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OCTOBER 2014

DAS TIMES

DAS SUMMER PARTY

FRIDAY, AUGUST 22
CHURCHILL PARK, NEWINGTON, CT

DAS Picnic a Fun Day for All!



On Friday, August 22, DAS employees gathered for a relaxing, fun, and inexpensive afternoon at Churchill Park in Newington, CT. The food was wonderful - catered by Casa Mia restaurant in East Hartford and there was plenty to do - volleyball, bocce, laddergolf, and horseshoes. Or just sitting and relaxing under the canopy of trees. And best of all the ticket price was

very affordable!! Even with raffle prizes the committee managed to keep the costs down making this a fun opportunity for all DAS employees. So much so that it was attended by 165 people!

Many thanks to the committee for pulling together this very successful event! Dave Lynn, who chaired this event, Frank Sanzo, Andrea Clarke, Jason Crisco, Cindy Rusczyk, Kathy Sobieski, Aimee Cunningham, Gary Faraci, Nancy Dimitruck, Kelly Dillon, Frank Arute, Pam Perrin and George Nakos.

For more photos turn to page 11.

The DAS Times is a publication of the State of Connecticut Department of Administrative Services
165 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106

Dannel P. Malloy
Governor

Donald J. DeFronzo
Commissioner

Jeffrey Beckham
Staff Counsel/
Director of Communications

J.M.Wright Ribbon Cutting: High School Reopens

by John McKay

CLASSES RESUME FOR FIRST TIME SINCE 2009

Governor Dannel P. Malloy, joined by business, trade, education and community leaders as well as other state and local officials, celebrated the grand re-opening of J.M. Wright Technical High School in Stamford.

“DAS’ Division of Construction Services (DCS) is proud of its continuing work with the Technical High School system,” said state Department of Administrative Services Commissioner Donald DeFronzo. “With the completion of Wright Tech, DCS has completed total renovations of five high schools and has four others under construction. We were able to complete this project in the very aggressive ten month schedule due in part to the tremendous efforts of our staff and our contractor KBE Building Services. It also helped that the school was not active so we were able to work more aggressively without concern for disruption of educational programs.”



Sherwood Island Groundbreaking

by John McKay



Governor Dannel P. Malloy joined with state and local officials, and state park advocates at Sherwood Island State Park in Westport to break ground for a DAS/DCS project that will renovate and fully modernize the well-known pavilion at the historic park. The event highlighted the importance of maintaining Connecticut’s state park system, which is currently celebrating its centennial year and has received \$60 million in recent years for improvements and upgrades.

Litchfield County Courthouse Groundbreaking

by John McKay

Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman and Department of Administrative Services Commissioner Donald DeFronzo, along with several other state and local dignitaries, attended a ground breaking ceremony for the new Litchfield Courthouse being constructed on Field Street in Torrington.

Commissioner DeFronzo stated “After some 40 years of discussion and planning, DAS is pleased to partner with the Judicial Branch and the town of Torrington to finally move this project to the construction phase. This will be a state-of-the-art facility whose construction will provide a substantial economic infusion into the Torrington area, with some 1,400 construction jobs created.”

Commissioner DeFronzo gave special acknowledgment to Project Manager David Wlodkowski, of DAS’ Division of Construction Services.



Western Connecticut State University Visual and Performing Arts Center Ribbon Cutting

by John McKay



After much planning, designing, building and anticipating, the moment has arrived. On Thursday, September 4, 2014, WCSU officials held an official ribbon cutting for the new Visual and Performing Arts Center at Western Connecticut State University.

While addressing the crowd, DCS Deputy Commissioner Pasquale “Bud” Salemi said, “What I would also like to highlight is that this project came in on time and under budget! I would like to take this moment to applaud the tireless work of many folks who are making this building a reality.”

DCS’s team of Ken Fitzgerald, Al Herring, Emilio Pizzoferrato and their team were instrumental in making this project a success.

Emmett O’Brien Groundbreaking ceremony highlights renovations to school

by John McKay

On a bright, beautiful Monday morning, September 22, a ceremonial ground breaking ceremony was held at Emmett O’Brien Technical High School.



Lieutenant Governor Nancy Wyman spoke at the event along with School Principal Laurie LeBouthillier, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Nivea Torres and Department of Administrative Services’ Division of Construction Services Deputy Commissioner Pasquale Salemi.

“The school saw its last major facelift in the 1970’s and we are excited like everyone else to give the Emmett O’Brien students a first rate learning environment. We are very happy with our partners who have listened to the school and the State Department of Education throughout the design process and developed the process to transform this

school into something that all of us will be extremely proud of and we look forward to that long overdue transformation,” said Department of Administrative Services’ Division of Construction Services Deputy Commissioner Pasquale “Bud” Salemi.

State Government Scores High in Digital States Survey

CONNECTICUT RECOGNIZED AS A LEADER IN INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

Connecticut has earned an “A-” from the Center for Digital Government’s 2014 Digital States Survey of state information technology systems. Under the Digital States criteria, a grade of A reflects a state that is trending sharply up and shows results across all survey categories. Modernization of IT systems realizes operational efficiencies and achieves strategic priorities. High-achieving states show meaningful collaboration and performance measures are widely adopted.

Connecticut has also received first-place recognition in both “Most Improved” and the Adaptive Leadership categories, and will receive special awards at the Digital States Performance Institute survey awards celebration on September 28 in Nashville during the National Association of State Chief Information Officers (NASCIO) annual meeting.

Additionally, Connecticut is recognized in the “Top 5” for its exemplary work in the category of Health and Human Services in which the state took Second Place.

The just-completed 2014 edition of the survey was specifically designed to identify both what states are doing and how they are doing it in order to highlight best and emerging practices that can be shared across borders. The survey recognizes these achievements and provides a common reference for all fifty states in the ongoing work of finding better ways to do the public’s business.

“For too long, Connecticut’s state government information technology infrastructure was severely behind the curve, causing inefficiencies that cost taxpayers money and time,” Gov. Dannel Malloy said in a press release announcing the ranking. “We are by no means where we want to be just yet, but we are seeing results. Permits that used to take weeks to complete now take days, and we are able to better serve the people of Connecticut while spending less taxpayer money.”

State Chief Information Officer Mark Raymond said, “These awards recognize the focus we place on utilizing technology for measured results. The vision and collaboration of our leadership team and the hard work of our employees and partners drive these outcomes. While much remains to be done, this shows the state’s information technology is headed in the right direction. We continually look to improve upon our systems, resolve issues, reduce costs and improve services to our customers and citizens.”

A national overview of all 50 states and their grades is available at: www.centerdigitalgov.com

Power of Change Award

Joe Cassidy, Paul Greco and Carol Wilson received the prestigious Power of Change Award Breaking Ground for their work with the Department of Administrative Services at the Power of Change Award event at the State Capitol, June 17.

The 2014 Power of Change Award celebrated the energy efficiency achievements of more than 20 Connecticut state agencies and municipalities. The winners received awards for their innovative initiatives and approaches to reducing energy spending and protecting the environment – efforts which benefit all Connecticut residents. The event also featured recognition of the award winners by state legislative leaders and members of the Power of Change Award committee.

Rob Klee, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection, addressed the gathering of more than 100 participants with a message that reinforced the importance of energy efficiency, both as a cost saving measure, but also as a key way to reduce carbon emissions. He noted, “The cheapest and cleanest energy is the energy you don’t use.”

Cassidy, Greco and Wilson received the award on behalf of the Department of Administrative Services. The Special Award was awarded in the Breaking Ground category for their inter-agency collaboration with the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection and the Attorney General’s office to develop the state’s standardized Energy Savings Performance Contracting Program.

For a complete list of winners, visit www.powerofchangeaward.org/news.

The sponsors of the Power of Change Award (the Common Sense Fund, Hampshire Foundation and the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation) brought together a panel of energy and environment experts from government, business, academia and advocacy organizations to judge the 2014 entries. The judges included John Rathgeber, President of CT Business and Industry Association (CBIA); Jessica Boehland, Kresge Foundation; and Bryan Garcia of CEFIA, Connecticut’s green bank.

In her remarks, the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation President, Michelle Knapik noted, “As these award winners have shown, investments in energy efficiency, energy infrastructure, best practices and behavior provide immediate, multiple and long-term benefits. These town and state leaders are demonstrating what is possible to achieve in the built environment, and they are setting an example for public leaders nationwide. Their efforts put Connecticut on the leading edge of transforming our relationship with energy – this is a path toward a brighter, cleaner energy future.”

**Information taken from the website www.powerofchangeaward.com*



Pictured left to right are Rob Klee, Commissioner of the Connecticut Department of Energy and Environmental Protection; Paul Greco, Contract Specialist; Carol Wilson, Director of Procurement; and Nicole Chevalier, Program Director for the Emily Hall Tremaine Foundation.

Federal Opportunities Career Fair by Alicia Nuñez

The Federal Opportunities Career Fair was held on September 23 in Cromwell, CT. Federal Contractors are being strongly encouraged to hire talented people with disabilities due to recent changes in regulations. Connecticut has many employers who are Federal Contractors and who expressed interest in attending, including DAS.



“It was a much bigger turnout than I expected for sure.... It was wonderful to have the sign language interpreters there. They do a great job for their hearing impaired customers,” Debra Mainville, HR Consultant 2 said about the crowd.

This forum brought these specific Connecticut Employers, Bureau of Rehabilitation Services (BRS) and Bureau of Education and Services for the Blind (BESB) job seekers together to learn about available careers and interview for currently available opportunities. In addition to having over 30 employers participate there were 150 jobseekers that attended from various BRS and BESB offices statewide. The following resources were also available:

- Staff from the Department of Labor assisted with resume preparation prior to the event in various offices as well as on the day of the event
- A resource room was available run by NEAT Marketplace with accessible laptops for job seekers to apply for jobs online or fix/print resumes
- Benefit counselors and interpreters both in Spanish and ASL
- Transportation to and from the event was available for all job seekers statewide as needed

Debra Mainville and Alicia Nuñez, Equal Employment Opportunity Manager, were on hand to assist attendees with information about getting a job with the state, taking an exam, signing up for e-alerts or just navigating the DAS website.



Deb Mainville (above) addresses options with interested job seekers and Alicia Nuñez (below) explains application material to an applicant.

and Physically Handicapped is a network library of the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Deb and Alicia talked to job seekers on how we lend books and magazines in recorded formats along with the necessary playback equipment, and materials in Braille, FOR FREE, to any Connecticut adult or child who is unable to read regular print due to a visual or physical disability.

In addition, the Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped is a network library of the Library of Congress' National Library Service for the Blind and Physically Handicapped. Deb and Alicia talked to job seekers on how we lend books and magazines in recorded formats along with the necessary playback equipment, and materials in Braille, FOR FREE, to any Connecticut adult or child who is unable to read regular print due to a visual or physical disability.

Manager's Day



Dr. Martin Anderson spoke to the crowd of more than 153 state managers before presenting three state managers the Distinguished Managerial Service Awards on Friday, September 26 at the Aqua Turf Club in Plantsville.

This year's awards went to Elise Gaulin-Kremer, PhD, Public Health Administrator, Department of Public Health; James Norton, BBA, CPA, Tax Division Director, Administration, Department of Revenue Services; and Laureen Sheehan, MS, Clinical Program Director, Department of Children and Families.

Meet the Bike Patrol

Several new bike patrol security personnel have been added to the Capitol district for employee security.

In these glorious days of early autumn what a fun way to do your job - on a bike!

If you need immediate assistance in the Capitol area these officers are readily available and can cover more ground than a patrolman on foot.





Philip St. Amand



Monique Coates



Marcelle Groves



Stephanie Snyder



Concetta Miele



John Flannery



Xavier Barrios



Larissa Holder



Mauro Carducci



Denise Collins



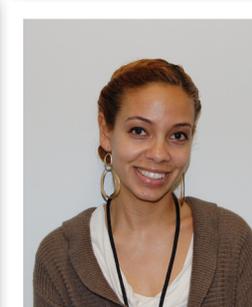
Denise Davis



Tina Good



Tony Martelly



Yasmin Lopez



Elena Major

COMINGS and GOINGS

Shown top to bottom from left to right:

NEW EMPLOYEES:

Philip St. Amand – Procurement
Monique Coates – Business Office
Marcelle Groves – Business Office
Stephanie Snyder – Business Office
Concetta Miele – Collections
John Flannery – SmART HR
Xavier Barrios – Central Mail
Larissa Holder – Collection Services
Gina M. Perez - Facilities Management (*no photo*)
Robert R. Celmer – Construction Services (*no photo*)
Christopher M. Sheehan - BEST (*no photo*)
Jana C. Adams - Construction Services (*no photo*)
Anthony DeNapoli – Construction Services
(*no photo*)
Jennifer Montgomery, State Marshal Commission
(*no photo*)

TRANSFERS:

Mauro Carducci - BEST
Denise Collins - Business Office
Denise Davis - Collection Services
Tina Good - BEST
Yasmin Lopez - Procurement
Tony Martelly - Core-CT
Elena Major - Core-CT
Anna Marie Principato - BEST (*no photo*)
Eustacia Williams - BEST (*no photo*)

RETIREMENTS:

Mark Reynolds – BEST - August 1
Walter Noniewicz – BEST – September 1
Alina Kalisz – Business Office – October 1
Susan Castagna – Collections – October 1
Doris Hannigan – Statewide HR – October 1
Richard Yeske – Fleet Operations – September 1
David Houle - Business Office – July 1
Paula Mordente - Business Office – August 1
Lewis Petrarca - Construction Services – July 1
Richard Snedeker - Construction Services
Craig Smith – Construction Services – May 1



Mark Reynolds



Walter Noniewicz

People are talking..... by Cindy Rusczyk

Catherine Riberio from the Department of Correction sent a message of praise to **Pamela Libby** “to say thanks to your staff for their participation at our first (and hopefully annual) DOC career expo. We believe over 2,000 people were in attendance yesterday, making this event a resounding success. It was so helpful to have the DAS staff at this event. **Michael Cosgrove** and **Michelle Burns** assisted the applicants with the online registrations and **Francine Dew** and **Deb Mainville** answered general questions. From the minute the doors opened we were swamped. We had so many positive comments from attendees who just never knew how to navigate the state exam system. I had a lot of ‘oh, now I get it’ and ‘I didn’t understand that before.’ You should see a jump in registrations for the E-Alert system. Thanks again for your support in this event. I know how busy all your folks are and I just wanted everyone to know how much we appreciated Francine, Mike, Michelle and Deb being there.”

DEEP Director Thomas J. Tyler from the State Parks and Outreach Division “wanted to take a minute to

Each issue we publish letters of praise that we have received about DAS employees going above and beyond. If you have received great service or would like to write about a DAS employee going the extra mile, email Cindy.Rusczyk@ct.gov Don't be shy - good work deserves a good word- DAS employees are the best!

thank you **Nina Ritson**, **Mike Guimond** **Matt Costa** and **Alex Caceres** at the Print Shop on the Centennial Booklet. It really came out great, and I know we put you under a ton of pressure to get it done in short order. The layout is great, and the print quality, paper selection, and photo reproduction are all terrific.

We are already getting compliments on it, including the Governor’s this morning at the press conference regarding Free State Parks Weekend. So, THANK YOU, and maybe go out to a state park this weekend and enjoy, see people on the beach reading your book, and tell the person in the ticket booth that I said it was okay for you to go in for free! Thanks again.”

Margaret Enkler and Alan Levere from the Department of Energy and Environmental Protection’s Dinosaur State Park commended **Nina Ritson** and **Michael Guimond** for their design and printing of the Centennial Booklet. “Typical of comments on the booklet, your recommendations for the paper to make the pictures pop out was, as usual, right on target! What a wonderful job you did putting it together.”



Alina Kalisz



Susan Castagna



Doris Hannigan



Richard Yeske



David Houle



Paula Mordente



Lewis Petrarca



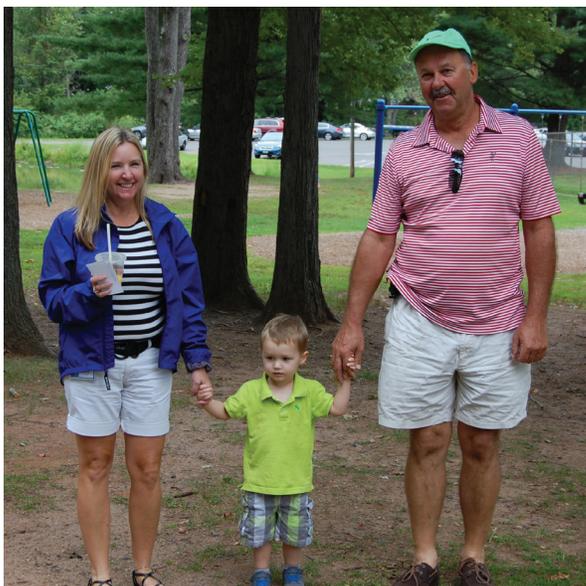
Richard Snedeker



Craig Smith

SUMMER PARTY 2014







The Big E 2014

Connecticut Day

Wednesday, September 17, 2014



