



Friday
February 11,
2011

Weekly Views

Representatives from the Indiana Department of Workforce Development, the Indiana Veterans Administration, and the Indiana Department of Correction held a seminar at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Dorm where they informed INVET residents about possible employment assistance, educational and vocational benefits that may be eligible to them upon their release from incarceration.

The Indiana State Prison held a shelter sanitation competition to determine which units would be allowed to attend a Super Bowl party. Both I Cell House and F-Dorm tied after inspections were conducted and approximately 150 offenders were able to watch the game on and enjoying hot dogs, popcorn, snacks and refreshments.

Madison Correctional Facility's Family Preservation Center donated \$500 to the Capital Campaign for Girls Inc., an after-school program that inspires girls to be strong, smart and bold.

Longtime Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Volunteer, Pastor Steven Brown has been busy this month coordinating Black History Month events. Pastor Brown spoke with Youth Incarcerated as Adults residents about Dr. Martin Luther King and Black History. He also video taped informational Black History Month programs with Father Bob Nemergut for the Wabash television channel, which will air the entire month of February. The videos feature a number of books available for the offender population to read about Black History.



The Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF) still has 25 commemorative coins available to purchase at this time, and they are going fast. The cost of the coin is \$50 and each one is numbered. Only 100 of these coins were made, so they will be a collector's item. 100% of the money from the sale of the coins goes to the ICPOF. Anyone interested in purchasing a coin should contact Jim Kimmel at (219) 362-6150. (see photo left)

On behalf of the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Therapeutic Community (TC) Steering Committee, Jerry Vance, IDOC Director of Programs, presented the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's (IREF) Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Dorm with a check for \$550. The funds were raised by WCC TC participants through a food sale sponsored by the offenders and donated to INVET in appreciation for the sacrifices made by all Indiana Veterans. Westville's TC Director, Lynda Sward has expressed a special interest in veteran's affairs, and will continue providing support for the INVET program. (see photo right of Alexis Dean, INVET Program Specialist, and Jerry Vance)

Congratulations to Pendleton Correctional Facility Casework Manager John Safford who has been promoted to the position of Correctional Unit Manager at the facility.

Mathew Leohr has been promoted to Supervisor of Classification at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Leohr began his career as a Correctional Counselor at Wabash in 1997, advanced to Casework Manager in 2000 and then to Unit Team Manager in 2007. Leohr is a 1997 Indiana State University graduate majoring in Psychology and Criminology.



Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland announced Aaron Garner as the new Executive Director of Research & Technology. Mr. Garner joined the Indiana Department of Correction as a Research Analyst within the Research and Planning Division in July 2006. Since joining the Indiana Department of Correction, Aaron graduated from the first Experienced and Emerging Leader's Program. He has also served as a Team Leader for the Department's Leadership Academy since its inception and currently holds the position of Treasurer with the Indiana Criminal Justice Association. Please welcome Aaron and provide him the support and cooperation he will need in his new role.

Seven students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility received their ServSafe certification. The students are currently enrolled in a Culinary Arts Class offered here at the facility.

Although it may not seem like it, spring is on its way and that means the 2011 ICPOF Golf Outing is quickly approaching. The tournament will be held on Friday, May 13, 2011 at Valle Vista Golf Course in Greenwood, Indiana. The golf outing is filling very fast, but there are still foursomes available. With that being said, spots will be given on a first come, first serve basis and will not be held without payment.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) celebrated the graduation of 35 offenders from the CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever) program. MCF has had more than 900 offenders complete the program since it opened its doors at the facility in 2005.