

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

9/11 Observed

For the 12th year in a row, staff members of the Connecticut Department of Correction gathered at Central Office to memorialize the lives lost during the tragic events that forever changed our country and our world on September 11, 2001.

Those gathered in front of the flagpoles outside of Central Office on an unseasonably steamy September morning, listened pensively as Commissioner James E. Dzurenda recounted the chronology of the attacks on New York, Washington D.C. and Pennsylvania.



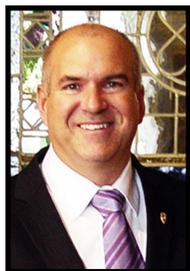
Taylor Link sings the National Anthem.

see Solemn Tribute/page 2

July 25, 2013
 through
 September 11, 2013

Distributed monthly
 to 6,200 staff
 and via the Internet
 throughout Connecticut
 and the nation
 by the
 Department of Correction
 24 Wolcott Hill Road
 Wethersfield, CT 06109

From the Commissioner



As we conduct the daily business of protecting the public, it sometimes may seem that not much changes in this agency. Even though many of the vital aspects of maintaining safe and secure facilities remains constant, it is important that, as an agency, we are able to adapt to changing needs as they arise. One such example of our agency adapting in order to address a change in the way we do business can be found at the Northern Correctional Institution. For years, Northern CI has been the agency's maximum security facility, where we housed some of most violent offenders, home of death row.

Back in May of 2011, the department began to focus on making some positive changes on how the agency's maximum security prison would continue to operate and the types of inmates that it would manage. With safety and security well under control, an in-depth examination of all phases of the facility's Administrative Segregation (AS) Program, Security Risk Group Members (SRGM) Program and its Chronic Discipline (CD) Program was undertaken.

see **The New Northern** /page 3

Dannel P. Malloy
 Governor

James E. Dzurenda
 Interim Commissioner

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What's Old is New

The renovation of Bridgeport Correctional Center's "old" North Wing is complete.



Current and former staff of the Bridgeport Correctional Center, along with the agency's administrators gathered outside the facility's North Wing on July 31, 2013, to officially rededicate the newly renovated building.

After remarks from Warden Timothy Farrell and Deputy Commissioner Cheryl Cepelak, the gathered crowd was entertained by Commissioner Dzurenda's stories of his first days as a Correction Officer at the Bridgeport facility.

Following the rededication ceremony, everyone gathered inside to tour the "new" building. The extensive renovation began early in 2012. Renovations included the complete replacement of all the building's mechanical, electrical and

plumbing systems, removal of most of the interior walls, cells and other elements. New roof trusses were installed in order to create a sloped roof, which will contain an attic to house all of the building's mechanical systems so that maintenance can be done outside the secure areas of the building. Exterior windows, which were comprised of single-pane plexiglass, were replaced with insulated glass detention windows. Even the brick exterior was reappointed. The building is accessible for visitors, inmates and staff - and consists of 230 beds in four dormitory housing units. New secure visiting, dining, warming kitchen, and laundry areas have been constructed. There are also new offices, a secure control room with all new security electronics, door controls, and a closed circuit television system that will be tied into the main building. The end result is (for all intents and purposes) a brand new, state-of-the-art, facility.

"This was a long time coming," said Deputy Commissioner Cepelak. "But it was definitely worth all the hard work from all those that helped make this happen."

A Solemn Tribute from page 1

In keeping with the tradition that is part of the annual memorial ceremony, a moment of silence in honor of those who died that fateful morning was observed. The silence was pierced by the mournful wailing of Associate Administrative Fiscal Officer Robert Carrara's bagpipes as he played Amazing Grace.

The ceremony was highlighted by a stirring rendition of "The National Anthem" sung by Director of Engineering and Facilities Management Services Unit Steve Link's daughter, Taylor Link. Ms. Link is currently a junior at the University of Hartford's Hartt School of Music majoring in vocal performance. She later returned to lead everyone in a verse of "God Bless America". After which, Director of Religious Services Father Anthony Bruno provided a closing prayer.

Before the crowd dispersed, Commissioner Dzurenda asked that everyone take a moment to remember the more than 6,700 Americans who have given their lives in combating the war on terrorism since September 11, 2001.

Nightingale Awards

Correctional Managed Health Care recently announced the recipients of the 2013 Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing. This year's award winners include: Jason Cruz LPN, Garner Correctional Institution; Matthew Dobos RN, Correctional Head Nurse, Hartford Correctional Center; Heidi Greene RN, ID Case Manager, MacDougall-Walker Correctional Institution; David Kibe RN, Correctional Head Nurse, Functional Unit 10.

The Nightingale Awards for Excellence in Nursing program was originally developed by the Visiting Nurse Association of South Central Connecticut to be a collaborative effort to celebrate outstanding nurses and to elevate the nursing profession. The goals of the program are to encourage retention, inspire future nurses, focus public attention and recognize the breadth and scope of nursing practices at the local level.



The New Northern from page 1

After much planning, major changes were made to the structure of the AS program which included moving phase two and three of the program to another facility.

In addition, the SRGM program along with the Chronic Discipline program were removed from Northern CI, allowing for an even greater concentration on the AS program, the special needs inmate population and the inmates housed on Death Row.

All these efforts and initiatives resulted in a decrease in the inmate population and downsizing of the facility, which coincided with the department's initiative of restricting Northern CI for the most dangerous inmates.

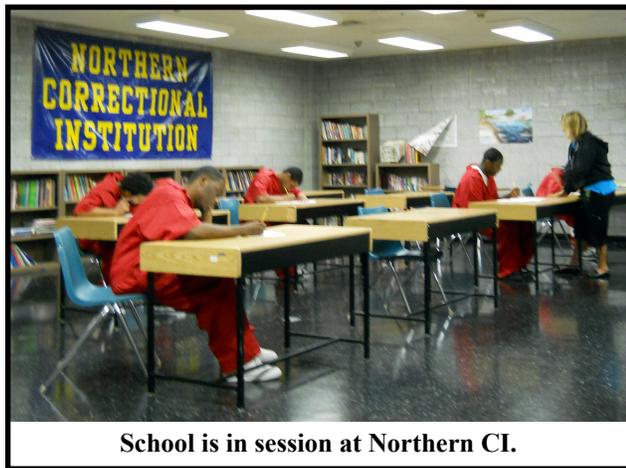
Fast forward to July of 2013, the agency began working on an extensive restructuring plan, utilizing its infrastructure and available bed space at Northern CI to operate on a more efficient basis and reduce non-traditional housing in various other facilities. The end result was the creation of a level-4 general population unit at Northern CI, which affords new high bond inmates all of the amenities afforded to other inmates of the same classification housed at the remaining 14 correctional institutions and centers throughout the state. As a result, for the first time since the opening of the state's maximum security prison in March of 1995, Northern C.I. commenced with a "classroom" setting for inmate educational services (see related story page 4). Thanks to the hard work of Warden Edward Maldonado and his staff at the Northern Correctional Institution, educational services and amenities provided at Northern CI closely resemble those services provided in a regular level-4, general population facility.

By changing the "mission" of Northern CI, while still emphasizing safety and security above all else, the agency was able to greatly reduce the number of inmates housed in non-traditional housing areas at other facilities across the state.

It is difficult to say how long we will utilize the Northern facility in this manner, but one thing is certain - the Department of Correction will continue to adapt to whatever challenges that come our way. I also know that no matter whatever challenges the future holds, I can count on you, the staff of one of the finest correctional agencies in the country, to help meet those challenges.

School's in at Northern CI

For the first time since the opening of the state's maximum security prison in March of 1995, Northern CI has commenced with a "classroom" setting for educational services. Until now the facility has provided various educational services, which included educational services for inmates under 21, GED preparation and testing; however, those services were provided in a more restrictive setting. Due to the inmate populations being serviced at the time, those services were not provided in a typical "classroom" setting. Services were primarily one-on-one or in very small groups within the housing units themselves. With the introduction of the high bond general population inmates at Northern CI, the staff and administration formulated a way to provide educational services in a more traditional classroom setting. With the support of custody, maintenance,



School is in session at Northern CI.

and Unified School District #1 staff members, the facility modified a part of the building creating its first "classroom". Upon "school call", students move from their housing unit and walk down to the school area. Educational services are being provided in two sessions per day, one in the a.m. and one in the p.m. Each session is approximately three hours long and is offered five days per week. The classroom size ranges from 8 to 12 students at a time and a state school teacher provides services ranging from ABEI, ABEII, GED and SPED. Furniture for the school was obtained from materials leftover after the closing of Bergin C.I. Additionally, necessary resource materials were gathered throughout USD #1. The area modified for the "classroom" already had camera surveillance, phone ports and is sheltered from the rest of the facility and outside of the housing units. The area provides a place where educational services can be administered without interfering with any other activities in the facility and the environment is extremely conducive to learning.

Northern CI is a maximum security prison first and foremost, but that does not mean it cannot modify the services it provides, altering its mission to provide general population educational amenities similar to those available in a regular level-4 general population facility.

Around the Cell Block



FLORIDA – State officials are assuring a federal judge that a kosher diet alternative will be offered in all 60 state prisons by the end of this year. The Justice Department wants a federal judge to issue an order requiring kosher meals so that state officials won't reverse the policy as they did in 2007.

ALABAMA – The state's Department of Correction has donated more than 4,000 cell phones taken from inmates to a domestic violence program.

CALIFORNIA – The California Department of Corrections, in conjunction with the state's Department of Forestry and Fire Protection (CAL FIRE), runs a rehabilitation program for inmates by training them to fight wildfires. Their work saves state taxpayers about \$80 million annually.

*Total
Supervised
Population
on
September 11, 2013
21,133
On September 11, 2012
the population was
21,135*

Did You Know?



“Did You Know” is an informational column aimed at increasing your knowledge of issues in our everyday lives. This article was compiled by Public Information Officer Andrius Banevicius. Any questions related to this article may be answered by contacting him at 860-692-7780. If you have any questions, or have an idea for a future column, please leave a message at 860-692-7780.

What’s the Buzz

This was supposed to be the year of the cicada

Wild estimates were tossed around to describe how many cicadas were expected to crawl out of the ground leading up to this year’s debut of a new generation of cicadas. Some said there would be up to 30 billion. Some said 1 trillion. Some said cicadas would outnumber people 600 to 1.

Periodical cicadas — the ones with 13- or 17-year cycles — first made an appearance in scientific literature about 300 years ago. These cicadas are distinct from the ones that make an appearance every summer. The periodical cicadas remain juveniles for more than a decade until hormones kick in and turn them into adults.

There are several “broods” or groups of these cicadas across the eastern United States. Each brood emerges in the same year and in approximately the same geographical area — sometimes a small area, and sometimes a larger one. But not all broods are created equal and this year’s “brood” was supposed to be a big one.

Periodical cicadas only live in one area worldwide: in the United States, in areas east of the Great Plains. These species moved there after the last glaciers began leaving the area some 18,000 years ago. The ice would have been inhospitable to the cicadas beforehand.



A close-up of a cicada. See you in 17 years - maybe.

While each brood emerges in a distinct area, there’s a difference between where 13-year cicadas live and where 17-year cicadas are. The ones with a shorter life cycle, the 13-year cicadas, tend to live in the South. Biologists believe that is because there is a longer growing season, which allows the cicada nymphs to grow more quickly. The 17-year cicadas, which live in the North, stay underground longer to counteract the longer winters.

This year’s cicadas are party of Brood II, one of 12 remaining documented periodical cicada groups that emerge on their own 17-year cycles. To emerge from the ground, the cicadas rely on several factors, but most importantly they need the ground to warm to 64 degrees. The cooler, wetter spring also may have hampered their emergence. The males sing to the females in a mating call created through their tymbal, an abdominal membrane. By the thousands, the unique chirp rises to a deafening roar.

Most of the cicadas die quickly, preyed on by birds and small mammals, including mice and even dogs. Cicadas are superabundant, but they can be quite localized, and in some places their populations may be getting spottier due to urban development. Clearing a forest deprives the insects of their food source, and new pavement can become a tomb.

The offspring from this year’s mating season—which won’t be seen again for another 17 years—burrow into the ground, eight inches (20 centimeters) deep, where they will feed on the sap from roots until their day in the sun arrives.

Training Greyhounds at Corrigan-Radgowski CC

You can now add dogs – four greyhounds to be precise - to the menagerie at the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center. Four retired greyhounds were brought to CRCC on July 27, 2013, marking the official start of The Connecticut Prison Greyhound Program.

The Department of Correction has partnered with We Adopt Greyhounds (WAG), a greyhound adoption group in Connecticut, to create the program which consists of greyhounds being paired with inmate trainers for ten weeks. During the program, the dogs are socialized and receive basic obedience training. The dogs will also be evaluated for temperament and personality. In addition to the inmate trainers, volunteers from WAG will work closely with the dogs and the inmate trainers. Since their arrival, the former racing dogs from the Tristate Greyhound Park have spent the past few

weeks being socialized and undergoing basic obedience training in preparation for their adoptions. Operations Director for WAG, Johanna Lewis has created a training curriculum, and works closely with the volunteers from WAG as well as the inmate handlers.

Retired DoC correction officer and volunteer at WAG, Sandie Evans, approached officer Steve Curran about the possibility of establishing a partnership between the agency and WAG. Curran then received approval from the agency's administration.

While the greyhounds are being saved after a life on the racetrack, offenders also benefit from the training program – they develop a sense of responsibility and patience, along with potential job skills.

Eight inmates, who were carefully selected based on, among other things, their disciplinary history and criminal offense, are participating in the newly created program. During their stay at CRCC, the dogs are assigned two inmate handlers and get to live with them and partake in their everyday lives at the prison.

In their former lives as race dogs, the animals were let out of their cages only four times a day and have to learn the most basic skills, like sitting and climbing stairs.

Lewis comes to the prison on Saturdays to teach the curriculum while volunteers from WAG visit daily to work with the dogs and handlers in the prison yard. The inmates are training the dogs to pass the American Kennel Club's Canine Good Citizen test, which certifies that the pooch has good manners and is obedient.

"The training has gone so well that we blew through the curriculum in five weeks," Lewis said. "The inmates are taking their job seriously."

Deputy Warden Stephen Bates said the program is going so well that he would love to see it start up again after the ten weeks end.

"I see how these guys are responding, and it has been just great," Bates said. "I would definitely recommend it to other facilities."



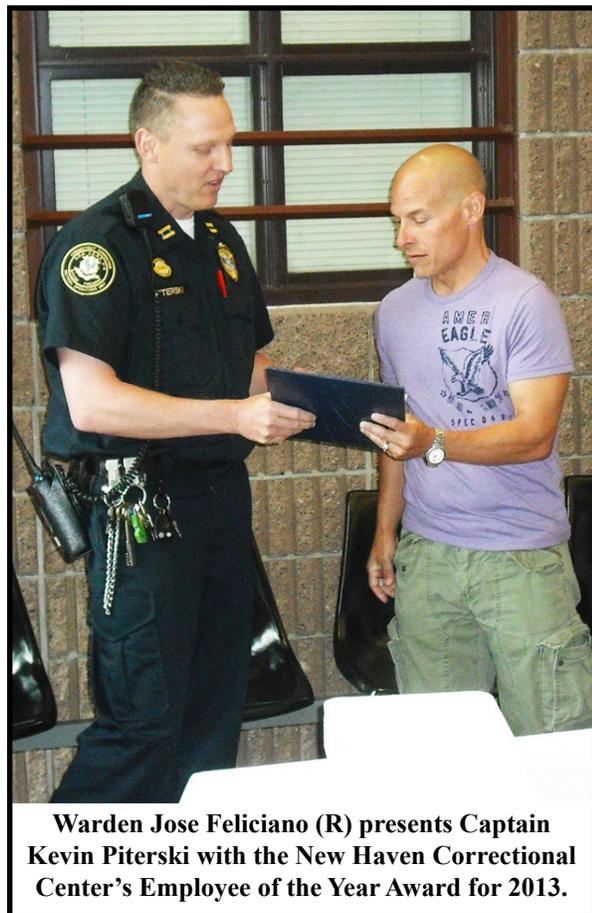
Deputy Warden Giuliana Mudano (l) and Warden Scott Erfe (r), along with members of the We Adopt Greyhounds program, welcome the newly arrived dogs to the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center.

New Haven CC's Facility Awards

Warden Jose Feliciano of the New Haven Correctional Facility recently announced, during a staff cookout, the winners of this year's facility awards.

The recipients are:

- Employee of the Year - Kevin Piterski**
- Supervisor of the Year - Vanessa Mallison**
- Counselor of the Year - James Danby**
- Unit of the Year - Maintenance**
- Correction Officer of the Year**
 - 1st shift- Theodore Borowy;**
 - 2nd shift - Carlos Guzman;**
 - 3rd shift - Robert Daddona**
- Health Services Employee of the Year**
 - Susan Rogoski**



Warden Jose Feliciano (R) presents Captain Kevin Piterski with the New Haven Correctional Center's Employee of the Year Award for 2013.

Tough Parole Mudders

Parole and Community Services staff Director Joe Haggan, and Deputy Director Rebecca Fleming, along with Jennifer Bennett, Jennifer Desema, Dan Bennett, Eric Ellison, Jeff Simmons and Larry Bransford (and friends) participated in the Tough Mudder competition in June, 2013 in New Hampshire. The Tough Mudder Competition raises money for The Wounded Warrior Project and is a challenging way to stay in great physical condition.



A bunch of Tough Mudders from Parole and Community Services.

Parole Manager Jennifer Bennett says "It's a 13-mile obstacle course designed by British Special Forces that pushes us to the limit and tests our body, mind and spirit. It also builds camaraderie among our team. We do it together. We are a team."

Participants charged onto the course with fellow Mudders and proceed through more than 20 obstacles, each designed to test strength in a very different way. In order to complete the course, the participants had to brave freezing cold water, wade through thick mud, navigate underwater tunnels, finesse high ropes and scramble through multiple cargo nets before finally making their way through a gauntlet of electrified wires to earn the coveted orange headband and the right to be called a Tough Mudder.

The Employee Wellness Committee commends all our staff who are making efforts to take care of themselves: body, mind and spirit.

Years Of Service

Employees with 20 Years of Service as of June 2013

<u>Name</u>	<u>Title</u>	<u>Facility</u>	<u>Hire Date</u>
Anderson, Justin	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Anderson, Thomas	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Carroll, Christopher	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Creanza, John	Counselor	MWCI	6/11/1993
Ciesinski, Donna	State School Teacher	CRCC	6/11/1993
Drayton, Clayton	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	4/16/1993
Fontano, Lisamarie	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Franklin, Gary	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Funk , Donna	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	4/16/1993
Johnson, Christopher	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Lane, Kenneth	Correction Officer	MYI	6/11/1993
Lopez, Angel	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	1/22/1993
Miranda, Rafael	Correction Officer	Cen. Off.	6/11/1993
Moffat, Randy	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Nutley, John	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Portalatin, Jesus	Correction Officer	Cheshire CI	6/11/1993
Surfus, William	Correction Officer	CRCC	6/11/1993
Velazquez, Eriberto	Correction Officer	BCC	6/11/1993

Employees with 25 Years of Service as of June 2013

Bacon, Glenn	Correction Officer	WCCI	6/17/1988
Smith, Elaine	Correction Officer	Enfield CI	1/29/1988
Wing, Jeffrey	Correction Officer	CRCC	6/3/1988

Employees with 35 Years of Service as of June 2013

Dubish, Michele	Secretary 2	Enfield CI	6/19/1978
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Manson Scholarship Fund

Applications for The John R. Manson Scholarship Fund are now being accepted.

The John R. Manson Scholarship was established by friends and colleagues in memory of John R. Manson, former Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Correction. The intent of this program is to provide financial assistance to an undergraduate student who is a dependent of an employee of the Connecticut Department of Correction and who is entering or currently enrolled at the University of Connecticut. Recipient selection will be done by the John R. Manson Scholarship Fund Committee and will be based on the following: scholastic achievement, contributions to the community, efforts made to offset tuition through employment, and clearly established career goals.

Amounts awarded for this scholarship have varied based upon the number of scholarships granted and the money available within the fund. During recent years, the committee has been able to award \$500-\$1,000 per recipient.

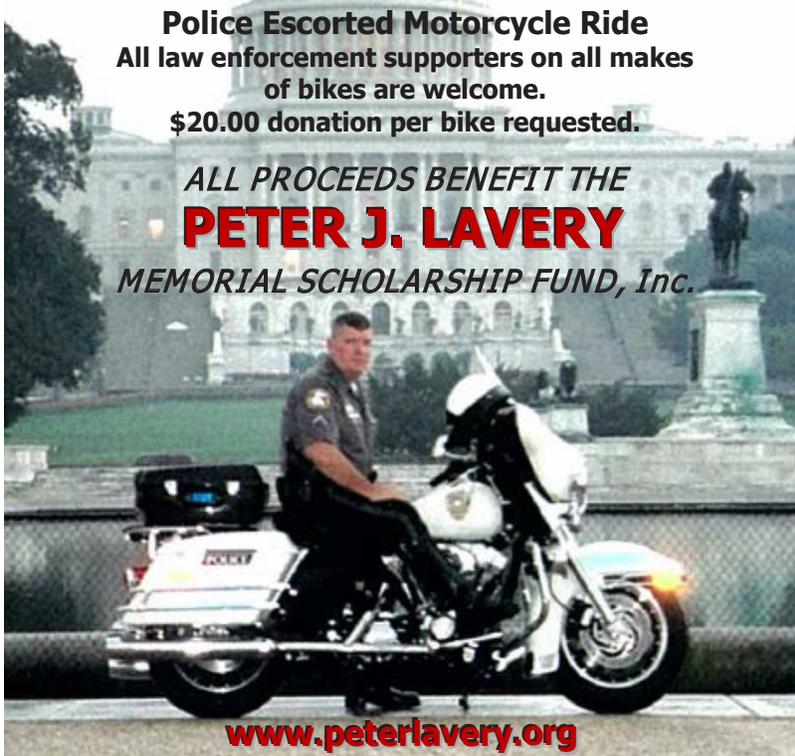
Individuals who are eligible and interested are invited to forward a completed application to the Human Resources Division (Attention: Susan Levey) at 24 Wolcott Hill Road, Wethersfield, CT 06109 by October 25, 2013.

Contact your Unit Supervisor/Head to obtain an application.

9th Annual Memorial Run

MPO Peter J. Lavery

September 15, 2013



Police Escorted Motorcycle Ride
All law enforcement supporters on all makes of bikes are welcome.
\$20.00 donation per bike requested.

ALL PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE
PETER J. LAVERY
MEMORIAL SCHOLARSHIP FUND, Inc.

www.peterlavery.org

Churchill Park
1991 Main Street
Newington, CT

Churchill Park
1991 Main Street
Newington, CT

RAIN OR SHINE

RAIN OR SHINE

Gateway, Inc.

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Stew Leonard's



SHARK ENTERTAINMENT

PRONTO

PRINTER

Connecticut Police Supply

REALITY WORKWEAR

Trantolo & Trantolo, LLC



mickey finn's HONDA Grady Automotive

GENGRAS HARLEY-DAVIDSON

Registration from 8:00 AM – 9:45 AM; ride departs at 10:00 AM from Churchill Park, 1991 Main Street, Newington, Connecticut. Ride concludes at Churchill Park at approximately 11:15 AM.

Lunch is provided by Stew Leonard's with music by Shark Entertainment.

Short- and Long-sleeve T-shirts are sold at the following locations:

CT Police Supply, 105 Fenn Road, Newington

Gengras, 221 Governor Street, East Hartford

Mickey Finn's, 559 Berlin Turnpike, Berlin

ENTER FOR A CHANCE TO WIN one of 2 door prizes: A custom-designed Lavery Memorial Derby Cover (valued at \$200) or a 3 piece Derby Cover Set, custom or standard design (valued at \$450); both prizes are donated by CAT LLC. Ticket prices are \$20 per prize. Additional information online.

For more information please visit www.peterlavery.org or like us on Facebook.