



Friday
November
12, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility hosted the October meeting of the Albion Chamber of Commerce. Lunch was prepared and served by offenders in Aramark's culinary arts program. Following the meeting and lunch, the members were given a tour of the facility and learned about its history and the mission of the Department. This was the first community meeting held at the facility and was a successful part of the facility's program to reach out to the community.

Beth Emmons of the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility was honored at the Statewide Trainers Conference at the Correctional Training Institute. Ms. Emmons received the "Support Staff of the Year Award" for her excellent performance of job duties and for also going above and beyond her assigned tasks. Ms Emmons has been with the facility for 15 years while being assigned to the training department for 7 years. Congratulations to Ms. Emmons for a job well done.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility was recognized as "Organization of the Year" by the Hoosier Environmental Counsel during its third Annual Green Policy Forum. Superintendent Bruce Lemmon was presented with the award during a ceremony held at the Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility celebrated its one year anniversary of operation with cake and ice cream for the staff.

The Indiana State Prison donated 97 cell phones and a large box of chargers to LaPorte County Sheriff Sergeant Diann Gonsorek. The phones were confiscated from the offender population over a four month period. Ms. Gonsorek will donate the cell phones to the LaPorte National Guard Armory. The armory will clear the phones of all information and send them to U.S. Soldiers in foreign countries.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fatherhood and PLUS Programs teamed up to supply needed funds to Big Brothers Big Sisters (BBBS) of Vigo County. Checks totaling \$750 were presented to BBBS Case Managers Therese Etheridge and Rosemary Burskey during a recent visit to the maximum-security facility. The PLUS unit also donated two quilts to the not-for-profit organization for fundraising purposes. Many of the children who benefit from BBBS are considered "at risk" or come from single parent families.

The Indiana Women's Prison hosted a graduation for seven Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) dogs. The community, staff and offender dog handlers gathered to celebrate the placement of the dogs with their new community partners. Congratulations IWP ICAN handlers and staff for another successful opportunity to give back to the community!

The Plainfield Correctional Facility Activity Committee raised nearly \$1,000 for the 2010 Toys for Hendricks County Kids campaign. Offenders were given an opportunity to order Arby's sandwiches, with the proceeds going to the charity. Toys for Hendricks County Kids donates gifts to underprivileged children in the local community during the upcoming holiday season.

Miami Correctional Facility held its annual Mock Emergency drill. According to the scenario, a 100-foot portion of the perimeter fence was taken out by a tornado. The tornado also damaged a housing unit and offenders needed to be evacuated. During the evacuation, a fire started in the unit requiring the facility to call in assistance from local fire departments including Grissom Air Reserve Base. Superintendent Sevier reports the drill was a success by all accounts.

A U.S. Department of Labor representative toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility's Apprenticeship Recycling Program. At capacity, the program will employ approximately 30 offenders.

The American Red Cross was pleased to announce another successful blood drive at the Westville Correctional Facility. Red Cross Indiana/Ohio Regional CEO, Sharyn Whitman, visited the facility to witness IDOC staff participation and congratulate the facility on 54 collected units.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility implemented a lockdown offender telephone schedule this week and announced that a lockdown modified visitation schedule will go into effect on Monday November 15, 2010. The facility continues to develop plans to gradually return to normal operation.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility held a staff assembly to discuss the current issues impacting the facility and the agency as a whole. Staff were randomly selected to receive door prizes at the conclusion of the assembly.

The New Castle Correctional Facility and staff would like to send a thank you and salute to all veterans for answering the call to duty, and making the sacrifices that bring the blessing of freedom and democracy we enjoy in these United States.