



Support Our Troops

P.R.I.D.E.

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

AT

WORK



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2006 Award Winners Announced

Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz is proud to announce the winners of the Connecticut Department of Correction 2006 Annual Awards, who will be recognized in a ceremony on August 18, 2006. "After 30 years in the field of corrections, the caliber and quality of these



Correctional Officer Angel Santana
of the Manson Youth Institution

individuals is a living testament to the professionalism and success of our agency," said Commissioner Lantz. Officer of the Year, Angel Santana of the Manson Youth Institution, a 17-year veteran, assigned to the Mental Health Unit received glowing praise from Warden Christine Whidden. "He is one of only an elite group of staff members that understands that he has the ability to have a positive effect on the life of a child, a role that he takes on with great enthusiasm and devotion," she said. "His performance on his assignment regardless of post, is exemplary," said nominator Captain Brian Evelich.

Continued on Page 4, See *Award Winners*

Standards High for Special Operation Group (SOG) Graduation

It is probably not a help wanted ad that many would jump at. The position requires a review of your attendance, work ethic, experience, character and integrity, passing an oral interview, a physical assessment, an obstacle course, a range assessment and a psychological screening. All that before you are given the chance to complete 80 hours of intensive and rigorous training. According to Director of Tactical Operations Richard Miele, "nearly 50 percent of those who signed up weren't able to attain the high standards that are demanded."

Continued on Page 2, See *SOG Graduation*



Commissioner Lantz introduces Department of Emergency Management & Homeland Security Commissioner James "Skip" Thomas, the keynote speaker at the SOG graduation ceremony.

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

June 4 - 17, 2006

SOG Graduation Cont'd

The elite tactical unit ensures that the Commissioner has a contingent of highly trained and specially equipped personnel to rapidly respond to emergency situations. The State Commissioner of the Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security, James Thomas, himself a retired police officer and chief, praised the commitment and dedication of the graduates. The nine new graduates join a team that is now 24 strong, in completing the first SOG lesson plan to be approved by the nationally accredited training academy. Since its inception in November of 1997, SOG has thankfully never had to be called into action. But despite that, the Unit's Mission Statement makes it clear, that it is fully prepared at all times to restore safety, security and order to an affected correctional facility.



Special Operations Group (S.O.G.) Tactical Basic Training Graduating Class

Captain Dennis Roche, SOG Commander
Lieutenant Sean Sullivan, Alpha Team Leader
Lieutenant Timothy Woodcock, Bravo Team Leader

Captain Craig Holmes
Lieutenant Russell Maggio
Lieutenant Edwin Irizarry
Parole Officer David Skarzynski
Officer Antonio Chapman, SOG Armorer
Officer Jerry Wawrzyk, Logistics
Officer George MacDonald
Officer Ray Faryniarz
Officer Craig Paton
Officer Guy Smith

Lieutenant Edward Guzman
Lieutenant Jason Beaulieu
Lieutenant Santos Ayala
Parole Officer Rey Santiago
Officer Armando Malavenda
Officer Reginald McAllister
Officer James Dagenais
Officer Kyle Mitchell
Officer Bryan Viger
Officer Scott Loos

SOG member not in attendance:
Officer Robert York (military leave)

PRIDE.
AT
Work

June 4 - 17, 2006

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Theresa C. Lantz,
Commissioner

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DOC Staff Attend CSEC Recognition Luncheon

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(At Left) Commissioner Theresa Lantz and Deputy Warden Sandy Bundy pose with facility/agency coordinators at the Connecticut State Employee's Campaign for Charitable Giving 2005 Thank You Recognition and Luncheon held at Middlesex Community College on May 16th. The Department of Correction staff raised \$164,100 for the 2005 Charitable Campaign. The Luncheon was catered by the Department

of Correction Nutritional Services staff at Cafe' 24. Commissioner Lantz and Deputy Warden Bundy would like to thank all the DOC sponsors for supporting the fundraising efforts of the agency by supplying gift certificates, products and services. They are:

*Tires and Wheels, Wethersfield
Alpine Haus, Wethersfield
A Tranquil Touch, Old Lyme
Lia Sophia, Beverly A. Thibeault
Hart's Greenhouse & Florist, Canterbury
Bennett's, West Hartford
Premier Cleaners, Manchester
POSH Spa, Cheshire
Tower Farms Nursery, Cheshire
Keeney Museum, Wethersfield
Hideaway Restaurant, Niantic
Vito's Restaurant, Wethersfield
Card Hall, Inc., Wethersfield
Paul's Restaurant, Cheshire
Sapporo Restaurant, Wethersfield*

*Hoffman Gun, Newington
Courtyard Marriott, Waterbury
Beaux Visage, Rocky Hill
Tom Thumb Florist, Bridgeport
Le Femme, Cheshire
Brooks Pharmacy, Wethersfield
Macaroni Grill, Manchester
Testas Restaurant, Bridgeport
Aunt Chilada's Restaurant, Cheshire
Shaker Farm Market, Enfield
Figaro Restaurant, Enfield
Friendly's Restaurant, Wethersfield
Constantine's Restaurant, Niantic
The Wooden Toy, Wethersfield
Victoria Garden Florist, Wethersfield*

*Holiday Inn, Bridgeport
Hart Seed Company, Wethersfield
Crown Plaza Hotel, Hartford
Art & Frame Options, Wethersfield
Elbow Room, West Hartford
Golfers Warehouse
Tatzas Coffee Roasters, Cheshire
Constantine's Restaurant, Niantic
La Poblanita, Bridgeport
BRIX Restaurant, Cheshire
Tuscany Restaurant, Bridgeport
Sushi Ocean, Windsor Locks
Natural Food Store, Niantic
Ming Dynasty, Wethersfield
Carmen Anthony's Restaurant*

Thank You Four Your Support!

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 article was written by Correctional Maintenance Supervisor Gary Brazil of the Manson Youth Institution. If you have questions, he may be reached at 203.806.2523.

FIREWORKS

No one knows who first invented fireworks. Some historians say that it was the Chinese and that they were brought back to Europe from China by the Italian explorer, Marco Polo. Others believe that it was Middle Easterners, still others think that a German magician invented them in the 1300's. One fact that is known for sure, is that people have been celebrating with fireworks for over 600 years. In the USA where fireworks began near the 1600's, settlers brought fireworks over from Europe and used them to entertain Native Americans in the area. In 1777, one year after the Declaration of Independence, we celebrated our very first 4th of July. In Connecticut it is legal to purchase hand held and ground base sparkling devices that are non-explosive and non-aerial, and cannot contain more than 100 grams of pyrotechnic composition per item.

Continued on Page 5, See ***Did You Know***

May Monthly Promotions

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Central Office staff who were recently promoted take time from their busy schedule to pose for a group photo. They are: (l-r) Fiscal Administrative Assistant's (FAA's) Michael Brooks, Cheryl Beck, and Barbara Giansanti along with Data Processing Technical Analyst (DPTA3) Salvatore Marino of the MIS Unit.

<i>Mark Sirois</i>	<i>Plant Fac Eng 1</i>	<i>Northern CI</i>
<i>William Porter</i>	<i>Plant Fac Eng 1</i>	<i>Niantic</i>
<i>Nicholas Costanzo</i>	<i>Plant Fac Eng 2</i>	<i>Niantic</i>
<i>Glenn Noffsinger</i>	<i>Plant Fac Eng 2</i>	<i>Cheshire CI</i>
<i>Michael Brooks</i>	<i>FAA</i>	<i>Central Office</i>
<i>Cheryl Beck</i>	<i>FAA</i>	<i>Central Office</i>
<i>Barbara Giansanti</i>	<i>FAA</i>	<i>Central Office</i>
<i>Jerry Moore, Jr.</i>	<i>Lieutenant</i>	<i>MCTSD</i>
<i>Daniel Fagan</i>	<i>Lieutenant</i>	<i>MCTSD</i>
<i>Philip Costanzo</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Manson YI</i>
<i>Henry Falcone</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Garner CI</i>
<i>Rocco Sweat</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Manson YI</i>
<i>Robert Martin</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>York CI</i>
<i>Robert Melms</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Cheshire CI</i>
<i>James Yelinek</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Osborn CI</i>
<i>Timothy Carroll</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>Northern CI</i>
<i>Timothy Woodcock</i>	<i>Captain</i>	<i>York CI</i>
<i>Karen Martucci</i>	<i>Couns Supv</i>	<i>MacDougall-Walker</i>
<i>Anne Valeriano</i>	<i>Couns Supv</i>	<i>Bergin CI</i>
<i>Murray Cruickshank</i>	<i>Couns Supv</i>	<i>OCPM</i>
<i>Salvatore Marino</i>	<i>DPTA 3</i>	<i>Central Office</i>

Around the Cell Block



Nebraska- A judge sentenced a sex offender, who had molested a child to 10 years of probation ruling that at 5 foot one, the man is too small to be sent to prison.

Vermont- With the governor's signature, this recently became the last state in the country to outlaw sexual relations between inmates and correctional staff.

New York- A federal judge has thrown out a lawsuit, which complained about double bunking in cells designed for one, ruling it does not violate the Constitution.

Georgia- The former head of the state prison system, Bobby Whitworth, will begin serving a six month prison sentence for accepting a \$75,000 bribe.

2006 Award Winners Cont'd

The Department's employee of the year is a person that many have likely never met, but will never forget if they ever need assistance in navigating the agency's computer system. Pei Ti Lee is a Systems Developer 4 in the MIS Department, with nearly 18 years on the job. "In two and a half years that I have been managing her, she never ceases to amaze me," said Director Robert Cosgrove. "She is very unassuming and individual accolades do not mean much to her. Her only concern is her customer and how quickly and accurately she can get them the information they are looking for." Congratulations! *Stay Tuned....More Annual Award winners will be featured in future issues of the PRIDE at Work Newsletter.*



Systems Developer 4
Pei Ti Lee of Central
Office-MIS Department

Supervised
Population
on
June 10, 2006

22,922

On June 10, 2005 the total supervised population was 22,732

Officer Wins National Medal

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In a formal ceremony near the nation's capital, Officer Edward Arasimowicz of the Connecticut Department of Correction was recently bestowed with the National Medal of Valor by Corrections U.S.A. With his wife, Nancy,



Correction Officer Edward Arasimowicz with wife, Nancy at the Awards Ceremony.

his former warden Charles Lee of Hartford CC and retired union official Eugene Tewksbury looking on, Officer Arasimowicz was recognized for his swift and coura-



Correction Officer Edward Arasimowicz (third from left) poses with all of the Corrections USA Award Recipients.

geous action in coming to the aid of a fellow staff member, whom an inmate was trying to take hostage in an incident last June. As a result of his embodiment of the agency mission, the intended victim was freed without injury. "It is truly a privilege to have been part of this presentation and especially to have officers such as him

serve our state in my facility," said Warden Lee. Officer Arasimowicz's nomination, submitted by Officer Edward Cook, was chosen from among more than 80 from across the nation. He will also be honored with the Department of Correction Medal of Valor at this year's award ceremony in August. Corrections U.S.A. represents more than 110,000 of the nation's 400,000 county, state and federal correction officers. The group will produce a poster honoring this year's winners, including Arasimowicz that will be made available to all of the state's correctional facilities.

Did You Know Cont'd

Fireworks, including multiple-tube sparkling devices that exceed 100 grams of total pyrotechnic composition, are illegal. As most of you could imagine most fireworks are sold on and around the 4th of July, but firework sales have risen drastically around other holidays including New Years Eve, Memorial Day and Labor Day. As entertaining as firework displays may be, you should never underestimate their danger. Fireworks can cause serious injuries if handled carelessly. Below are ten basic but important rules to follow when handling fireworks.

- *Follow label directions carefully and use common sense*
- *Never point or throw fireworks at another person*
- *Use fireworks outdoors in a clear area away from buildings and vehicles*
- *Never carry fireworks in your pocket or shoot them in metal or glass containers*
- *Light one item at a time then move back quickly*
- *Don't experiment with homemade fireworks*
- *Keep a bucket of water or garden hose nearby*
- *Observe local laws*
- *Buy fireworks only from established retail outlets*
- *Never give fireworks to young children*

Fireworks popularity has risen dramatically in recent years, however injuries have declined proving that knowledge of handling safety is key to a successful show. Have a Safe and Happy July 4th.

Softball Tournament

First Annual Special Olympics
Law Enforcement
Softball Tournament

Sponsored By:

Cheshire CI and New Haven CC

When: **July 8, 2006**

Where: Nessing Field - Meriden,
CT

Entry Fee: \$200

Open to all teams

Format: Double Elimination-ASA
Rules

All Money Goes to Special Olym-
pics-CT

All Entries Must Be Received By
June 23, 2006

For Info Contact Bangie Vazquez
at 203.250.2639, Mike Green at
203.250.2600x2100, Dominick
Nuzzo at 203.824.0005, Pat
Pellegriano at 203.974.4161, or
Sylvia Vazquez at 204.789.7111

Pomp and Circumstance



On May 13th, Correction Officer Therosine Jackson of Enfield CI graduated from Springfield College.

She received a Master of Science in Organizational Management and Leadership. Officer Jackson received her Bachelor of Science in Human Services last May also from Springfield College.

Ms. Jackson has been a correctional officer for 12 1/2 years, starting at the Somers Correctional Institution in 1994. She is also a residential caseworker in West Hartford, and a single mother of two teenage sons.

Fundraiser

The first annual "Shelly and the Horn" Memorial Scholarship Ride will take place on Saturday, August 19th starting with breakfast and sign in at 11AM at the Italian Benefit Society in Stafford Springs, CT. The approximately 50 mile ride through Northeast CT will then end with a chicken dinner and dance at the IBS after several stops along the way. Tickets are \$25. The ride is in honor of Shelly Vogel, a former medic at MacDougall- Walker CI who died after complications from a bee sting, and Jason McQuaid, an avid supporter of former rides for Shelly and the son of LPN Kay McQuaid at Osborn CI, who died in a motorcycle accident in September, 2004. All proceeds from the ride will go to the Citizen's Scholarship Fund in both Shelly and Jason's name. For tickets and information, please call Elaine Lukas at 860.763.6183, Pat Wollenhaupt at 860.566.7500 x5309, or Kathy Weiner at 860.292.3414.

MVP's

Anderson, Justin, CO	CCI
Banevicius, Andrius, MediaTech.	MCTSD
Beaumier, Steve, VocEd.	Teac CRCI
Briatico, Robert, CO	MWCI
Copeland, Floyd, CO	MWCI
Cori, Edward, Lt	MWCI
Cummings, Thomas, Capt.	MWCI
Cyr, Renee, CC	CRCI
Dale, Robert, CO	HCC
Dugan, James, Capt.	MWCI
Fay, Anthony, CO	WCCI
Feliciano, Tom, CC	BCI
Gagnon, Gorman, Lt.	CCI
Gallick, Craig, CO	CCI
Godfrey, Eleanor, Ind. Supvr.	YCI
Hespelt, Robert, CO	HCC
Hill, David, Maint. Welder	CRCI
Kehoe, Charles, CO	CRCC
Keida, Rene, Deacon	MWCI
Laitres, Ralph, CO	YCI
Lewis, Scott, CO	MWCI
Lusardi, William, Lt.	HCC
Matthis, Willie, CO	HCC
McKinney, Joyce, Capt.	WCCI
Melms, Robert Lt.	CCI
Mulligan, William, Capt.	MWCI
O'Connor, William, CO	CCI
Pearsall, William, CO	BCI
Pelkey, Glen, CO	CCI
Pope, Tim, CO	CRCC
Smith, Russell, SCC	CRCC
Steskla, Brian, CO	CCI
Tramontano, Anthony, Lt	CCI
Tyler, Lawrence, CO	CRCC
Vaughn, Carlton CFSS2	CO
Ware, Leigh, CCS	YCI
Wolfenden, Kenneth, CO	CCI

Sell-Out Light Sale

On May 31st, a sale of energy saving lighting products was held at Central Office that can only be described as spectacular! The sale took place in Central Office's Cafe 24. Subsidized through monies collected by Connecticut's electric utility companies through the Connecticut Energy Efficiency Fund, compact fluorescent bulbs, ceiling fixtures, and floor and table lamps were offered for sale at prices reduced from retail.

Staff responded enthusiastically, buying out several styles of bulbs. Normally limiting sales to stock-on-hand, the demand was so great that the contractor conducting the sale offered rain checks to deliver sold out items. The contractor stated that more items were sold at Central Office than is often sold at locations with twice the number of people.

If you are located near one of the facilities and think that good deals such as this are only offered to Central Office staff, there is good news. Sites are being identified at our larger complexes, i.e., Enfield/Somers, Niantic, and Cheshire, at which similar sales can be conducted. So be alert for a sale of energy saving lighting products that may be convenient for you, too!

Employee Assistance Program

1-800-252-4555

Available 24 hours a day - 7 days a week

www.theEAP.com

Willard-Cybulski Staff Celebrate CO Week

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Mr. Beiler, Ms. Cameroda, SST Snedeker, and Ms. Ferron enjoy the hotdogs and hamburgers during the luncheon.

Warden Esther Torres took the opportunity to show her gratitude to the staff at Willard-Cybulski CI during a picnic luncheon on May 9th. Warden Torres stated, "The staff at Willard-Cybulski CI take great pride in their work each day of the year with outstanding dedication and



C/O Michael, Warden Torres, and C/O Goguen take a photo to commemorate Correction Officer Week.

professionalism. It is not only a privilege, it is an honor for me to extend a sincere thank you to all the staff for a job well done."

Congrats



Warden Peter Murphy and the staff at Enfield CI congratulate State School Teacher Greg Conway and his wife on the birth of their daughter, Emma Elizabeth born on May 16th. She weighed 6 lbs 11 oz and was 19 in. Mom and Baby are Great! Papa is a wreck! Big Sister is very excited!



Officer Brown cuts the first slice of the cake made for 2nd shift staff in observance of National Correction Officer Week.



Ms. Haraghey, CC McNerney, CC O'Neill, and CCS Barone enjoy conversation and dining during the luncheon held on May 9, 2006, in honor of Correction Officer Week.

Honor Guard Recruitment

Director Richard Miele has announced new members are being sought for the Department's Honor Guard Unit, specifically for the position of Honor Guard member. Interested employees may contact Honor Guard Commander/Lieutenant Tony Cusano at Maloney CTSD, (203) 271-5178, or Director Miele at Central Office (860) 692-7506 to be placed on an interview list. A letter of interest and/or resume is requested to include date of hire, 3 years of time and attendance records, the last 3 years evaluations and 2 letters of reference from shift commander and immediate supervisor. Closing date is July 14, 2006. Interviews/auditions will be conducted shortly thereafter. Any member of the Department of Correction with a minimum service of three (3) years shall be eligible.

Interested employees are encouraged to review Administrative Directive 2.16/Honor Guard for eligibility requirements including sick leave usage, discipline history, sexual harassment and workplace violence history, service ratings and physical appearance standards.

Thank You

To My Correctional Family:
Thank you for the support and care that was received during the loss of my brother, Ulyssus Bayona. This has been an extremely difficult time for my family. Please know that all of your support and prayers have been of great comfort. My deepest appreciation.

Major Martinez (Liz)