



Be informed about the Indiana Department of Correction

# Weekly Views

From the Office of J. David Donahue, Commissioner

***“The future does not belong to those who are content with today, apathetic toward common problems and their fellow man alike, timid and fearful in the face of bold projects and new ideas. Rather, it will belong to those who can blend passion, reason and courage in a personal commitment to the great enterprises and ideals of American society.”***  
~ Robert F. Kennedy (Shot June 5, 1968, died June 6, 1968)

Friday, June 6, 2008

In spite of nasty weather, Commissioner Donahue held a successful Re-entry Town Hall Meeting in Bloomington. Attendees included city officials, state legislators, judges, and interested citizens.

As preparations continue for the Unlock the Mystery Mental Health Conference, Dr. William Elliott, Director of Mental Health and Behavior Services, and Doug Garrison, Chief Communications Officer, promoted the event on WIBC radio on the Greg Garrison Show.

The Indiana Women’s Prison laundry cleaned approximately 143 blankets and 50 sheets for the Red Cross this week as a result of the massive damage caused by last weeks storms and tornados.

DOC employees participated in the opening ceremonies for the Torch Run Final Leg for Special Olympics Indiana at Victory Field in Indianapolis.

A charter of the American Legion is being established at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. The organization will initially involve participation by approximately 25 to 50 offender veterans, as well as sons of veterans.

Dr. Link was featured in the Northwest Times in an article concerning his work as a chaplain at the Indiana State Prison. Dr. Link retired from Norte Dame University where he was the Dean of the Law School.

Pendleton Correctional Facility staff recently participated in a successful blood drive during which 21 pints of blood were collected for the Central Indiana Regional Blood Bank.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility recently hosted a summit of local community leaders. 21 students participated in the youth-focused sessions conducted at the facility to create solutions toward youth violence.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility C5 and C7 units are now officially registered for Alcoholics Anonymous. These young men are serious about their recovery and are working toward a positive and productive future.

The Indiana Women’s Prison PLUS offenders folded and sorted newsletters for the Westminster Presbyterian’s Church. The newsletter will be mailed out by the church to promote their mission of unity.

Two offenders from the Madison Correctional Facility took the state exam this week for Manicure/Pedicure Cosmetology licenses. Both offenders passed with flying colors. These are Madison’s first offenders that will soon be released with their license in hand, ready to work in the cosmetology industry.

Wabash Valley minimum security labor lines rushed to storm ravaged Bloomfield, Indiana helping clear downed trees and other debris from the city park. Crews returned the next day to continue their good neighbor clean up efforts city wide.

Christmas came early at the Correctional Industrial Facility. There were 46 volunteers present to witness 1396 offenders participate in the “Christmas Behind Bars” program.

Pendleton Correctional Facility is expanding its Shifting Gears operation. The existing program currently located outside the walls is being moved inside the facility to allow for the employment of 20 offenders and to increase productivity.

The Indiana Women’s Prison will host an offender 5K fundraiser for breast cancer research. The 99 offenders have donated their pledges to the Indianapolis Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation totaling \$874.

Canine Rosie, a member of Putnamville Correctional Facility’s K-9 Unit, gave birth to the first litter of the facility’s Bloodhound Breeding Program. Rosie delivered 6 females and 2 males.

Purdue University North Central recently held a graduation at the Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit where 7 men received an Associate’s Degree.