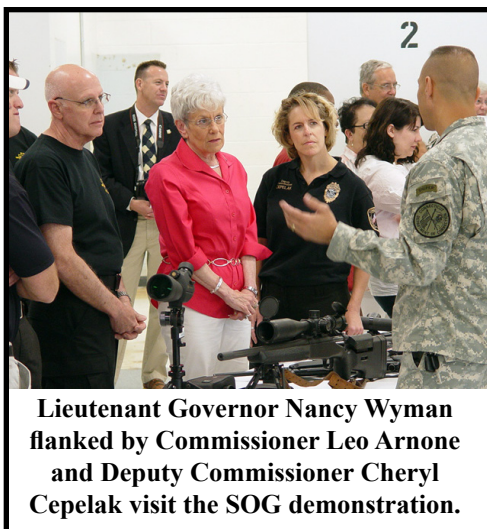
Our Mission
The Department of Correction shall protect the public, protect staff, and provide safe, secure and humane supervision of offenders with opportunities that support restitution, rehabilitation and successful community intergration

Easy Day

The DOC celebrates 30 years of CERT

From the visit by Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman in the morning to the large scale demonstration at the end of the day, the Correctional Emergency Response Team's 30th Anniversary Muster held on June 16 at the Webster Correctional Institution in Cheshire was a resounding success.

Commissioner Leo C. Arnone, himself a member of the first CERT team, along with Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak, escorted Lieutenant Governor Wyman as she viewed the various displays of CERT equipment and demonstrations performed by all four of the tactical operations units which include: CERT, the Special Operations Group, Situational Control hostage negotiators and its K-9 teams.



Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman flanked by Commissioner Leo Arnone and Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak visit the SOG demonstration.

see CERT Celebration / page 3

From the Commissioner



Because of the nature of our business, which is most often performed inside a building or encircled by a wall or fence, it wasn't often in the past that we got a lot of praise from those outside of our agency. They just hadn't had the opportunity to see what we do, and the high level of proficiency that we achieve in carrying out our mission of protecting the public.

So what I have been experiencing recently is something that I would like to share with you. Recently I took part in a statewide Emergency Command Center drill at the State Armory in Hartford. I was barely through the door when I was barraged by compliments about the Connecticut Department of Correction. The first was from a sergeant in the Connecticut National Guard who told me he didn't know how the statewide emergency network could even function without the outstanding assistance provided by DOC staff.

see Complimenting Corrections/page 3

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Restructuring Northern CI

At 6:30 a.m. on a recent morning, the roll call room at Northern Correctional Institution was packed with third and first shift staff, as Deputy Commissioner James Dzurenda sought to quell rumors about the future of the facility. “Northern will never close or merge with another facility,” Dzurenda said. “We need Northern.” But the future of the state’s only maximum security, level five facility is and will be shaped in the coming year, the deputy commissioner asserted, by national pressure that is being brought to bear against the practice of solitary confinement and maximum security facilities in general, highlighted by the federal super max prison in Colorado. The deputy commissioner was quick to point out that Connecticut does not utilize solitary confinement and the conditions of confinement at Northern are far less restrictive than those in Colorado, which he has witnessed firsthand.

A first of its kind, congressional hearing on the subject of solitary confinement was recently held and criticized the practice as not always being limited to the worst of the worst, but also utilized for mentally ill inmates, immigrants and juvenile offenders. That criticism has led to legal action against a number of states by the American Civil Liberties Union and others.

In recent conversations with staff, managers and the agency’s unions,

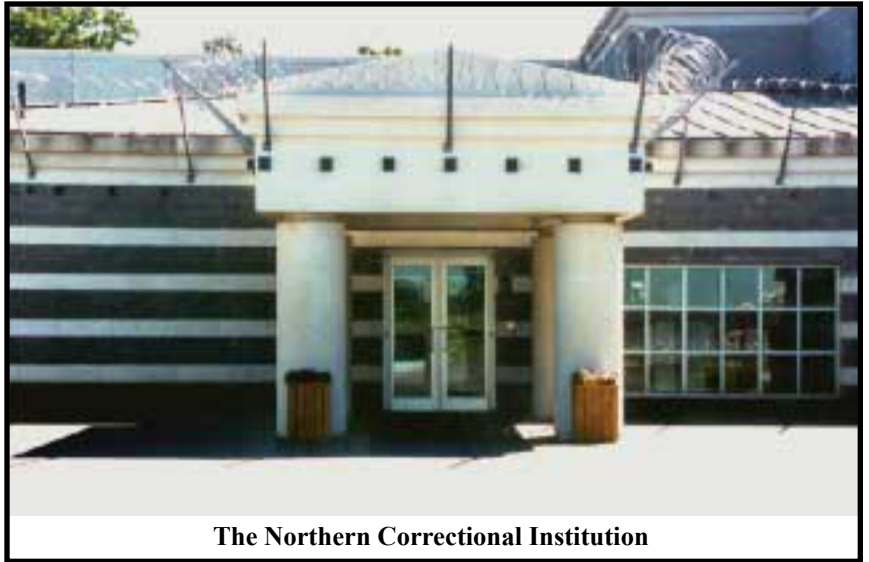
Dzurenda has stressed getting out in front of this national trend and avoiding the potential of having a court and/or civilian review panel appointed to monitor prison conditions, as has happened in other correctional systems such as Rikers Island in New York City.

“Northern is the place for people too dangerous to be in population,” said Dzurenda. As a result, several of the programs previously housed at the facility have and will be moved. Two of the six housing units have already been closed, which will assist in closing an anticipated budget gap. By next spring, Dzurenda predicted that

Northern’s population will shrink with only two units remaining open: housing Administrative Segregation, Phase One, Special Needs and Death Row. Chronic Discipline inmates have already been returned to their originating facilities, SRG Threat Members will be transferred to Walker as soon as renovations are completed and Administrative Segregation Phase Two and Phase Three will move to other facilities.

“We do things right, appropriately, and the right inmates are here,” said Dzurenda. Additionally, the practice of placing a

returning inmate back in Northern if that is where he has discharged from has been changed to take into account the offender’s crime and dangerousness when he returns. Dzurenda noted that he has already been to several states including Maine, New York, New Jersey, Texas and Colorado to study their maximum security facilities and strongly feels that Connecticut more appropriately carries out this mission. He says he is confident that the reconfigured Northern CI can be successfully defended in court, especially with the assistance of the expert testimony of the facility’s staff. “I can justify that and so can you,” Dzurenda said.



The Northern Correctional Institution

“We Need Northern”

**Deputy Commissioner
James Dzurenda**

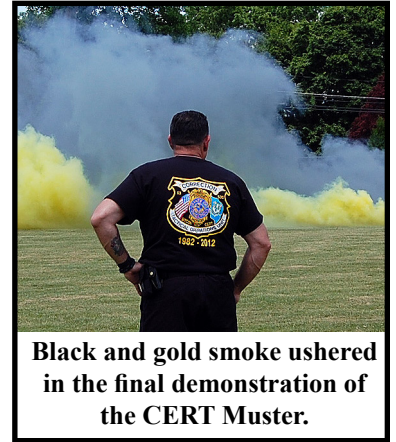
CERT Celebration from page 1



Captain Joseph Carlone (L) presents Commissioner Arnone with an original CERT team roster.

In addition to the Lt. Governor, scores of people including friends, family, and members of the general public witnessed impressive displays of skills and the latest tactical gear under the guise of simulated correctional emergency situations. The day also offered an opportunity for numerous retired CERT members to reminisce with their former coworkers.

Just prior to the final demonstration of the day, Captain Joseph Carlone, on behalf of the Tactical Operations Unit, presented Commissioner Arnone with a commemorative plaque. The framed plaque included a roster of the original CERT team.



Black and gold smoke ushered in the final demonstration of the CERT Muster.

Shortly afterwards, gold and black colored smoke canisters were deployed in advance of dozens of CERT members marching out onto the baseball field adjacent to Webster CI to reclaim it from staff members, dressed in jumpsuits, posing as inmates. With the field cleared, the entire Tactical Operations Unit reassembled and capped off the day with rousing chorus of the unit's unofficial motto -"easy day."

Complimenting Corrections from page 1

Since last year's storms, Hurricane Irene and the fall snowstorm, our agency has been playing an increasing role in assisting in the emergency response to disasters such as this. Whether taking part in evacuations, transporting Federal Emergency Management Agency officials to their site surveys, or managing the logistics of disbursing emergency food and water, we have stepped forward to fill the state's needs. Next, as I walked into a meeting room at the Command Center, a general in the National Guard wanted to tell me about the outstanding troops he had encountered during a recent summer camp in Leavenworth, Kansas. His story was about how professional this group of about 20 citizen soldiers was and how they outshined even some of the full time regular troops. The general then went on to say that we both had one thing in common. That group of soldiers worked for both him and me as they were all DOC employees. Not 20 minutes later the State Homeland Security director announced to the room that the new conference table, that for the first time ever allowed all of the state's emergency coordinating staff to sit together, was custom built to fit the space by staff and inmates at the Enfield Correctional Institution. He then went on to point out the wooden Homeland Security plaque, which lent a professional and dignified air to this room was made at our Cheshire facility. This was all in just one morning. Then, there was the case-worker from the Department of Children and Families, who visits our facilities regularly, and wanted to tell me that she had a need to talk to an inmate about his losing legal custody of his children. She contacted Corrigan-Radgowski where the inmate was housed and had to speak with the control center officer, a records specialist, a secretary, and a counselor before she made contact with the inmate. I was fully prepared to hear about security and red tape eating up her time, and that she had a job to do as well. But what I heard instead was how pleasant and helpful all of our staff was to her. To state the obvious, all of this praise makes me incredibly proud of our agency and most importantly of you, our staff, from the line officer and counselor up, who prove every day that we can professionally carry out our ever expanding mission of protecting the citizens of our state.

Solar Power at York

As part of the Department's overall push toward self sustainability and fiscal responsibility, two new solar-based hot water systems were recently installed at the York Correctional Institution.

The solar panel installations are the result of a cross agency effort which included representatives from the departments of Correction, Public Works, Administrative Services, the Office of Policy and Management, and the Connecticut Clean Energy Fund.



South District Administrator Michael Lajoie (L), and Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak listen to Plant Facility Engineer 1 Joseph Suchecki explain the solar hot water system installed on the roof of building 9A at York CI.

The culmination of more than two years of planning, the objective was to install a renewable energy project at a facility which would supplement the Agency's current and future needs. The result of the collaborative effort includes one rooftop installation consisting of 25 solar panels, along with a ground level installation of ten solar panels. The rooftop panels are used to heat water needed for the facility's kitchen, while the ground level panels heat water used in the North/South dorms. The total cost of the project, which was completed on April 1st, was \$530,000.

Plant Facilities Engineer 1 Joseph Suchecki, along with others associated with the project, showed off the recently completed solar installation at the York Correctional Institution to Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak, South District Administrator Michael Lajoie, and Warden Kevin Gause. During the presentation, Suchecki explained that in just two months, the solar installations have produced the equivalent of 193,709,476 British Thermal Units (BTUs). The solar heated water eliminated the need for 1,404 gallons of #2 heating oil which would have been used to heat the water.

Around the Cell Block



ILLINOIS – Governor Pat Quinn recently revealed that he is closing two state prisons even though the budget sent to him by legislators includes money to maintain the prisons and the hundreds of jobs they create.

MISSOURI – A Genevieve County jail inmate racked up more than \$1,800 on stolen credit card numbers to buy junk food from the jail commissary. Jonathan Alexander got a co-conspirator to call the jail and use stolen credit card numbers to fill up his commissary account.

OHIO – Some state inmates spend their time making baby booties, mittens and afghans. The incarcerated members of the "Real Men Crochet" program donate the items they create to the Veteran's Hospital, women's and homeless shelters.

**Total
Supervised
Population
on
July 31, 2012**

21,096

**On July 31, 2011
the population was
22,513**

York CI Torch Run 2012



Correction Officer Peter Violette carries the 2012 Special Olympics Torch.

This year's Law Enforcement Torch Run in support of Special Olympics Connecticut was held on June 6-8. The York Correctional Institution participated on Wednesday, June 6th.

The York CI leg of the run started in Old Lyme at the A&P Super Market and ended at the opening to the Rocky Neck

State Park, where the torch was passed to the participants from the Air National Guard.

This year, York raised a total of \$2,400 for the day of the Torch Run.

A total of 20 runners participated from York and they completed the longest leg of the day, a substantial 8.2 miles. Seven staff members from the facility continued on to complete a half marathon (13.1 miles).

In addition to the Torch Run, York CI again sent additional staff to Rocky Neck State Park to walk and raise money while the torch worked its way to the opening of the park from Old Lyme, where 20 staff enjoyed a two-hour walk while the torch made its way to the opening of the park where it was passed on.

This year's top torch run fundraiser from York CI was Correction Officer Jeff Bragg, who raised a total of \$250.

York CI also initiated a "Tips for Hair Cuts" program in the cosmetology classroom. Teacher Pat Cirillo, with the assistance of the inmates she supervises, raised a total of \$1,020 in tips for the Special Olympics Connecticut. To date, the staff of York has raised approximately \$15,000 this year for the Special Olympics athletes.

Aspirations Met

Deputy Wardens Bernard and Rodriguez graduate from Aspiring Leaders Program

The Aspiring Leaders Executive Development Program is a managerial developmental program designed to give managers skill training in 14 competencies critical to leading in state government. The Aspiring Leaders Program is offered annually through the Department of Administrative Services (DAS) in partnership with the Connecticut Training and Development Network (CTDN). Managers attended a rigorous course of ten modules which was completed over a three-month period. In addition to pre-class work and homework, the course culminated in a capstone project presentation, which demonstrated the program participants' incorporation of what they had learned, into their agency-approved project.

Each class highlighted a high level speaker from one of the three branches of government and featured commissioners from various agencies. The Department of Correction's own Commissioner Leo C. Arnone was one of the presenters. He along with the other guest speakers provided the participants an opportunity to hear from government leaders about the triumphs and challenges of leadership.

Deputy Wardens Bernard and Rodriguez were a part of a group

of 28 managers selected to representing 16 agencies to further develop and enhance their leadership skills. Both managers found the program very useful as it gave them the opportunity to practice skills such as strategic planning, process improvement and change management.



Deputy wardens Karen Bernard and Nick Rodriguez.

Every Dog Has Its Day

Canine teams from the Connecticut Department of Correction fetched five of the ten available top prizes during the 21st annual Connecticut Police Canine Olympics, held on July 21 at the University of Connecticut West Campus in Mansfield. The event is a daylong competition involving K-9 units from local police departments, CT State Police, and Department of Correction.

Teams were tested on their knowledge, ability, strength and stamina in such exercises as

obedience, obstacles, marksmanship, simulated apprehension and handler protection. Of the nearly 40 teams that competed, Lieutenant Andre Cox and his K9 partner Kazi placed 2nd overall. In addition, Department of Correction teams placed 1st in the Obstacle Course, Tactical Obedience, and Range portions of the competition.

Aside from the competition, the event featured displays by the Connecticut State Police Emergency Services

DOC K9 Olympic Results

Team Competition: Lieutenant Andre Cox and K9 Kazi - 2nd overall.

Tactical Obedience: Officer Charles Ellison and K9 Matrix - 1st place.

Obstacle Course: Officer Josh Trifone and K9 Apollo - 1st place.

Range: Officer Rob Sabourin and K9 Blade - 1st place

Most Experienced Handler Award: Officer Dan Murray

Most Experienced Canine Award: K9 Kazi



Officer Josh Trifone and his K9 partner Apollo.



Lieutenant Andre Cox and his K9 partner Kazi on the obstacle course.

Unit, Department of Correction CERT team, present day and historical police vehicles and weapon systems, as well as narcotic and bomb detection dogs.

Connecticut Child Identification Program (CT CHIP) was also on hand for parents to get their children registered in the recovery and identification program, which records children's fingerprints and tooth prints, as well as a cheek swab for DNA and a brief recording of the child to ascertain their appearance, speech and mannerisms. All of the money collected via the sponsorships, competitor entry fees, T-shirt and food sales is donated to the Shriners Burn Center, the Hometown Foundation, Special Olympics and CT CHIP.

Years of Service

As of May 2011

Employees with 25 Years of Service as of May 2012

| Name | Title | Facility | Hire Date |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------------|-----------|
| McGuinness, Michael | Fiscal/Admin. Off. | Central Office | 5/22/1987 |
| Dzurenda, James | Dep. Commissioner | Central Office | 5/15/1987 |

Employees with 30 Years of Service as of May 2012

| | | | |
|---------------|---------------|------|-----------|
| Milling, Lynn | Deputy Warden | MWCI | 5/28/1982 |
|---------------|---------------|------|-----------|

CIRSP is Expanding

The Critical Incident Stress Response Program (CISRP) has announced the need for the Department's CISRP Team to expand.

The CISRP provides support for staff adversely affected by a traumatic event. Interventions are conducted in a safe and confidential atmosphere to promote staff well being. All team members are trained in communication skills, crisis intervention skills, recognizing stress symptoms, grief support, defusing and debriefing techniques and helping to organize thoughts after a stressful event.

The CISRP is governed by Administrative Directive 2.18. To be a CISRP member you must have worked in a correctional environment for at least two years. Team members are needed throughout the agency.

To apply: submit a letter of interest, a resume, four letters of recommendation (one from your unit administrator, one from a supervisor of 6 months, and two personal references) and your last two performance appraisals.

Applications must be submitted (mailed and/or faxed) by Wednesday, August 22, 2012 to CS Jackie Jennett at MCTSD, 275 Jarvis Street, Cheshire CT 06410 or fax #(203) 271-5179. All required documents must be submitted in one packet. Any potential candidate will not be considered if the packet is incomplete. For further information contact Program Coordinator CS Jennett by email Jacqueline.Jennett@po.state.ct.us or CC Laura Jakabauski at 203-806-2579.

Parole Officer Appreciation

With a proclamation from Governor Dannel P. Malloy, the Department of Correction proudly recognized National Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week, July 15-21, 2012.

In an effort to show their gratitude for the dedication and hard work of their staff, Director of Parole and Community

Services Joseph Haggan, and the Chair of the Board of Pardons and Parole, Erika Tindill, held a Parole Officer Appreciation Day on Friday July, 2 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. In addition to a cookout of hotdogs and hamburgers, the day also featured teambuilding exercises and prize raffles - with the food and prizes having been donated by local businesses.

The officers were recognized for their commitment to supervising offenders and making our communities a safer place to live. Please join Commissioner Leo C. Arnone, Director Joseph Haggan and Chair Erika Tindill in thanking the parole officers and their support staff for all that they do.



BOPP Chair Erika Tindill serves up dessert.

Tragic Passing

Warden Carol Chapdelaine is deeply saddened to announce the untimely passing on July 9, 2012 of Correctional Substance Abuse Counselor Reuben Columbus Perrin. “The Osborn family was hit very hard by Reuben’s tragic passing,” she said. “We are offering his family our deepest condolences and all of our support.” Reuben was a member of the New London Elks, a member of the AFSCME union, a board member of Reliance House, a member of the Statewide Disaster Relief Team, a coach for the Plainfield Pee Wee Soccer program, and a football coach at St. Bernard High School. “He was such a remarkable and generous person,” Warden Chapdelaine said. “He was deeply dedicated to his job, his family, his friends and his community. Reuben touched so many lives in such a positive way, and he will be greatly missed by all those who were lucky enough to know him.” The Osborn staff decided to honor Reuben by holding a Pay-to-Park on Friday, July 20, 2011. Warden Chapdelaine, D/W William Murphy, D/W Gary Wright and several other staff stood in the pouring rain to collect donations to help support Reuben’s young family. “It didn’t matter that we were all soaked to the skin,” Warden Chapdelaine said. “What mattered to us is that we were out there doing all we could do to honor a member of our Osborn family.”

With the participation of the Osborn, Northern and Willard Cybulski facilities, more than \$3,300 was collected for Counselor Perrin’s family.

Correctional Substance Abuse Counselor Nickia Miller of the Willard Cybulski Correctional Institution, moved by the sudden passing of Counselor Perrin, urged her fellow DOC coworkers to honor his memory when she wrote the following:

“The loss of his awesome life is evidence that we have today. We have today to learn from our mistakes. We have today to teach our children. We have today to say ‘I love you.’ We have today to say ‘I have hope for you.’ I urge you not to allow yourself and your family members to become complacent. The next moment is not promised especially in our dangerous line of work. In honor of Reuben’s beautiful life and legacy, spread hope - it is more contagious than you may think.”



Warden Carol Chapdelaine (Center) and staff members of the Osborn CI.

In Memoriam - Elizabeth Bayona



Elizabeth Bayona

Staff of the Department of Correction was saddened to learn of the passing of Deputy Warden Elizabeth Bayona on June 21. She started with the department in 1992 as a Correctional Services Aide within the Marilyn Baker House Program, a therapeutic community for women with substance abuse treatment needs. In 1998, she was promoted to Counselor Supervisor and Unit Manager of the Marilyn Baker House Program. In this role, she was instrumental in the development and expansion of this and other substance abuse treatment programs within the agency.

From 2003 onward, Ms. Bayona worked in the Health and Addiction Services Unit at Central Office, which is responsible for administrative and clinical oversight of all addiction services units throughout the agency. She was a member of the New Life Christian Fellowship Church in Ledyard, CT, but moved to Florida two months ago to be closer to her family.