



Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction

March 27, 2015

The Native American Community at the Indiana State Prison held a check presentation and presented two checks for \$1,311.20 to Safe Harbor After-School Program in Michigan City, Indiana. The Native American Community painted and made artwork. The artwork was sold in a local gallery in Michigan City at the First Friday Events in the downtown Art District. The proceeds went to Safe Harbor to assist with their program to have a safe place for children in the community to go to after school. Safe Harbor has been keeping children safe for fifteen years. The donation will allow ten



students to participate in the programs for one year free of charge. Students participating in Safe Harbor Programs have a better attendance in school, their grades improve, and 90% of the students in the graduating class are going to college. Some of the activities available for the children are tutoring, music and dance programs.



The RAW TV production crew, who has been filming a documentary at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) since October of last year, will have their last day this Friday. The editing team back in London plan to finish within the next few weeks. It is projected to be released on Discovery I.D. (International Discovery) this fall.

Last week the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) partnered with Purdue University to provide reproductive habitats for hellbender salamanders. This type of salamander is found throughout the eastern United States and in the past few decades has seen a dramatic decrease in their population. The Williams Lab at Purdue has completed several projects with regard to this particular type of salamander. The current project focuses on the larval life stages of hellbenders. The IDOC and more specifically, Madison Correctional Facility, has aided in the construction of 100 nest boxes. These nest boxes will be placed in the northern section of Blue River, the only river in Indiana that "These offenders are happy to give back to he community in any way that



they can. This project has allowed them to contribute to something larger than themselves and for a cause that may save a species from endangered status and possible extinction."



Miami Correctional Facility received one of the highest recognitions given to employers recently – the Freedom Award. The Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award is designed to recognize employers for employment policies and practices that are supportive of their employee's military obligations. This is the highest recognition given to employers whom are nominated by their military employees. "I didn't even hesitate about it," Officer Marcus White said of his nomination of MCF for the award. "This facility has always treated me and every other soldier that's passed through here with the respect to need to go and do what we do outside of here.

Mike Herron, on behalf of Commissioner Lemmon, presented Karen Bates's with a Commissioner's coin and certificates of appreciation at her retirement celebration. Karen was honored for her 37 years of service at ISP and WCC, her professionalism and her commitment to working with offenders.



After 34 years of employment at the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF), at his request, Executive Administrative Assistant Jack Binion said goodbye to his fellow co-workers during a small gathering. Although Jack will be sadly missed by many co-workers who consider Jack to be not only a colleague, but a close friend, we all wish him the best of luck as he travels the state and country with his wife, Charlene and their two dogs Lola and Fats camping and canoeing.

Folks, yours truly will be out next week "Griswolding" with my family next week so the Weekly Views will be temporarily suspended until I return on April 10th. Enjoy your weekend and I'll make sure I bring back photos from my visit to "Wally World"! Also, when I get back prepare yourself for the first ever IDOC Employee Highlight article!



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