

## Our Mission

The Department of Correction shall strive to be a global leader in progressive correctional practices and partnered re-entry initiatives to support responsive evidence-based practices aligned to law-abiding and accountable behaviors. Safety and security shall be a priority component of this responsibility as it pertains to staff, victims, citizens and offenders.

## From the Commissioner



During this administration the Agency has successfully implemented many positive changes in the way it does business; from the Community Release Unit, to the Cybulski Community Reintegration Center, enhancements made to the Risk Reduction Earned Credit Program, and the creation of the Emerging Adult Unit at Cheshire. Additionally, in the coming months, we will be opening an Emerging Adult Unit for females at the York Correctional Institution.

I applaud your efforts and credit your commitment to these initiatives, some of which have received national recognition.

Although these initiatives represent a new philosophy in the way the Department does business, they are meant only to enhance, not replace, our primary mission of safety and security. The new programs are by no means meant to supplant the foundation of sound correctional principles this Agency is built on.

Let me state unequivocally that safety and security of staff, inmates, and the general public has been, is, and will continue to be job one. I hope that I never have led anyone in this Agency to believe that this was not the case.

Although it has been sometime since I worked in a housing unit, I have not forgotten the physical and emotional demands that your job entails. I think it is safe to say, many of us have had shifts we struggled to get through.

None the less, there is no excuse for inattentiveness to duty. It can lead to our worst fears being realized – injury or even worse. If you are struggling with personal problems at home (or at work) which are preventing you from performing your duties to the best of your ability, I urge you to reach out to your peers, your supervisor or the Department's other established options for assistance.

Let me also take this opportunity to remind you that staff are not allowed to bring cellphones and/or tablets into a facility. Using such items, while not only prohibited, detracts from the primary focus of maintaining a secure and orderly environment.

Each of us took an oath to perform our jobs in an ethical and professional manner in accordance with the highest of correctional standards. I call upon each of us to remember, and take to heart - every time we walk into a correctional facility - the oath we swore to uphold. I know the vast majority of our staff fulfill their duties on a daily basis to the highest levels, under difficult conditions. To those of you, please use this message as a reminder to continue to be vigilant, professional, and above all safe.

February 6, 2018

through

April 11, 2018

Distributed monthly

to 5,500 staff

and via the Internet

throughout Connecticut

and the nation

by the

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## Retirements and Promotions

The day many employees look forward to – the day they no longer have to get up and go to work has finally come for several of the Department’s top administrators.

Since January, the retirement of five of the Agency’s Top Managers represents the loss of an impressive 136 years of correctional experience and wisdom.

With the closing of the Enfield Correctional Institution, Warden Anne Cournoyer was the first to go, back in January.

She was followed by Osborn Correctional Institution’s Warden, William Faneuff who retired after nearly 27 years on the job.

Three additional Top Managers retired effective April 1, 2018. The Director of the Agency’s Security Division, Christine Whidden had an emotional and joyous walkout of Central Office on March 28, with 28 years of agency experience.

Two other Wardens also retired. John Alves, after 30 Years on the job, retired as the Warden of the Manson Youth Institution, and Denise Dilworth of the Garner Correctional Institution retired after 25 Years with the Department.

The retirement of these integral members of the agency has left quite a void, fortunately there are capable and qualified staff members ready to step up and take their place.

Warden Antonio Santiago has been selected as the new Director of the Security Division. Director Santiago has previous experience conducting investigations for the division.

Guliana Mudano has been promoted to the rank of Warden and is assigned to the York Correctional Institution.

Warden Kenneth Butricks has been re-assigned to the Manson Youth Institution from the Bridgeport Correctional Center. Taking his place at Bridgeport will be newly promoted Warden, Amonda Hannah. The vacancy left by Denise Dilworth’s retirement at Garner CI will be filled by newly promoted Anthony Corcella, who previously served as a Deputy Warden at the York Correctional Institution.

The remaining vacancy at the Osborn Correctional Institution is being filled by the newly promoted Warden Gary Wright. Warden Wright has worked as the Deputy Warden of the Osborn facility since 2012.

Please join Commissioner Semple and the entire Executive Team in wishing those who have retired, health



Commissioner Scott Semple (3rd from left) with outgoing Top Managers: (from left) Warden John Alves, Warden Denise Dilworth, Director Christine Whidden, Warden William Faneuff, and Warden Anne Cournoyer.



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# Enfield CI Awards and Farewell Luncheon

On January 3, 2018, Enfield CI hosted an Annual Awards and Farewell Luncheon. While it is always a good thing to recognize staff for their exemplary work, it was a bittersweet event in that Enfield CI was to soon be closed, after being in operation since 1962.



Due to a decline in the inmate population, the Enfield Correctional Institution was closed on January 23, 2018

The facility was originally opened as the Osborn Prison Farm and housed 420 level 2 inmates who worked the surrounding farmland until 1986. In 1987, the population was increased to 724, and in 1991, the security level of the facility was raised to a level 4. October of 1993, the facility was made a risk level 3 facility medium security prison where it remained until it was closed on January 23, 2018.

“The process of closing a facility and having to displace the nearly 200 staff members who worked at Enfield CI - some for their entire career - was not easy for anyone. Enfield CI was very rich in culture and for many, a transition to a new facility was a difficult one,” said Warden Anne Cournoyer. “However, they handled it with grace and dignity. It was an honor to work with them and I wish them the very best for their futures.”

## Enfield CI Final Facility Awards

**Supervisor of the Year** – Lt. Tawanda Kitt

**Teacher of the Year** – Gilbert Rico

**Correction Officers of the Year** - Elton Gartman,  
Matthew Bailey and James Baez

**Employee of the Year**- Officer Christopher Pope

**Department of the Year** - Operations

**Health Service Employee of the Year** - OA Nancy Sessa

**Excellence Training & Staff Development** - Officer Todd Reale

**Counselor of the Year** - Joseph Timbro

**Maintenance Employee of the Year** - GMO James Fitzpatrick

**Kitchen Supervisor of the Year** - Tim Kelsey

**Religious Service Employee of the Year** - Chaplain Yasir Osman

**Clerical of the Year** - Secretary II Karen Piccoli

**Enfield CI Warden’s Award** – Rebecca Suarez, Jeffrey Marini  
and the QWL Committee

**Military Prestige Acknowledgement** – Captain Brett Connor,  
Lieutenant Brane Blackstock, and Officers Laguerre, Colon,  
Cogshall, DiFronzo, Mekey, Ziemnicki, Quintero and Cauley

# Breaking the Cycle With Circles

In concert with the current National Trend in Juvenile Justice and Commissioner Semple’s focus on reducing recidivism within the emerging adult population, Manson Youth Institution has been selected via a grant awarded to the Center for Children’s Advocacy and the Center for Restorative Justice at Suffolk University Boston to implement a new restorative justice model called “Circles.”

To that end, staff members from the Manson Youth Institution participated in two-days of training led by trainers from the Suffolk University’s Center for Restorative Justice, as well as the Deep End Diversion program.



**Manson Youth Institution staff members pose for a group photo after completing two days of training led by the Suffolk University’s Center for Restorative Justice, and the Deep End Diversion Program.**

The training was conducted on January 22 and 23, 2018, at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development.

The purpose of this program is to support the implementation of restorative justice diversion programs to reduce new arrests and terms of incarceration stemming from facility incidents.

Restorative practices support youth and adults to bring forward their best potential and offers a space where they can learn and practice value based behavior.

The program will be used as a tool for effective and clear communication amongst inmates and staff. The ultimate goal is to decrease potential for miscommunication, improve unit management and foster a positive prison environment.

The purpose of the culture is also to decrease the likelihood of re-arrest, disciplinary infractions, disrespect toward others, and recidivism. Implementation of this program will also help the youth develop new skills to manage their behavior and build relationships with their communities.

# Around the Cell Block



**CONNECTICUT** – A Hartford man due in court to answer a charge of stealing a car apparently stole a car to get to court, police said. Hartford Parking Authority agents scanning license plates for parking violators got a hit on a car parked near the courthouse. The license plates had been reported stolen and the car itself had been stolen from Newington. Police kept an eye on the car, and when the suspect left court, got in and tried to drive away, they moved in and arrested him.

**WASHINGTON DC** — Officials said 16 employees were treated after a Fentanyl-laced letter was discovered in the mail room of the DC Department of Corrections on Thursday. Nine people were treated at the scene and seven were taken to the Washington Hospital Center.

***Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
April 11, 2018  
18,282  
On April 11, 2017  
the population was  
19,172***

## Public Service Awarded

Congratulations to Colleen Gallagher who was recently honored by the Connecticut Coalition to Improve End-of-Life Care (CTEOL) with the organization's Excellence in Public Service Award.

Gallagher who serves as the Department of Correction's Correctional Health Services Unit Program Director was honored during the CTEOL's 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony held January 24, 2018 in Middlebury, CT. The award was presented to Program Director Gallagher by Past President and Board Member of CTEOL, Cynthia Lamont.

Founded in 1999, the CTEOL is a statewide coalition that seeks to improve care for the dying and their families and to ensure that everyone has information about and access to compassionate, quality end-of-life care. They advocate for professional and institutional standards, continuity of care, patient and family satisfaction, and an appreciation of spirituality, religious and cultural diversity.

They seek to promote compassionate care for all people touched by life-threatening illness, with the ultimate goal of having all people experience a dignified, life-affirming death consistent with their wishes and values.

Program Director Gallagher coordinates the Department of Correction's Hospice Program for offenders. The agency's Hospice Program was among the first of its kind in the country, and is considered to be the standard bearer against which our programs are judged.

Congratulations again to Colleen Gallagher on this hard-earned prestigious award.



**Health Service's Colleen Gallagher (R) is presented with an Excellence in Public Service Award by the CT Coalition to Improve End-of-Life Care's board member, Cynthia Lamont.**

## NP-8 Health and Wellness Committee Established

The Correctional Supervisors Council recently approved a contract - which is in effect until June 30, 2021 - which established a Health and Wellness Committee.

This is the first of a kind contract provision for Connecticut State employees. The contract provisions include:

- entitling each NP-8 union member one paid day of training a year specifically on health and wellness.
- establishing a joint Labor/Management Committee on health and wellness to develop training programs; and
- allocating \$10,000 per year beginning in July 2019 to fund health and wellness initiatives under this program.

Union Leadership has met with Commissioner Scott Semple to appoint the management members of the Committee. Once the committee is fully appointed, the plan is to move quickly to establish a training program for the current contract year. It is the goal of the union to have the program's first training session to take place in the spring of 2018.



## Special Delivery

The Security Division's Captain Brian Zawilinski received a special delivery recently from the U.S. Postal Service. Specifically, he was recognized by the U.S. Postal Inspection Service, Boston Division for his assistance in the investigation of an armed robbery which occurred at the Barry Square Post Office in Hartford.



**Captain Brian Zawilinski receives a special letter of recognition from U.S. Postal Inspector Lauren Vumbaco**

Inspection Services Boston Division, Raymond Moss, thanked Captain Zawilinski for, "his unwavering assistance during the investigation."

Inspector Moss added that Captain Zawilinski supported Postal Inspectors throughout their investigation by providing them with various information on suspects in the case. The collaboration resulted in the arrest and guilty plea of the individual responsible for the robbery. The culprit was sentenced to 78 months, followed by three years of supervised release, and restitution of \$21,817 to be paid to the U.S. Postal Service.

Please join Commissioner Semple, and Security Division Director Antonio Santiago in congratulating Captain Zawilinski on a job well done.

U.S. Postal Service Agent, traveled to Central Office to present Zawilinski with a letter of appreciation. In addition to the letter Captain Zawilinski also received a U.S. Postal Service patch and glass. In the letter, the Acting Inspector in Charge of the U.S. Postal

## Teacher of the Year

Congratulations to State School Teacher Marcia Catalano for being selected as the Educator of the Year by the Connecticut Association for Adult & Continuing Education (CAACE). The award is presented to educators who have contributed above and beyond the normal expectations of an adult educator, have demonstrated consistent dedication and service to adult education students and have been involved in innovative programming.

Ms. Catalano has been a valued member of the Unified School District #1 teaching staff since June 2014 when she joined the York Correctional Institution's school as the business education teacher.

Ms. Catalano has broadened the business education program at York CI to include entrepreneurship, personal finance, accounting marketing, keyboarding, word processing, spread sheets and databases.

In nominating Ms. Catalano for the award, York CI's Principal, Leslie Ridgway wrote, "Ms. Catalano is a caring and professional teacher with a wide range of knowledge and meticulous attention to detail. She develops a good working rapport with her students, some of whom have experienced very little success in their lives. Student progress and goals are discussed during student conferencing which she has incorporated into her daily classroom routine."

Ms. Catalano is warmly regarded by her colleagues. She is often called upon by other staff members to assist with computer difficulties, and does so pleasantly always following through completely. Congratulations again on the well-deserved award.



**Teacher of the Year Marcia Catalano (L) with USD #1 Superintendant Maria Pirro.**

## Foundation Donation

Warden William Mulligan and Deputy Warden Gerald Hines of the MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution (MWCI) presented a check in the amount of \$1,277.00 to Correctional Peace Officer Foundation (CPOF) Representative Richard Loud on February 15, 2018.

The funds were the result of a statewide tee shirt fundraiser organized by MWCI staff members. All of the proceeds from the sale of the shirts were donated to CPOF.

The decision by MWCI staffers to hold a fundraiser was as a means to give back to the CPOF who, in the past, has generously assisted fellow Department of Correction members.

The Correctional Peace Officer Foundation is devoted to sustaining and assisting, financially and emotionally, the surviving families of Correctional Officers and/or staff, slain in the line of duty, or who have been assaulted at the hands of incarcerated felons. Among the services CPOF provides is an extensive Catastrophic Assistance Program to assist correctional staff and their families in times of emergency, extreme personal crisis, or other critical needs.



**L to R: Deputy Warden Joseph Roach, Warden William Mulligan, Richard Loud of CPOF, Deputy Warden Gerald Hines, and Captain Anna Dorozko.**

## Delicious Diversity at York CI

Throughout the month of February, the staff of the York Correctional Institution celebrated diversity in several ways. On February 16, 2018 upon their arrival to the York Correctional Institution, staff members were greeted at the gatehouse with a fortune cookie and chopsticks in honor of the Chinese New Year.

This was a precursor of the good fortune in store for facility staff as the following week, on February 20, the facility continued to celebrate diversity through food with a cultural food event, to coincide with the facility's Diversity Council meeting. To the delight of many, several food trucks set up shop in the parking lot to offer their delicious culinary treats. One of the offerings was pizza from The Rolling Tomato – made onsite in a wood-fired oven. Other trucks included the very popular Meriano's Cannoli truck, which had the option of take-home boxes so staff members could treat their families to desert.

Also present was Blazin BBQ's log cabin on wheels which made the air in Niantic fragrant with the delicious smoky scent of barbecue and filled the stomach of many hungry employees. Last but not least, The Whey Station was on hand with grill cheese sandwiches large and gooey enough to melt any appetite.

Seven days after being at York Correctional Institution, The Whey Station owner Jillian Moskites was featured on the popular show Chopped on the Food Network and guess what, she won.

In addition to the food staff received a flyer detailing other diversity related events celebrated in February including Black History Month.



**General Maintenance Officer Clive Lloyd cannot resist the Cannoli Truck.**

# A Trip of a Lifetime

When Willard-Cybulski's Administrative Assistant Susan Grucci was diagnosed with Amyotrophic Lateral Sclerosis - ALS (a.k.a. Lou Gehrig's disease), the staff of the facility rallied to help grant Grucci's wish of traveling to Disney World with her family. Between bake sales and various pay-to-parks, her co-workers were able to raise more than \$6,000 to fund Grucci's dream vacation. After a trip of a lifetime, Ms. Grucci wished to share a picture postcard and a heartfelt note of gratitude.

*I want to take a moment to thank you for the role you played during the many fundraisers for the trip to Disney to become a reality for my family and me. We were overwhelmed with the generosity and support that you displayed during this time. It was the first time for most of us and we had an awesome time.*

*On behalf of myself, Kyle, Suzanne, Peighton, Madeline, Kevin, Kristopher, Karter, Kenneth, Kayden, Reese, thank you! Please know that I will never forget my DOC family and what you have done for me during this very difficult time. I know I have many challenges ahead, but knowing that I have the love and support from my family and you, I will take it head on.*



**THANK YOU - The Grucci Family**

## Years of Service June - Dec. 2017

### 40 Years State Service

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Montano, Michael	Telecom Spec	Cntrl Off	9/13/1977

### 35 Years State Service

Keenan, Mary	Human Res Assoc	Cntrl Off	10/15/1982
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### 30 Years State Service

Brown, Carole	Admin Asst	Cntrl Off	11/4/1987
Cherry-Harris, Teer	Social Worker	MYI	9/8/1987
Evans, Della	Mail Handler	CRCC	11/6/1987
Garner, Susan	Human Res Spec	Cntrl Off	7/24/1987
Hansen, Jean	School Teacher	Brooklyn CI	9/11/1987
McIntosh, Joanne	Admin Asst	MWCI	10/9/1987
Ouellette, Allison	Rcprd Spec 1	WCCI	11/6/1987

## DoC Hosts MASCA

The Connecticut Department of Correction has the honor of hosting the 80<sup>th</sup> Mid Atlantic States Correctional Association (MASCA) Annual Conference. The conference will be held May 20-23, 2018 at the Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa in Groton.

The conference will feature panel discussion, breakout sessions, and a Casino Night at the Mohegan Sun Resort.

For more information, see the conference flyer on page ten of the newsletter, or to register, go to: [https://www.memberleap.com/members/evr/reg\\_event.php?orgcode=MASC&evid=10600529](https://www.memberleap.com/members/evr/reg_event.php?orgcode=MASC&evid=10600529)



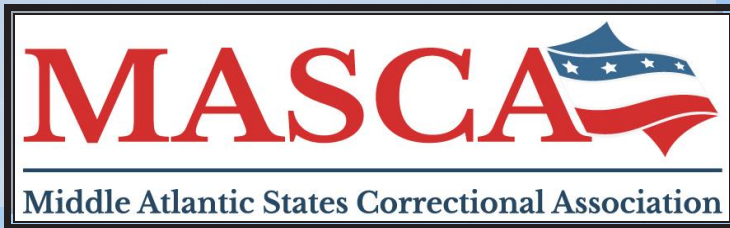
**Years of Service June - Dec. 2017 cont.****25 Years State Service**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Arroyo, Luis	Corr Officer	Hartford CC	11/13/1992
Barry, Daniel	Parole Mgr	Cntrl Off	11/12/1992
Castro, Evelyn	Off Asst	Hartford CC	12/28/1992
Falcone, Frank	Corr Officer	Garner CI	11/13/1992
Feo, Flabia	Admin Asst	Enfield CI	9/4/1992
Mazzadra, Christopher	Corr Officer	BCC	9/18/1992
Ouellette, Andrea	Secretary 2	Cntrl Off	9/18/1992
Pantin-Worrell, Donna	Princ HR Spec	Cntrl Off	12/11/1992
Plourde, Steven	Fscl/Adm Supv	Cntrl Off	11/5/1992
Roach, Joseph	Deputy Warden	MWCI	9/18/1992
Romanelli, Frank	Corr Officer	Garner CI	11/13/1992
Ryan, Joseph	Genl Maint Ofcr	MWCI	10/30/1992
Suchecky, Joseph	Plnt Facils Engr 2	Cheshire CI	8/21/1992
Zipp, Bernine	Rcrd Spec1	Northern CI	9/21/1992

**20 Years State Service**

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Alejandro, Samuel	Corr Officer	Osborn CI	6/20/1997
Aponte, Max	Corr Officer	Cheshire CI	6/20/1997
Cocchiola, Christine	Corr Officer	Cheshire CI	5/1/1997
Granger, Michelle	Corr Officer	Hartford CC	6/20/1997
Howard Jr, Raymond	Captain	Hartford CC	6/20/1997
Hull, Brenda	Lieutenant	MYI	6/20/1997
Langer, Daniel	Corr Officer	MWCI	6/20/1997
Lauray, Kimberly	Captain	MYI	6/20/1997
Madison, Candace	Secretary2	Cntrl Off	6/27/1997
Martinez, Rebecca	Corr Officer	BCC	6/20/1997
Melendez, Juan	Lieutenant	Northern CI	6/6/1997
Moseley, Andrew	Parole Mgr	Cntrl Off	3/6/1992
Otero-Negron, Yadira	Dep Warden	CRCI	6/20/1997
Petchark, Charles	Corr Officer	York CI	10/1/1997
Piterski, Kevin	Captain	NHCC	6/20/1997
Rivera, Elizabeth	Lieutenant	Cheshire CI	6/20/1997
Saucier, Rosita	Pupil Serv Spec	MYI	6/20/1997
Vazquez, Sylvia	Corr Officer	NHCC	6/20/1997
Villafane, Idalia	Corr Officer	BCC	12/22/1995
Weimert, Jo	Corr Officer	CRCC	6/20/1997

**Cheshire CI  
Employees of  
the Quarter****Correction Officer James Baron****Record Spec. Tonya Montgomery****Captain Russell Taylor**



**Partners in Progress:  
Putting the Pieces of the Puzzle  
Together**



**MASCA's 80<sup>th</sup> Annual Training Conference  
May 20<sup>th</sup> through May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2018  
Mystic Marriott Hotel & Spa, Groton, Connecticut**

**Workshop topics include:**

- Medication Assisted Therapy
- Gang Presentation
- Young Adult Offender Unit
- Veterans
- CT Parole Specialty Units:  
Women's Reentry, DUI, Mental Health,  
Fugitive Investigations, Nursing Home
- CT DOC Wellness initiatives/K9 First  
Responder Program
- Community Partners
- Technology workshops
- Special Commissioner Roundtable  
Session

**Full conference Registration  
is only \$150.00, and includes:**

- President's Reception
- Casino Night at the Mohegan Sun
- MASCA's 80<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Party

**Register by April 20<sup>th</sup>  
to take advantage of this rate.**

**Register at:**

[https://www.masca.us/2018\\_conference\\_information.php](https://www.masca.us/2018_conference_information.php)

**Agency special – register 5, get 1 free!**

**MASCA has negotiated a special room rate of \$119.00  
per night for conference attendees! For reservations,  
visit this link:**

<https://aws.passkey.com/go/MASCA2018MysticMarriott>

**Join us for our first "Student Day"!**

**Visit [www.MASCA.us](http://www.MASCA.us)**