

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

*"The world's favorite
season is the spring.
All things seem possible in
May."
- Edwin Way Teale*

Friday, May 1, 2009

60 key Department leaders recently gathered at the Correctional Training Institute to collaborate on the creation of 25 computer based training (CBT) modules that will explain elements and expectations of specific supervisory positions.

Over 300 high school students from Indianapolis Public Schools helped out the Samaritan's Feet operation at PEN Products Central Office by sorting shoes and preparing them for shipment overseas.

Representatives from the Indianapolis Parole office, staff from Central Office and Pendleton, and K-9 and SERT team members participated in a Career Day at the Center for Inquiry, an international baccalaureate school.

Miami Correctional Facility held its annual Volunteer Appreciation dinner, and 79 volunteers attended. The chicken dinner was catered by the Deedsville Methodist Church, and offenders sang and gave words of praise.

Director of Education John Nally was recently elected as the Council of Directors Representative to the National Executive Board for the Correctional Education Association.

Henryville Correctional participated in an emergency training exercise involving the dispersion of medication to individuals in case of an Anthrax attack. The Clark County Health Department and 9 surrounding counties contributed.

PEN Products Operation Manager Doug Evans completed training sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections to become certified as an Offender Workforce Development Specialist and as a Global Career Development Facilitator.

IWP had a Mother's Day Luncheon, sponsored by the United Methodist Church, for 40 offender mothers and 77 children.

Indianapolis Parole Supervisors and Agents, accompanied by officers from IMPD's North-East and South-West Districts, participated in 3 different parole sweeps in Marion County to target high crime rate areas and to follow up on parolees.

Plainfield Correctional welcomed 45 volunteers for a 4-day Kairos Prison Ministry; 42 offenders participated in the event.

New Castle Correctional Facility recently recognized and honored 30 religious volunteers. Music was provided by the offender choir and musicians, and dinner was served by offenders from the facility's Vocational Culinary Arts program.

The student team from Unit 9 won Indianapolis Juvenile Correctional Facility's recent Kick-Ball Tournament.

Parole Agents from the Indianapolis Parole office spoke at the Workshop for Fatherhood at School 51 in Marion County.

Bill Lorton from Greencastle, IN instructed offenders during an intensive six-week Water Coloring Class held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Participants will have their artwork displayed at the Putnam County Museum in May.

Westville held its 2nd American Red Cross blood drive of 2009. 39 staff volunteered, donating 30 pints of blood.

The Indiana Women's Prison had 6 offenders and 11 outside students graduate from the Inside-Outside Prison Exchange Program, which is a 12-week long program between offenders and students from IUPUI.

17 students and their instructor from IU East - Richmond toured the New Castle Correctional Facility this week.

Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a volunteer appreciation dinner, allowing facility staff to express their gratitude for the generosity exhibited by volunteers. All volunteers and Community Advisory Board members were invited to attend.

Branchville will host its 6th Kairos Prison Ministry this weekend, with 50 volunteers and 45 offenders participating.

Reporters from *The Indianapolis Star* visited the Wabash Valley CLIFF Unit to learn about the devastating impact of methamphetamine addiction. Offenders discussed how CLIFF is improving their lives and preparing them for re-entry.

The 136 members of the Christian Crossroads Choir conducted two performances at New Castle Correctional Facility.

Plainfield Correctional Facility held a Christmas Behind Bars program, and 1,128 offenders participated. 40 volunteers assisted in the efforts, as 10 separate religious services were held for the offender population.

PREF recently held a Popeye's sale and raised \$770.16 for the Volunteer Services Sub Recreation Fund.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner