

February 8, 2013

# Weekly Views

Twenty staff members from the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) participated in the annual Polar Plunge at Ball State University to benefit Special Olympics Indiana. They braved subfreezing temperatures and snow for the privilege of jumping in to an icy pool of water. Officer Megan McClain, who coordinated CIF's team, said "We are hoping that our participation in this event will become a facility tradition and look forward to assembling a larger team next year." CIF received awards for the best costume and for raising the most money with a donation of \$3190. The Polar Plunge is hosted throughout the state at various universities every year during the month of February. (see photo of CIF team below)

It is full steam ahead for a Wabash Valley Correctional Facility model ship project to benefit the Vincennes based Indiana Military Museum. PLUS staffer Jacquie Mize met with museum curator Judge Jim Osborne and board member Belle Kasting at the museum, sharing ideas for the project. A PLUS participant constructs the scale model ships out of paper products and will first tackle a World War II aircraft carrier, the USS Hornet.



The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF) was pleased to have a Visiting Committee from the American Correctional Association (ACA) auditing the facility for a standards compliance re-accreditation. The staff of the Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility put in a lot of hard work, time and effort preparing for their re-accreditation. COLCF was recommended for ACA Re-accreditation, scoring 100 percent on mandatory standards and a 93.9 percent on the non-mandatory standards. Commissioner Bruce Lemmon was on hand to congratulate Superintendent Kathy Griffin and staff for a job well done.

WISH TV news anchor Karen Hensel stopped by the Indianapolis Parole District #3 Office to meet with parole agents who were featured in the documentary series Parole Diaries. Karen shared her experience of being on television and advice for how to handle public attention. (see photo left of Karen Hensel with PD3 staff)



Representatives from PLUM Pictures, the producers of the documentary series *Life and Death: Inside Indiana State Prison*, visited the Indiana State Prison to relay the positive feedback of the series from the United Kingdom. It was reported that one in five viewers watched the program. They also shared a booklet with viewer comments. It was stated the program was received as a deterrent to crime for the younger views. Numerous messages were posted on Twitter to show the younger audience was viewing the documentary.

As part of the CAREERS program at Camp Summit, Roland Hunter and Eric Jackson of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 531, visited the facility and spoke to the GED and Post-GED students about the apprenticeship program with the electrician's union. The two spoke about the qualifications and guidelines for applying for the apprenticeship program towards earning a journeyman's card. The two cited the need for strong reading and math skills, especially the requirement for Algebra. They also explained that not only does the union provide a job, but free educational training, as well as paying for classes at Ivy Tech toward an Associate's Degree.

A Family Re-unification workshop was held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility for offenders and family members. Addiction Recovery Specialist Lauren Orme led the group as they discussed family and interpersonal relationships and were taught techniques promoting open, honest lines of communication.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted the first in a series of three Black History Programs that are scheduled for the month of February. The speakers for this week's program included Rane Lynch, the founder of Grace's Mercy Seat, Inc., a holistic women's ministry in Indianapolis, along with Reverend Thomas Griffin who is an Adjunct Chaplain for Indiana University/Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis.

Reception-Diagnostic Center Superintendent Jim Wynn is pleased to announce the recent promotion of Brian Fogle to Correctional Sergeant. Congratulations Sergeant Fogle!

Indiana State Prison held a Super Bowl Party in the Chapel at the facility for the offenders. Approximately 190 offenders were in attendance. The offenders were able to attend by signing up with their unit team prior to the game and had to be conduct free for the last year. They were treated to smoked sausages, nachos, popcorn, and drinks.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center recently hosted a group from Ivy Tech State College. Nineteen students toured the facility and learned about the DOC intake process.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board Meeting for the Pendleton Correctional Complex. The meeting had a great turnout with 21 attendees. The meeting opened with a demonstration by offenders from the ICAN program. All three facilities are involved in expanding meaningful programs and providing the offenders/students opportunities to better themselves.