

Weekly Views

Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

"Graduation is only a concept. In real life every day you graduate. Graduation is a process that goes on until the last day of your life. If you can grasp that, you'll make a difference." ~ Arie Pencovici

Friday, May 29, 2009

Westville Correctional Facility celebrated the largest college graduation in its history this week and recognized 110 offender graduates who earned certificates, Associate's, or Bachelor's degrees from the onsite college program. Supt. William Wilson applauded the 24-year relationship between the facility and Purdue North Central.

The Bureau of Motor Vehicle's "BMV2YOU" mobile unit visited Putnamville Correctional Facility this week and issued 238 state ID cards to offenders over a 2 day period. The BMV unit had never made more than 100 cards in any single day.

Indiana Women's Prison raised \$2,115 for the Indianapolis affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. The foundation provided a breast health seminar, and 270 offenders participated in a 5K walk/run and picnic.

Plainfield Re-Entry Educational Facility held an employment training class provided by Hillcroft Services. The class is designed to assist residents by preparing them to re-enter the workforce upon their release into the community.

As a tribute to Supt. Dawn Buss, the students at South Bend Juvenile put on a talent show. Groups of students wrote songs, drew pictures, and made congratulatory posters, and the Teen Leadership Training group choreographed a dance routine in her honor. Additionally, she was presented with an "honorary degree" from the Council Oak Jr.-Sr. High School as a token of appreciation for everything she has done at South Bend Juvenile.

The I.M.P.A.C.T. Consulting Group (Individuals Motivating Purpose and Career Transformation) recently facilitated a workshop for the offender population at Henryville Correctional Facility. The workshop focused on the movie *The Secret*, and the offenders discussed the impact of the movie and how to apply its message in their everyday lives.

Wabash Valley staff donated over 30 bags of clothing and shoes, while PLUS participants produced 150 homemade quilts, for shipment to Indianapolis for part of the IDOC's Indiana Disabled Veterans Fund Drive.

This week, Camp Summit's Education Program hosted an open house for families of students. 19 families took advantage of this opportunity to meet teachers, get progress reports, and learn about education at Camp Summit.

The bio-mass boiler at Putnamville Correctional Facility was featured on WTHI-TV's "Green Living" series this week. Physical Plant Director Michael Callahan discussed the process, cost savings, and offender involvement of the boiler. http://www.wthitv.com/dpp/news/news_wthi_putnamville_correctional_facility_saves_money_200905271730.

Indiana State Prison's Gavel Club "Seriously Speaking" is holding their 1-year anniversary and membership drive. Currently, 17 men have complete 5 of the mandated Toastmaster lessons and will mentor new members in speaking.

The offender American Legion at Pendleton Correctional conducted a Memorial Day Ceremony to honor veterans.

Henryville Correctional Facility sponsored the Academic Excellence Award for Ivy Tech Community College of Southern Indiana. The award program provides recognition for academic accomplishment to the graduating students of Ivy Tech.

17 offenders from Pendleton Juvenile participated in the 2nd Trimester All Star Party. These students maintained a 4.0 behavior average in school for a month and were treated to *Star Wars 2: Attack of the Clones*, popcorn, and posters.

Indiana Women's Prison celebrated its 2009 Oakland City University college graduation. OCU graduated 23 students, 13 with Associate's degrees and 10 with Bachelor's degrees. 11 students graduated with honors.

Freedom 101 recently took place at Henryville Correctional Facility. Throughout the 4 day program, offenders were challenged to look deeply at themselves and make the right choices in life, and they received certificates of completion.

Purdue North Central held commencement exercises at Indiana State Prison this week, with Chancellor Dworkin presiding. 7 men earned their Associate's degree, and one graduate earned his certificate in Organization/Supervision.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Superintendent Brett Mize presented \$250 to the Blue River Girls Softball Organization and \$250 to the Daleville High School PTO. The donations were made possible through PLUS program fundraisers.

5 offenders completed the Horticulture/Landscape Management program at Indiana Women's Prison.

From the Office of Edwin G. Buss, Commissioner