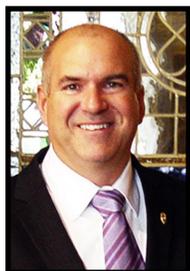


## Our Mission

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

On behalf of the entire Executive Team, I am pleased to announce the Connecticut Department of Correction's new updated mission statement.



Our mission statement:

**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.**

I believe that this new, forward-thinking mission statement embraces the changes occurring within our profession, and the law enforcement community in general, while at the same time honoring the organization's time-honored foundation of safety and security.

Among the most significant addition to the new mission statement, I feel, are the words, "partnered re-entry initiatives." You may recall that earlier this year, I invited representatives from various state agencies to Central Office to solicit input regarding our mission statement. I explained to them that if we are to succeed in our efforts to reintegrate offenders into society, we must all work together. In short, I told them that I needed their help to be successful, and that we all needed to be on the same page.

The new mission statement puts into words our department's renewed commitment to partner and collaborate with other organizations that have a vested interest in reducing the rate of recidivism among offenders. If you stop and think about it, we all are stake holders in the desire to reduce recidivism, because ultimately it leads to a decrease in crime, with an increase in public safety – and who doesn't want that.

In addition to a new mission statement, we have also revised the Vision of our agency, which now reads:

Re-victimization is reduced by providing offenders the tools and resources to make positive changes for a successful transition back into the community.

see **New Mission and Vision** page 3

March 14, 2014  
through  
April 16, 2014

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Dannel P. Malloy  
Governor

James E. Dzurenda  
Commissioner

Web address:  
[www.ct.gov/doc](http://www.ct.gov/doc)

Public Information  
Office telephone:  
(860) 692-7780  
Fax: (860) 692-7783

# Promotions and Reassignments

Commissioner James E. Dzurenda along with Deputy Commissioners Scott Semple and Cheryl Cepelak are pleased to announce the following promotions and reassignments.

## Promotions

**Anthony Corcella** has been promoted to Deputy Warden of the Brooklyn Correctional Institution - he had previously served as a captain in the District II Office.



**Deputy Warden  
Anthony Corcella**



**Deputy Warden  
Patricia Kupec**

**Patricia Kupec** has been promoted to Deputy Warden of the Program and Treatments Division – she had previously served as a Counselor Supervisor in the Programs and Treatment Division’s Re-Entry Unit.

**Stacey Marmora** has been promoted to Deputy Warden of the New Haven Correctional Center - she had previously served as a Counselor Supervisor of the Cheshire Correctional Institution.



**Deputy Warden  
Stacey Marmora**



**Deputy Warden  
Jeffrey Zegarzewski**

**Jeffrey Zegarzewski** has been promoted to Deputy Warden of the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center – he had previously served as a Counselor Supervisor at Corrigan-Radgowski CC.

## Reassignments

Deputy Warden Linda Kendrick is transferring from the Programs and Treatment Division to the Willard-Cybulski Correctional Institution.

Also, Deputy Warden Giuliana Mudano is transferring from Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center to the Carl Robinson Correctional Institution.

All promotions and transfers were effective Friday, April 4, 2014. Please join Commissioner Dzurenda and the entire Executive Team in congratulating these staff members on their well deserved promotions and reassignments.

## Class 258 Joins the Ranks



State Victim Advocate  
Garvin Ambrose

The graduation ceremony of Pre-Service Class 258 held March 14 at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development in Cheshire marked the beginning of new careers for 159 correctional staff members that successfully completed ten weeks of training.

The ceremony was highlighted by the presence of two special guests - Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman and the State Victim Advocate, Garvin Ambrose.

Lt. Governor Wyman told members of the graduating class that they are entrusted with an awesome responsibility: protecting the safety of the public. "You are the quiet part of law enforcement," Wyman said. "The jobs you are coming into are difficult ones. It takes a very special person to do this job."

Shortly after her remarks Lieutenant Governor

Wyman, bowing to the pressures of a hectic schedule, was escorted from the building by the department's Honor Guard.

Garvin Ambrose, the State Victim Advocate, took to the podium as the featured speaker of the graduation. Ambrose reminded the graduating class that while many of the inmates in the state prison system have committed horrible crimes, it is not the job of a correction officer to mete out punishment.

"This may seem odd to say, but I hope to never see you again in my role as victim advocate," Ambrose said. "Because if I don't, that would mean there are 159 less victims in the state."

With the conclusion of Mr. Ambrose's remarks, the next order of business was the presentation of awards. Pre-Service Class 258 selected Correction Officer James Bulger as the recipient of the Victor E. Harris, Jr. award. The Victor E. Harris, Jr. award, named for a deceased officer whose enthusiastic dedication and commitment to correctional education and training still lives on in the memory of DoC staff.

The Victor E. Harris, Jr. award was not the only award presented during the graduation ceremony. The PRIDE award is presented to a trainee from each group who best represents the Department of Correction's motto of PRIDE.

Trainees receiving the PRIDE award were nominated by their peers with the concurrence of their Class Manager. The recipients of the PRIDE award for Class 258 are: Correction Officers Joseph Goldman, Bruce Miller, Kahari Robinson, Jose Rodriguez, and Donnie Skeleton.

The class members received their badges and certificates with Commissioner Dzurenda administering the oath, officially making them the newest members of the Department of Correction.

## New Mission New Vision

from page 1

To further assist in accomplishing the goals set out in our new mission/vision statements, we have also developed some guiding principles to include:

**Appropriate and proper assessment of every incoming offender.**

**Individualized programming, education and job training for offenders.**

**Shared economic, community, social, and collaborative partnerships.**

**Research and best practices.**

Though it is true that the goals expressed in the mission/vision statement belong to the organization as a whole, I believe that even more importantly, they are also the goals of the individuals that comprise this agency. It is my sincerest hope that everyone will look to the new Mission and Vision statement (along with their corresponding Guiding Principles) as just that, a set of guiding principles to help us reach our goals now and in the future.

I am confident that with the help of the best correctional professionals in the country, it is not a question of if, but rather when, we will achieve our goals. Thank you for your tireless service and dedication to the success of our agency.

# Understanding Homelessness

Dr. Linda Frisman from the Department of Mental Health & Addiction Services (DMHAS) gave a presentation at Central Office on March 10, on her research study entitled, "Understanding Homeless Shelter Users: Overlap with Criminal Justice and Behavioral Health Systems." The presentation was coordinated by the Best Practices Unit, with members of the Executive Team, Health Services, and Addiction Services Units in attendance.



**Dr. Linda Frisman**

The purpose of the study was to describe the nature of behavioral health problems among shelter users, while examining the impact of interruptions in care on shelter use and criminal justice involvement. This was achieved by matching and merging records of adults who have stayed in Connecticut homeless shelters during a three-year period from 2010-2012, with administrative records from DMHAS and the Department of Correction. The overlap amongst all three systems - shelter only group, behavioral health group (BH), and the criminal justice system (DoC) - was

examined. Additionally, individual characteristics of users, along with patterns of use, with special attention paid to those individuals who discontinued service use, was compared across all three systems.

The major findings of the study were surprising, according to Dr. Frisman. Significant overlap was found in the homeless, BH, & DoC populations. Those that were in the shelter only group comprised 45% of the population, those who were in the shelter and BH system made up 31% of the group. The individuals that were in the all three systems (shelter, BH and DOC) accounted for 21%, while those in only the shelter and DOC group accounted for only 3% of those studied.

From these results, Dr. Frisman concluded that the use of shelters by individuals in the study group had more to do with the presence of mental health issues, rather than a criminal justice issue. Some additional interesting results from Dr. Frisman's research are as follows: the shelter only group was made up of fewer men than women; the shelter only and DOC groups consisted mostly of African Americans; most of the DOC overlap also overlaps with the Behavioral Health system. Most of the BH population who are also in DOC were found to have substance abuse disorders or co-occurring disorders. Dr. Frisman concluded that more research is needed between the Behavioral Health system and the DOC in order to develop interventions aimed at preventing homelessness.

# Around the Cell Block



**WISCONSIN** - State Rep. Dean Kaufert, R-Neenah, is worried that the state Department of Corrections is making local jails bend over backwards to accommodate prisoners. The proposed rules would provide inmates access to natural light, three meals a day, and one hour of daily recreation. "These are jails, not the Ritz-Carlton Hotel or extended stay day spas," Kaufert wrote in a recent statement released by his office.

**OHIO** - State officials recently denied a condemned child killer's request to donate organs to his family members, saying he didn't have enough time to undergo the surgery and recuperate for his July 2<sup>nd</sup> execution. According to a spokesperson from the Ohio prison system, the state has an obligation to make sure he is healthy, despite the fact he will then be put to death.

**Total  
Supervised  
Population  
on  
April 16, 2014  
20,563  
On April 16, 2013  
the population was  
20,827**

## 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.*

## No Fooling – The History of April 1

The origins of April Fools’ Day are obscure. The most commonly cited theory holds that it dates from about 1582, the year France adopted the Gregorian Calendar, which shifted the observance of New Year’s Day from the end of March (around the time of the vernal equinox) to the first of January.

According to popular lore, some folks, out of ignorance, stubbornness, or both, continued to ring in the New Year on April first and were made the butt of jokes and pranks on account of their foolishness. This became an annual tradition which ultimately spread throughout Europe and other parts of the world.

However, the earliest known historical reference to April Fools’ Day occurs in a Dutch poem published in 1561, which predates the adoption of the Gregorian calendar by some 21 years.

Another weakness of the calendar-change theory is that it doesn’t account for a historical record replete with traditions linking this time of year to merriment and tomfoolery dating all the way back to antiquity, and not just in the west. The ancient Romans, for example, celebrated a festival on March 25 called Hilaria marking the occasion with masquerades and “general good cheer. Holi the Hindu “festival of colors” observed in early March with general merrymaking and loosening of social norms, is at least as old. The Jewish festival of Purim has a long history coinciding with the advent of spring, celebrated annually with costumes, carnivals, and pranks.

One could argue that the changes in the calendar of the 16th and 17th centuries served more as an excuse to explain a spirit of mirth already associated with the season than as the sole inspiration for a pranksters’ holiday.

One of the great media hoaxes of all time was perpetrated on April 1, 1957 by the BBC, which reported on its news program *Panorama* that Switzerland was experiencing a bumper spaghetti harvest that year thanks to favorable weather and the elimination of the dread “spaghetti weevil.” Staged video footage showing happy peasants plucking strands of pasta from tall trees was so convincing that viewers actually called to ask how they could grow their own.

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## Northern and Osborn Pay to Park

It did not matter to the staffs of Osborn and Northern Correctional Institutions that the thermometer was hovering at the 10-degree mark. The below freezing temperatures could not even deter two retired Northern CI correction officers from returning to their former place of work for a few hours. Everyone had a mission on the morning of March 7, 2014, and they were not about to let anything – much less a little cold weather - get in their way. The staffs from Osborn CI and Northern CI came together to arrange a Pay-to-Park fundraiser for Erik Bass, a Northern CI Electrician, who died in a tragic car accident on February, 21, 2014. With the help of the two retired correction officers, staff from both facilities solicited donations for the Bass family on all three shifts and raised a grand total of \$3,850.92. Having worked at Northern CI for the past nine years, Eric Bass leaves behind a wife and four young children.



**Braving the Elements for a good cause.**

## Nice Set of Wheels for Tycoon

One morning while tending to the animals at the Corrigan-Radgowski Correctional Center, Correction Officer Joseph Schoonmaker found Tycoon (one of the four alpacas at the CRCC farm) lying down in the back of the barn. After quickly determining that the alpaca was having difficulty walking and standing, Schoonmaker called the veterinarian for help. After an examination, it could not be determined if Tycoon had a parasite that was affecting his spinal cord, or if he slipped on the ice. Running the CRCC farm during this past year's harsh winter months was difficult and dangerous at times, for humans and animals alike. After moving him into the main barn with his brother Manny, Tycoon was placed on an intense rehabilitation program. He was given medication twice a day for five days, in addition to several weeks of physical therapy. The treatment helped him regain much of his strength and become healthier, but he still had no use of his rear legs. If he were anywhere else but at CRCC, things may not have turned out so well for Tycoon. Fortunately for him, staff members at the facility were determined to help Tycoon in any way they could.

Just when they thought they had tried everything they could, Chris Swanson, the Montville Animal Control Officer brought in a picture of an animal wheelchair cart she found on the internet. Using the picture as a makeshift blueprint, the caretakers at CRCC immediately went to work designing and building a cart for Tycoon. Using scrap metal, PVC pipe, bicycle tires and a horse blanket they fabricated a cart. Staff and inmate workers all worked together to complete this task. A custom fitted seat for the frame was sewn, while Maintenance Supervisor Jay Ventura and General Maintenance Officer Peter Hodina, reinforced and welded the chair frame. After making some final adjustments and finishing touches, the wheelchair was complete. Next came the moment of truth, Tycoon was placed into the wheelchair and within a few minutes took his first steps. It was a beautiful sight because previously he had not been able to walk for a month. Despite all the hard work and ingenuity of the staff at CRCC, Tycoon's physical condition continued to deteriorate. His front legs were having difficulty supporting his weight. Eventually, it was determined that it was best to humanely end Tycoon's suffering.

The farm at CRCC also cares for horses, goats, chickens and one cat. In addition to the animals, officer Schoonmaker oversees a crew that annually plants vegetable gardens that donate more than 5,000 pounds of produce to area food pantries. The farm program is self sustained through donations from businesses in the community.



Correction Officer Joseph Schoonmaker takes Tycoon for a spin.

***Donations to help offset costs for caring for the animals at Corrigan-Radgowski and the Niantic Annex facilities can be made by sending a check to : The Animal Abuse Cost Recovery Account c/o Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Avenue, Room G-8A Hartford, Connecticut 06106***



## Alcohol – How much is too much?

*This article was written by Linda Kendrick, Deputy Warden, Certification and Licensure – Drug and Alcohol Counselor and Employee Wellness Committee member - reminding you to take care of yourself : Body, Mind and Spirit.*

Getting together with family and friends and having some drinks is an accepted and enjoyable part of many cultures. Alcohol is served at parties, in bars, at sports games, concerts, holidays and many other social gatherings. Most people indulge in moderation and do not experience problems with alcohol. Sometimes however, when out with friends or at a party the drinks can go down quickly and sometimes smoother than intended. When drinking alcohol, it is important to at least be aware of what is considered a “standard” drink, and how many drinks you can have before you cross over from social drinking, to binge drinking or alcohol abuse.

Many people are surprised to learn what counts as “a drink.” Different types of beer, wine, malt liquor and spirits can have very different amounts of alcohol content in them. Remember, a single mixed drink made with hard liquor can contain 1-3 (or more) standard drinks depending on the recipe and the type of spirits. In the United States, one “standard” drink contains roughly 14 grams of pure alcohol, which is found in:

What constitutes a standard drink?

- 12 ounces of regular beer, which is usually 5% alcohol
- 5 ounces of wine, which is typically 12% alcohol
- 1.5 ounces of distilled spirits, which is about 40% alcohol (80 proof)

Using the measurements for a standard drink noted above, the following limits have been set by the medical staff of the National Institute of Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism (NIAAA) to determine low risk, at risk and binge drinking guidelines.

**For men: low risk drinking:** No more than 4 drinks a day and no more than 14 drinks per week.

**For women: low risk drinking:** No more than 3 drinks on any single day and no more than 7 drinks per week (women metabolize alcohol differently than men).

To stay low risk you must keep within both the single-day and weekly limits. Even within these limits, a person can have problems if they drink too quickly or have other health issues. To keep your risk for problems low, make sure you drink slowly, eat enough while drinking, not operate a motor vehicle or other machinery and remember – read your prescription labels – alcohol interferes with many prescribed medications. Pregnant women should not drink alcohol.

**Binge drinking:** Binge drinking means drinking so much within about two hours that blood alcohol concentration (BAC) levels reach 0.08g/dL. For women, this usually occurs after about 4 drinks (within 2 hours) and for men, after about 5 drinks (within 2 hours). Drinking this way can pose health and safety risks, including car crashes and injuries. Over the long term, binge drinking can damage the liver and other organs.

**Heavy or “at-risk” drinking:** For healthy adults in general, heavy drinking means consuming more than the single-day or the weekly amounts listed above. About 1 in 4 people who drink above these levels already has alcohol dependence or alcohol abuse problems.

For more information on alcohol related topics please visit the NIAAA website at [www.niaaa.nih.gov](http://www.niaaa.nih.gov)

# Career Day at Killingly High

Staff members from the Brooklyn Correctional Institution participated in the first ever Biennial Killingly High School Career Fair dubbed “A Passport to a Career” held on the first day of April at the high school.

Staff from the Brooklyn facility answered students’ questions and handed out information regarding the various career paths within the Department of Correction. Pictured in the photo to the right (from left to right) are Administrative Assistant Kelley Rochefort, Correction Officer Mike Behrle, Warden Jonathan Hall, and K-9 Officers Dan Murray and Rob Sabourin.



## Years of Service

### Employees with 20 Years of Service as of February 2014

Name	Facility	Title	Hire Date
Anderson, Denise	Sub. Abuse Couns.	Cen. Off.	2/8/1994
Burns, John	Counselor	BCC	2/18/1994
Cairns, Kenneth	Voc. Inst.	Cheshire CI	2/14/1994
Cook, Darrell	Correction Officer	MWCI	10/29/1993
Glenn, Edna	Sub. Abuse Couns.	Cen. Off.	2/4/1994
Hall, Jason	Correction Officer	Brooklyn CI	11/26/1993
Hawkins, Jackie	Secretary 2	MWCI	2/4/1994
Labrecque, Brian	Rec. Sup.	MWCI	2/18/1994
Ricks, William	Mail Handler	Cen. Off.	2/4/1994
Robertson, Richard	Food Serv. Sup. 2	MWCI	2/18/1994
Rodriquez, Cecelia	Secretary 2	York CI	2/4/1994
Roy, David	Correction Officer	Osborn CI	1/7/1994
Sauer, Douglas	Corr. Svcs. Mgr.	Cen. Off.	2/14/1994
Sidoti, John	Correction Officer	MWCI	10/29/1993
Wolowicz, Richard	Correction Officer	Cen. Off.	11/26/1993

### Employees with 25 Years of Service as of February 2014

Delgado, Jose	Correction Officer	BCC	2/24/1989
Ellison, Eric	Parole Manager	Cen. Off.	2/17/1989
Lemay, Leon	Correction Officer	WCCI	2/17/1989
Steeves, Michael	Human Res. Spec.	Cen. Off.	2/24/1989

## Save the Date

### Sixth Annual Archdiocesan **BLUE MASS**



**Sunday May 4th**

**11:00 A.M.**

**Cathedral of  
Saint Joseph,**

**Hartford, CT**