

The Connecticut  
Department  
of Correction

# P.R.I.D.E.



Our motto: Professionalism, Respect, Integrity, Dignity, Excellence



Remember Our Troops

# AT WORK

## Solemn Roll Call

Outside, the wind swept the cool, spring rain across the mall and onto the "Wall of Heroes" at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development on an early Friday evening in May. Like tears of time falling from above, the water glistened as it touched each name inscribed on the three granite tablets. Individually, Honor Guard members approached the structure, saluted in ritualistic fashion and placed a single rose at the base of the memorial for each member of our correctional family who has fallen in the past year.



Continued on Page 2, *Roll Call*

## From the Commissioner

The somber events of May 13, 2005 were very much out of the ordinary for our agency. The first execution in Connecticut in 45 years, put us under the media microscope, and would test our capabilities in the eyes of our state and its citizens. Through it all, I was able to place my faith in the strong foundation of our Department and the unwavering professionalism that our staff displayed in the performance of their duties. Our mandate from the court was difficult and demanding. This was a high security operation of a magnitude that I had never experienced in my 29 years in corrections. When we began the process last fall, there was only a policy and general procedure on paper, Administrative Directive 6.15. With confidentiality assured, staff stepped forward to carry out this mission. During each and every training session that we conducted, staff were reminded that at any time, they were free to withdraw from the process without question.

Continued on Page 3, *Commissioner*

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### 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 successful community reintegration

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About and for  
correctional  
professionals

May 8 - 21, 2005

# Roll Call, Cont'd

Despite the inclement conditions, the annual memorial service proceeded in comfort inside the training center. Staff, family and friends viewed the synchronized ceremony outside via closed-circuit television, while simultaneously participating in the solemn roll call ceremony inside.

Planning for the event was made difficult at best by changing weather conditions. But, thanks to the resourcefulness of some DOC staff, the event was changed at the last minute without forfeiting an ounce of dignity or respect. A complete replica of the memorial, complete with inscriptions was constructed in less than a day and positioned in the auditorium, which was also bedecked in attire befitting such an occasion. Captain Daniel Murphy and Lieutenant Mario Bufalini of MCTSD, Industry Supervisors Ray Soucy and Steve Petracca of Cheshire CI and GMO Bruce Gillette of Webster CI have been credited with not only making the event possible, but also making it appear seamless.

Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz and other assembled dignitaries extended words of appreciation and comfort to the loved ones on behalf of our correctional family. "Amazing Grace" cried from the drones of the bagpipes, candles were lit in memoriam and verses of praise were sung by Leigh Ware of York CI. But, the "effort" displayed was itself the tribute. As stated by the Commissioner, "Deeds, not stones are the true monuments of the great."

## In Memoriam:

**Richard Andrade**  
**Douglas Bernier**  
**Alan Leiper**  
**Nicholas Litgeris**  
**Paul Mazzorana**

**John Meara**  
**John Mineo**  
**Thomas Rybacki**  
**Robert Tinsley**  
**Derek Waidler**

**David Wheeler**



**Pride.**  
**AT**  
**Work**

for  
May 8 - 21, 2005

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# Commissioner, Cont'd

Time and again we drilled, insuring that every possible issue or concern was considered and planned for. I beamed with pride when I saw the



Commissioner Theresa Lantz looks on as Attorney General Richard Blumenthal addresses media.

results of those preparations several months ago. The process that I directed to be humane, dignified and efficient proved to be that and more. Last Friday night however, the staff involved in this event far exceeded my expectations. Without exception, without incident and without issue, the execution was carried out with utmost respect and professionalism. Not only was the process flawless, but the tone and the values with which staff approached it, reflected on the gravity and reverence that were

appropriate for such an important task. In particular, the staff at Carl Robinson, which hosted the media, the

staff at Osborn where the execution took place, the Central Transportation Unit, CERT and the Security Division all played crucial roles that evening. The very next day, I received phone calls from government officials who had been present, victims' family members who had served as witnesses and state police officers involved in this case since the beginning. They all expressed to me deep respect, appreciation and praise for our

behavior of the dedicated men and women that they had come in contact with that night. Given the nature of this event, it is difficult as Commissioner to offer the usual, "...job well done." In this solemn matter it seems inappropriate. Let me instead simply convey my heartfelt thanks for a job well done. That night, my faith in you, my staff, was completely fulfilled. As always, you embodied our motto of PRIDE, serving the citizens of the state and representing the very best in public service.



Warden Christine Whidden makes the official announcement to the media.

## Calendar

**May 26** - Tip A Cop/Commissioner Event to Benefit CT Special Olympics at Coaches Sports Bar & Grille located at 187 Allyn Street in Hartford. The event will take place from 5:00 p.m. until 10:00 p.m. and will feature the wait staff of the following commissioners and top law enforcement officials: DOC Commissioner Theresa Lantz, Hartford Mayor Eddie Perez, City of Hartford Police Chief Patrick Hartnett, DPS Commissioner Leonard Boyle, DMV Commissioner Ralph Carpenter, EMHS Commissioner James Thomas.

**May 28** - AFSCME - Council 4 Cookout to honor Veterans at the Veterans Home & Hospital in Rocky Hill - 12:00 Noon until 5:00 p.m.

**June 10** - The Charlene Perkins Center Dedication Ceremony at York CI

**July 1** - The "Just Us Group" from Cheshire CI invite you to join them for their Summer Breeze Dance Party at the Elks Lodge - 87 Webster Street in New Haven from 9PM - 1AM. The cost is \$10 per person

**EAP** Employee Assistance Program  
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# From the Troops

Correctional Head Nurse, Rob Ramonas, of the Manson Youth Institution sent the picture below with a note of thanks to Commissioner Theresa Lantz for the Department's support of our troops. Captain Ramonas is with the 36<sup>th</sup> Area Support Medical Unit stationed in Diwanigah, Iraq.

Lt. Jeffrey Supernant of Osborn CI sent greetings from Iraq and the picture below. At left is country singer Toby Keith who performed for the troops. Lt. Supernant stated "Toby Keith came to the base today to give us a little show. It was a great time."



## Ten and Counting

Director Sandra Sawicki recently recognized agency staff that have been involved with the Critical Incident Stress Response Program for the past ten years. During an intimate ceremony at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development, six staff received a plaque commemorating their years of service to the CISRTeam.

The Mission statement for the team is "The Critical Incident Stress Response Program shall provide support for the staff adversely affected by a traumatic event. Interventions are conducted in a safe, confidential atmosphere to promote staff well-being."

The Department of Correction has recognized that staff working in a correctional environment may become involved in highly stressful incidents during the course of their duties. Some of these incidents are so critical and traumatic that they have the capability of going beyond our normal coping skills.

A critical incident is a significant event that has the potential to cause psychological distress in an individual and may interfere with the person's ability to function either at the time of the event or later. Reactions vary from person to person. These signs of stress may be physical, emotional, cognitive and/or behavioral. Early crisis intervention has been found to mitigate stress-related symptoms.

## MVP's:

Acevedo, Eric	CO	BCC
Alvarez, Alex	CO	BCC
Bradway, Brian	CCS	NCI
Bouffard, Brian	CC	NCI
Carter, Michelle	CO	BCC
Coleman, Kelly	CO	BCC
Craft, Curtis	CO	BCC
Dwyer, Norman	CTO	NCI
Frasco, John	CTO	NCI
Garguilo, Mark	Lt	NCI
Garvey, Mark	CO	BCC
Gillard, Charles	CO	BCC
Givens, Wanda	CO	BCC
Kaplan, Diane	Sec II	NCI
Leiper, Nancy	Clk Typst	NCI
Little, Darryl	Capt	NCI
Marsh, Vernon	CO	BCC
McDonald, Jeffrey	CO	BCC
McEwen, Tara	CC	NCI
Mobley, Will	Capt	BCC
Moore, Doris	CO	BCC
Newkirk, Sharon	CO	BCC
Niderno, Beth	Sec II	NCI
Nolan, Brian	CTO	NCI
Nosal, Linda	Sec II	NCI
Ogelsby, Dennis	Capt	NCI
Pataky, Charles	CO	BCC
Peterson, Scott	CC	NCI
Rivera, Elizabeth	CO	BCC
Roach, O'Neal	CO	BCC
Rodriguez, Neftali	Capt	NCI
Ryan, Jason	CO	BCC
Sanchez, Zelly	OA	NCI
Saunders, Linda	PPO II	CO
Siwicki, Brian	Lt	NCI
Slater, David	Lt	BCC
Smith, Dana	CO	BCC
Soberal, Edquardo	CO	BCC
Sterling, Yadira	CTO	NCI
Sullivan, Diane	Clk Typst	NCI
Tourangeau, Mark	CTO	NCI
Young, Ronald	CO	NCI
Vega, Phillip	CO	BCC
Williams, Maureen	CO	BCC
Williams, Tony	Lt	NCI

# Ten, Cont'd

Trauma research has acknowledged that talking about the incident is helpful in the healing process.

Under the direction of the DOC's Administrative Directive 2.18 (Critical Incident Stress Response Program), specially trained departmental staff volunteer to work together as a team to assist their co-workers involved in a critical incident. They are not mental health professionals, but they are trained to be a true peer support team.



**First Row:** Captain Heather Ziembra - Central Office, Director Sandra Sawicki- Maloney CTSD, Counselor Supervisor Jacqueline Jennett - Garner CI, LPN Linda Stephens - Corrigan-Radgowski CI  
**Second Row:** Correction Officer Steven Curran - Garner CI, Correction Officer Albert LaFluer - Robinson CI, Correction Officer Craig Jacobson - Willard-Cybulski CI, LPN Kimberly Kohrs - York CI

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## Did you know?

*Did you know is an informational column written by the Facilities Management and Engineering Unit, aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This week's issue was submitted by Richard Pease who can be reached at 860- 692.7562. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860-692-7554.*



Did you know there are many multi-use trails in Connecticut. A good resource for exploring multi-use trails is "Pathways Through Connecticut," a guide with detailed information on trails in 73 towns throughout the state. Pathways Through Connecticut is available for purchase or can be viewed on-line at <http://dep.state.ct.us/earthday/edgreenways.htm>. Multi-use trails available in Connecticut include:

**Heritage Walk - Norwich** An urban walking trail along the Yantic River linking neighborhoods, historic sites, and other features. Length - 1 1/2 mile (very well marked) walk along the Yantic River, using some residential streets. Two scenic falls areas. Surface - pavement, wooden stairs. Facilities - None For more information - Norwich Tourism Office, (860) 886-4683

**Farmington Canal Greenway - Cheshire and Hamden** An abandoned railbed converted to multi-use greenway. Length - 5.6 miles Surface - Pavement, with crushed stone along one side. Facilities - Phones: Cornwall Street, Lock 12 Museum - Lock 12 Picnic Area and rest rooms - Brooksvale Park For more information - Cheshire Parks and Recreation Department, (203) 272-2743

## Around the cell block

**New Mexico-** Prior to his escape, the "Casanova Con Man" persuaded a correction officer to give him \$380,000 for investment purposes.

**Oklahoma-** Staff says their radios warn of approaching tornadoes, but the administration says they are used for music and won't be allowed in the penitentiary towers.

**Idaho-** Inmates at two prisons are now living in tents as the state attempts to cope with severe overcrowding.

**California-** Seven stand up comics entertained 300 offenders at the Los Angeles County Prison, telling them, "I'm glad some of you are here."

# Did you know?, Cont'd

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## **Captain John Bissell Greenway - East Hartford, Manchester, South Windsor, Windsor**

A greenway that connects the Charter Oak Greenway and the Bissell Bridge. Length - 8 miles, including about 3 miles of bike lane along Chapel Road and Historic Main Street in South Windsor. Surface - Pavement CAUTION - Some hills are quite steep. Nearby Facilities - Wickham Park For more information - Manchester Parks and Recreation Department (860) 647-3084

**Charter Oak Greenway - East Hartford and Manchester** A paved, multi-use trail connecting parks and the Captain John Bissell Greenway with residential and commercial areas. Length - Six miles Forbes Street in East Hartford to Route 83 in Manchester, including a 1/2-mile section using local roads. Intersects with the Captain John Bissell Greenway in East Hartford. Surface - pavement CAUTION - Some hills are quite steep Nearby Facilities - Charter Oak Park. For more information - Manchester Parks and Recreation Department, (860) 647-3084

**Farmington Canal Heritage Trail - Avon, Farmington, and Simsbury** An abandoned railbed converted to multi-use greenway. Length - 6.7 miles: Simsbury - 2.0 miles, Avon/Simsbury - 2.7 miles, Farmington/Avon - 2.0 miles Surface - Pavement, with stone dust along side. Facilities - None For more information - Simsbury Park and Recreation Department, (860) 658-3255, Avon Recreation and Parks Department, (860) 409-4335, Farmington Parks and Recreation Department, (860) 673-8283

**Larkin State Park Trail - Southbury** An old railroad bed that runs from Southbury to Route 63 in Naugatuck. Length - 10 miles, but trail quality at eastern end is deteriorated; western half is recommended. Towards the middle, it might be necessary to detour around one small, privately-owned stretch of property. Surface - Cinder Nearby Facilities - Outhouses available at Southford Falls State Park (3.4 mile from entrance to parking). For more information - Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection, Southford Falls State Park, (203) 264-5169 or, DEP State Parks Division (main office), (860) 424-3200

**Middlebury Greenway - Middlebury** A greenway built on an abandoned trolley line in Middlebury that links many points of interest. Length - 4.3 miles Surface - Crushed Stone Facilities - None For More Information - Middlebury Parks and Recreation Department, (203) 758-2520

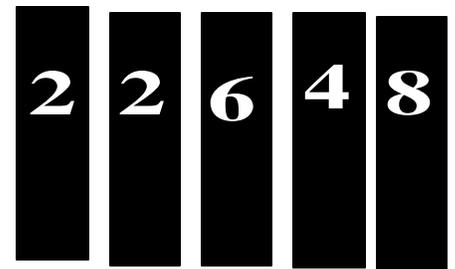
**Hockanum River Linear Park - Manchester Section** A network of walking trails in the vicinity of the Hockanum River. Length - Almost 13 1/2 miles of trails in five separate loops and two linear routes. Surface - Stone dust and packed dirt, some boardwalk areas. Facilities - None For more information - Manchester Parks and Recreation Department, (860) 647-3084

## QWL

The Northern C.I. QWL Committee sponsored a Spaghetti Dinner on Friday, April 29, 2005, for the Cultural Diversity Council. Staff enjoyed spaghetti, salad, bread, refreshments and cookies.



## Supervised Population on May 18, 2005



On May 18, 2004 the population was 22,882.

# North Team Captures Title

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The Connecticut Corrections North Hockey Team captured the New England Law Enforcement shootout tournament on April 22, 23, and 24.

On Friday, April 22, 2005, The North team defeated Pittsburgh Police Department by a score of 6 - 3. On Saturday, April 23, 2005, Massachusetts State Police took a beating, losing 9-1. On Saturday night, the North took the momentum by crushing Fitchburg, New Hampshire Police Department 10 - 1.

On Sunday, April 24, 2005, the Connecticut Corrections North Team won the championship by beating Pittsburgh Police again 9-2. Capturing the title C/O Jim Gilbert (Osborn); Steve Poulin (MacDougall/Walker); Freddy Bogalus (MacDougall/Walker); Jeff Roy (Mac/Walker); Clay Strachen (CRCI); Mike Croyle (Mac/Walker); Captain Bernie Loubier, Lt. Jeffrey Allen and Lt. Kevin Manley had an excellent tournament. Organizer and Captain of the North Team, Jim Gilbert would like to thank all the players and their families for their support, hard work, and dedication to this great hockey team. This is by far the best hockey team DOC has ever seen. See you next season!!!!

## Bike Drive



C.T.O. James Zuccalo and Counselor Tara McEwan pose with some of the bicycles donated by Northern CI staff for the Big Brothers & Sisters Bike Drive. Donated bicycles will be refurbished before they are given to children who are in need of one.

## Open Enrollment

Open Enrollment (for medical & dental benefits) will be held from **May 23, 2005 - June 17, 2005** this year. State employees will be receiving information in the mail from the Office of the State Comptroller by the end of the month regarding the different options available to them and the costs for each plan.

Vendors will be visiting DOC from 9 a.m. - 3 p.m. on the following dates at the locations specified:

**MCTSD** (gym) - Wednesday, May 25th

**Bridgeport CC** (gym) - Thursday, May 26th

**Central Office** (lobby) - Friday, May 27th

**York CI** (gym)- Tuesday, May 31st

**CRCI** (Visiting Center) - Thursday, June 2nd

Vendor representatives from Anthem, Health Net, Oxford Health (a UnitedHealthCare Company which includes United Dental) and Aetna (dental) will be attending and will provide answers to specific questions staff members may have about these plans.

## Condolence



Warden John Siemenski and the staff at MacDougall-Walker CI offer condolences to the family of Counselor John Breedlove, a fifteen year veteran of the agency, who passed away on Tuesday May 10th.