

January 6, 2012

Weekly Views

Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 held a dedication ceremony for a flag pole it purchased and installed inside the fence of the facility. The legion members will be raising and lowering the flag each day at 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., which is the same time the nearby Grissom Air Reserve Base plays reveille and taps on their speaker system. (see photo below)

Miami Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit donated \$200 to the Special Olympics through Captain Doug Nelson, who will be participating in the local Polar

Bear Plunge on February 11th. The plunge is an annual event to raise money for Special Olympics. This year the plunge will be at the Crossroads Community Church in Kokomo, IN. Those participating take a plunge in frigid waters during what is hoped to be the coldest day of the year.



A reception was held at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) for Dennis Ludwick, who retired after 24 years of dedicated service to the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC). Mr. Ludwick began his career with the IDOC on December 21, 1987 as a correctional officer at the Plainfield Correctional Facility. Throughout his 24-year career, Mr. Ludwick promoted to several positions within IDOC, including Correctional Counselor, Psychiatric Social Services Specialist III, Instructor of the Effective Fathering and Substance Abuse Programs, Social Security Representative, Veteran Administrative Representative, and Community Involvement Coordinator. Mr. Ludwick's most recent assignment was Community & Volunteer Involvement Coordinator, which he began serving at IREF in December 2009. (see photo below of Dennis Ludwick with Superintendents Beckie Bennett and Fran Osburn, Phil Slavens and Cathie Ardelean)



Pendleton Correctional Facility Lieutenant Chad Winfrey was recognized during a ceremony conducted in the Superintendent's office this week for his promotion to the rank of Correctional Captain. Captain Winfrey began his career as a Correctional Officer at PCF in October 1994. Congratulations Captain Winfrey!

The Venture Scouts at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility held an "Animals are Hungry Too" food drive for pets. Students and Pendleton Juvenile staff donated cat or dog food. This resulted in over 125 lbs of food being donated to Anderson Animal Care Shelter.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Kwanzaa Celebration to include guest speaker Mr. Kamau Jywanza. It was a joyous occasion to educate the offender population on the history of Kwanzaa.

The offenders at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) were served their Christmas meal on Christmas Day. Members of ISP Executive Staff were present, which was appreciated by both staff and offenders. Aramark did an excellent job and according to the offenders, it was the best meal they have had in years.

Westville Correctional Facility Volunteer Renecia Williams of the Planted Seed Ministries conducted a Christian worship service for the facility's faith-based PLUS offenders. Ms. Williams offered offenders communion during her New Year Holiday Service, and 67 offenders accepted. The Westville PLUS currently has 240 participating offenders.

WFYI Channel 20 Television Producer Jim Simmons taped interviews with the IREF Naptown Knitters for a series of television programs about the Super Bowl Legacy Project and community involvement. The Naptown Knitters are a group of male residents knitting scarves for volunteers in the upcoming Super Bowl in Indianapolis. The Super Bowl "Super Scarves" program will air January 26, 2012 at 7:20 p.m. on WFYI, and will feature interviews with IREF Volunteer Doreen Tatnall and the Naptown Knitters.

Miami Correctional recently promoted five Officers to Sergeant. Congratulations go to Steve Salazar, Tamara White, Jake Kieninger, Kenneth Uhle and Trevor Heishman. These individuals have 27.5 years of combined experience in the Department.