

The Connecticut
Department
of Correction

P.R.I.D.E.

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



Remember Our Troops

AT

WORK



CRCI and K-9 Unit Anniversary Celebration

It was a day for staff, past and present, of the Carl Robinson Correctional Institution to reminisce about the best and worst of times over the course of the past 20 years and to recognize the man for whom the facility is named. Carl Robinson's family, agency dignitaries and line staff came together to celebrate the joint twentieth anniversary for the facility and Canine Unit and to rededicate the facility in Robinson's name. For the four-legged members of the audience and their handlers it was an opportunity to display how important a role the agency's Canine Unit has played in keeping the agency safe and secure. The guests enjoyed a wonderful buffet and an array of memorabilia that included the agency's oil painting of Carl Robinson. "Today CRCI stands as a testament to the commitment of the men and women who have served here and to the man it is named after," Commissioner Theresa Lantz said. "Carl Robinson was one of the cornerstones the agency is built on."

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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

October 23 -
November 5,
2005



The family of late Warden Carl Robinson pose at the facility's 20th Anniversary Celebration. Pictured (Left to Right) granddaughter Micheala, daughter Sherri, wife, Marion, son John, and daughter Carla.

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Anniversary Celebration Cont'd



Warden Christine Whidden, the current Warden of Robinson CI, speaks at the ceremony.

Robinson, remembered as a gentle giant at six foot five, was the first African American warden in Connecticut at the then Somers State Prison and was nationally recognized as Warden of the Year by the American Correctional Association in 1982. His widow, Marion, was presented with a copy of the plaque that will now adorn the facility as well as a gubernatorial proclamation for Carl Robinson Day. Captain David Carroll recited the history of the agency's K-9's, which provided a "less lethal" means of subduing inmates after disturbances in the early 80's. Media Production Technician Andrius Banevicius (MCTSD) produced a special video for the celebration that featured the history

of CRCI beginning with the Shaker's whom originally owned the land to highlights of past and present staff.

Career Achievement Award

The Bridgeport chapter of the NAACP recently honored Warden Walter Ford of the Bridgeport Correctional Center with their "Career Achievement Award." This award recognizes members of the community who have distinguished themselves through their contributions in the area of civil rights, race relations, equal opportunity, affirmative action, public service, and for supporting basic human rights for all individuals.

Award recipients are chosen based on the following criteria; Awardees shall be individuals who have displayed outstanding qualities that distinguish him/her as a leader and not a follower, must be committed to fostering innovative and creative involvement within the community, involved and dedicated to the civil rights movement and someone who has made personal sacrifices resulting in the significant contributions to civil/human rights.

Founded in 1909, the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) is the nation's oldest and largest civil rights organization. Its half-million adult and youth members throughout the United States and the world are the premier advocates for civil rights in their communities, conducting voter mobilization and monitoring equal opportunity in the public and private sectors.



The agency salutes you on your accomplishment.

Pride. Work

for
October 23 -
November 5, 2005

Distributed
bi-weekly to 7,000 staff
and via the internet
throughout
Connecticut and the
nation by the Department
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24 Wolcott Hill Road,
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M. Jodi Rell, Governor

Theresa C. Lantz,
Commissioner

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New Domestic Violence Program at CRCC

An innovative, new inmate treatment program recently concluded at the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center. Both Custody and Treatment staff collaborated to make this program a success. Staff were able to create a program to help alleviate the threat of violence toward the public, staff, and other inmates. The goal of the 13-week program was to bring awareness of one's actions during a confrontational situation and to equip the offenders with the skills necessary to resolve conflicts in a mature and responsible manner. Interest



in the program was high. The pilot group consisted of eight inmates that were chosen and carefully screened for appropriateness by APRN Andrea Reischerl and CSW Linda Stephens. Throughout the 13 weeks, participants were given various homework assignments; failure to complete assignments would disqualify the inmate from the program. The inmates were given certificates for successfully completing the program. Lt. Paul Onofrio, who helped initiate this program, was able to witness first-hand how helpful the program was to one of the participants. A 6'5", 270-pound inmate, with a past violent history, had a verbal altercation with another inmate in his housing unit. The inmate was able to utilize the skills he had learned from this program and was able to back away from the conflict. If staff would like additional information on this program, contact Lt. Onofrio at Corrigan-Radgowski CC (2nd shift).

Farewell

Director of Programs and Treatment Mary Johnson and Director Patrick Hynes of the Offender Programs and Victims Services Unit held a retirement gathering for Correctional Counselor Patricia Niesyn at "On the Border" in Wethersfield. Co-workers, staff and friends celebrated at her going-away luncheon. Pat retired after 21 years with the agency. She worked at MYI and in the Victim Services Unit.



State Representative Elizabeth Boukus presents Correctional Counselor Patricia Niesyn of the Victim Services Unit with a proclamation from Governor M.Jodi Rell recognizing her retirement from the Department of Correction.

Northern Diversity



On October 13th the Diversity Committee at Northern CI featured a Columbus Day luncheon. On the menu was spaghetti & meatballs, salad, bread, beverages and cake. Pictured at left are CTO James Zuccallo and SST Heather Thibodeau, who helped during the luncheon. Pictured at right is Secretary 1 Nancy Leiper, who "dressed" for the occasion with her "Columbus" inspired hat.



Touring Riker's Island

On September 28th the Cheshire CI's Diversity Committee sponsored a tour of Riker's Island. Thirty staff members toured the largest jail complex in the United States and were shown the various operations and housing units of the New York City Department of Correction's Rikers Island. Below, some of the Cheshire CI staff pose with members of the Rikers Island Canine Unit and facility supervisors. The vast facility was very impressive and the Cheshire staff were treated like VIP's.



Pride at Work, Oct. 23 - nov. 5 p.4

Aiding Katrina

A fundraiser was organized by Counselor Tomest Maskell of Brooklyn CI to assist the Mississippi Department of Correction's employees affected by Hurricane Katrina. On September 23rd, fresh ground coffee and donuts were served to staff at a cost of \$2.00. Warden Giovanni Gomez forwarded a check to the MDOC Fund in the amount of \$77.00. This fundraiser was in addition to clothing and food donations made prior to this event. Counselor Maskell noted, "If drinking more coffee means helping hurricane victims, put me down for a second cup."

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. If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860.692.7554. This week's issue was submitted by Environmental Analyst Greg Fitzpatrick who can be reached at 860.692.7897.



"Did you Know?... Everybody's talking about biodiesel – but what exactly is it and who's using it in Connecticut?"

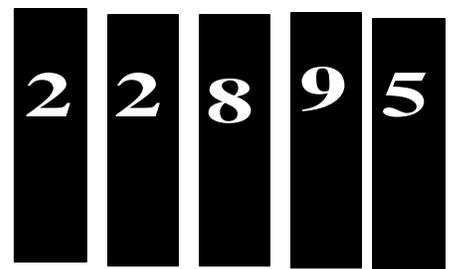
Biodiesel is an alternative fuel made from vegetable based oils such as soy or canola, waste greases, or even animal fats. You may have heard that biodiesel can be used to run cars and other vehicles, but many people don't know that it can also be used to heat buildings too.

In order to make biodiesel, oil or grease goes through a process called transesterification, which separates out the glycerin and makes it chemically different than straight vegetable oil. Biodiesel contains no petroleum, but is typically blended with petroleum diesel to create a biodiesel blend. The most common blends used in New England range from 5% biodiesel (B5) to 20% biodiesel (B20). According to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, biodiesel is linked with air quality benefits and lower greenhouse gas emissions. Because it can be made right here in the United States from renewable sources, it can reduce our dependence on imported oil.

Continued on Page 5, *Did you know?*

EAP Employee Assistance Program
Incorporated A Confidential Counseling Service
888-EAP-8900

Supervised Population on November 2, 2005



On November 2, 2004 the population was 22,956.

State's Attorney Offers Training & Support to Garner Staff

Department of Correction staff from Garner CI, Security Division, and MCTSD, UCONN Health Services, and representatives of the Connecticut State Police Troop A and Major Crime Squad packed Garner CI's visiting room on Thursday, October 6th to participate in a training session developed by Danbury Senior State's Attorney David Holzbach.

With "The Importance of Evidence Preservation" as the key topic, Senior State's Attorney Holzbach delivered a no-nonsense, fact-filled 'dose of court reality' to this multi-disciplined group, explaining that physical evidence is often the determining factor in juries' decisions, particularly in cases of assaults on staff. "Keep the milk carton; keep the shirt. Rubber gloves, do not throw those away . . . more evidence is always better than less."

stressed Attorney Holzbach, who is currently preparing to prosecute his sixth case of assault on Garner staff members. Attorney Holzbach generously developed this training program specifically for the benefit of Garner staff, then offered his time and knowledge to delve into the realities and obstacles faced at the DOC facility, State Police, and State's Attorney's levels when prosecuting cases against inmates; cases which become further complicated by an inmate's mental health status.

Concluding with a question and answer forum, Attorney Holzbach clarified misconceptions of the judicial process by underscoring the importance for all law enforcement agencies to work together to ensure that justice is appropriately served. The training session closed with applause of appreciation for the support made obvious to DOC staff by the Danbury Office of the State's Attorneys.



Senior State's Attorney David Holzbach addresses an audience at Garner CI

Around the cell block

Guatemala- Twenty inmates including murderers and rapists escaped from prison using a 400-foot tunnel that took several months to dig.

Washington- The Justice Department says the U.S. prison population grew by 1.9% in 2004 with the increase in women double that of men.

Iowa- Four Deputy Sheriffs were suspended for eating the commissary chocolate bars delivered after an inmate had been released.

Philippines- Two inmates escape a modern prison by simply walking out the door with Family Day visitors.

Did you know?, Cont'd

Biodiesel is being used in Connecticut and throughout the region. It can be used in diesel engines with few or no modifications to the engine or fuel system. The Connecticut Department of Transportation uses biodiesel in several of the state vehicles. Some town school buses, private fleets, and citizens are also using biodiesel blends. The Universities of Connecticut and Hartford have also tried it in their campus buses. In fact, an estimated 25 million gallons were used throughout the United States in 2003, and that amount is increasing. However, its use in the state is still somewhat limited since there are no public pumps located in our state and until recently there were no distributors that carried the product.

Heating commercial buildings and residential homes is another use for biodiesel, now that fuel oil distributors are beginning to carry the product, thus giving individuals in some areas of the state the opportunity to purchase biodiesel blend to fuel their oil furnaces.

Facilities with boilers that are regulated by the Department of Environmental Protection need to have their permit modified in order to use biodiesel. The DEP is working with the Institute of Sustainable Energy at Eastern Connecticut State University on a project to test a 20% biodiesel blend for heating their South Campus.

Continued on Page 7, *Did you know?*

Years of Service

20 Years of Service for October 2005

John Bojarski	Lieutenant	Carl Robinson CI
Noiel Brill III	CorrFoodSvcs Supv3	Willard-Cybulski CI
Tracey Butler	AsstAgyPrsnlAdmin3RC	Central Office
Edward Chrabaszcz	Lieutenant	Brooklyn CI
Thomas Coates	Major	Osborn CI
James Coughlin	Correction Officer	Osborn CI
Darlene Cummings	Administrative Assistant	Central Office
Mark Dyer	Correction Officer	Carl Robinson CI
Lavone Johnson	Lieutenant	Carl Robinson CI
Mary Johnson	Dir. of Programs & Treatment	Central Office
Neal Kearney	Major	Enfield CI
Charles Knight	Captain	Cheshire CI
Daniel Leske	Correction Officer	MacDougall -Walker CI
Eric McGregor	Correction Officer	Osborn CI
Terrance Scahill	Correction Officer	Osborn CI
Alan Snitkin	Correction Officer	Gates CI
Nancy Spanswick	Administrative Assistant	Osborn CI
Halbert Swan	Counselor	Willard-Cybulski CI
Eugene Tewksbury	Correction Officer	Corrigan-Radgowski CI
Abraham Velez	Lieutenant	MacDougall-Walker CI

25 Years of Service for October 2005

Thomas Greci	Plumber & Steamfitter	Carl Robinson CI
David Travis	General Maintenance Officer	Central Office



Brooklyn CI held a retirement breakfast in honor of Lt. Ed Chrabaszcz. Lt. Chrabaszcz, (center, holding plaque) is pictured hugging his wife & son along with Warden Giovanni Gomez, Counselor Supervisor Dave Guarino, Captain Michael Murphy, Captain Melissa Murray, Lt. Dorothy Rucker, and Lt. Michael Smith.

MVP's

Alvarez, Alexie	CO	BCC
Arcouette, Edward	CC	McWCI
Barrett, William	GMO	BCC
Beaton, Michael	CO	CRCC
Bishop, Timothy	CO	CCI
Bonfiglio, Richard	CO	CCI
Camarro, Bernard	GMO	BCC
Carucci, Ralph	CFSS III	McWCI
Ciesinski, Donna	SST	CRCC
Colon, Juan	CO	BCC
Compare, Donna	CS	BCC
Cooney-Fog, Linda	Off Asst	McWCI
Cronin, Daniel	CO	CRCC
Croyle, Michael	CTO	McWCI
Daddona, Louis	GMO	BCC
Delmastro, Thomas	GMO	BCC
DeRota, Fred	CO	McWC
Discordia, Steven	CO	CRCC
Doran, Damion	CO	CRCC
Duhaime, Elaine	Rec Spec	CRCC
Durant, Robert	GMO	BCC
Flood, Yvonne	Off Asst	BCC
French, Mary Ellen	Rec Spec	BCC
French, Robert	GMO	BCC
Fusaro, Tim	CO	CRCC
Gordon, Annette	Rec Spec	CRCC
Hallabeck, Don	Maint Supv	BCC
Hanis, Michael, Jr.	Locksmith	CCI
Haraghey, Sandie	Sec II	McWCI
Hodges, Nicholas	Lt	CRCC
Hudson, Darcey	CO	CCI
Jackson, William	CO	CCI
Kieda, Rene	Deacon	McWCI
Kmetz, Ann	Lt	CRCC
Lalumiere, Patrick	Lt	CRCC
Landry, Thomas	CFSS II	McWCI
Lukaszewski, Steve	GMO	BCC
Manette, Stephen	CFSS II	McWCI
McCall, Stacey	Clk Typist	BCC
McTighe, Stavana	Off Asst	CRCC
Moore, Carla	Rec Spec	CRCC
Neuendorf, Pamela	Sec II	BCC

K-9 Fundraising Event

Captain David Carroll and staff of the North District Canine Unit participated in the 23rd Annual Walk for the Animals on October 16th at Forest Park in Springfield, Massachusetts.



(Above) Captain David Carroll, assisted by a volunteer, demonstrates a drill.

Trick and Mutt of the Year. The Department of Correction K-9 Unit, which recently celebrated its' 20 year anniversary, was honored to participate at the event.

(Right) Officer Luis Melendez and K-9 Edo at the fundraiser.

The event was hosted by the Massachusetts Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (M..S.P.C.A.) which raised money to benefit animals of Western Massachusetts and Northern Connecticut. There were plenty of activities during the day to entertain both dogs and their two-footed friends. Onsite entertainment included Raffles, Contests like Owner/Dog Look-a-Like, Best



Calendar

November 3 - December 30 - The CPA Prison Arts Program Alumnae Show will be held at the Charter Oak Cultural Center in Hartford. The exhibit will be on display Monday thru Friday from 1pm until 5pm.

November 10 - Cheshire CI will host a Family/Friends Night Skating Party at Wheel World which is located on 334 North Cherry Street Ext., Wallingford, CT. The \$10 donation will include skate rental, pasta dinner, DJ and raffles. All proceeds will benefit the Special Olympics. For additional info contact CO Vasquez at 203.250.2639 (1st Shift) or CO Grant at 203.250.2600 (2nd Shift)

December 17 - Celebrate Christmas with Family & Friends at the Sheraton Hotel at Bradley International Airport, Windsor Locks, CT from 6:30 pm - 1:00 am. DJ Rick'D'Ruler will provide the music. Tickets \$37.00 per person. Parking is free. Photos will be available for \$5.00. Tickets will be available until December 10th. For tickets and info, contact Captain Luna at 860.558.6498.

Did you know?, Cont'd

Data on fuel performance, fuel efficiency, air emissions, and equipment maintenance will be collected during this project.

If you are interested in biodiesel and would like more information:

- ◆ Visit the Department of Environmental Protection website at www.dep.state.ct.us/wst/p2/energy/biodiesel.htm.
- ◆ You can submit questions on biodiesel to "Ben" at www.nbb.org/askben, a service of the Biodiesel Education Network.
- ◆ Biodiesel: A Cleaner, Greener Fuel for the 21st Century, excerpt from Environmental Building News – www.sustainablebusiness.com/features/feature_template.cfm?ID=915
- ◆ For a guide to buying biodiesel, visit the National Biodiesel Board's website at www.biodiesel.org."
- ◆ For information on DEP Air Quality permit requirements for boilers, call (860) 424-4152.

MVP, Cont'd

O'Neal, Frederick CO	CRCC
Rabell, David CO	CRCC
Ramos, Luis CO	McWCI
Regan, Jason CO	BCC
Rodriguqz, Onil CO	BCC
Romero, Taniel Rec Spec	BCC
Parks, Terri Off Asst	BCC
Sendzik, Gregg GMO	BCC
Steeves, Kenneth GMO	BCC
Williams, Deborah Off Asst	BCC
Williams, Godeliah CO	CCI
Woods, Lekeisha Clk Typist	BCC
Yannacci, Vincent CO	CRCC
Young, Debra Sec II	McWCI