

# DOCS TODAY

Winter 2009

New York State Department of Correctional Services

Vol. 1, No. 6

## Executive Budget Proposes Camp Closures, Better Use of Space

With New York State facing its most severe financial crisis since the Great Depression, the Department of Correctional Services would close its four correctional camps and possibly some of its annexes in the coming fiscal year under the 2009-10 Executive Budget.

The proposed budget would allow Commissioner Brian Fischer to close facilities and annexes with 90 days notice in times of financial crisis; current law requires one-year advance notice.

Closing Camps Gabriels, Georgetown, McGregor and Pharsalia as well as selected annexes would save \$26 million in the fiscal year that begins April 1 and \$29 million in 2010-11. The closures, combined with other efficiencies including the decommissioning of DOCS' 12 farms and the elimination of one day of inmate transportation per week, would allow the Department to reduce the number of full-time equivalent employees by 1,342, to approximately 30,331. Employees at any facility that closes would be offered positions at other correctional facilities.

"For years, record revenues from Wall Street allowed State spending to increase at an unsustainable rate," Governor David A. Paterson said in releasing the budget proposal Dec. 16, 2008, more than a month earlier than required by law. "With the financial services industry in the midst of an unprecedented crisis, we must fundamentally reevaluate what our State can afford to spend. Change is unavoidable. Just like thousands of families across New York, our State government needs to tighten its belt and limit spending to what we can afford."

Testifying before the Legislature's fiscal committees on Jan. 27, 2009, Commissioner Fischer called the Executive Budget's proposed changes sensible and appropriate and urged lawmakers' support.

With a 35 percent reduction in crime statewide over the last decade and the Legislature's adoption of early release programs for non-violent offenders, New York's prison population has dropped by more than 11,000 since late 1999, or 15 percent. That has created significant unused prison space; even after two rounds of consolidation of staffed housing units at medium and minimum security correctional facilities last autumn, DOCS still has more than 1,000 vacant general confinement beds in staffed housing areas across its system.

The camps, which are not equipped to provide many services and programs inmates require to prepare for their return to the community, are operating at under 47 percent of capacity. Any inmates remaining at

the camps when they close would be transferred to vacant beds at other minimum or medium security facilities.

The Executive Budget includes three statutory changes recommended by The New York State Commission on Sentencing Reform that would result in the reduction of the prison population by another 1,600 without compromising public safety:

- An increase in the Shock Incarceration age limit to 49, from 39, and an expansion of Shock eligibility to include general confinement inmates within three years of earliest possible release.
- Creation of a limited credit time allowance that would allow certain violent felony offenders – but not those convicted of sex offenses or first-degree murder – to earn a six-month merit time allowance for good behavior and completion of enhanced program requirements.
- Provision of graduated sanctions more appropriate and less costly than a return to prison for certain low-risk technical parole violators.



Dormitory at Camp Gabriels

## Message from the Commissioner

With a new and challenging year upon us, I want to thank our employees for their dedication and hard work in keeping this agency one of the safest, best-run and most forward-thinking corrections departments in the nation despite a financially difficult 2008. I know much was asked of us, and we responded as we've always done: professionally and effectively. This year is likely to be even more difficult, but I have full confidence that we, as a team, will continue improving DOCS.

Despite the substantial budget-cutting that began last fall, we enter 2009 well-staffed and operating facilities with extremely high accreditation ratings, continued low levels of violence and free of any major incidents for more than a decade. That is a testament to the professionalism of all our employees, from officers who maintain safety to civilian staff who keep inmates productive in the process of improving them as people.

Looking forward, even with the planned closure of our camps and some of our annexes, we run no risk of overcrowding or of requiring additional double-bunking.



Commissioner Brian Fischer

Employees should be proud of some of our recent achievements in the face of last fall's budget cuts. We used new and improved technology to save millions of dollars on prescription drugs. We opened secure outside hospital beds in Syracuse and Albany to local jail inmates – at the localities' expense. Independent research confirmed the effectiveness of our nursery programs at Bedford Hills and Taconic Correctional Facilities. Our positive efforts at providing meaningful treatment to our many inmates with mental illness have been recognized by outside reviewers.

This year, we intend to open new reentry units at Hudson and Bayview Correctional Facilities, following on our first two at Orleans. We will push ahead with our planned automated Central Dispensing Pharmacy. We are close to launching a system that will allow us, the courts and other criminal justice agencies to share automated pre-sentence investigation reports electronically and much more swiftly. Difficult times don't mean we can't continue moving forward with the important work of this agency in protecting the public by keeping facilities safe and ensuring inmates are ready to rejoin society. With everyone's cooperation, I know we will.

## O'Donnell, Annucci Honored



Denise E. O'Donnell, Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services and Deputy Secretary to the Governor for Public Safety, and Anthony J. Annucci, DOCS Executive Deputy Commissioner, were honored by the New York State Bar Association's Committee on Attorneys in Public Service as the 2009 recipients of the Award for Excellence in Public Service. Established in 2000, the award, presented this year at a January 27 ceremony at the New York Marriott Marquis Hotel in Manhattan, honors members of the legal profession who epitomize the highest ideals and spirit of public service.

## Boll Named New DC/Counsel

Maureen E. Boll has joined DOCS as Deputy Commissioner & Counsel, replacing Anthony J. Annucci after his promotion. A graduate of Fordham University and Fordham Law School, Ms. Boll began Dec. 8 and brings extensive legal experience in criminal justice.



She has served as Special Counsel to the Director of Criminal Justice at the Division of Criminal Justice Services, Chief of Staff and Corporate Board Secretary to the Metropolitan Transportation Authority, Legislative Counsel to the New York City Criminal Justice Coordinator and Legislative Assistant to the New York State Law Enforcement Council.

## O'Donnell: Deputy Secretary

Governor David A. Paterson has promoted Denise E. O'Donnell to Deputy Secretary for Public Safety. She replaces Michael Balboni, who left for the private sector. Ms. O'Donnell will continue as Commissioner of the Division of Criminal Justice Services.

DOCS/TODAY is published by the New York State Department of Correctional Services: David A. Paterson, Governor; Brian Fischer, Commissioner; Erik Kriss, Director of Public Information; and Linda Foglia, Assistant Public Information Officer.

ON THE COVER: The masthead brings DOCS/TODAY together with its past via "Copper John," the Colonial soldier who has stood watch atop the front gate of Auburn, the state's oldest prison, since 1821.

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## DOCS Donates 7,000 Unused Officer Coats to Needy

In the holiday spirit of giving, Governor David A. Paterson authorized the Department of Correctional Services to donate 7,000 surplus medium-weight coats to more than 50 shelters and charitable organizations in 35 communities across New York to help the needy as this winter approached.

"This is a small gesture, but hopefully these coats will find their way to individuals who need them this winter," Governor Paterson said in November, when each of DOCS' nine hubs delivered hundreds of coats to local organizations recommended by facility superintendents across the State. "It is in the spirit of Thanksgiving that we hope to provide a little warmth to the most vulnerable of our residents. During these extraordinarily difficult economic times, we in government must keep searching for innovative ways to help all New Yorkers."

The coats were made by inmates at Clinton Correctional Facility's Apparel Shop five to eight years ago but were never worn and are no longer part of the standard correction officer uniform.

"It was apparent that we would no longer have a use for these coats, and it made sense to make the most of these surplus items by helping our fellow New Yorkers," said Commissioner Brian Fischer.

In 2006, DOCS switched the standard uniform for its nearly 20,000 officers to a single, multi-use coat to replace separate heavy- and medium-weight coats, resulting in a taxpayer savings of about \$200,000 annually.

The largest single donation of surplus coats, 1,800, went to the NY Cares Coat Drive through WNBC-TV in New York City. The Navy blue coats, 65 percent polyester and 35 percent cotton, had been in storage. The coats bore no Department insignias. The charitable organizations that received the coats report that all were donated to their clients.

"These coats will really help us outfit our consumers who need and don't have appropriate clothing for the cold winter months," Amy Colvin, Supervised Community Residence Program Manager for Unity House of Cayuga County Inc. told Unity House's newsletter, "The SPIRIT," after DOCS delivered 50 coats. "We are incredibly thankful to the Governor and DOCS for this



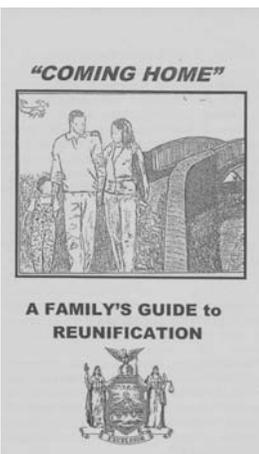
*-Unity House of Cayuga County Inc. Marketing & Development Dept.*  
Auburn C.F. Superintendent Harold Graham, with (L-R) Unity House of Cayuga County Supervised Community Residence Manager Amy Colvin and Executive Director Joyce Williams and consumer Tiffany Reese, looks over some of the 50 coats he delivered to the organization.

terrific and timely donation."

"This is great," added Tiffany Reese, who took one with her to her agency-supervised residence in Auburn. "The coat I've been wearing is sort of in tatters, and getting this new one is just in time for the winter."

The new, multi-purpose coats DOCS provides its correction officers are made by Standard Manufacturing of Troy and purchased through New York State Industries for the Disabled. The new waterproof, Gore-Tex coats will be provided to officers as needed – approximately every five years - as were the previous medium-weight and heavy-weight coats made by inmates.

## Helping Families of Offenders



DOCS and the Division of Parole developed "Coming Home," a brochure to help families and friends of returning offenders with the adjustment from prison to community. The brochure lists items ranging from advice on preparing emotionally to practical matters such as housing restrictions and job readiness. It is posted on both the DOCS and Parole web sites. About 45,000 copies have been printed, in English and Spanish, for distribution at correctional facilities and visiting areas, to inmates nearing release and community-based organizations serving prison families' needs, and during initial Parole home visits.

## Dr. Wright: Compassionate Care



Deputy Commissioner and Chief Medical Officer Dr. Lester N. Wright was one of two recipients of the Department of Health AIDS Institute's 2008 Dr. Linda Laubenstein Award for excellence in HIV clinical care. The honor recognizes physicians who, in addition to providing the highest quality of clinical care to those with the human immunodeficiency virus, are distinguished by their compassionate manner and wholehearted commitment to caring for those with HIV and AIDS. Dr. Wright and Dr. Judith Aberg received their awards on World AIDS Day, Dec. 2, 2008 in Albany.

## Making Strides at Mt. McGregor:

### Inmates “Ask Not ...”



Inmate Melvin Williams recites President John F. Kennedy's 1961 inaugural speech from memory during "History Comes Alive: Famous American Speeches." The one-day production

at Mt. McGregor C.F. on Dec. 22, 2008 was moderated by Father Daniel Dwyer of Siena College. Inmate Melancthon Spencer, background, followed inmate Williams' performance with a recitation of President Abraham Lincoln's second inaugural address from 1865. Five other inmates participated. The reading, memorization and public speaking skills help inmates prepare for job interviews after their release from prison and develop a better understanding of how society functions.

### Staff “Freezin’ for a Reason”



Six Mt. McGregor employees participated in the December 13, 2008 “Polar Plunge,” which raised \$75,000 for the Special Olympics. The McGregor team, coordinated by Correction Officer Louisa Lippard, accounted for \$1,275 of the total raised. Above, Lippard and Superintendent William Haggett prepare to take the icy plunge into Lake George at Shepard's Park. Other McGregor team members joining them in the Lake were Darcy DellaMattera, Keyboard Specialist; Correction Officers Matt Geleta and Patrick MacDougal, and Sergeant Brian Redman.

[Continued from cover](#)

The Executive Budget, which is under consideration by the State Legislature, also defers implementation of the Special Housing Unit (SHU) Exclusion Law by three years, to July 1, 2014 and exempts Level 3 and Level 4 mental health-designated correctional facilities from the law's provisions. A delay would allow for an evaluation of the 100-bed Residential Mental Health Unit on the grounds of Marcy Correctional Facility, which is scheduled to open this year. SHU Exclusion requires four hours of out-of-cell therapeutic and programming time for inmates with serious mental illness who have a SHU sanction of more than 30 days.

The budget proposal would also expand medical parole to allow for the release of additional terminally and chronically ill inmates, though not those convicted of first degree murder. Their release would avert additional outside hospital trips and save taxpayers money.

The plan would eliminate State payments to localities for boarding felony inmates, though DOCS would have to accept any “state-ready” inmate from a local jail within 10 business days, absent circumstances beyond the Department's control, or reimburse the locality approximately \$100 per day back to the first day.

And building on last year's authorization for DOCS to sell low-cost, nutritious Cook-Chill food products to counties, Governor Paterson's Executive Budget authorizes DOCS to sell those food products at cost to soup kitchens and food pantries, as well, to help the needy.

### Cape Vincent Clerk Honored



Cape Vincent Correctional Facility Calculations Clerk 2 Susan Ivey accepts a Governor's Office Certificate of Merit from Superintendent Warren Barkley for designing a more accurate and efficient master callout system, now used by all five facilities in the Watertown Hub. Ms. Ivey used the Microsoft Access system to create a shared file so any section of the facility can automatically update the master daily scheduling list for inmates, saving the time and manpower that had been required to coordinate disparate updates manually. “Many thanks to all involved for their suggestions, time and teamwork in making the callout a realization,” Ms. Ivey said. “To receive such an award has been a great honor.”

# Catching Wind to Generate Electricity, Savings at Chateaugay



**Noble Environmental Wind Farm outside Chateaugay C.F.**

The Department of Correctional Services is planning to build a wind turbine adjacent to Chateaugay Correctional Facility that will supply the prison with renewable, pollution-free electricity, generate revenue and set an example for the greening of the agency.

The turbine is expected to eliminate the facility's nearly \$102,000 annual electricity expense and generate enough power during off-peak hours to sell about \$195,000 worth back to National Grid each year. The estimated \$2 million construction cost, according to engineering firm Clough, Harbour & Associates, LLP, and a projected \$11,250 annual maintenance expense means the turbine should pay for itself in under 11 years.

The turbine, scheduled to generate electricity by 2013, should help New York achieve Governor David A. Paterson's "45 by '15" goal, which calls for the State to meet 45 percent of its electricity needs through improved energy efficiency and clean renewable energy by 2015. Wind is the world's fastest-growing energy source.

DOCS has asked the Office of General Services to assist in the design and construction of the turbine, which is expected to begin generating power approximately three years after environmental permitting begins and the turbine order is placed. The power created by the turbine would be tied into the facility's electrical system at the generator building for distribution throughout the facility.

## A Gift for Soldiers' Families



**Adirondack C.F. Vocational Instructor David Mishanec with inmates Marcus Acevedo and Frank Rivers, who sit at the octagon picnic table they built at the**

facility's Vocational Building Maintenance Shop. Commissioner Brian Fischer donated the table for Make a Difference Day to Albany's Fisher House, a charitable organization that provides accommodations for family members visiting soldiers hospitalized for illness or injury at 17 military bases and seven veterans hospitals in the U.S. and overseas. Camp Gabriels' Sign Shop provided commemorative plaques. Fisher House gave the inmates medallions for their work.

Chateaugay, a men's medium security Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Correctional Treatment Center, topped the list of seven facilities in the Watertown and Clinton hubs at which DOCS examined wind speed, electrical energy usage and requirements, electric utility requirements, environmental factors and public acceptance. The agency determined each of the seven facilities could support a wind turbine based on wind speeds alone, but Chateaugay had the best overall potential based on all the factors.

With the highest average wind speed of 16 miles per hour, Chateaugay, in northern Franklin County near the Canadian border, had the greatest potential for generating electricity. Plus, the facility neighbors a 108-megawatt, 72-turbine wind farm under construction by Noble Environmental Power LLC. That gave Chateaugay an edge in overall public acceptance and the ability for a turbine to progress through the environmental permitting process.

The proposed turbine, which most likely will be built south of the facility's water tower, would stand 262 feet tall, with a turbine blade diameter of 253 feet. It would produce 1,500 kilowatts of electricity - enough to power 300 homes.

## Comlinks To Willard: Thanks a Million



Willard Drug Treatment Campus Superintendent Melvin Williams (center) receives a plaque from the Malone-based Comlinks Cooperative Gleaning Program Oct. 21, 2008 in recognition of the creativity, ingenuity and dedication of his facility's staff and the hard work of its inmates for growing and donating a million pounds of vegetables to the needy over seven years. Willard reached the milestone Sept. 19, 2008. More than a half-dozen DOCS facilities have used Comlinks-provided seeds to plant, grow and harvest vegetables for 15 years, in addition to processing vegetables from commercial farms for nearly two decades, to donate to the needy. Two new gardens are planned this year at Lyon Mountain and Ogdensburg C.F.'s, and the gleaning program aims to expand to other parts of the State. With Superintendent Williams (L-R) are Comlinks Community Coordinator Cindy LaPlante, Commissioner Brian Fischer, Comlinks CEO Nancy Reich, Food Broker Lloyd Richey, Gleaning Director Sue LaRocque and DOCS Liaison Carol Leary.

# DOCS Helps OCFS Launch Its Own "CISM" Program

## DOCS/TODAY Correspondents

**Adirondack**  
David Hachey  
Inmate Grievance Supvr

**Albion**  
Diane Czarnicki  
Teacher

**Altona**  
John Zurlo  
Education Supvr

**Attica**  
William Stranahan  
Correction Officer

**Auburn**  
Deborah Clinch  
Production Control

**Bare Hill**  
Lynne Kelley  
Clerk

**Bayview**  
Julia Jenkins  
Vocational Instructor

**Bedford Hills**  
Tara Byrnes  
Keyboard Specialist

**Beacon**  
Heidi Hunsberger  
Correction Officer

**Buffalo**  
Janice Kruzicki  
Secretary

**C. Gabriels**  
Debbie Lagree  
Secretary II

**C. Georgetown**  
Renee Buddie  
Counselor

**C. Pharsalia**  
John Koopman  
Chaplain

**Cape Vincent**  
Larry Frank  
Program Dep

**Cayuga**  
Lynn Olcott  
Teacher

**Clinton**  
Paulette LeDuc  
Pharmacy Supervisor

**Collins**  
Stacey Deuschle  
Counselor

**Coxsackie**  
Linda Norton  
Vocational Supervisor

**Downstate**  
Ann Raimondo  
Assistant Dep

**Eastern**  
Theresa Hyatt  
Volunteer Svcs Supvr

More than 250 specially trained security and civilian Department of Correctional Services employees who make up DOCS' Critical Incident Stress Management Program are paving the way for a sister State agency to create a similar program.

The Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS) heard about the success of DOCS' CISM program to support staff and asked the Department for guidance and assistance to provide these services to its own employees in the Division of Juvenile Justice and Opportunities for Youth.

"We wanted to learn from your experience," said OCFS Deputy Commissioner Joyce Burrell.

OCFS operates 31 residential facilities, two reception centers, six community residential homes and eight day-placement centers for juvenile delinquents and juvenile offenders placed in its custody by family and criminal courts.

"The Public Employees Federation, which represents some of our employees in facilities, told us about the program and suggested we might want to consider putting something similar in place," Deputy Commissioner Burrell said.

DOCS has CISM teams in each of its nine hubs, plus Central Office. Team members travel to facilities throughout the State to help fellow employees they have never met, providing "psychological first aid" when traumatic incidents occur through a set of questions and their supportive presence.

Art Sichel, Ph.D., Coordinator of the Department's CISM Program, explained that some traumatic events have such a powerful impact that the effects persist, interfering with employees' ability to function normally both professionally and personally. He said CISM can preserve the health and careers of DOCS personnel.

CISM members say traumatized employees typically walk into a debriefing room silent and tight-faced but

leave relaxed and talking to one another.

"One debriefing in particular stands out," recalled Connie Allen, S.C.C.-ICP and a member of the Oneida Hub CISM Team. "A participant, after the debriefing, approached me, shook my hand, gave me a hug and simply said, 'Thank you.' That was powerful."

DOCS' CISM members have helped other agencies before. When a truck hit and killed an Essex County Deputy Sheriff during a traffic stop in August 2005, his department requested CISM services. At a road construction site in Liberty in November 2006, a crane shifted, contacted power lines and killed a Department of Transportation worker, prompting the Transportation Commissioner to request DOCS' CISM services. And when an employee of the Department of Environmental Conservation was killed in Iraq during his second tour of duty in September 2007, DOCS supplied CISM services.

Dr. Sichel and Doris Ramirez-Romero, Director of DOCS Bureau of Mental Health, plan to meet with OCFS officials to help them launch their program.

**Edgcombe**  
Nancy Rivera  
Clerk

**Elmira**  
James Mahunik  
Vocational Supvr

**Five Points**  
Sheryl Zenzen  
Program Dep

**Franklin**  
Theresa White  
Secretary II

**Gouverneur**  
Robert Pirie  
Program Dep

**Gowanda**  
Leslie McNamara  
Program Dep

**Great Meadow**  
Susan Hart  
Secretary

**Green Haven**  
Ray Wilk  
Lieutenant

**Hale Creek**  
Latha Kaliath  
Education Supvr

**Hudson**  
Pam Kuluniak  
Principal Acct Clerk

**Lakeview**  
Kevin O'Brien  
Program Dep

**Lincoln**  
Luis Moret  
Secretary II

**Livingston**  
Dave Caryl  
Inmate Grievance

**Marcy**  
Christine Darby  
Sr. Librarian

**Mid-Orange**  
James Hunt  
Correction Officer

**Mid-State**  
Daniel Abbis  
Vocational Supvr

**Mohawk**  
Candy Vail  
Voc Instructor

**Monterey**  
Margaret Keller  
Teacher

**Moriah**  
Karyn Langlais  
ASAT Counselor

**Mt. McGregor**  
Sally Reams  
Inmate Grievance

**Ogdensburg**  
Tom Lawrence  
Sr. Librarian

## DOCS Aids Victims of Ice Storm

The Department of Correctional Services loaned 445 cots and donated 396 each of pillows, pillow cases and blankets to emergency shelters throughout the Capital Region following the December 2008 ice storm. Two inmate community work crews each from Mt. McGregor and Hudson Correctional Facilities helped in the storm's aftermath in Saratoga and Columbia counties, while six correctional sergeants spent four days assisting the State Emergency Management Office in activating its storm command center and routing requests to DOCS that the Department could honor.

# DOCS, DMV Mark 20 Years at Arthur Kill Call Center

## **Oneida**

Carol Ayers  
Secretary

## **Orleans**

Krista Vasile  
Counselor

## **Otisville**

Christopher Andre  
Rec. Program Leader

## **Queensboro**

Karen Winfield  
Correction Officer

## **Riverview**

Barbara McDonough  
Teacher

## **Rochester**

Timothy Tracz  
Assistant Dep

## **Shawangunk**

Frank Chiapperino  
Correction Cnslr

## **Sing Sing**

John Mahoney  
Rec. Program Leader

## **Sullivan**

Lori Brown  
Correction Officer

## **Summit**

Kathleen Johnson  
Principal Acct Clerk

## **Taconic**

Darrow Cunningham  
Sr. Correction Cnslr

## **Ulster**

Darlene Damms  
Keyboard Specialist

## **Upstate**

Ray Drefus  
Education Supvr

## **Wallkill**

Ali Cheraoui  
Correction Officer

## **Washington**

Nicole Echeandia  
Keyboard Specialist

## **Watertown**

Kathleen Beattie  
Counselor

## **Wende**

Steve Furlani  
Education Supvr

## **Willard**

Helen Hart  
Sr. Librarian

## **Woodbourne**

Charles Davis  
Counselor

## **Wyoming**

John Zak  
Special Subjects

The Departments of Correctional Services and Motor Vehicles marked two decades of co-operation, taxpayer savings and inmate productivity Oct. 31 with a 20th anniversary celebration at the Arthur Kill Correctional Facility's Call Center, where about three dozen inmates field motor vehicle calls from Downstate New Yorkers.

The program saves State taxpayers about \$2 million per year and provides inmates with valuable job skills they can use to become productive citizens upon their release to society. The Center fields 55,000 calls per month.

Participating inmates commit to at least a year in the program and are required to have a high school or equivalency diploma. Inmate call center representatives who meet the program qualifications

are pre-screened by DOCS staff, then interviewed and selected by DMV employees to participate in the training program. The inmates have no access to any DMV computers and are unable to access any customer data. Each representative has a profile book with all the information necessary to answer general assistance questions, such as identification requirements and what customers will need before visiting a DMV office.

Some inmate participants work as mail and supply clerks, among other things assembling information packets that are then mailed by DMV staff to the public upon request.

After their release from Arthur Kill, Call Center participants may be eligible to apply for and take the entry-level Motor Vehicle Representative exam, which requires the applicant to have a high school or equivalency diploma and customer service, sales, or clerical experience.

"This program is one of many that not only provide inmates with meaningful work while in prison but give them practical experience that can translate into gainful employment after release," said DOCS Commissioner Brian Fischer.

"We've been happy to partner with DMV on the Arthur Kill Call Center for 20 years, saving taxpayers money and preparing offenders to become productive citizens in the process."

DMV Commissioner David Swarts said: "We are very proud of this program, which is a win-win for all involved. Inmates obtain job skills that benefit them when they transition back into society and customers have their questions answered in a timely and accurate manner."

Santos Quinones, 46, of the Bronx, worked in the Call Center before his release from prison

in 2003. "I was able to talk to people I had never met or seen in my life and I was able to help them," said Mr. Quinones, who credited those communication skills for his success as a house manager/supervisor and administrative driver for Narco Freedom Inc., a non-profit

organization that provides housing, mental health and substance abuse services to the homeless, ex-offenders and others in New York City. "Many people in prison, they kind of shy away. DMV kind of helped me grow out of that."

The Center opened in 1988 to assist a similar center at the women's medium security Bayview Correctional Facility in Manhattan in alleviating high call volumes and the number of in-office customers at DMV's Downstate field offices. About 1,200 inmates have worked at the Arthur Kill Call Center since it opened.



Arthur Kill Superintendent Dennis Breslin shows a commemorative plaque to DMV Commissioner David Swarts during the ceremony as DOCS Deputy Commissioner Osbourne A. McKay looks on.

## New Leader, New Chairs in State Senate

The State Senate has new leadership after Democrats won a 32-30 majority in the November 2008 elections. Senator Malcolm A. Smith of Queens is the new majority leader, Senator Ruth Hassell-Thompson of the Bronx took over as chair of the Committee on Crime Victims, Crime and Correction and Senator Eric T. Schneiderman of Manhattan now chairs the Codes Committee.

## Puppies Behind Bars Celebrates Successful Year of ‘Dog Tags’

Puppies Behind Bars recently celebrated a successful year – with some well-known assistance - for its “Dog Tags” program, which matched wounded combat veterans who served in Iraq and Afghanistan with nine service dogs raised and trained by Department of Correctional Services inmates.

The actress Glenn Close, a major Puppies Behind Bars supporter and fund-raiser, joined Commissioner Brian Fischer at a November 17, 2008 benefit in Manhattan to honor and celebrate four 2008 Dog Tags “graduates” and to meet Bill Campbell, the first wounded Iraq War veteran to receive a service dog from the program, and the dog, Pax.

The benefit honored:

- Mary Dague, who lost both arms

above the elbow in an improvised explosive device attack in Baghdad in 2006. Her dog, Remy, raised at Otisville Correctional Facility, will enable her to reach items on bottom shelves, retrieve items from the floor and serve as a loyal running companion.



- Keith Barraclough Photography

Actress Glenn Close (above) joined Commissioner Brian Fischer, wounded Iraq War veteran Bill Campbell and his service dog, Pax, at the benefit at The Atrium Café. At right, the Commissioner greets retired Correction Officer Ricky Boone.

***“I have been inspired and moved by one story after another, but never as much as I am by the story of Bill Campbell and Pax ... Pax was first socialized and trained by Laurie Kellogg, an inmate at the maximum security Bedford Hills Correctional Facility for Women. So a dog, initially loved and trained by a woman who has lost her freedom, but wants to give back to society, is enabling the life of a veteran of the Iraq war who was imprisoned by his disabling injuries. The story speaks for itself.”***

- Glenn Close, from her website, [www.fetchdog.com](http://www.fetchdog.com).

ment on a regular basis. “The relationship I form with my dog will be an important step in the recovery process,” he said.

- Andrew Hanson, who lost his right leg below the knee and his left leg above the knee while serving in Iraq. He will count on his service dog, Jackie, raised at Wallkill Correctional Facility, to help him retrieve his prosthetic legs, provide him with balance on uneven terrain and support him in his efforts to run again.

- Ricky Boone, who retired as a Correction Officer from Bedford Hills Correctional Facility in June 2008, suffered hip and spinal injuries during his 2005 mission as a Platoon Sergeant in Iraq and now suffers from PTSD. Even after spinal surgery, he walks with crutches or a cane and

has difficulty picking up objects from the ground and opening doors. He hopes Raeburn, raised at Mid-Orange Correctional Facility, will allow him greater mobility and independence and will provide emotional support as a canine companion.

The service dogs, as well as bomb-sniffing dogs raised to assist law enforcement, live in prison with their puppy raisers from the age of eight weeks to 18 months. As the puppies mature into well-loved, well-behaved dogs, the inmates who raise them develop an appreciation for contributing to society.

Ms. Close had developed a friendship with Mr. Campbell, who received Pax in February 2008, prior to their meeting. The day after the benefit, Ms. Close, Mr. Campbell and Pax visited Bedford Hills, where Puppies Behind Bars began in 1997 and where Mr. Campbell thanked inmate Laurie Kellogg and the others who helped her raise Pax.



Ms. Close was introduced to Puppies Behind Bars while observing the writing classes her friend Eve Ensler, a playwright and activist, conducted at Bedford Hills. Ms. Close and her husband, David Shaw, created a charitable shop for Puppies Behind Bars on their web site.

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
NOVEMBER 2008**

| <u>NAME</u>                 | <u>TITLE</u>          | <u>FACILITY</u>   |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|
| <b>DEATHS</b>               |                       |                   |
| Kevin F. Baker              | Corr Officer          | Altona            |
| Timothy McDonald            | Plant Util Engr 1     | Five Points       |
| Stacy J. Richardson         | Corr Officer          | Oneida            |
| <b>CIVILIAN RETIREMENT</b>  |                       |                   |
| Elaine B. Ball              | Prin Clerk Personnel  | Butler            |
| Barbara B. Marso            | Inmate Rcrds Coord 1  | Camp Georgetown   |
| Thomas Feisthamel           | Voc Instructor 4      | Cape Vincent      |
| Linda L. Loomis             | Keyboard Specialist 1 | Cape Vincent      |
| Doreen Barcomb              | Alch&Subst Abs Tpg A  | Chateaugay ASACTC |
| Terry H. Ducatte            | Clerk 1               | Clinton           |
| Theresa A. Castine          | Keyboard Specialist 1 | Clinton           |
| Scott J. Drollette          | Senr Indus Supt       | Clinton           |
| Robert Quinn                | Refrig Mechanic       | Eastern           |
| Sylvester Gooding           | Motor Veh Oper        | Edgecombe         |
| Janet K. Geiger             | Clerk 2               | Elmira            |
| Mary V. Donahue             | Keyboard Specialist 1 | Elmira            |
| Linda K. Dugan              | Keyboard Specialist 1 | Elmira            |
| Bruce J. Russotto           | Locksmith             | Fishkill          |
| Joann Walsh                 | Inmate Rcrds Coord 2  | Fishkill          |
| Nancy K. Martin             | Inst Steward          | Gouverneur        |
| Donna H. Porter             | Calculations Clerk 2  | Greene            |
| Mary Louise Denkewicz       | Agency Labr Rel Rep 2 | Main Office       |
| Elizabeth Petersadelman     | Educ Supvr General    | Marcy             |
| James M. Mattison           | Laundry Supvr         | Monterey SICF     |
| Patrick J. Miller           | Teacher 4             | Mt. McGregor      |
| Jacqueline LaFountain       | Senr Utilzn Rvw Nrs   | Mt. McGregor      |
| Yolanda L. Garcia           | Clerk 2               | NYC Admin         |
| Andrea Wilson               | Corr Counselor Span   | Sing Sing         |
| Marie S. Yole               | Calculations Clerk 1  | Washington        |
| James Fire                  | Teacher 4             | Wende             |
| James F. Phillips           | Cook                  | Wende             |
| <b>UNIFORMED RETIREMENT</b> |                       |                   |
| Richard J. Francisconi      | Corr Officer          | Albion            |
| Gary J. Bedard              | Corr Officer          | Altona            |
| John N. Schiavone           | Corr Officer          | Arthur Kill       |
| John D. Walker              | Corr Officer          | Arthur Kill       |
| Brian K. Odachowski         | Corr Officer          | Attica            |
| James P. Colleran           | Corr Officer          | Attica            |
| Henry M. Burton             | Corr Sergeant         | Auburn            |
| Lillian M. Francis          | Corr Officer          | Bedford Hills     |
| William W. Warner           | Corr Officer          | Camp Georgetown   |
| Keith R. Barber             | Corr Officer          | Clinton           |
| Steven M. LaBounty          | Corr Officer          | Clinton           |
| William T. Myers            | Corr Officer          | Clinton           |
| Michelle J. Caserto         | Corr Officer          | Clinton           |
| Thomas Stanilka             | Corr Officer          | Clinton           |

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
NOVEMBER 2008**

| <u>NAME</u>             | <u>TITLE</u>    | <u>FACILITY</u> |
|-------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Francis A. Gumlaw       | Corr Officer    | Clinton         |
| Charles R. Grudzien     | Corr Officer    | Collins         |
| Nathan D. Pitt          | Corr Officer    | Downstate       |
| Ronald S. Varner        | Corr Officer    | Downstate       |
| William J. Donaghy      | Corr Officer    | Eastern NY      |
| Tony A. Jones           | Corr Officer    | Eastern NY      |
| Raymond E. Younger      | Corr Officer    | Eastern NY      |
| Philip J. Canton        | Corr Officer    | Edgecombe       |
| William S. Lepere       | Corr Officer    | Elmira          |
| Richard S. Marvin       | Corr Officer    | Elmira          |
| Robert W. Sowers        | Corr Officer    | Elmira          |
| Edmund J. Mendoza       | Corr Officer    | Fishkill        |
| Mark A. Querns          | Corr Lieutenant | Five Points     |
| Frank L. Williams       | Corr Officer    | Franklin        |
| William H. Bruch        | Corr Officer    | Green Haven     |
| Peter F. Pascuzzi Jr.   | Corr Officer    | Greene          |
| Barry R. Craft Jr.      | Corr Officer    | Greene          |
| Steven G. Bloch         | Corr Officer    | Groveland       |
| Donald Nostrand         | Corr Officer    | Hudson          |
| James A. Hext           | Corr Officer    | Mid-State       |
| Jack L. Bailey          | Corr Officer    | Mohawk          |
| Boyd R. Haynes          | Corr Officer    | Moriah          |
| Michael D. Waite        | Corr Officer    | Mt. McGregor    |
| Charles R. Schmidt      | Corr Officer    | Oneida          |
| Larry T. Sisco          | Corr Officer    | Oneida          |
| Christopher S. Ilardi   | Corr Officer    | Sullivan        |
| Kevin C. Knack          | Corr Officer    | Sullivan        |
| Kevin B. Rosa           | Corr Sergeant   | Ulster          |
| Dennis E. Lashway       | Corr Officer    | Upstate         |
| John A. Cleary          | Corr Sergeant   | Watertown       |
| Richard G. Warner       | Corr Officer    | Watertown       |
| Allen R. Tripp          | Corr Lieutenant | Watertown       |
| Teresa M. Zelaszkiewicz | Corr Officer    | Wende           |
| Martin E. Nowak         | Corr Officer    | Wende           |
| Michael J. Long         | Corr Officer    | Wende           |
| Mark W. Lewandowski     | Corr Officer    | Wende           |
| Frederick E. Hogg Jr.   | Corr Officer    | Wende           |
| Kenneth O. Zorn         | Corr Officer    | Willard         |
| William R. Burgio       | Corr Officer    | Woodbourne      |
| Mark Heller             | Corr Officer    | Woodbourne      |
| David C. Wedzina        | Corr Sergeant   | Wyoming         |

**CIVILIAN PROMOTIONS**

|                    |                       |             |
|--------------------|-----------------------|-------------|
| Paula Vertucci     | Info Tech Spec 3      | Main Office |
| Paula Butler       | Suprv Cor Hs Util Mgt | Main Office |
| Rudolph A. Dolence | Info Tech Spec 3      | Main Office |
| Michael J. Lira    | Deputy Supt Progm S3  | Upstate     |

**UNIFORMED PROMOTIONS**

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
NOVEMBER 2008**

| <b><u>NAME</u></b>    | <b><u>TITLE</u></b> | <b><u>FACILITY</u></b> |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| William C. Besner     | Corr Sergeant       | Bedford Hills          |
| Stephen V. Khan       | Corr Sergeant       | Bedford Hills          |
| Thomas C. Ingles      | Corr Lieutenant     | Bedford Hills          |
| Vito D. Valenzano     | Corr Sergeant       | Bedford Hills          |
| William T. Atwood Jr. | Corr Sergeant       | Edgecombe              |
| Steven R. Tilley      | Corr Sergeant       | Fulton                 |
| Michael A. Lee        | Corr Sergeant       | Green Haven            |
| William R. Ellis      | Corr Sergeant       | Green Haven            |
| Jon D. Ederer         | Corr Sergeant       | Green Haven            |
| Bryan S. Norris       | Corr Lieutenant     | Green Haven            |
| Paul J. Artuz         | Corr Lieutenant     | Lincoln                |
| Tad A. Levac          | Corr Lieutenant     | Lincoln                |
| Timothy B. Cipollini  | Corr Sergeant       | Sing Sing              |

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
DECEMBER 2008**

**NAME**

**TITLE**

**FACILITY**

**DEATHS**

|                    |               |             |
|--------------------|---------------|-------------|
| Richard J. Sweeney | Corr Officer  | Arthur Kill |
| Andre E. Milliner  | Corr Sergeant | Edgecombe   |
| Roger Green        | Corr Officer  | Sing Sing   |

**CIVILIAN RETIREMENT**

|                        |                        |                 |
|------------------------|------------------------|-----------------|
| David W. Mishanec      | Voc Instructor 4       | Adirondack      |
| Judith Rosenberg       | Supvg Corr Cnslr       | Arthur Kill     |
| Kenneth J. Beglinger   | Production Cntrl Spvr  | Attica          |
| Carolyn M. Steigerwald | Corr Counselor         | Auburn          |
| Linda W. Keller        | Keyboard Specialist 1  | Buffalo         |
| James P. Morrissey     | Supt Correctional Fac  | Butler          |
| Richard L. Church      | Inst Steward           | Camp Georgetown |
| Eric M. Jackstadt      | Corr Counselor         | Clinton         |
| Sharon J. Youmans      | Data Proc Clk 2        | Elmira          |
| Florence M. Stewart    | Prin Acct Clerk        | Fishkill        |
| George Civiletto       | Head Cook              | Gowanda         |
| James M. Stewart       | Alch&Subst Abs Tpg A   | Gowanda         |
| Leslie E. Thomas       | Motor Veh Oper         | Great Meadow    |
| Kevin A. Schneider     | Gen Mechanic           | Green Haven     |
| George F. Smith        | Senr Indus Supt        | Green Haven     |
| Irene Purificato       | Assoc Budgetg Anlst    | Main Office     |
| Carole D. Snickles     | Prin Clerk Personnel   | Main Office     |
| Janice L. Kelly        | Head Account Clerk     | Main Office     |
| Charles L. Youmans     | Senr Librn             | Mid-State       |
| Mary Simms             | Head Cook              | Sing Sing       |
| Robert M. Brandt       | Nurse 2                | Southport       |
| Charles L. Nikolaus    | Senr Filter Plant Op   | Summit SICF     |
| Debra M. Pratt         | Senr Mail & Supply Clk | Washington      |
| Susan Walling          | Inmate Rcrds Coord 2   | Watertown       |
| Yvonne M. Fisher       | Nurse 2                | Wende           |
| Bilal Abdullah         | Chaplain               | Wyoming         |

**UNIFORMED RETIREMENT**

|                       |                       |              |
|-----------------------|-----------------------|--------------|
| William Schurr        | Corr Officer          | Attica       |
| Lee P. Jubert         | Deputy Supt Secrty 3  | Bare Hill    |
| Thomas Wells          | Corr Officer          | Bayview      |
| Priscilla Kelly       | Corr Officer          | Beacon       |
| Clarence Jones Jr.    | Comty Corrl Ctr Assnt | Buffalo      |
| David L. Fleming      | Corr Officer          | Cape Vincent |
| Patrick R. Bohlen     | Corr Officer          | Collins      |
| Deborah Morrison      | Corr Officer          | Collins      |
| Charles A. Beverly    | Corr Officer          | Collins      |
| Dorothy R. Buck       | Corr Officer          | Coxsackie    |
| William D. Neumeister | Corr Officer          | Coxsackie    |
| Martin E. Thompson    | Corr Officer          | Downstate    |
| Matthew J. Dennin     | Corr Officer          | Eastern NY   |
| Martell B. Bruce      | Corr Officer          | Elmira       |
| Thomas A. Dicastro    | Corr Officer          | Fishkill     |

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
DECEMBER 2008**

| <u>NAME</u>           | <u>TITLE</u>        | <u>FACILITY</u>  |
|-----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| Gerard Guiney         | Deputy Supt Secrt 3 | Five Points      |
| Peter J. Ficchi       | Corr Lieutenant     | Five Points      |
| Steven E. Greene      | Corr Officer        | Great Meadow     |
| Matthew M. Mello      | Corr Officer        | Great Meadow     |
| William F. Carretto   | Corr Officer        | Groveland        |
| Henry E. Robin        | Corr Officer        | Groveland        |
| Patrick J. Lawrence   | Corr Lieutenant     | Groveland        |
| Edward T. Walega      | Corr Officer        | Hale Creek ASACT |
| Gary L. Busch         | Corr Officer        | Lakeview         |
| Christopher L. Ahrens | Corr Officer        | Lakeview         |
| William J. Koen       | Corr Officer        | Marcy            |
| Michael T. Benson     | Corr Officer        | Marcy            |
| John H. Baisley       | Corr Lieutenant     | Mid-State        |
| William B. Straite    | Corr Sergeant       | Mid-State        |
| Joseph Didyk          | Corr Officer        | Mt. McGregor     |
| Patick L. McVey       | Corr Officer        | Shawangunk       |
| Patrick J. Horton     | Corr Officer        | Southport        |
| Brian D. Gernatt      | Corr Lieutenant     | Southport        |
| Joan E. Battison      | Corr Officer        | Southport        |
| Marian Bzduch         | Corr Officer        | Sullivan         |
| Thomas P. Wamsley     | Corr Officer        | Wallkill         |
| Frank E. Lustan       | Corr Officer        | Wende            |
| Robert J. Forman      | Corr Officer        | Wende            |
| Joseph N. Cappello    | Corr Officer        | Wende            |
| Edward F. Christian   | Corr Sergeant       | Wende            |
| Robert H. Sajdak      | Corr Officer        | Wende            |
| Karl J. Crane         | Corr Officer        | Wende            |
| Terry L. Parish       | Corr Officer        | Willard          |
| Michael A. Paradisis  | Corr Officer        | Woodbourne       |
| Stephen Ross          | Corr Officer        | Wyoming          |

**CIVILIAN PROMOTIONS**

|                            |                       |                  |
|----------------------------|-----------------------|------------------|
| Diane J. Moore             | Inmate Rcrds Coord 2  | Albion           |
| Monica Forero              | Inmate Rcrds Coord 1  | Bedford Hills    |
| Susan A. Leubner           | Inmate Rcrds Coord 1  | Five Points      |
| Virginia Livermore-Johnson | Supvg Corr Cnslr      | Five Points      |
| Karissa L. O'Hare          | Prin Stores Clerk     | Franklin         |
| Pamela J. Guiffre          | Inmate Rcrds Coord 1  | Hale Creek ASACT |
| Anne Marie McGrath         | Asst Dir Info Tech S1 | Main Office      |
| Jerome Dawson              | Coord Corrl Svs Emp 1 | Main Office      |
| Warren G. Farina           | Info Tech Spec 2      | Main Office      |
| Mary Carr                  | Info Tech Spec 2      | Main Office      |
| Margaret M. Legacy         | Secretary 1           | Main Office      |
| Susan G. Johnson           | Clerk 2               | Mohawk           |
| Sabina Kaplan              | Supt Correctional Fac | Taconic          |
| Patricia E. LeConey        | Supt Correctional Fac | Washington       |

**UNIFORMED PROMOTIONS**

|                 |               |               |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| Mark D. Farrell | Corr Sergeant | Bedford Hills |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|

**EMPLOYEE TRANSITIONS  
DECEMBER 2008**

| <b><u>NAME</u></b>  | <b><u>TITLE</u></b> | <b><u>FACILITY</u></b> |
|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| Michael Eddy        | Corr Sergeant       | Bedford Hills          |
| Stephen Urbanski    | Corr Captain        | Bedford Hills          |
| Richard Goodliff    | Corr Sergeant       | Edgecombe              |
| Kevin M. Barrett    | Corr Sergeant       | Edgecombe              |
| Joseph H. Noeth     | Corr Captain        | Elmira                 |
| Donald C. Lockwood  | Corr Sergeant       | Fishkill               |
| Frank A. Carbone    | Corr Sergeant       | Fishkill               |
| Dennis W. Bradford  | Corr Lieutenant     | Main Office            |
| Richard C. Finnegan | Corr Captain        | Main Office            |
| Michele M. Hubbard  | Corr Captain        | Orleans                |
| John V. Werlau      | Corr Lieutenant     | Sing Sing              |
| Alfred Clauberg     | Corr Sergeant       | Ulster                 |
| Robert A. Harrison  | Corr Sergeant       | Wallkill               |

1/5/09