



## The Summer of 2010: Redux



Inside this Issue

By Donna Micklus

It was hot. Scorching hot and really dry. But summer being summer, it still went by all too fast.

So much for outside - what was going on inside DAS the past two months?

In this issue, we're going to review the happenings in our hallowed halls - meet some new folks, say farewell to others, and just kind of see what we've been up to since rooting for The RockCats (or for some of us traitors, the Trenton Thunder - but I get a pass since I'm from New Jersey) at our June 30 summer outing.

We'll also take a look, courtesy of Andrea Keilty, at the legislative session to see what bills affected which DAS divisions.

2010 was also the summer of Hurricane Earl. While he never packed the punch originally thought, no one can say we weren't ready.

And did we shed any of those unwanted lbs. this year? We'll take a look at the close-out of this phase of ConnectiFIT.

How many of you know that this summer a star was born? Yep, Procurement's Carlos Velez was on the airwaves giving interviews on the Surplus Property Auction which featured some pretty unique items, from beer to motorcycles.

And speaking of Procurement, congratulations go out to Director Carol Wilson who last month was elected to the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Procurement Officers!

Procurement's Supplier Diversity shop also had some successes to share, and we'll talk to Paul Greco about our continuing going green movement.

While the outdoor temps were soaring, the Print Shop, now under the direction of DAS Communications was saving some cool cash by renegotiating leases and contracts.

DAS Fleet Operations never idles, and it was another banner year for Collections.

And, of course, nothing says summer like the 'boys (and girls) of summer'. Below is the team photo of the SAD SOB's who ended the season with a record of 9 and 12!

So join us on our retro tour of the Summer of 2010.



**Top L to R: Scott Nattinger (DAS - Statewide ), Mike Masi (SOB-Murphy Security), Adam Soklow (Son of Steve Soklow), Orlando Sotomoyer, Izzy & Isaac Contereras (Free Agents from the website). Bottom L to R: Jannette Macon-Williams (Veteran Free Agent), Eileen Morin (DAS-HR), Heather Berte (DAS-HR) and Nancy Velez-Cruz (Dept. of Education)**

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# They Don't Print Money... But They Sure Do Save It!

By *Nina Ritson*

Over the last few months the DAS Central Printing Team (Mike Guimond, Roy Wynne, Alex Caceres, and Matt Costa, and Nina Ritson of the Communications Office) has been meeting to analyze operating expenses, research equipment options and brainstorm ways to operate more efficiently and save money. And because of this effort, the new changes coming to DAS Central Printing will hugely reduce their operating expenses!

“The guys are always thinking of the best ways to save money and produce a good product. They come to the table with a lot of options and better ways to do business. As a result, we have discovered numerous ways to save even further,” Ritson said.

They started with the monthly copier leases – copiers are a staple in their business. The current leases on the two black and white copiers were with IKON Office Solutions. When the economy was better and agencies were printing publications freely the existing lease agreements were affordable, but as printing began to decline with the executive request to cease as much printing statewide as possible, the monthly leases were not absorbed by the volume of material produced. Change had to happen fast.

“The equipment on the floor was very dependable and both

machines were really ‘low mileage’ models. We looked into purchasing instead of leasing, but in the end our choices became clear,” said Guimond, the Print Shop Supervisor.

After researching equipment and studying what the private sector is doing, and some negotiating with IKON, Ritson and Guimond were able to renegotiate the black and white copier contracts to reflect savings through April 2014. Not only were the lease rates reduced by 46%, but the impression rates were reduced an additional 14% - saving over \$40,000 per year.

In addition, with the lease expiration and removal of the color copier, for over a year all color work was being outsourced until new equipment was procured. Working with Procurement’s Joe Giliberto and Rob Zalucki, the team visited three of the top color copier companies to review and test their equipment. In the end, all agreed and Konica prevailed – but it had to be affordable. The prices that Giliberto and Zalucki negotiated with the sales team brought a savings of \$1,147 per month over the prior equipment, saving 47%.

“Because the quality and capabilities of the Konica are far superior, I am expecting to reduce our outsourced color printing by 45-50% as this work can easily be done on the new equipment.” said Ritson. “This printer produces incredible color



**Print Shop employees (L to R) Matt Costa, Roy Wynne, Supervisor Mike Guimond and Alex Caceres.**

– and finishes. This savings will be huge!”

The new contracts went into effect August 1 – billing on September 1. The savings for 2011 should be noticeable right away and have immediate positive impact on the Printshop budget.

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[www.das.state.ct.us](http://www.das.state.ct.us)

Chris Lappen, from Wood Electric Company complimented Prequal Program Manager **Carlos Velez**. "First and foremost, I cannot thank you enough for the assistance you have provided me. I had approached your department in person at the urging of the Department of Consumer Protection's Licensing Division with the hopes of setting up a meeting with someone in the near future. The welcoming I received was most definitely a surprise... you took the time to meet with me and listen to my dilemma. You have extended yourself, in what I believe, is above and beyond what would be required from your office and for this I am grateful."

## HATS OFF!

*By Cindy Rusczyk*

Gail A. Johnson from BESB sent the following: "I just want the Fleet Administrators to know how much I appreciate the service that is provided by your Norwich office. **Ron Johnson** and his crew (**Kenneth Baudner, David Berry, Ryan Cascio, Harold Gillis, Louis Koniecko, William Majewski** and **Scott Winters**) are courteous, informative and patient. They are always willing to do the best they can as quickly as they can no matter what my concern may be."

Emergency Management Program Specialist Mary Rose Duberek from DEHMS sent Nina Ritson a message commending **Mike Guimond** from the DAS Print Shop. "Mike is wonderful! It's nice to work with people with a can do attitude!"

"Congratulations to all" of the **Collections Staff** from Director Joann Figueiredo "on a very successful fiscal year end! As the result of another year of hard work and dedication on your part, Collections revenues again surpassed the billion dollar mark. Fiscal Year 2009-2010 paid claims are in excess of \$1.2 billion!!! Despite the many changes and challenges we have dealt with over the past 12 months – budget cuts, retirements, additions and realignments of staff and programs, etc. – you all have found ways to achieve this extraordinary accomplishment! Thanks also to the great folks in **MIS** and the **Central Accounting Unit** for supporting our efforts throughout the year."

Commissioner Martin Anderson added his accolades to the **Collections Staff** stating, "I don't know how much I can add to what JoAnn has already written. Her pride in you is not disguised very well and she apparently believes, just like I do, that you guys are amazing. That's because you are. I'm so proud of what you've accomplished. I hope you know that. All my best and congratulations to each of you."

Steve Dygus sent a memo to Jean Michael "recognizing the excellent efforts of **Melissa Colonese-Scutt**. With the move of the State Marshal Commission to the SOB, we have had a number of phone requests and each time Melissa has taken the time in a courteous manner to explain our options and then work with the

phone guy to get the job done in a timely manner. Even with additional changes, we have had a minimal amount of disruption to our phone system. Please extend my thanks to Melissa for a job well done!"

Carolyn Kozak and Mary Gugliemino wrote to Commissioner Anderson "to bring to your attention two exemplary staff members you have over at the Core-CT Team. On numerous occasions Mary and I have called upon **Juanita Woolfolk** and **Sue Cavanaugh** and they are always willing to help, are friendly, and go the extra mile to provide excellent service. Their assistance is consistently excellent and amicable, and we felt it was important to let you know how appreciative we are to have them as part of our team. Having knowledgeable, friendly, patient, and available support staff at Core-CT makes it easier for us to do our jobs. Thank you Juanita and Sue for everything that you do for us!"

Director of Food and Nutrition Richard Gallagher from Hartford Hospital emailed **Linda Hubeny** and **Dan Sadowski** regarding Government Commodities for the Institute of Living Grace Webb School and his upcoming retirement to "thank you for your support over the years with this initiative and to compliment you both on a job well done. Your communication was great and you were always there to problem solve with a positive attitude and approach! It was appreciated! Thank you!!"

*Continued on page 9*

## On the Air... *By John McKay*



Nothing gets local media more excited than a state auction. Above, Program Manager Carlos Velez goes on camera with WFSB reporters to answer questions about the items up for bid. He also gave interviews to WVIT, Fox 61 and WTIC radio. Is Oprah next?

On August 21, DAS' Surplus program held its third property auction of the year. Surplus auction items included motorcycles, bicycles, and a kiln, along with a varied collection of items either surplus by the state or obtained through seizure.

The auction took in approximately \$69,000.

## Supplier Diversity Exceeds Goals

*By John McKay*

By state statute, DAS Procurement's Supplier Diversity Program must report its goals and achievements to Governor Rell according to Affirmative Action Requirements.

This year, the Set-Aside goal established for utilization of Connecticut small businesses was \$346,944. The actual achievement was \$1,084,176. The minority-owned small business goal was \$86,736 and the actual achievement was \$264,864.

"We are extremely pleased with our results this year, said DAS Program Manager Meg Yetishefsky. However, we know our job isn't complete until everyone who wants to be certified through our program has a certificate in hand."

## More Good News for Supplier Diversity *By John McKay*

Nelson Merchan, President of CLICROI was excited to share his success and compliment DAS Supplier Diversity in a recent press release. Specifically he thanked DAS' Pam McCormick writing:

"Pam McCormick worked closely with us and went out of her way to make sure we achieved our certification as a Hispanic-Owned Small/Minority Business Enterprise.

"I am excited that my business is located in the State of Connecticut and I appreciate what the State does to support entrepreneurs."



CLICROI specializes in online advertising with a specific focus on the burgeoning Hispanic market in the United States, Canada, Latin America, and Spain. CLICROI designs banner advertising that generates leads and online traffic to clients' websites. In addition, the company helps with

online branding in order to increase recognition.

Program Manager Meg Yetishefsky said, "Thank you again, we work hard to assist all businesses coming in for certification. We realize the importance of prompt, helpful customer service. I understand the importance of the certification to the small business owner. It is always nice to see a company succeed and if the certification from the State of Connecticut's Small/Minority Business Program helps with that success, we are happy!"

## Better Safe Than...

By Nina Ritson

With a recent tornado in Bridgeport, multiple tornado touchdowns in Litchfield and Plainville and flooding in Greenwich that left 400 roads impassable last March – there is reason to take notice of the hurricane season.

Commissioner Peter Boynton of DEMHS opened the July 27 Hurricane Preparedness meeting of the EOC-trained team and other DEMHS personnel.

“There are 24 hurricanes predicted this season – 14 more than normal – and seven becoming major hurricanes. Connecticut has not seen a Category 3 hurricane since 1938 when nearly 800 people died and 57,000 homes were destroyed in New England. If you were to travel over Connecticut in an airplane you would see little of the roadways because we have a deep, lush canopy of trees. These trees have not been culled by destructive weather since the 1950’s. We are due - and we need to get our team on the field to practice for this event.”

Little did he know how prescient his words were.

Pulling his “team onto the field for training” Boynton gathered together EOC coordinators from many state agencies and emergency personnel from DEMHS to review logistics, communications and operations in the event of a major hurricane in Connecticut.

Like all emergency planning this

event was categorized in stages relative to the estimated time of landfall in Connecticut. John McKay and Nina Ritson represented DAS, whose primary role is to ensure that supply needs are available and met and that personnel are available in the event that state employees cannot report to work.

DAS Procurement plays a major role in the readiness to purchase needed items, as does Fleet who would furnish emergency vehicles and gasoline.

In the event of a catastrophic storm, once the Emergency Center is opened, DEMHS can staff the center and an Incident Action Plan can take effect. Department of Transportation, Public Safety, Public Health, the American Red Cross and area hospitals can respond to calls for action.

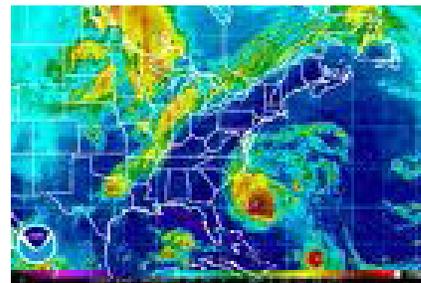
The most critical role of an EOC coordinator in emergency preparedness is to be able to perform the reporting tasks of the WebEOC, a system that records and reports statewide and is available to assigned personnel at state, emergency and municipal levels.

This advanced application gives instant information to regions seeking sandbags, pumps and other apparatus for flooding, and evacuation needs. It also reports and maps activity all over the state as a disaster strikes – so the emergency teams can get resources to affected areas as quickly as possible. As these

events can sometimes occur over a couple days, alternate teams are structured to relieve the “first string” personnel who need to sleep and check on their own families.

Reporting into the WebEOC is documentation during an event which allows recommendations to be made to the Governor easily, expediting help from FEMA and federal aid to affected areas. In addition, media can be readily briefed keeping residents up-to-date on what is happening.

As with everything, communication is key and the state is fully prepared to jump to action should a hurricane come up the coast and strike.



**Images of Hurricane Earl which pounded the East Coast over the Labor Day weekend. Fortunately Connecticut was spared from Earl’s total wrath.**



## Power to the Partners By John McKay

The State of Connecticut has been named one of only three states making the United States Environmental Protection Agency's top 50 national green power partners for the third year in a row.

In 2010, Connecticut will purchase more than 107 million kilowatt-hours of green power, which is enough power to meet 17 percent of the state's purchased electricity use.

The state's purchase of green power resources began with Gov. M. Jodi Rell's Energy Vision for a Cleaner, Greener State, which set a goal of increasing the percentage of clean, renewable energy consumed by state government from all sources to 20 percent by the year 2020.

Behind the scenes, it was OPM's Raymond Wilson and DAS' Paul Greco who were participating in energy auctions that resulted in reduced rates for Connecticut state buildings.

Last year OPM and DAS, with the assistance of World Energy Solutions, Inc., of Worcester, MA, conducted an innovative and open online "reverse auction" to procure power for state buildings. The auction process placed qualified bidders in competition with one another via a web-based auction platform taking place in real time. The lowest bid at the close of each auction of account groupings won the contract award. This auction process allows the state to drive down its costs

amongst energy suppliers by using competition in extreme volatile energy markets that change hour to hour.

"OPM and DAS Procurement had piloted this concept earlier so we knew what kinds of savings were available to the state," said Greco. "We have been working with World Energy Solutions, Inc. and we think we've accomplished something really big here – keeping the price of electricity as well as natural gas in check,

while staying green, all at a significant savings."

Now the savings are starting to show and providing budget certainties.

"We are well on track to achieve the goal of obtaining 20 percent of the electricity used by the State of Connecticut from renewable sources by 2020," Governor Rell said. "This demonstrates and validates Connecticut's leadership on energy and climate issues."

The EPA said it estimated that the state's green power purchase of more than 107 million kilowatt-hours is equivalent to avoiding carbon dioxide emissions of nearly 13,000 passenger vehicles every year, or the amount of electricity needed to power more than 9,000 homes.

Green power is electricity that is generated from environmentally

preferable renewable resources such as solar, wind, geothermal, biogas, biomass and low-impact hydro.

*Ed. Note: Some information in this article was taken from an August 30, WFSB report.*



Procurement's Paul Greco

## Our Fleet Never Idles By Jim Palmer



Very soon state employees will be able to add DAS repair garages to the list of locations with wireless internet access.

Yes, along with McDonalds, Starbucks, and the local library, DAS garages will be another place where State of Connecticut employees with outside responsibilities and laptops can log on to the Internet while waiting for repairs on their cars.

Wireless connectivity will be introduced at the New Haven shop - hopefully by mid-October. DAS Fleet intends to roll out the same service to our Wethersfield and Norwich garages shortly thereafter. Stay tuned for updates!

# UP CLOSE

## With Darryl Stark

By Nina Ritson

Sounding like a natural Texan, standing tall and speaking like a straight shooter, Darryl Stark, a Personnel Psychologist responsible for test development and validation, is the refreshing new member of the DAS State-wide Human Resources team.

“I came here on July 13, from Montgomery, Alabama. I was an Industrial Psychologist with the State of Alabama and prior to that I developed promotional tests for police and fire personnel for the City of Dallas.”

Stark received his Ph.D. from the University of Tulsa and because he loves to travel has worked in many cities across the country.

“I have worked in Tampa, Dallas, Houston, Tulsa, Oklahoma City, and Iowa City— but home has always been in Riverton, Kansas – just outside of Joplin, Mo.,” he regales.

“I like to travel, but I love to hunt and fish! I enjoy both freshwater and saltwater fishing.” Stark grew up on the edge of the Ozarks, where he used to fish for trout. A full outdoors man, he said, “I have never tried sailing but I have tried water skiing and kayaking, and I am hoping to take a shot at snow skiing this winter now that I live up north. I have never done that either.”

Stark now calls Manchester, CT home and as proof of his love of fishing he has already bookmarked the website [ctfisherman.com](http://ctfisherman.com) on his home computer to get the latest news from fishermen

all over the state; who is catching what and where are the best places to go.

Stark is a sportsman of all seasons and has already observed the hunting seasons and fees associated in Connecticut. “I usually hunt upland game - quail and pheasants. I have thought about trying to start hunting turkeys but I have a hard time sitting still for a long time which is required when turkey hunting.

You walk when you hunt upland game.”

He has also already made some observations about government in the two states. “Connecticut is much more unionized. In Alabama there is one state employee union – no collective bargaining. It was not a very strong union – not prevalent at all. Most of the southern states are “Right to Work states”– if you don’t want to be in the union you don’t have to be.”

He noted that Alabama government employees were vested after ten years, not five like Connecticut, but that the medical benefits were comparable between the two states.

“I definitely like DAS so far – they have a progressive attitude – with the Human Resources Management Certificate Program, New Managers Program and the

training they offer. Training was very basic in Alabama.”

“I lived in Montgomery – not the nicest place! I was there for the oil spill which was horrible for the shoreline businesses but actually boosted the tourism and recreation businesses on the lakes.”

Stark went on to share a little about his boyhood home.

“I grew up on our family farm that had 140 acres with cattle.

It was run by my parents, brother, Alan and I. That is where I learned to hunt and fish as a boy. My parents are still there although they sold off 40 acres with the old farmhouse and built a new house on the remaining 100 acres. My dad still does the work on this farm at the age of 70. My grandmother, Pauline, still lives on the 200-acre farm that she and my grandfather owned a couple miles away, and at 89 she still works the garden although she now rents out farmland to people who pay her a percentage of their sales. Before my grandfather passed away – he was out running his chainsaw all day at the age of 80.”

Well, with longevity in his veins (and a little saltwater), we can expect to see Darryl Stark on board for many years to come!

Welcome to DAS!



Statewide HR's Darryl Stark

# NASPO Conference Gives DAS Procurement Access to National Practices/Trends

By John McKay

At an August National Association of State Procurement Officials (NASPO) conference, DAS Director Carol Wilson and Program Manager Carlos Velez had the opportunity to learn more about what is happening nationally in the state procurement industry and compare their achievements against other states.

The Washington, D.C. trip was hosted and paid for by NASPO.

“To meet your peers from around the country and compare notes as well as attend some very informative meetings is a great opportunity,” said Wilson.

Velez attended a surplus property meeting and discovered that some states are taking their surplus to the Internet with web marketing. “Some states are using EBay to market and sell state surplus. I found that very interesting.”

A cooperative contracting meeting discussed the options and benefits of pooling resources even across state lines.

“Our northeast region has similar demands and similar vendors so there’s a real opportunity to combine forces, reduce costs and improve savings,” said Wilson. “We’ve had a number of discussions regarding where some cooperative purchasing could benefit the region.”

Ironically timed with nearby hurricane Earl, another conference on Emergency Response Procurement was fortuitous and well attended. The session explored the relationship between FEMA and state agencies involving emergency procurement, how FEMA works with state agencies, the FEMA reimbursement process and lessons learned from previous disaster situations.

The conference also honored three innovative state procurement programs with the George Cronin Award for Procurement Excellence. Submissions were judged against criteria including innovation, transferability, service improvement, uniqueness and originality, and demonstrable cost-reduction.

“Although we’ve won in the past, it’s a real opportunity to see what other states are doing and compare their successes with ours,” said Wilson.



**Carlos Velez and Carol Wilson with Robert Picciotto at the NASPO conference in Washington, D.C. Picciotto was a firefighter who survived the World Trade Center collapse.**

Both Wilson and Velez agreed that the most inspiring part of the conference was a speech by Richard “Pitch” Picciotto who was the highest ranking firefighter to survive the World Trade Center collapse.

“He gave an outspoken account of that indelible day; a heartfelt remembrance of a day of infamy and profound humanity,” Wilson said.

“Overall the conference was educational and inspirational,” said Wilson. “Getting a different perspective and overview of the industry from the other states and from our federal procurement peers can only strengthen DAS procurement moving forward.”

**Kudos**, *continued from page 3*

Director of Supplier Diversity Meg Yetishefsky “wanted to take this opportunity to thank **Marisol Rivera** for her help and professionalism at the event sponsored by the Spanish American Merchant Association. The event was in conjunction with some outreach efforts the Metropolitan District Commission are holding in various parts of the state to encourage local small/minority business to get certified in the state’s program. The MDC has a billion dollar project and want to encourage the local SBE/MBE’s to participate in these projects. Mayor Pedro E. Segarra of the City of Hartford spoke along with a representative from the MDC. The event was also attended by Telemundo which is a Spanish language TV station. Marisol assisted me in providing excellent information to the Telemundo representative and conducted herself with professionalism. The evening was a success for all that attended.”

John McKay praised **Carlos Velez** for the “taped phone interview with Dana Whalen from WTIC 1080 that hyped the state surplus sale. Dana said she would play pieces of the interview on the air to help generate interest in the auction. BIG KUDOS to Carlos today for doing on-camera interviews for Channel 30 and Channel 3, as well as answering questions for Fox 61.”

Susan Pawloski-Burke, Michelle Burns, Robin Riddlesworth and Kristina Worley “give many thanks to **Sue Cieniewicz** for her help in researching and solving an issue regarding the copying of application data in the Applicant Tracking and Certification system. The fix was critical to ensure the smooth processing of examination lists. We really appreciate your hard work! Thank you!”



Chris Fons and Will Hickey “would like to thank **Dick Omohundro** for his tremendous work and support of the Recovery Unit computer system. He has really been terrific. Thanks!”

President Joseph Vollano wrote the following letter to Director Meg Yetishefsky “to commend your employee, Mr. **Stanley Kenton**. Recently, my company, E.R.P. Group, Inc. began the process to become a Small Business Enterprise. As I am sure you are aware, the process necessary to become a Small Business Enterprise and the information necessary to complete the process is sometimes over

whelming. However, because of Mr. Kenton’s knowledge of the system, great communication and dedication we were able to receive our certification promptly and with no problems or aggravation. I hope that you realize what a great asset Mr. Kenton is to your program. I have been in the construction business for over twenty-five years and I have NEVER come across a state employee who was so willing to help, had such a positive attitude and was such a pleasure to work with. I truly believe that without the help and dedication of Mr. Kenton, our application would still be in progress.”

Paul Greco complimented **Cindy Rusczyk**: “I would like to thank you for assisting us with the Freedom of Information request we received the other day. I understand the request required much of your time and effort. Very much appreciated, especially when returning from vacation to many other things requiring attention!”

Cheryl Drolet commended **Fred Ondevilla** who “was invaluable in organizing the DAS Golf Tournament fundraiser for the Connecticut State Campaign for Charitable Giving. Being new as the DAS coordinator for the campaign I am still learning. And I know absolutely nothing about golf. I could not have done it without all his help. “

## Comings



**Nino Foschino, QCW  
Fleet Operations**



**Robert Koehler, QCW  
Fleet Operations**



**Ivette Oliveras, Office Asst.  
Fleet Operations**



**Pamela Perrin, Sec. 1  
State Marshal Comm.**



**Yanira Segarra, Off. Asst.  
Fleet Operations**



**Ngina Gibson, Affirm. Action  
SmART**



**Andria Chalwell, Affirm. Action  
SmART**

## and Goings

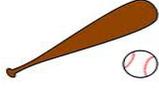


**Steve Caliendo, Retired on  
August 1**



**Mark Carroza, Transferred  
to DSS in June**

## DAS vs. DOIT Another Yanks vs. Sox?



By John McKay

It was starting to get dark, and neither team could really see the ball. DAS' softball team, the SAD SOB's, were a few outs from a coveted victory – beating DOIT.

But before the light faded completely, the night belonged to DAS. The SAD SOB's beat DOIT 14-10.

A few ESPN-worthy top plays included:

Heather Berte, captain and center fielder, caught the first out of the game by catching a pop fly hit by Steve Beaulieu.

1st baseman Mike Masi (SOB Murphy security) had 8 put outs with 5 quick arm assists by Scott Nattinger from 3rd base.

Eileen Morin showed her true colors playing 2nd base making two assists and bringing in two runs even though she lost her hat when rounding the corner of 3rd base - both times.

We had two home runs, one of them hit by Adam Soklow, bringing in two runs.

Since the rivalry for this envious trophy began last year, DOIT has held the trophy for one year with their win in 2009 and now DAS will



**Commissioner Martin Anderson accepts the softball trophy on behalf of DAS from DOIT Deputy Chief Information Officer Rick Bailey for the 2010 win over the DOIT team by the SAD SOB's**

hold the trophy until the match is contested again.

Congratulations to the SAD SOB's for the return of the trophy to the halls of DAS!

## Walking Into Summer Ends With Fall



By Nina Ritson

CT Fit's "Walking into Summer" took a walk into the sunset on July 15 when they closed out the eight-week program presenting winners with awards and listening to a talk on summer food safety by the Department of Public Health.

The winners were:

**Ebony and Ivory**, Mary Taylor and Sheila Lohbusch came in first walking **653.39 miles**, winning \$75 each. Second place went to **Blew By You**, Heather Cascio and Linda Canalia, who walked **649 miles**, and won \$40 each. Third place went to the team, **Walk This Way**, Kevin Nodwell and Amy Whitehouse who walked **580.8 miles** and won \$25 each. Fourth and Fifth place winners (who won back their \$10 fee for participation) were **Rock and Rollers**, Debbie Batiste and Dian Dickerson (**516.2 miles**),

**Devil Wears Nike**, Melissa Marzano and Aimee Cunningham **434.8 miles**, respectively.

In total, 32 people participated and walked 5,730 miles!

Christine Applewhite of DPH gave a great practical talk about food awareness during the hot months of summer. She discussed the importance of washing utensils as you cook on the grill and cooking food to the proper temperature to prevent food borne outbreaks.

Food needs to be cooked to 140 degrees to kill bacteria – sorry to all you rare burger lovers. And food can stay outdoors for up to two hours if under 90 degrees – only one hour if over 90 degrees.

What do you think would happen to a bowl of potato salad sitting on a picnic table in 85 degree weather for two

hours. Did you guess the mayonnaise could make you sick? Well you guessed wrong. It would more than likely be the potatoes or the eggs that would spoil. Commercial mayonnaise is so stable with prohibitive ingredients to prevent spoiling that you could probably leave it out on the kitchen counter for a week – but no one suggests testing that fact.

The CT Fit Committee took a summer break - but hold the date for Saturday, October 23, 2010, for the American Heart Association annual walk to raise money. There is no registration fee and the AHA hopes to raise \$500,000.

Great job to Chair Peggy Zabawar, Co-Chair Frankie Rivera and the CT Fit members for helping DAS stay fit and healthy!

*Special Supplement*  
*The 2009-2010*  
*Legislative Session*



## LEGISLATION AFFECTING DAS

2010 Regular Session & June Special Session

By Andrea Keilty

Following is a summary of the bills affecting DAS business units that passed during the 2010 Regular Legislative Session (which ran from February 3, 2010 – May 5, 2010) and the June Special Session that followed the close of the Regular Session. The new legislation is organized by topic, under the DAS unit affected, with bills of general applicability first. **Public Acts with General Applicability**

- **Budget Bills:** For convenience, below are links to the bills passed in the 2010 sessions that relate to DAS budget matters. To the extent that provisions in these bills affected individual DAS units, those provisions are discussed under the topic associated with the DAS business unit.

- o Deficit Mitigation Bill, Public Act 10-3 (April 14, 2010)

- o FY11 Budget Adjustment Bill: Public Act 10-179 (May 7, 2010)

- o Budget Adjustment Fix Bill, Public Act 10-1 (June Spec. Sess.) (June 22, 2010)

- **Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requirements.** Section 40 of Public Act 10-179 specifies that any time a statute requires “certified mail, return receipt requested,” these terms shall cover all methods of receiving the return receipt, including mail, electronic, digital, and those identified by

the U. S. Postal Service’s Mailing Standards found in Chapter 500 of the Domestic Mail Manual or its successor. *Effective from passage (May 7, 2010).*

### Commissioner’s Office

- **Waste Reduction Task Force.** Section 42 of the Budget Fix Bill, Public Act 10-1 (June Spec. Sess.), established a Waste Reduction Task Force to study ways in which state agencies and departments can reduce or eliminate duplicative procedures and the amount of paper used and how, when practicable, technology can be employed to help in such reduction or elimination. (This Task Force was actually first established in Section 16 of Public Act 10-75, but membership was tweaked in Public Act 10-1 (June Spec. Sess.)). The DAS Commissioner, or his designee, and 11 other members are to be members of this Task Force, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President Pro Tempore of the Senate are tasked with selecting chairs, who are to schedule the first meeting. The Task Force is to electronically report its findings and recommendations no later than February 11, 2011.

- **RIP Report.** Section 56 of the FY11 Budget Adjustment Bill, Public Act 10-179 removes from DAS the responsibility for preparing a report for the legislature outlining the savings associated with the 2009 Retirement Incentive Program. The next (June 15, 2011) report will be the respon-

sibility of the Office of Policy and Management (OPM).

### Procurement

- **Cooperative Purchasing.** Section 14 of Public Act 10-3 (the Deficit Mitigation bill) gave DAS new authority to piggyback onto existing cooperative purchasing agreements. Previously, DAS was able to enter into cooperative agreements with other states, political subdivisions, etc. only when DAS worked with those other entities prior to the execution of the cooperative agreement. As a result of this legislation, DAS is able to piggyback onto existing agreements that other state governments, political subdivisions, nonprofit organizations or public purchasing consortia have already executed. *Effective upon passage (April 14, 2010).*

- **Janitorial Qualified Partnerships Pilot.** Public Act 10-189 extended, from four to seven years, the duration of the pilot program that DAS must administer under C.G.S. § 4a-82, to create and expand janitorial work opportunities for people with disabilities and disadvantages. Additionally, this legislation clarified that DAS is not required to extend all existing contracts awarded pursuant to C.G.S. § 17b-656 throughout the term of the pilot; DAS is only required to extend exclusive contracts awarded under that preference statute throughout the pilot’s term. *Effective upon passage (June 8, 2010).*

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- **Heating Oil & Biodiesel Requirements.** Public Act 10-74 (1) reduces the maximum allowable sulfur content in heating oil and (2) establishes biodiesel blending requirements for such oil. It reduces the heating oil sulfur standard from 3,000 parts per million (ppm) to 50 ppm beginning July 1, 2011, and to 15 ppm beginning July 1, 2014. The act defines “heating oil” as heating fuel meeting the American Society of Testing Materials (ASTM) standard D396 or ASTM standard D6751. The biodiesel blending requirements begin at 2% in 2011, increasing in steps to 20% by 2020, if certain conditions are met. The Act provides for a waiver from these requirements. The Act specifically states that the maximum allowable sulfur content and the biodiesel blending provisions do not take effect until Massachusetts, New York, and Rhode Island each have adopted substantially similar requirements. *Effective July 1, 2011 for the heating oil sulfur provision; October 1, 2010 for the biodiesel provisions.*

- **Surplus / Property Subject to Forfeiture.** Effective October 1, 2010, DAS may have additional property to sell at auction. Section 1 of Public Act 10-112 establishes a civil forfeiture procedure to seize tainted funds and property (i.e., money and property used or obtained from crimes involving sexual offenses). It establishes a process the state must go through to effectuate the forfeiture, and outlines where the proceeds from any sale of this property should go (first applied

to payment of the balance due on any lien preserved by the court in the forfeiture proceedings; next to payment of any costs incurred for the storage, maintenance, security and forfeiture of any such property; next to payment of court costs; the balance, if any, deposited in the General Fund).

Statewide HR, DAS HR & SmART

- **Telecommuting.** Public Act 10-169 modified the existing telecommuting statute (C.G.S. § 5-248i) and will require DAS to update the statewide Telecommuting Guidelines. Effective July 1, 2010, DAS will not be approving telecommuting arrangements; these arrangements must still be approved by state agency heads and must be in compliance with the DAS Guidelines. DAS must still report on telecommuting usage each year, therefore agencies will be required to continue to send us copies of all approved arrangements. *Effective July 1, 2010.*

- **Employment Questions About Past Convictions.** Public Act 10-142 prohibits certain state employers (generally speaking, the executive and judicial branches, including all boards, commissions, colleges and universities) from asking about a prospective employee’s past convictions until the person is deemed otherwise qualified for the position. The prohibition does not apply if a statute specifically disqualifies someone from a position due to a prior conviction. With two exemptions, current law prohibits the state and its agencies from disqualifying a person from state employment (or de-

nying, suspending, or revoking a credential such as a professional, trade, or business license) solely because of a prior conviction. The two exemptions are “law enforcement agencies” and licensing mortgage lenders/correspondent lenders/brokers. Instead, prior to finding that someone is unsuitable for a position or credential based on a prior conviction, the relevant agency must consider the nature of the crime, its relation to the job, the person’s rehabilitation, and how much time has passed since the conviction or release. DAS will be modifying the standard state application form (PLD-1) to comply with this new law, and will recommend that agencies seek guidance from their in-house legal counsel or their assistant attorney general about whether they are exempt from the new prohibition. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **OCME Salaries.** Public Act 10-81 requires the Commission on Medicolegal Investigations (COMLI) to submit recommendations concerning the salaries and annual increments of the chief and deputy chief medical examiner to DAS for review and approval. Previously, COMLI set these salaries and submitted recommendations concerning salaries and compensation of other professional staff to the DAS commissioner. *Effective upon passage (May 26, 2010).*

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- **Alcohol & Drug Counselors and Substance Abuse Counselors.** Section 49 of Public Act 10-117 established that Alcohol & Drug Counselors and Substance Abuse Counselors employed by the state are no longer statutorily exempt from licensure; individuals doing these duties, but employed in the title of Rehab Counselor, are still exempt from licensure. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **Regional EMS Coordinators.** Sections 55-58 of Public Act 10-117 authorizes up to 5 individuals currently employed as (municipal) Regional Emergency Medical Services Coordinators and Assistants to be offered unclassified, durational positions at the Department of Public Health (DPH). DAS is responsible for establishing job specifications and salaries. *Effective July 1, 2010.*

- **New Leave Requirements for Domestic Violence.** Section 15 of Public Act 10-144 provides new rights to employees who are victims of family violence and certain family members of those who are victims. Among other things, these individuals may not be terminated or penalized at work as a result of their status as victims or because they attend or participate in civil court proceedings related to his/her case. Such employees will also have new rights to take up to 12 days per calendar year of paid or unpaid leave in which the leave is reasonably necessary to seek medical care or counseling for physical or psychological injury

or disability; obtain services from a victim services organization; relocate due to the family violence, or participate in any civil or criminal proceeding related to or resulting from such family violence. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **State Police Meal Allowance.** Section 18 of the Deficit Mitigation legislation, Public Act 10-3, provides that non-unionized state police personnel no longer are permitted meal allowance. *Effective July 1, 2010.*

- **Social Worker Licensure.** Public Act 10-38 creates a new license category for certain social workers. The new category, called “Master Social Worker,” is administered by the Department of Public Health (DPH). DPH currently licenses clinical social workers and will continue to do so under the Act, with some changes concerning work experience requirements. Generally speaking, and with a number of substitutions and exceptions, this legislation requires that a person be licensed as a Master Social Worker in order to practice clinical social work under professional supervision (whereas a “licensed clinical social worker” may independently practice clinical social work). Unlicensed individuals are not permitted to practice clinical social work at all, as that term is defined by statute. Current law, unchanged by this legislation, provides an exception for “social work interns” and “social work trainees,” namely, individuals with MSW degrees who practice clinical social work under professional supervision

as part of the work experience requirements required by statute. The Act specifies that DPH must issue licenses to master social workers only if appropriations are available and that no new regulatory board is established for master social workers if the licensure program is in fact implemented. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **Health Information Technology Exchange.** Section 82 of Public Act 10-117 created a new quasi-public agency, the Health Information Technology Exchange of Connecticut for health information technology and health information exchange in the State. *Effective from passage (June 8, 2010).*

Business Office

- **Surplus / Property Subject to Forfeiture.** See the “Procurement” section above, where this bill is summarized and linked. This Public Act affects the Business Office because it outlines where proceeds from the sale of property used in or obtained from crimes involving sexual offenses must be credited.

- **Correctional Ombudsman.** The funding and statutory requirement that DAS contract for Correctional Ombudsman services on behalf of the Department of Correction (DOC) has been repealed. The funding for these services was eliminated in Deficit Mitigation Bill, P.A. 10-3, and the statutory language requiring that DAS contract for these services was repealed in Section 152 of the

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Budget Adjustment Bill, Public Act 10-179. *Effective from passage (May 7, 2010).*

- **Contracting Standards Board**. The Contracting Standards Board (CSB) has been delayed until FY12. Although page 5 of the Budget Adjustment Bill, Public Act 10-179, appears to provide \$10,000 to CSB for FY11, Section 148 of the same Act prohibits the CSB from using any money until July 1, 2011, effectively shutting down the CSB throughout all of FY11.

- **SIRMB Line Items**. Sections 146 and 147 of the FY11 Budget Adjustment Bill, Public Act 10-179, provides that, for FY11, \$13,954,489 will be transferred out of DAS's General Fund OE into a separate DAS account for SIRMB Operations (General Fund); and \$2,717,500 will be transferred out of DAS's Special Transportation Fund OE into a separate account for SIRMB Operations (STF). *Effective July 1, 2010.*

- **OFA Searchable Database for State Expenditures**. Public Act 10-155 requires the Office of Fiscal Analysis to create a searchable database for state expenditures on or before July 1, 2011. Agencies are required by this Act to submit in a timely manner, any information requested by OFA to achieve this goal. Agencies will not be required to create unavailable financial or management data, or to disclose consumer, client, patient or student information otherwise protected by law from disclosure.

Workers' Compensation

- Public Act 10-179 increased both the FY10 and FY11 appropriations for the two workers' compensation claims funds that fall under DAS's authority. Sections 1 and 2 (pages 29 and 33, respectively) appropriated an additional \$1.5 million to the Workers' Compensation - General Government (GG) claims fund and an additional \$1.5 million to the Workers' Compensation - Special Transportation Fund (STF) for FY11. Sections 11 and 12 of this Act also funded the FY10 deficiencies in these two workers' compensation accounts managed by DAS - providing an additional \$2.5 million to the GG fund, and an additional \$2.0 to the STF account to cover FY10 claims.

Collections

- **DSS Notice**. Public Act 10-183 requires the Department of Social Services (DSS) to notify applicants of aid and legally-liable relatives (if DSS knows who they are) of their responsibility to repay the aid, at the time a recipient of aid applies for benefits. *Effective July 1, 2010.*

- **DSS Payments for Medicaid Recipients Receiving State Humane Services**. Section 25 of the Budget Fixer bill, Public Act 10-1, passed in the June Special Session, modified the way that payments are made for Medicaid recipients who receive care in state humane institutions. This Act allows DSS to pay all bills for services provided by state humane institutions to Medicaid recipients directly to the state agency that provides the services

or oversees the institution's operations, without going through DAS.

**Fleet**

- **Snow & Ice Removal Requirements**. Public Act 10-182 requires -- effective December 31, 2013 -- all motorists to remove accumulated snow and ice from the hood, trunk, and roof of his or her motor vehicle so that it does not pose a threat to people or property while the vehicle is being operated on a state street or highway. A violator faces a \$ 75 fine and greater fines if snow or ice dislodged from the vehicle causes personal injury or property damage. Drivers are not required to clean snow or ice from a vehicle while it is parked or if snow, sleet, or freezing rain began, and accumulated, while the motorist was driving. *Effective December 31, 2013.*

State Marshal Commission

- **Marshals' Bill**. Public Act 10-178 made a number of changes sought by State Marshals to statutory provisions regarding service of process. Specifically, the Act: (1) adds an additional means of serving process on a limited liability company (LLC); (2) allows an officer of any precinct to serve process on the secretary of the state or Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) commissioner when service on that official is permitted by any law, rather than just under specific laws; (3) allows an officer of any precinct to serve the attorney general or insurance commissioner with any process permitted by law to be served on them; (4) makes service on any of these state officials the start of service in the officer's precinct and

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the officer can then complete service outside his or her precinct as allowed by law; (5) allows a state marshal of any precinct to serve anyone confined in a state correctional institution or community correctional center; (6) requires a lawsuit against a state marshal for neglect or default of office or duty to be brought within two years after the right of action accrues; and (7) provides that a cause of action is not lost by missing a statute of limitations if the process to be served is personally delivered to a constable or other proper officer within the required time frame and the process is served within 30 days of delivery. The Act also requires a party other than the state who summons a witness to testify in any action or proceeding to pay the witness on the day he or she attends. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **DMV Records.** Section 29 of Public Act 10-110 provides that marshals may statutorily receive personal information from motor vehicle records held at DMV if they request the information by fax or by other means as the DMV commissioner requires, and the DMV commissioner must provide the requested information by fax or by such other means within a reasonable time. *Effective October 1, 2010.*

- **Tenants' Possessions.** Public Act 10-171 require state marshals to deliver the possessions and personal property of an evicted or foreclosed-upon tenant to a town-designated storage facility, rather than leaving the posses-

sions/property on the sidewalk or road to be picked up by the town (as is now the law). Additionally, the town will no longer be responsible to pay for the expense of moving these items. Marshals evicting tenants will also be required to give a telephone number to evictees for arranging the release of their property. *Effective July 1, 2010.*

