

The Connecticut
Department
of Correction

P.R.I.D.E.



Remember Our Troops

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

AT WORK

Words of Wisdom

The following are excerpts from an inspirational letter written by Counselor Supervisor Jay Schuder of Hartford CC to Director Mary Johnson, for all to enjoy and share.

On Sunday, May 30, 2004, while at home with his family, Jay experienced a pain he brushed off as a migraine headache. Five days later, fighting for his life, he was admitted to Saint Francis Hospital diagnosed with a Dissecting Brain Aneurysm. During his time at home recuperating, Jay had time to reflect upon this event and its meaning to his family, friends and co-workers, and offers the following words of wisdom:

First, "Invest your emotional and psychological energy into the people that are most important to you. They, not material props, will be by your side to support you when you are in need."

Second, "Stay in the moment. Do not get so caught up in scheduling tasks and activities. Remember, yesterday is gone and tomorrow is not promised to us."



Continued on Page 6, *Words of Wisdom*

From the Commissioner

Two of the major, progressive and highly proactive improvements that the Department of Correction is currently involved in implementing are the medical and mental health care consolidations. Both of these efforts, carried out in collaboration with our contracted health care provider, University of Connecticut Correctional Managed Health Care, will improve the delivery of health care services and will insure those services are provided in a fiscally responsible manner. It frankly does not make sense any longer to have fully duplicative health care services available in facilities which are literally next door to each other. Emergency medical care and every day sick call will be available as they always have been, while the more complex medical treatment will be provided through a regional concept.



Continued on Page 2, *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

October 10 -
23, 2004

Commissioner, Cont'd

As you no doubt know, Garner Correctional Institution is now our dedicated mental health facility for adult male offenders with significant mental health needs. These consolidations are being carried out without any lay-offs and with a careful eye to reducing, as much as is possible, any increased burden on staff that would result from a longer commute. All of that said, I know these plans have caused a degree of discomfort for many. Change is never easy and in some cases staff who have worked at a given facility for a number of years with the same co-workers are being transferred to new environs. But I must report to you, that throughout these very complex and challenging changes, our staff has responded with dedication and a desire to achieve nothing but success. In particular, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to our health care staff for their unyielding efforts to transition into the consolidations while at the same time insuring that the inmate population still continues to receive a constitutional standard of care. Please notice that I referred to "our" health care staff. While they are now technically employed by another state agency, these 650 committed individuals are as much an essential member of our concept of one vision, one mission and one team as any other correctional professional who daily reports to duty in our facilities. Even in the community, providing modern day health care of any kind is a complex and demanding proposition. That is further complicated within our institutions where the patients are an inmate population with heightened rates of disease, addiction, mental

illness and years of medical neglect. Still, these highly trained health professionals consistently respond with a respectful compassion for all who require their services. Within just a year, both consolidations will be completed and I am fully confident that both will successfully set new standards for correctional health care. In large part, that success will be due to the men and women who have devoted themselves to addressing the health care needs of other human beings and have then taken this awesome responsibility a step further, by applying their healing expertise within the walls of a correctional institution. My heartfelt appreciation goes out to all of you.



Commissioner Lantz with medical staff at Bridgeport CC

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

Pride.
AT
Work

for
October 10 - 23,
2004

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Commissioner

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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 John Rogers who can be reached at 860-692-7560 or john.rogers@po.state.ct.us . If you have any questions or an idea for a future column please contact Director David Batten at 860-692-7554.



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Retired but not Relaxing

If you have a steel, underground fuel oil storage tank, it will prevent you from selling your home. Real Estate brokers, insurance companies and banks will insist that it be removed prior to a sale, no matter how old it is and even though it is not illegal.

The Problem

The problem with steel, underground tanks is that they are not readily visible and leaks cannot be detected early enough to prevent substantial clean up. Underground tanks will all eventually corrode due to contact with ground water. Even above ground tanks will corrode from the inside out, due to the accumulation of water, which condenses inside the tank. Since oil is lighter than water, this water settles to the bottom of the tank where it is not pumped out and remains causing corrosion to the tank. Leaks could also occur due to corrosion where the legs are welded to the tank or if the fuel filter or the nozzle becomes plugged.

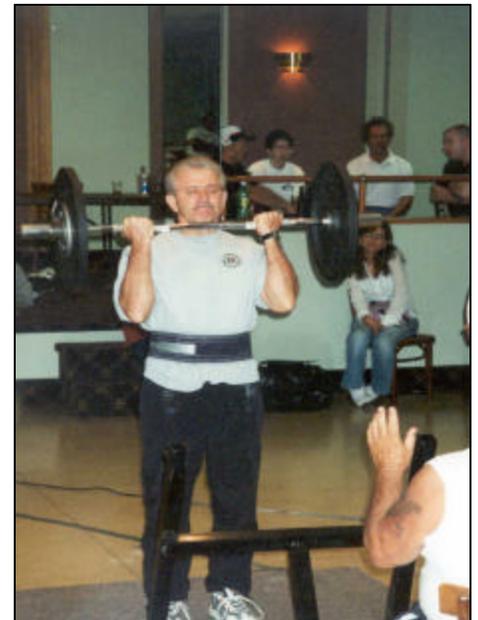
Insurance companies are concerned that an old oil tank can leak and spill hundreds of gallons of heating oil into the home, or into the ground. Spilled oil can quickly contaminate soil and groundwater and find its way to nearby streams or rivers. Such leaks are therefore very destructive and expensive to clean up.

The Solution

So, if you have an underground oil tank, you should consider replacing it now rather than waiting until you are in the midst of selling your home and have a million other things to think about. In Connecticut, installations of residential fuel oil tanks are governed by the 2003 International Residential Building Code, Section M2201, which allows for up to 660 gallons, stored either outside above ground or inside your house, garage, or basement.

If you are planning to install your tank outside, you must provide some means to keep the temperature of the oil above 25 degrees, when it will congeal and will not flow to the burner. Fuel additives or heat tape on the portion of pipe above the ground will help. If you live in an aquifer protection zone and you are planning to locate your tank where the oil could leak into a floor drain or the ground, your local building department may ask you to construct a concrete curb around your tank, enclosing 110% of the tank's volume. Given that one gallon has a volume of 231 cubic inches, a containment curb for a 330 gallon tank would need to be 24" h x 80" L x 50" W. If the containment posed a problem, you may want to consider a 275-gallon double walled tank.

Angelo Colonis may have retired as a Captain from the Department of Correction in 2000, but he is definitely not relaxing. He has been weight training and recently showed off his talents at the American Power Association/World Power Association (APA/WPA) Competition in Leominster MA. He broke the State record and placed first in the Men's 181-pound master division bench press contest with an astonishing 325-lb lift. He won the arm-curling event with a 125-lb arm curl and was also recognized with the honor of the best lifter award.



Angelo Colonis at the APA/WPA competition

Way to Go Angelo...We are all so very proud of you!

Continued on Page 7, *Did you Know*

The Long Haul

Chances are that when Head Clerk Cindy Works was first driving to work at OCI Somers, the radio was spitting out such tunes as Stevie Wonder's "Superstition" or everyone's favorite, "Puppy Love" by Donny Osmond. No, she wasn't tuned into some oldies station. When Cindy arrived for her first day on the job in the Department of Correction, the calendar showed the year to be 1972.

Having worked at Osborn/Somers for her entire career, Cindy has seen Wardens, as well as other staff, come and go. She says the greatest difference between then and now is that back then not many women actually worked at male facilities. Therefore, "anytime you needed to go somewhere, you were escorted by an officer," she said.

Other changes have occurred, but a lot of things do stay the same says Works. You can still hear Stevie Wonder on the radio with a little searching for the station that plays the classics.



Cindy Works of Osborn CI

Calendar

October 30 - 2nd Annual Flag Football Tournament at Colt Park in Hartford. \$100 Entry Fee per team. For details call Captain Mike Davis at (860) 240.1860, CO Dennis Camp or CO Gerald Wood at 860.240.1800.

October 24 - Lea's Foundation is sponsoring the 5th Annual Giant Steps for Research. The event is a competition between public safety personnel to achieve the fastest time as they race up 814 steps at CityPlace in Hartford. To join the DOC team and help raise money for juvenile leukemia patients, please call Capt. Keith Hightower at 860.627.2100.

December 10 - DOC Holiday Party at the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development from 2:00 - 8:00 PM.

Shooting for the Record

Correctional Food Services Supervisor Gerald Lehr of the Manson Youth Institution participated in the State of Connecticut Skeet Competition held over the Labor Day Weekend at the Fairfield Fish and Game Club. Lehr, an 18-year veteran within the department, hit all one hundred targets, which resulted in him winning a silver medal in the 12-gauge competition. Gerry said he entered the match to practice for the upcoming World Police and Fire Games, which will be held in Quebec City in June/July 2005. Skeet shooting is an Olympic sport, which promotes proper and responsible gun usage. To find additional information about these events you can visit the following websites: www.ctSKEET.com or www.2005WPGF.com.

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MVP's:

Aldi, John CS	McWCI
Allen, Mark Chaplain	OCI
Allen, Shawn Lt	OCI
Angelo, Joseph CO	MYI
Artz, Kevin CO	McWCI
Barker, Theresa CC	McWCI
Beaumier, Steven Voc Inst	CRCI
Beaudry, Michael Capt	McWCI
Brady, John CFSS II	CRCI
Brown, David CO	McWCI
Burns, Michael CO	OCI
Camp, George CC	McWCI
Caron, Brian GMO	OCI
Cartier, Paul CFSS II	CRCI
Circosta, George Lt	OCI
Croyle, Michael CTO	McWCI
Davis, Derek CO	OCI
Deshaies, Albert CO	OCI
Dinguis, William Lt	CRCC
Donahue, Mark Capt.	OCPM
Donahue, Sean CO	OCI
Dumas, Wayne Capt	OCI
Eberle, Susan Commissary Oper.	McWCI
Edwards, Walter II CTO	CRCC
Esa, Akbar Chaplain	OCI
Faryniarz, Raymond CO	MYI
Finney, William CO	CRCC
Flores, Eric CO	OCI
Foley, Paul CO	OCI
Fountain, Donna CO	OCI
Galligan, Gavin CC	BCI
Gemetto, Jerry CTO	McWCI
Geraci, Gerald Chaplain	OCI
Gonzalez, Alfredo Capt	McWCI
Guarino, David CS	BCI
Haylette, Bryan CO	MYI
Hightower, Keith Capt	McWCI
Ireland, Steven CO	McWCI
Irish, Timothy Lt	OCI
Kelley, Duane Capt	CRCC
Kmetz, Ann Lt	CRCC
Kibble, Scott CO	OCI
Korch, Kristin CC	CRCC
Lopez, Edna X-Ray Tech	OCI

Continued on Page 5, MVP's

Parents PRIDE

James Taylor, Transitional Counselor for Unified School District # 1, currently assigned to Enfield CI, is full of PRIDE for his daughter, SFC Deborah Ann Taylor, who has been with the Connecticut Army National Guard for 23 years. Deborah works in the Human Resources Management Department for the HHC 143rd Area Support Group out of Newington, CT. She is a career soldier who joined the Guard in 1981 and has provided fulltime support to the Connecticut Army National Guard for over 18 years. Deborah was deployed to Iraq in mid August in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom III for a period of 18 months. Her unit will mobilize from Ft. Drum New York. Jim wanted everyone to know that he is extremely proud of his daughter.



SFC Taylor during her deployment in October 2001 as a member of the 143rd Forward Support Battalion with a local schoolchild in Bosnia.

DOC Keeps Division of Justice on Target

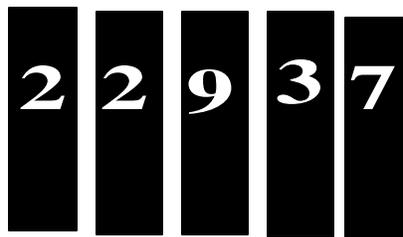
The Inspectors of the Division of Criminal Justice have been able to practice their marksmanship and pass their annual firearms qualifications thanks to the hospitality of the Department of Correction and the Maloney Center for Training and Staff Development. As part of a new collaboration between the Division and the Department, the inspectors were afforded two days of training and qualification at MCTSD's state of the art firearm's range. The approximately 75 inspectors, who have full police powers, are the investigative arm of the Chief State's Attorney's Office and support prosecutors across the state. Prior to this arrangement, the inspectors struggled to schedule available time at either the State Police range in Simsbury or the Municipal Police Training Academy Range in Meriden.

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MVP's, Cont'd

Margison, Harold	CO	OCI
Marshall, Charles	CO	CRCC
Matzko, Richard	CHN	OCI
Mendez, Hector	Assoc Chaplain	OCI
Miller, James	CO	MYI
Miller, Marcia	CO	OCI
Morgan, Dennis	CC	OCI
Mulligan, William	Capt	McWCI
Murphy, Michael	Capt	BCI
Nicefaro, John	CO	BCC
Olandt, David	Voc Inst	CRCI
Oliveras, Rodrigo	CO	BCC
Ortyl, Michelle	CO	OCI
Otero, Rafael	CO	OCI
Pinell, Charles	CFSS II	CRCI
Pearson, Wilson	Lt	OCI
Reardon, Arthur	CO	McWCI
Renaud, Gerald	CO	BCI
Righenzi, Jayson	CO	McWCI
Rios, Maria	Lt	OCI
Robinson, Elbert	CO	OCI
Rucker, Timothy	Acting Lt	BCC
Ruggeri, Michael	Lt	OCI
Schectman, Robert	Chaplain	OCI
Sohay, Michael	CO	CRCI
Sorenson, Susan	CC	BCI
Street, James	GMO	OCI
Strange, Bruce	Lt	McWCI
Stuart, Sean	CO	McWCI
Taylor, Joseph	CRN	OCI
Taylor, Russell	CO	McWCI
Tuttle, John	CO	OCI
Valliere, Michael	CO	OCI
Vadnais, James	CTO	McWCI
Vincent, Jeffrey	CO	OCI
Washington, Robert	CFSS II	CRCI
Wellenberger, Robert	CO	McWCI
Williamson, Debra	Lt.	OCI
Wosduziewicz, Michael	CO	MYI
Wright, Gary	CS	McWCI

Supervised Population on Oct. 20 2004



On Oct. 20, 2003 the population was 23,122.

Two Chaplains in National Offices

Rev. Anthony J. Bruno, Director of Religious Services, has been elected and installed as the First Vice-President of the American Correctional Chaplains Association. He has been a nationally certified correctional Chaplain since 1993.

Rev. Laurie Etter, Associate Chaplain at York C. I., has been elected and installed as the Secretary of the American Correctional Chaplains Association. She has been a nationally certified correctional Chaplain since 2002.



Reverend's Anthony Bruno and Laurie Etter

The primary purpose of the American Correctional Chaplains Association, the first affiliate of the American Correctional Association, is to serve as a professional organization for pastoral care personnel in the correctional field.

Words of Wisdom, Cont'd

Third, and most important “The people who mean the most to you should know about it. Tell them that you love them and how important they are to you and your life. Although this may be difficult for some, it is easier and certainly more spiritually uplifting than hoping or assuming they know. Don’t wait until its too late!”

Finally, “Remember to be kind and compassionate to people - even if they don’t deserve it. You’d be surprised at the reaction you get when you do this. Also, let go of the resentments and anger you harbor towards people, places and things, as the only person you are affecting is you and your loved ones.”

“In other words, live today as if it’s your last - I know, because I knocked on death’s door but nobody, thank God, was home to open that door.”

In closing, Jay sent his personal thanks to his family, friends and all DOC staff, from the Commissioner’s Office to Addiction Services and especially the wonderful and thoughtful staff at Hartford CC.

Around the cell block



Pennsylvania- The Franklin County Prison has a new website providing views of the accommodations and the ability to send money to inmates. www.franklincountyjail.org



England- Inmates at the country’s largest jail are running a radio station as part of a college degree program in communications.



Australia- Jail inmates have been caught keeping deadly spiders so they can milk the venom and inject it for a high.



Michigan- As part of \$17.5-million in cuts, the corrections department will no longer staff gun towers at night.

Condolences



Dr. Patrick Hynes and staff of the Offender Programs and Victims Services Unit send their condolences to Deputy Warden Sandra Bundy and her family in the unexpected death of her mother, Marlend Daniel.



Warden Walter Ford and staff of Bridgeport CC are saddened to announce the passing of CFSS II Nicholas Lintgeris. Mr. Lintgeris succumbed to injuries suffered in a motorcycle accident. He is survived by his wife, Sharon, children, stepchildren and a grandson.

A Meritorious Manager

Warden Wayne Choinski of Northern Correctional Institution recently had the honor of presenting one of his staff for special recognition during the State of Connecticut Manager's Day festivities. Correctional Captain Neftali Rodriguez was presented with a 2004 Distinguished Managerial Service Award for outstanding contributions to the state. Captain Rodriguez, a 16-year veteran of our agency, was nominated for the state recognition as a result of his selection as the Department of Correction Manager of the Year for 2004. Warden Choinski called Captain Rodriguez a professional's professional who on a daily basis personally excels at upholding our core mission of protection of the public. Rodriguez has served the agency in a wide range of capacities yet still finds time to volunteer assisting youth with gang awareness and their homework. His work ethic is clear from the fact he hasn't called out sick in more than 10 years.



Warden Wayne Choinski looks on as Captain Neftali Rodriguez addresses an audience at the State of Connecticut Manager's Day event at the Aqua Turf

Congratulations!

Did you know?, Cont'd

While any tank is narrow enough to fit through a basement door, you should check the length for making turns. If the 72" length of the 330-gallon tank won't work then consider a 275-gallon tank at 63"L, or the 220-gallon tank at 48" long. If you have the space, you may want to consider installing two 330-gallon tanks side by side so that you are at the 660 gallon maximum, which is allowed above ground. By maximizing your storage capacity you will be able to purchase more fuel at lower prices during off peak seasons.

To give you an idea of price, the Granby Tank Company (www.granbytanks.com) offers a 330 gallon single walled tank (27" Wx44"H x 72" L) for about \$300.

Looking Forward

An important step in successful reintegration is education. Last week 25 offenders at the MacDougall-Walker CI took that first step when they were awarded their General Equivalency Diplomas from Unified School District #1.

The ceremony, held in the visiting room, was attended by Commissioner Theresa C. Lantz, keynote speaker Yolanda Graham (Program Manager Substance Abuse Unit, Hampden County Sheriff's Department) and family, friends and dignitaries.

"I am moved to see so much support" said Lantz as she addressed the audience. "It marks an achievement...a significant measure of success. Embrace today, and build on it."

Lantz closed her remarks by stating what was abundantly obvious to those in the room, "Unified School District #1 is the best in all state government."

