



This week is Warden Jeff Wrigley's last week at New Castle Correctional Facility. Mr. Wrigley has been promoted to the Director of Operations for GEO's Western Division. NCCF would like to welcome Warden Don Stine as the new Superintendent and Mr. Wrigley's replacement.

Putnamville Correctional Facility and Rockville Correctional Facility kicked off the new year by launching the Promoting Positive Corrections Culture program this week. One of the goals of this initiative is to have 25% of staff in all facilities trained by April 1, 2010. (See the photo, right.)

Westville Correctional Facility hosted another successful American Red Cross blood drive. WCC Staff donated 40 units of blood. The bloodmobile will be returning to the facility again in April.

Branchville Correctional Facility's PLUS Program assembled and donated over 100 gift bags for the facility's visiting room. Any child visiting over the holiday weekends was given a gift bag to enjoy during the visit.

South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility had its ACA reaccreditation audit this week. The auditors recommended a score of 100% on mandatory standards and 98.7% on non-mandatory standards. The facility staff celebrated this achievement with visitors from surrounding facilities, Central Office, CMS, and Aramark.

Members of the Community Involvement Committee met at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility to discuss volunteer programs and future work partnerships with the community.

New Castle Correctional Facility held a staff recall this week. Michael Thombelson, Director of Education, was named Employee of the Month, and Officer Donald Burris was named Officer of the Month.

This week, three correctional staff from Pendleton Correctional Facility, Kurt Hollowell, Ronald Nethaway and Eric Funkhouser, assisted a woman in need on their way to work. The woman lost control of her car and wrecked in front of them. The staff members stayed with her and offered assistance until emergency personnel arrived.



Two Wabash Valley Correctional Facility programs, PLUS and Inside Out Dads, are helping 30 Carlisle 8th graders fulfill a special goal, by boosting a drive to fund their junior high graduation trip. \$1,500 was donated by the WVCF Dads program, and PLUS donated three handmade quilts to be raffled at school sporting events. "Our school appreciates what they have done immensely," said Principal Ryan Clark. (Pictured Left: Josh Collins/WVCF and Ryan Clark/principal.)



"Have patience with all things, but chiefly have patience with yourself. Do not lose courage in considering your own imperfections but instantly set about remedying them – every day begin the task anew." ~ Saint Francis de Sales

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, JANUARY 15, 2010

Facility superintendents and IDOC executive staff gathered at Turkey Run State Park for the Agency Leader's Symposium to discuss the issues currently facing the Department.

Interim Superintendent Latoya Lane and Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility staff attended a general membership meeting with the Woodruff Place community. Superintendent Lane provided a brief history of IREF, the facility's mission, and opportunities where the facility's residents and community can work together.

Miami Correctional Facility passed its Mock Audit this week with a 100 percent on its mandatory folders and 98 percent on its non-mandatory folders. Auditors were very complimentary of the facility.

The Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach program made 100 Christmas stockings full of homemade toys and stocking stuffers for the children who visit the facility's Family Preservation Center and for 22 disabled children from IPS School #42.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Officer Brantley Ferguson was recognized this week as the recipient of the facility's 2009 K9 Unit Outstanding Teamwork Award.

The PLUS Program at the Correctional Industrial Facility presented a seminar with Michael A. Hurst, Program Director from the Coalition for Homelessness - Intervention and Prevention (CHIP). He spoke on homelessness status, demographics, causes, and solutions, with some emphasis on issues related to re-entry.

The Indianapolis Parole Office welcomed four employees from Tower Productions based out of Chicago who are visiting and filming parole supervisors and agents in the office and the field for an upcoming television series. The visit was successful and fun for the staff.

Hats off to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility staffer Tammy Mark, who is coordinating a benefit dinner and fundraiser to help a local 17-year-old boy, Dusty Owen. The Carlisle teen was badly injured in a November car crash. Other staff and the WVCF PLUS unit donated quilts and other items to be included in a silent action.

The Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach program made and distributed 50 hat and scarf sets to the Christmas store of Catholic Services for homeless or low income families.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Shifting Gears bicycle refurbishing program donated 18 bicycles to the Wes-Del Elementary School in Gaston, Indiana. 20 bikes were also donated to the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation in Indianapolis.

Supervised offender work crews from the Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit assisted the Michigan City Street Department during its emergency snow removal operations this week. Mayor Oberlie from Michigan City stated in a news release, "We were successful opening many streets because of that cooperative effort."

Henryville Correctional Facility hosted a Volunteers Recognition event this week. Thirteen different groups attended with a total of 37 volunteers. Herb and Margaret Ellenbrand were presented a plaque for their outstanding service of over two decades to Henryville and for the hundreds of offenders they have helped. A dinner was held afterwards.

Correctional Industrial Facility recognized five employees for their 125 years of total service to the State of Indiana.

Pendleton Correctional Facility off-grounds work crews logged 2,184 hours during December. During 2009, a total of 22,794 community service hours were provided by these crews.

"The ultimate measure of a man is not where he stands in moments of comfort, but where he stands at times of challenge and controversy." ~ Martin Luther King, Jr.

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, JANUARY 22, 2010

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility students decorated brown paper bags donated from the Village Lights Bookstore. The students were inspired to decorate the "I Have a Dream" project bags after learning and discussing Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.'s civil rights movement vision. The bags were displayed at the book store for the holiday.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit has adopted the Indiana Veterans Home in Lafayette, Indiana with plans to deliver over 250 quilts by Memorial Day.

PEN Products recently held a Career Path Planning Workshop at Rockville Correctional Facility. 24 offenders and 12 staff participants worked in teams during the workshop, which focused on the key elements of a successful re-entry, career planning, time management, and smart decision making.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility recently held its Kairos Torch reunion weekend. 14 volunteers attended and worked with 14 students to help the students reflect on and process goals for re-entry.

IUPUI students and IREF residents met to begin a new semester of the IUPUI Inside Out Prison Exchange Program. This class is an opportunity for students and residents to exchange ideas regarding criminal justice, as well as perceptions about punishment and reformation.

Correctional Training Institute in New Castle is celebrating 10 years of service to the Indiana Department of Correction. The facility has experienced many improvements and significant changes during the past decade, including a transformation to regional training sites. Classrooms, suites, and lodging rooms have been renovated to be more customer-friendly, and a computer lab, distance education classroom complete with video-conferencing capabilities, and a fitness center have been added. CTI achieved "accreditation" from the American Correctional Association in 2004.

Pendleton Correctional Facility staff recently conducted a bake sale with the proceeds going to the Haiti Relief Fund.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 8 students who completed the facility's CLIFF program. To date there have been 26 groups and 199 graduates of the program with an 8% recidivism rate.

The Wabash Valley Community Advisory Board met this week, learning more about the voluntary furlough program, offender work crews, and efforts to save taxpayer dollars. A lively group discussion about the pros and cons of the two meals a day pilot program ended with board members favoring the two meal concept.

Correctional Industrial Facility held a fundraiser in celebration of National Pie Day this week. Staff brought in pies to be shared with all CIF employees for a \$ 1.00 donation per slice. Proceeds went toward Employee Appreciation Week.

Westville Correctional Facility staff met with local law enforcement to coordinate and review their joint emergency preparedness plans and activities. Rachael Ross, MD (CMS) just returned from providing medical relief in Haiti and Ramona Schmidt, RN (CMS) is still assisting in Haiti.

Pendleton Juvenile had its first two students qualify for the presidential fitness award. Students are tested when they first arrive and practice these activities until they are released. The students received patches and a certificate.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a worship service to celebrate the life of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. this week. Approximately 90 offenders attended the event, which featured guest speaker Isaac Randolph, the Executive Director of the Indiana Office of Faith-Based and Community Initiatives.

The PLUS program at the Indiana State Prison recently donated \$250 to the relief in Haiti.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility presented its STAR (Students Talking About Recovery) program to the 6th grade class of Fairview Elementary School. The students from the facility's CLIFF program gave their personal stories and answered questions from the school's 6th grade class.

Westville Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit donated proceeds from their holiday candy sale to The Caring Place. \$ 100 went to the women's shelter of Porter County.

North Daviess County 5th graders learned about Indiana Department of Correction efforts to prepare offenders for successful re-entry into society during a talk by Wabash Valley PIO Rich Larsen. Larsen is one of the speakers involved in the Purdue University Cooperation Extension Service Project LEAD (Legal Education to Arrest Delinquency) Program.

"Don't wait for extraordinary opportunities. Seize common occasions and make them great. Weak men wait for opportunities; strong men make them." ~ Orison Swett Marden

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, JANUARY 29, 2010

PEN Products and Parkeview School hosted a recognition event for 4 apprenticeship, 14 GED, and 45 vocational students who have completed programs during the past six months at Rockville Correctional Facility. Doug Evans, PEN Operations/Job Placement Manager, and Tenille Davis, Leasing Consultant, spoke to graduates at the ceremony. Stephen Steed from the U.S. Department of Labor presented letters to those who completed an apprenticeship.

State Representative Peggy Welch from Bloomington, Indiana accepted an invitation to attend Correctional Industrial Facility's "Fifth Sunday's Chaplain's Choice" this weekend.

A group of mentors from the First Day Out Initiative met at Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility this week to connect with residents and help coordinate their transition and re-entry to the community.

Westville Correctional Facility's offender basketball team played its first game against the Columbus Steamrollers ABA team. Recreation Leader and former NBA basketball player, Dan Palombizio, developed a team of all-stars among the 3,400 offenders at WCC. WCC prevailed 166-161.

Commander Guillaume and Lieutenant Edwards from the Anderson Preparatory Academy visited Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility this week. The Future Soldiers performed a drill for the Commander and Lieutenant, and the Lieutenant inspected their rooms.

Members of the Christian Motorcycle Association recently visited Pendleton Correctional Facility and conducted programs at the outside dorm and inside the walls.

The Indiana State Prison Education Department's Continuing Education Counsel has pledged \$500 for Haiti.

PEN Products presented 45 offender workers U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship certificates at the Pendleton Correctional Facility this week. The offenders earned the apprenticeships by completing both classroom and on-the-job training. PEN Products is in the business of preparing offenders for their release by instilling a work ethic and providing them opportunities to acquire marketable skills.

Correctional Industrial Facility's PLUS Unit donated \$500 to the American Red Cross for assistance with the aftermath of the earthquake in Haiti.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee said "Thank You!" to staff this week by treating everyone to a good meal, serving lunch or dinner to every shift. Superintendent James Basinger applauded the effort, expressing thanks to everyone for their daily commitment to public safety.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted Staff Recalls this week. One session was held at 10:00 a.m. and another session was conducted at 10:00 p.m. for the night shift.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted its first quarterly Community Advisory Board meeting this week. Board members were updated on facility plans and activities and were given a tour of the facility.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility held its facility assembly this week. Awards were given for years of service, perfect attendance, and employee of the quarter, employee of the year and supervisor of the quarter.

The Organic Gardener's Offender Organization at the Indiana State Prison pledged \$500 for the Haiti relief effort.

Pendleton Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting, which also involved the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility and the Correctional Industrial Facility. Several members of the community attended and were provided an update of significant events at all three facilities.

CIF held a staff assembly, and 30 staff members discussed experiences, events, and issues taking place at the facility.

Indiana State Prison's Education Department was awarded a \$17,000 Adult Basic Education Federal Grant based on outstanding performance and completion rates. The IDOC Education Programs statewide outperformed the entire State of Indiana by enrolling 6,400 students with a 59.9% completion rate. The closest competitor had only 3,400 students enrolled with a statewide completion rate of 37%.

"I may not have gone where I intended to go, but I think I have ended up where I intended to be." ~ Douglas Adams

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2010

Today at the Correctional Training Institute, 46 IDOC employees are being sworn in as Correctional Police Officers. Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Ronay will be in attendance, as well as keynote speaker Mike Lindsay, the Deputy Director for the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. The Honorable Judge Tanya Walton-Pratt will swear in the officers.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility held a staff assembly to discuss the current issues impacting the facility and the agency as a whole. Popcorn and door prizes were handed out to those in attendance.

At the beginning of the week, volunteers from the Madison Presbyterian Church hosted a birthday party for the girls at Madison Juvenile. In addition, the facility threw a party for the winners of the holiday decorating contest, and 7 students participated in an outing to the Boys and Girls Club for Restorative Justice.

The Indianapolis Men's Community Re-Entry Center held its 1st quarter 9-Ball Pool Tournament. 24 residents participated in the tournament. Residents were rewarded with 1st, 2nd and 3rd place prizes donated by volunteers.

Offenders at Putnamville Correctional Facility donated hair to Locks of Love, an organization that uses human hair to make wigs for children with cancer.

Wabash Valley Chaplain David Walker has launched a fundraising drive called "Speed the Light/Haiti," through the local Assembly of God Church. WVCF offenders have raised nearly \$900 to help those in need.

The Indianapolis Parole Office (PD #3) has moved to its new location at 512 E. Minnesota Street, Indianapolis, IN 46203. The new phone number is (317) 232-1442 or (317) 232-1443 and the fax number is (317) 232-1450.

Offenders assigned to off-ground work crews at Pendleton logged 1,541.25 hours of community service in January.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a Red Cross blood drive. This blood drive was in partnership with the Logansport State Hospital. Together, 38 units of blood were collected.

Branchville Correctional Facility's PLUS program donated over \$1000 to the relief efforts in Haiti. The proceeds came from offender fundraisers and donations throughout the facility.

Westville Correctional Facility's dog program director, Regan Dietz, received a call from the local Red Cross that a house fire had endangered the family's 6 dogs. The facility's Prison Tails program is offering safe harbor for the dogs until the family is re-established in suitable housing.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility was host Dr. Greg Bell, author of *Where Eagles Soar*, *I Believe in You* and *Dare to Dream*. Dr. Bell is an Olympic Gold Medalist, poet, professional speaker and author.

Miami Correctional Facility completed its third Promoting Positive Corrections Culture class this week. The class was developed by the IDOC to move towards a better cultural environment for staff to work in and offenders to live in.

Offenders assigned to Pendleton's Shifting Gears bicycle refurbishing operation reconditioned 48 bikes in January.

South Bend Juvenile held an NFL jersey fundraiser for Haiti relief efforts. With a \$5 donation, staff members were able to wear a jersey or t-shirt to represent their favorite team. All proceeds will go toward the St. Joseph County Red Cross.

Putnamville Correctional Facility PLUS offenders donated over 100 handmade greeting cards to Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis and to the Away Home Shelter in Greencastle.

Indiana State Prison held a graduation for 21 offenders who have completed the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program. Interim Superintendent Brett Mize and Father David Link spoke at the event.

Westville Correctional Facility donated 130 boxes of clothing to the local Salvation Army. The facility is also accepting clothing for offenders being released.

Correctional Industrial Facility's PLUS program made 1,000 Valentine's Day cards to be given to local nursing homes.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility staff got together for a Meet & Greet this week. Interim Superintendent Latoya Lane provided a welcome speech and shared information regarding the strategic plan and facility goals.

Miami Correctional Facility held a promotion ceremony for two officers to Correctional Sergeants for the first time in more than 2 years. The new sergeants are Tim Dice and Joseph Townsend.

"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need." ~ Kahlil Gibran

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2010

The combined donations from IDOC to the Haiti Relief Fund totaled \$ 11,016.95! Non-perishable items were also donated.

Indiana lawmakers hosted a baby shower at the Indiana Women's Prison's for the Wee Ones Nursery Program, where members of the Legislative POWER Group presented donations of infant supplies collected by Indiana legislators.

The Miami Correctional Facility's SITCON team returned from training and competition in San Marcos, Texas. The team consists of Steve Smith, Team Leader, Cheryl Ash, Chris Weidner, Chris Ertel, Rita Beemer, Vincent Wolf. Also attending were Kevin DuVall from Logansport Juvenile and Dean McCaleb from Fort Wayne Juvenile.

Indiana State Prison was approved to use new equipment called B.O.S.S. (Body Orifice Security Scanner), an efficient, non-intrusive, high sensitivity detector designed to detect metal objects hidden in body cavities. It is commonly used in correctional facilities to scan for hidden weapons and contraband.

IDOC Director of Field Audits Ronald Allen, his staff, and other personnel from the Department conducted an ACA Internal Audit at the Pendleton Correctional Facility on February 8th, 9th, and 10th. The Facility scored 100% on the Mandatory Standards and 98.6% on the Non-Mandatory Standards.

Pendleton Juvenile's PLUS unit held a walkathon for Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers food drive. Staff sponsored the students to raise money and canned goods for this worthy cause.

Staff at Putnamville Correctional Facility gave 25 units of blood to the Indiana Blood Center during a blood drive coordinated by Tonya Morris.

This week at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility students participated in an off grounds trip to the Madison Animal Shelter and the Recreation Department had a Safety Award Party for Unit 5 for the least amount of Injury Incidents.

The Indiana National Guard (ING) has once again reached out to the Westville Correctional Facility for help at their armory in Michigan City. The Guard uses Level 1 Offenders for maintenance and custodial services. Captain Nance, of the ING expressed gratitude and states the Guard has come to rely and depend on the services rendered by the facility.

Physical Plant staff, Cliff Anderson and Roger Boillard, represented Putnamville Correctional Facility at a Sustainability Expo held at DePauw University. The PCF booth displayed pictures and info regarding the windmill and bio-mass boiler.

Today, the Correctional Industrial Facility is preparing for a special visit from Arjia Rinpoche, Director of Tibetan Cultural Center, and Appointee of his Holiness the 14th Dalai Lama. The full entourage will also include Attendant Chunpay, Secretary Mary Pattison, Venerable Bhante Kantasilo, Ron and Stephanie Grissom.

Pendleton Juvenile's Future Soldier Program did push ups to raise money and food items for Hoosier's Helping Hoosiers. Staff are sponsoring the students in this endeavor.

Indiana State Prison's American Legion Post 130 and the Jaycees donated \$1,000 each to the relief for Haiti. The Organic Farmers at ISP donated \$500 and ISP's Continuing Education Counsel donated \$500.

Rockville Correctional Facility held a Subway sandwich sale for the Rockville Elementary School Student Council. It raised funds to assist a local family purchase an assisted living dog for their child. The sale raised \$1,120.

A Black History Program was conducted for offenders at Pendleton Correctional Facility and approximately 75 offenders attended. IDOC Islamic Religious Services Coordinator Ismail Abdul Aleem was the guest speaker.

Wabash Valley SITCON members held a prize drawing to help fund training activities. Over \$250 was raised and Officer Nancy Barnhart was the lucky winner!

The Indiana Women's Prison Special Needs Workshop staff and offenders made and donated 20 graduation center pieces for the Correctional Training Institute.

The Re-Entry Parole District (PD1) has relocated to 2596 N. Girls' School Road, Indianapolis, IN 46214. The new telephone number is 317-244-3144 and the fax is 317-244-9006.

Indiana State Prison and Pendleton Juvenile were both treated to Super Bowl parties. 300 offenders and staff at ISP were served hot dogs, popcorn, and corn chips provided by ARAMARK, and 52 students at Pendleton were treated to Fresh Favorites(tm).

IREF held an MVP day, where for a small fee to benefit the Employee Appreciation Fund, staff were allowed to bring their most valuable pet to spend the day with them at work. Many of the 13 dogs sported Indianapolis Colt's gear.

"Nothing can stop the man with the right mental attitude from achieving his goal." ~ Thomas Jefferson

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2010

The Plainfield Correctional Facility (PCF) expanded its continued partnership with the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN). Nine additional puppies were brought to the PCF PLUS Unit for the extensive training necessary to become service companions for the disabled.

Madison Circuit Court Judge Rudolph "Rudy" Pyle III and Ed Fry, the Madison County Problem Solving Courts Coordinator, visited the Correctional Industrial Facility to receive an overview of the Therapeutic Community.

The Kairos Prison Ministry Organization began a four day program at the Pendleton Correctional Facility on Thursday. 42 general population offenders are participating in the event along with 48 Kairos volunteers.

Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) conducted its first Promoting Positive Correctional Culture (PPCC) training this week. The two-day training session focused on creating a healthy and productive work environment.

North East Juvenile Correctional Facility welcomed the Associate Director of the Multi-Cultural studies program at Indiana University-Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW) to present a program to students on great African American Inventors for Black History Month.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS Unit donated two handmade quilts to Shelburn Elementary School in Sullivan County. The quilts will be part of a silent auction at the school to benefit the March of Dimes Foundation.

To date, the Correctional Industrial Facility has completed 326,000 pair of eyeglasses for the Lion's Club Eyeglass Recycling Program.

The Fort Wayne Police Department's Victim Assistance Division has initiated a Sexual Violence Prevention program with selected students at Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's PLUS program held a graduation ceremony for 9 students. During the 16 week program the students completed over 225 hours of community service work. The class also completed charitable fundraisers that raised \$396 by conducting food sales and recycling aluminum cans.

PEN Products presented a "Career Path Planning Workshop" at Branchville and Putnamville Correctional Facilities. Over 30 offender participants attended these events.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center held a Valentine's Day "Crush" soda sale. Staff sent sodas with messages to fellow staff. \$394.84 was raised for the upcoming Correctional Employees' Appreciation Week!

Students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in "Jump Rope for Haiti". The students received pledges from staff members to jump rope.

A PLUS Program graduation ceremony was held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility for 80 graduates and 52 visitors.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Valentine Blood Drive, collecting 41 units from 39 staff members.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility's PLUS program donated \$750.00 each to the Away Home Shelter and the American Red Cross (Haiti Relief Fund).

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility's Education Department held a Black History Knowledge Bowl for all students to help celebrate Black History Month.

PLUS offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility sold \$1,746.50 worth of Girl Scout cookies to the offender population. All proceeds are being donated to the Indiana branch of the Girl Scouts of America.

Pendleton Juvenile held a graduation ceremony for 9 offenders who earned their GED. 2 offenders also received their ServSafe Certificates.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted a CLIFF graduation for 8 of its students. All of the graduates also earned their GED while being enrolled in the program. To date, 206 students have graduated from the program.

The Correctional Industrial Facility staff exchanged over 800 candy grams as an Employee Appreciation Week fundraiser.

Miami Correctional Facility had its annual Valentine Bake Sale to benefit Employee Appreciation Week.

The Employee Planning Action Committee at Westville Correctional Facility sponsored a Valentine Day bake sale. The proceeds from the sale will help fund facility events to boost camaraderie among the staff.

"No act of kindness, no matter how small, is ever wasted." ~ Aesop

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2010

"Relapse and Prevention for Reentry" kicked off last week at South Bend Community Re-entry. The program, an aftercare component for offenders who have completed standard substance abuse or therapeutic community programming, was developed in collaboration with the Drug Free Community Council who obtained a grant to develop the program.

Congratulations to Carolyn Spegal from Pendleton Correctional Facility who is retiring after 21 ½ years of state service.

Chief of Staff Dan Ronay welcomed staff to the first session of the 2010 Experienced Emerging Leaders cohort at Brown County State Park.

Offenders submitted 45 drawings, essays, and poems for the Black History Month Art/Written Word Contest at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Winners will be presented with certificates and have their submissions displayed during the next Community Advisory Board meeting.

The Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF) will be hosting a golf outing on Friday, May 14th. The net proceeds will be donated to the ICPOF. For any questions or if you are interested in participating please contact Jim Kimmel jkimmel@idoc.in.gov 219.785.2511 ext. 4081.

Staff and offenders at Henryville and Plainfield Correctional Facilities participated in activities to celebrate Black History Month. Both facilities hosted a public speaker; national motivational speaker Walter D. Smith spoke at Henryville and both Anthony Simpson, Assistant Coach for the Marion University football team, and Rev. Leon Graves Sr. at Plainfield.

Oakland City University hosted its bi-annual Dean's List Luncheon at Branchville with a meal prepared by The Culinary Arts Department. Approximately 60 offenders made the Dean's List, which requires a 3.5 grade point average.

Volunteers from the Lowell Church of God performed for students at Camp Summit. Approximately 85 students were able to enjoy "The Choice of Love," a play that illustrated decisions people make between Good and Evil and the consequences that follow.

Wabash Valley staff donated over 253 pounds of food items to God's Pantry in Oaktown, IN on behalf of the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The WVCF Inside Out Dad's program contributed \$800 dollars to the worthy cause.

Westville's PLUS and PLUS 2 units sponsored an Arby's food sale for offenders in the programs. \$700 in proceeds will be going to the Haiti Relief Fund.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility's "Shifting Gears" program donated 10 re-conditioned bicycles to the Hoosier Veteran Assistance Foundation. An additional 10 bikes were also donated to the Johnson County Community Corrections Center.

Miami Correctional Facility had staff and family members participate in two Polar Bear Plunges to benefit the Special Olympics. Tim W. Brown, MCF Fire Chief, raised \$670 and 9 staff and family members raised an additional \$1,152.

Residents at IREF hosted a Black History Month Program in which they highlighted prominent African Americans and paid tribute to the African American experience through spoken word and song.

Indiana State Prison offender organizations, the Jaycee's and Organic Gardeners, and Offender Recreation Fund donated \$3,562.50 to purchase twenty-five Loaner TV's for offenders who cannot afford one.

As part of Facility Forward, PEN Products moved to its new home on the grounds of IREF at 2010 East New York Street, Indianapolis, IN 46201. The new phone number is 317-955-6800 and the toll free number remains 800-736-2550.

Pendleton Juvenile's Boy Scout Troop #1888 received the Centennial Quality Unit Award from the Boy Scout Crossroads of America Council. The award recognizes troops which achieve excellence in providing a quality program to youth.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held its 8th Family Worship service. 40 family members of 20 offenders gathered for an interfaith worship service. Presentations were made by members of the Wiccan, Buddhist, Islamic, and Christian communities.

Miami Correctional Facility held its quarterly Recall meeting. Discussions were geared around the upcoming ACA Audit and support of the correctional appreciation staff, American Cancer Society and Special Olympics.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center raised \$464.73 from a spaghetti sale for the upcoming Correctional Employees' Appreciation Week.

IREF's Employee Appreciation Committee held the first annual Chili Cook-Off. Of the many staff participants, Culinary Arts Instructor, Dennis Brady's chili was voted the best. Money raised will benefit the Employee Appreciation Fund.

"The roots of true achievement lie in the will to become the best that you can become." ~ Harold Taylor

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, MARCH 5, 2010

The Northern Region Honor Guard from Westville Correctional Facility was activated for funeral services in Three Oaks, Michigan for a retired employee, Officer Annie Upshaw.

Select students at Pendleton Juvenile received a visit from Serge LeClerc, a former offender. He spoke to students about the poor choices that led to his life of crime and substance abuse that resulted in 21.5 years of incarceration. His message was one of individual accountability and the choice to be a positive citizen and give back to one's community.

A photo of the Indiana State Prison appeared on the cover of the 2010 ACA Standard Supplement book. The book is used as a tool for maintaining the standards and practices of daily operations by which 80% of the correctional and juvenile facilities in the country utilize.

The Indianapolis Men's Community Re-Entry Center assisted with Christmas Behind Bars' Annual Bagging Project for Lemuel Vega's Christian Prison Ministry in Arcadia, Indiana. 10,000 bags were assembled and loaded onto semi trailers.

Staff from Pendleton Correctional Facility presented 20 baby blankets to offenders in the Wee Ones Nursery Program at Indiana Women's Prison. The baby blankets were hand made by the male offenders in the Inside-Out Dads program at Pendleton Correctional Facility. The Wee Ones Nursery Program presented the Pendleton staff with a thank you card expressing their gratitude for the blankets.

American Legion Post 130 at Indiana State Prison was acknowledged for the positive efforts made by its members to give back to the community by raising and donating over ten to fifteen thousand dollars each year for local charities. Post 130 is the only post in the country to operate inside a maximum security prison.

Putnamville Correctional Facility collected \$2,554.00 and 1021 food items for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The Away Home Shelter, Cunot Community and Senior Citizen Center, Putnam and Clay County Food Pantries each received 255 food items and a monetary donation of \$638.00.

Pendleton Correctional Facility's Wheels for the World program refurbished 8 wheel chairs during the month of February.

Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility donated over 98 pounds of food to the Second Helpings Food Rescue located in downtown Indianapolis. The staff collected the 223 nonperishable food items throughout the month of February during the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive.

The Parole Director, Supervisors, and Agents from the Indianapolis Parole Office (Pd#3) were on hand to answer questions, address concerns, and meet and greet the new neighbors during the first Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association meeting.

PEN Products conducted a "Career Path Planning Workshop", an interactive program focusing on Career Theory, Job Retention, and Time Management at Chain O Lakes Correctional Facility. The workshop, attended by 28 offenders, 14 professionals from IDOC and other post release service providers, was a unique opportunity to share viewpoints.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility kicked off a Fresh Favorites program for visitors. Thanks to collaboration between Aramark and the facility, the program allows visitors to purchase Fresh Favorites items for themselves and the offender during the visitation period.

Putnamville, Pendleton Juvenile and Wabash Valley all held special celebrations for Black History Month. Putnamville's program highlighted the contributions of current and historical African Americans. DePauw University faculty and students, Community Advisory Board members, and the media attended the event. At Pendleton, each teacher had the students focus on the individual classroom curriculum and create projects, posters and murals that the students could enjoy. Over 250 offenders at Wabash Valley were able to attend a special program filled with inspirational words, music, and a message of personal responsibility and the importance of education.

An Arby's Food Sale was held at the Correctional Industrial Facility. The 450 orders served raised nearly \$2,000.00 in donations going to Rupert's Kids, Circle Sanctuary, and The Haiti Relief fund.

A fund raiser was held for the "Saving Max" prison program. The proceeds will be used to assist in the funding of the two animal rescue programs, FIDO and 9 lives, currently at the Correctional Industrial Facility. Saving Max is a prison program through Anderson Animal Care and Control that provides pet owners a temporary home for their pets.

Branchville Correctional Facility donated \$500.00 each to Marengo Elementary, Patoka Elementary, and Cannelton Elementary Schools. The money was generated through offender fundraisers. Local schools submitted proposals on how best to utilize the money.

"Your goals are the road maps that guide you and show you what is possible for your life." ~ Les Brown

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, MARCH 12, 2010

Thanks to the tireless efforts of IDOC staff, the Department has collected 7227 food items and \$4,247 to be donated to food banks across the state for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers food drive. Great job everyone!

The Inaugural Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund Golf Outing will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010. There are still several group spots available. Interested parties should contact Greg Jones (219-785-2511 Ext 4672 or gljones@idoc.in.gov) or Steven Klosowskias (785-2511-Ext 4188 or smklosowski@idoc.in.gov) as soon as possible.

Miami Correctional Facility received a 98.2 percent rating on its non-mandatory and a 100 percent rating on its mandatory folders in its Reaccreditation Audit by the American Correctional Association. Auditor Hugh Daley said, "It is indeed an honor for someone such as myself to come into the operation that you have here that demonstrates the proficiency and professionalism that those who are outside the gates do not understand."

Forty PEN Products' offender workers were awarded U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeships as assembly technicians, quality control technicians, office managers and material coordinators at the Westville Correctional Facility. The offenders completed 2000 – 5000 hours of on the job training, as well as passing several skills tests to receive their certification.

Branchville Correctional Facility received a visit from Warrick County Judge Meier and his drug court staff. Judge Meier interviewed offenders who are enrolled in or have already completed the Therapeutic Community program for possible modification through the Purposeful Incarceration Program.

Bob Cliver was honored by fellow staff as he retired after nearly 18 years of service. The first armorer for Wabash Valley, Bob trained nearly 9,000 staff with zero armory audit deficiencies during his distinguished IDOC career.

Miami Correctional Facility raised more than \$750 hosting a soup sale fundraiser for Officer Jason Kochensparger who recently lost his wife to cancer. He has three little ones at home and high medical bills. Numerous staff members brought in crock pots full of soup to sell and donations were also taken.

Free Lance writer Emma Bowen Meyer visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview staff and offenders for articles she is preparing for the Anderson Herald Bulletin in regards to the facility's Vocational Horticulture Program.

Wabash Valley's Inside Out Dad's Program delivered an \$800 check to God's Pantry in Knox County, for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The Dad's also sent \$750 checks to 2 area youth groups, Greene and Knox Counties Voices for Kids, which watch over and advocate for abused and neglected children. Over \$1,200 has also been donated to the ongoing Wabash Valley Religious Services Haiti Relief effort by the offender population.

Lisa Williams and Doug Evans from PEN Products presented the role and mission of PEN Products and the IDOC to 40 criminal justice students during Career Week at IUPUI. Lisa and Doug were part of a four member panel who shared their backgrounds in the criminal justice system and answered questions from the students in attendance.

Pendleton Correctional Facility received a thank you letter from Joy Plummer, Executive Director of Operation Love Ministries in Anderson, IN. Ms. Plummer expressed her appreciation for the 120 pounds of food donated by the facility to the organization in 2009. The food was produced by offenders assigned to the facility's Vocational Horticulture Program under the guidance and supervision of Instructor Phil Greenburg.

Seventy-eight staff from the newly developed Short-Term Offender Program (STOP) in Plainfield and Short Term Offender Program Unit (STOP-U) in New Castle attended training at CTI to learn about the mission, classification, programming, and characteristics of a short-term offender program that will be utilized in managing this unique population.

Unit Manager Bruce Helming has been promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Operations at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Tim Purcell, the current Assistant Superintendent of Operations will be assigned as an Assistant Superintendent at the Correctional Industrial Facility to fill an existing vacancy.

The Westville Correctional Facility recognized sixteen employees with the "2009 Perfect Attendance Award" at the facility's quarterly assembly. The recipients received a Cash Spot Bonus and gift packages from PEN Products, Aramark and CMS. Staff also bid farewell to outgoing Superintendent William Wilson and welcomed new WCC Superintendent, Mark Levenhagen.

South Bend Juvenile's Staff Appreciation Committee hosted a bake sale and raised \$60. Part of these funds will go to offset the cost of a popcorn machine the committee purchased for staff ceremonies and Corrections Week.

The Indiana State Prison held a ceremony to reward employees for their contributions to corrections. Approximately 200 staff were in attendance in the prison's chapel.

"Be the change you want to see in the world." –Mahatma Ghandi

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, MARCH 19, 2010

Students from Marian University toured the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility where several residents gave testimonials about the program's impact on their incarceration and re-entry.

Congratulations to Alvin Woods on his 20 years of service to the State of Indiana. Currently, Alvin is a Recreation Leader at the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF). All of Alvin's state service has been with CIF.

The Wabash Valley Building Trades class presented their most recent project, a playhouse, to Carlisle Elementary, to be enjoyed by pre-school students.

Correctional Medical Services at Westville received the state's first telemedicine equipment. This hi-tech device allows the facility to connect with off-site medical professionals and conduct medical assessments without transporting offenders off facility grounds.

New Castle Correctional Facility's PLUS Dorm donated \$750.00 to the New Castle/Henry County's Big Brother's & Big Sister's Organization.

FOX 59 News Reporter Russ McQuaid visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to do a story on the IONSCAN Sentinel II Drug Detection machine that was recently installed.

Terre Haute Ivy Tech and the Indiana Correctional Association Club toured the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, learning how custody and programs work closely to prepare offenders for re-entry.

The Carlisle Junior High 8th grade class sent Wabash Valley's PLUS Unit a thank you letter for donating three quilts to their fundraising effort. A raffle generated \$845, helping them reach their goal for their annual class trip to St. Louis.



Westville Correctional Facility's offender band "Time and Tunes" hosted two spring concerts for the offenders. The band has received thousands of dollars of musical equipment from local professional musicians.

Pendleton Correctional Facility donated 116 food items to the Second Harvest Food Bank in Anderson. The items were donated by staff for the "Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers" food drive sponsored by First Lady Cheri Daniels.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility had 10 students participate in the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators' (CJCA) First Annual Yearbook Cover Contest.

Andre Patterson was awarded the Director's Award for his work with the State Employees' Community Campaign at Northeast Juvenile.

Branchville Assistant Superintendent Gibson awarded a \$500 check to

Perry Central Elementary School. So far this year he has distributed \$2,500 to Perry—Crawford county schools to help with class projects. The money is raised through offender fund raisers.

Three students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility visited the Jefferson County Animal Shelter for Restorative Justice and some play time with the animals.

The Indiana State Prison's Shifting Gears Program donated 30 refurbished bicycles to the Villages in Portage. The Villages is Indiana's largest not-for-profit child and family services agency, serving over 1,200 children and their families each day.

The PLUS Community at the Correctional Industrial Facility donated 20 hand crafted center pieces, three jewelry boxes, a functional grandfather clock, two paintings and 20 handcrafted inspirational cards to the Coalition for Homelessness Intervention and Prevention (CHIP).

New Castle Correctional Facility honored 61 offenders for completion of GED/Literacy/ESL programs and 77 offenders for completing Vocational programs.

The Taylor University Jazz Band performed this week at the CIF Chapel.

Pendleton Juvenile had 11 students earn their GED's with an average score of 520.

"Before you criticize someone, you should walk a mile in their shoes. That way when you criticize them, you are a mile away from them and you have their shoes." ~ Jack Handey

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, MARCH 26, 2010

The first class of certified coal miner training began recently at Branchville Correctional Facility. The facility has identified twelve offenders that met the minimum qualifications. Offenders will complete the training for underground mining and surface mining. The requirement that the offender complete a separate day of training at an operational mine will be deferred until the offender is released. The class is being taught by General Robert Mitchell.

Correctional Industrial Facility provided table decorations and other items for the Indy Homeless Connect event at the Convention Center.



Staff at Westville said good-bye and good luck to Captain Kenneth Gann who has been promoted to Major at the Indiana State Prison. Gann was honored with 2 carry-in luncheons, one for each facility. The luncheon was complete with "war stories," shared memories and wonderful experiences of Gann's career at Westville.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) received a 100% on their mandatory standards and 98.5% on the non-mandatory standards during their most recent ACA Audit. The auditors were very complimentary of the facility operations and the staff.

New Castle Correctional Facility Superintendent D.L. Stine and seven staff members attended the Annual Henry County Chamber of Commerce Dinner.

Sandra Roark, PEN Products Plant Manager at the Miami Correctional Facility was recognized at the National Correctional Industries Association Awards Banquet. Ms. Roark was nominated by PEN Products and was selected as the winner of the Central Region Staff award. Besides standing at the top of the 6 states staff nominations, Ms. Roark was also named to the 2010 National Correctional Industries Association Honor Roll.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility's PLUS Program sponsored a fundraiser where eligible offenders were permitted to purchase food from Hardee's. \$2,333.22 was raised by this event and the proceeds will be donated to Christian Service International (CSI) Ministries in Muncie, Indiana to be directed to the Haiti Earthquake Relief Fund.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility donated \$314.00 dollars to the Columbus, Indiana Chapter of the American Red Cross for the Haiti Disaster Relief effort. The funds donated were raised from offender population donations and proceeds generated by a staff chili luncheon.

Homemade soup was catered to the Correctional Industrial Facility by staff for all employees who will donate \$1.00 per bowl. Proceeds will go to the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund and Employee Appreciation Week.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a tour for about 20 Sociology students from Ivy Tech College this week. Students were able to see how offenders live.

Eight staffers from the Marion County Prosecutors Office toured New Castle Correctional Facility.

SECC held a recognition event for members of the Torchbearer Society at the State Library. Twenty-three IDOC employees were among the one hundred eighty-seven state employees recognized.

The Wabash Valley Inside Out Dad's Program presented a \$1,500 check to United Campus Ministries. Campus Ministries provides counseling and other support services to students at Indiana State University, Rose Hulman and St. Mary of the Woods. Group members also toured the facility PLUS and other unique WVCF program locations.

Indiana Women's Prison held their graduation ceremony for the 2010 vocational classes of Horticulture and Cosmetology graduates. Horticulture had a total number of 31 graduates along with Cosmetology that had a total of 21 graduates.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Health and Fitness Fair with 9 organizations from the community represented giving information about nutrition and fitness and offering glucose screenings and blood pressure checks. More than 50 staff attended the INShape event.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility's PLUS graduation celebrated 7 students completing the program. Speakers included a PLUS volunteer and Dr. Hall. Families of the graduates were able to attend the ceremony and reception.

Forty staff members from the Edinburgh Correctional Facility attended two sessions of 'Promoting a Positive Corrections Culture' that was recently launched by the Department.



"Life is like an onion; you peel off one layer at a time and sometimes you weep." ~ Carl Sandburg

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



THURSDAY, APRIL 1, 2010

The ICAN (Indiana Canine Assistant Network) program held their spring graduation ceremony at the Indiana Women's Prison. There were 11 IWP offenders that serve as ICAN dog handlers and trainers at which time they presented their 5 ICAN service animals to the 5 designated recipients.

Ann Hubbard, Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) Community Involvement Coordinator, participated in a Career Fair at Maconaquah Middle School. She spoke with students about what it is like to work as a Correctional Officer and other careers available within the Indiana Department of Correction and at MCF.

The Wabash Valley Fatherhood Program has helped make the Shelburn Elementary class trip to St. Louis a reality. During a school assembly Superintendent James Basinger presented a \$1500 check, putting the student fund drive over the top. Without the funds many of the 5th and 6th graders faced being left behind.



The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a tour for members of the Indiana University School of Law – Indianapolis, Criminal Law Association. Ten students visited the facility to examine current theories in corrections first hand.

Branchville Correctional Facility had its semi-annual Blood Drive. Thirty-five staff members donated blood. Congratulations to everyone who gave. It is estimated that three lives may be saved for each unit of blood donated, making a total of 105 from this Blood Drive.

Four graduates of the Madison Correctional Facility Cosmetology Nail Program passed their state boards achieving licensing as nail techs within the state of Indiana.

Twenty-two Suicide Companions attended training presented by the Lead Psychologists' and the Mental Health Professionals at the Correctional Industrial Facility.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held a career day. The offenders learned how to fill out job applications and interview skills.

Miami Correctional Facility's Human Resource Department and Business Office staff recently spent their lunch hours working on fleece blankets to donate to a staff member's children who recently lost their mother. They made three blankets, one for each of child.

Offenders participating in the Dads In/Out program at the Westville Correctional Facility spent a wonderful day making DVDs. These 5 minute presentations by the offenders are messages of love and encouragement and will be sent to the offender's children.



Members of the DePauw University Prison History & Culture class toured the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, supplementing their classroom experience with a hands-on look at a maximum-security prison, including talks with staff and participants of the WVCF PLUS Unit.

Logansport Juvenile Treatment Facility's CLIFF Unit held a graduation for 7 students who successfully completed the program. They have successfully completed 350 hours of programming upon release from the Department. Since its inception in October 2005, the program has graduated 213 students with an 8.21% recidivism rate.

Miami Correctional Facility's Straight talk was in demand this week. The Minimum Housing program went on the road to two Middle Schools in Kokomo with offenders speaking to more than 200 students and school staff. Also, about 30 students came into the facility to listen to the Level 3 Straight Talk Offenders program.

The PLUS Outreach Committee at the Correctional Industrial Facility created Easter cards for Harter House, an Assisted Living Community in Anderson, Indiana.

The "Circle City Fatherhood" organization visited New Castle Correctional Facility and presented a program for the Short Term Offender Program (STOP). The presenters received a standing ovation and the offenders are looking forward to their return.

"Only those who dare to fail greatly can ever achieve greatly." ~ Robert F. Kennedy

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, APRIL 9, 2010

The director of the upcoming feature film "Joint Body" scouted locations at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, where scenes for the movie will be filmed. Lead actor Mark Pellegrino of "Lost" fame will be in front of the camera at Wabash next Friday.

The Executive Director of the Henry County United Fund notified New Castle that they will be honored as this year's "Employer of the Year" both locally and in Indianapolis. This is due to a 142% increase in staff donations over last year.

In response to the rise in the rate of burglaries in Marion County, Indianapolis Parole District #3 joined the City of Indianapolis/Department of Public Safety and the Indianapolis Violence Reduction Partnership in a meeting for paroled offenders convicted of Burglary. This meeting resulted in three arrests for Public Intoxication, as two parolees and one probationer arrived at the meeting intoxicated.

PEN Products staffers, Doug Evans and Lisa Williams, were presenters at the National Defendant Offender Workforce Development Conference in Dallas. Their presentation highlighted the USDOL Apprenticeship and the National Institute of Correction's Offender Workforce Development Training which have become major components of Re-entry within IDOC and PEN Products.

Correctional Industrial Facility donated 209 cell phones with chargers and some clothing to Alternatives Incorporated of Madison County, Indiana.

The Indiana State Prison held a blood drive and collected 29 pints of blood which were donated to the American Red Cross.

Staff from the Indiana State Prison presented an education program on Drugs, Gangs and Tattoos at the Kitchen Express Restaurant in Knox, Indiana. Superintendent Wilson stated, "We are proud and honored to have a program like this that promotes positive interactions and encourages social and community networking. Any sharing of information in an effort to save our youth from making mistakes and encourages appropriate behavior from children is a worthy cause."

Westville's Internal Affairs Department sent two representatives to speak at the annual "Keeping Our Communities Safe" conference sponsored by the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Mapps and Mr. Stinson will present on the topic of Security Threat Groups in the DOC and the Department's efforts to work with local law enforcement to promote safer communities.

Three Pendleton Juvenile students participated in community service activity for the Anderson Mayor Kris Ockomon and the Parks and Recreation Dep. They collected 26 bags for a total of 1300 gallons of trash from Streaty Park.

The Inside/Out Dad program is hosting its third annual Caregiver's event in the Visiting Room of Correctional Industrial Facility for the mothers, grandmothers, and grandfathers of the offender's children. The event is held to thank the caregivers for carrying all the responsibilities of the family while the father is incarcerated.

Agents and Supervisors from Indianapolis District #3 Parole Office participated in the Shepherd Community Center Beautification Project, in conjunction with the City of Indianapolis and residents of the Bates/Hendricks Neighborhood Association. They helped plant trees and clean up the trail and stream by removing trash and debris in demonstrating a commitment to being a good neighbor.

Seventeen students including the instructor from Ivy Tech's Criminal Justice Program in Muncie toured New Castle Correctional Facility.

Staff at the Reception-Diagnostic Center held a "March Madness" Coney Dog Sale, and \$220.96 was raised for the upcoming Correctional Employees' Appreciation Week.

Students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility were invited to celebrate the Easter holiday with an egg hunt, games, prizes, and a voluntary church service.

Staff at the Indiana State Prison held a Chili Cheese Dog fundraiser for the Correctional Police Officers Fund and raised approximately \$300.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility welcomed Dr. Elijah Anderson, Professor of Sociology at Yale University. Dr. Anderson spoke to the students about the importance of getting an education to change their lives.

Correctional Industrial Facility will host its eighth weekend for the Preventative Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) and 16 couples are expected to attend.

"If you tell the truth you don't have to remember anything." ~ Mark Twain

WEEKLY VIEWS

BE INFORMED ABOUT THE INDIANA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION



FRIDAY, APRIL 16, 2010

Correctional Police Officers Troy Keith and Frank Vanihel from the Putnamville Correctional Facility risked life and limb to rappel down the side of an old lime-stone quarry to save a dog that had fallen onto a ledge 80 feet above the quarry's watery depths. The dog, frightened, hungry and dehydrated, but surprisingly in good spirits, was taken to a local Humane Shelter. If unclaimed, the dog will become the newest member of the Putnamville Correctional Facility's K-9 Unit.

A Victims Awareness program was held at Pendleton Juvenile. The Future Soldiers performed a drill and released balloons in memory of victims of crime. A bush, donated by the Pendleton staff, was planted in the main yard

Offender food sales and donations collected by staff on a "walk-in" basis were donated to the family of our colleague, Officer William Glassford. Officer Glassford lost his home to a house fire and his child suffered injuries. Officer Glassford expressed his deep appreciation to the staff for their compassion.



Facilities throughout the state have been enthusiastically raising money for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF). The Correctional Industrial Facility donated \$100. The Indiana State Prison held a silent auction to raise money, with staff contributions totaling \$583.75. Over \$500 dollars was raised by staff from a walk-a-thon and bake sale at Pendleton Juvenile. Camp Summit staff have also embraced fund-raising activities for the ICPOF. Some activities have included: Bake Sales, Pot-Luck food sales, a White Elephant Sale, and auctioning the superintendents' parking spot.

Logansport Juvenile's CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever) program presented its STAR (Students Talking about Recovery) program to the 7th and 8th grade classes at Pioneer Regional School Corporation. 6 STAR students presented the program information and answered questions from the audience. This presentation is being made to local school corporations, alternative schools and church youth groups.

The inaugural Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF) Golf Open will be held on Friday, May 14, 2010. There are still several group spots available. Interested parties should contact Greg Jones (219-785-2511 Ext. 4672 or gljones@idoc.in.gov) or Steven Klosowski (219-785-2511 Ext. 4188 or smklosowski@idoc.in.gov) as soon as possible. Proceeds will go to the ICPOF to benefit IDOC Employees in need.

Plainfield Correctional Facility held a PEN Products Career Path Workshop, hosted by Doug Evan and Lisa William of PEN Products. During the re-entry workshop, staff and offenders interacted as a team to complete skill assessments and a series of life skill projects which will aid the offenders as they transition back into society.

16 offenders will participate in a PREP (Prevention and Relationship Enhancement Program) weekend at Wabash Valley. PREP is a relationship building program and strong re-entry tool focused on expectations, commitment, feeling understood and forgiveness. US Health and Human Services will also be at Wabash Valley to observe a portion of the PREP weekend.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility welcomed Dr. Elijah Anderson who spoke to the student population about making positive choices and the importance of getting an education to change their quality of life. He reflected about a trip to see an electric chair with his dad that motivated him to change his personal life and dedicate himself to reading and getting an education.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 26 students who earned their GED while at the facility. Logansport Mayor Mike Fincher was the keynote speaker for the event. The event was attended by family members of the graduates, staff members and the local press.

All offices, control pods, towers, storage areas and more got a thorough cleaning and outdated archive files also got the boot from the facility warehouse during Wabash Valley's "Spring Clean-Up Day".

The Facility Fundraising Feud to raise money for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund ended this week. Stay tuned to see which facility won the Commissioner's traveling trophy!

"There are no problems we cannot solve together, and very few that we can solve by ourselves." ~ Lyndon B. Johnson



Friday
April 22, 2010

Weekly Views

Chief Ronay opened the ICA conference at Martin University with the theme "Aligning the Stars for Endless Possibilities". Commissioner Buss also represented the agency on a panel that discussed dealing with collaboration between criminal justice stakeholders.

To honor Crime Victims' Rights Week, Pendleton Juvenile's special needs unit created a Popsicle sculpture representing child abuse victims who died in 2007 and the Faith Based Unit created a paper chain for each crime victim that was killed last year. Students at South Bend Juvenile also planted 200 donated trees in honor of Crime Victims' Rights Week.

The Sullivan County Sheriff's Department (SCSD) received over 30 confiscated cell phones from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. A special presentation was made by Superintendent James Basinger, who indicated this is just the first installment, giving the phones a new beneficial calling by distributing them to seniors and victims of abuse.

The Indianapolis District #3 Parole Office participated in Operation Crime Hot Spots City-Wide Sweep, in conjunction with the Indianapolis Department of Public Safety, which resulted in one new arrest for a technical parole violation and two collateral arrests for Possession of Cocaine and Marijuana.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner for those who give so selflessly, their time and energy for the benefit of the facility. Donna Olsen was recognized by Superintendent Knight as Volunteer of the Year.

The Correctional Industrial Facility is hosting its seventh Kairos Weekend. 38 volunteers and 43 offenders are anticipated to participate in the four day event.

Westville Correctional Facility currently has two interns from Valparaiso University and will receive seventeen student nurses from Valparaiso, two doctoral candidates from Argosy University, and one intern from Loyola University this summer. This represents about 2000 hours of free annual labor plus potential correctional career development.

The first of PEN Product's six, one-day Offender Workforce Development regional training programs was held at the Vigo County Ivy Tech campus.

Staff from Fort Wayne Police Department's Victims Assistance judged posters made by students at Northeast Juvenile for Crime Victims' Rights Week. The winning poster will be printed on a T-Shirt for the next FWPD Victims Assistance Campaign.

The Correctional Training Institute hosted the National Institute of Corrections (NIC) "Thinking for a Change" Train the Trainer program. A total of 18 IDOC and Community Corrections staff completed the program, and received certification as NIC "Thinking for a Change" Instructors.

Representatives from the Joyce Meyer Ministry visited Rockville, Putnamville, and Plainfield Correctional Facilities. At Rockville and Putnamville, hygiene bags, paper back books, and religious pamphlets were presented. At Plainfield Correctional Facility a retreat and special service was held for offenders committed to making a change in their lives through faith.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted an Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program graduation ceremony where 12 residents and 17 IUPUI students were honored for successfully completing the six week course.

Forty-two offender graduates of the PLUS Program were honored at a graduation ceremony at the Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Rockville Correctional Facility raised \$800 in a silent auction to benefit the Correctional Peace Officer Fund.

Branchville Correctional Facility collected 35 units of blood at a Blood Drive for the American Red Cross.

Miami Correctional Facility held a two-day fundraiser for Employees Appreciation Week where staff were served pulled pork barbeque sandwiches with chips, a pickle and a drink.

Students from Purdue University, Indiana University South Bend, Wabash Ivy Tech, and Indiana Wesleyan toured Miami Correctional Facility to learn more about corrections and prison life.

Kairos visited the Plainfield Correctional Facility, giving 42 offenders the opportunity to take part in a weekend-long event, designed to enhance an offender's spiritual growth. More than 50 volunteers came to the facility to spread the work of their ministry.



Friday
April 30, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility passed its ACA Re-Accreditation with 100% on mandatory and 97.39 on non-mandatory standards

Vincennes University Nursing Students have been putting their skills to work at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, conducting required clinicals. Under the watchful eye of CMS Director of Nursing Kim Gray, 33 students have taken part in the educational program, with emphasis placed on treating mental health offenders.

Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent Tom Hanlon presented a check for \$1,922.94 to Major Rick of the Salvation Army of Delaware County.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center held a two-day Pizza Sale where \$256.37 was raised for the upcoming Correctional Employees' Appreciation Week.

The Red Cross Blood Mobile came to Westville Correctional Facility. 50 staff volunteered and 43 pints were collected, exceeding the facility's goal by 43%.

Northeast Juvenile Correctional Facility held a staff vs. students volleyball game. The staff were victorious winning both matches 25 - 22 and 25 - 21.

Thanks to the generosity of Wabash Valley staff the 2010 March of Dimes Wabash Team raised over \$1,700 with more on the way! Raffle proceeds from a custom PLUS Unit/March of Dimes quilt will also be added to the total.

Both Miami and Pendleton Correctional Facilities hosted Volunteer Appreciation Dinners honoring their volunteers for their service to the facilities. At Miami, 13 volunteers were honored and given lapel pins for their 10-year's of service. Each volunteer enjoyed a dinner, some small gifts from the facility and PEN Products, and were treated to words of appreciation from staff and offenders. At Pendleton, Lemuel Vega was recognized as Volunteer of the Year and volunteers Felicia Williams, Dirus Dustin, and Kenneth Beache were presented with Distinguished Service Awards.

Staff at Rockville Correctional Facility participated in a Coney Dog/Bake Sale organized by the Training Department. The enthusiastic response by staff earned \$345.20 for the Employee Appreciation Fund.

Logansport juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 9 students who completed the CLIFF program. In addition to completing CLIFF, 6 of the 9 students also earned their GED while enrolled in the program.

For community service, four senior students from Camp Summit removed graffiti from equipment at a public playground located near Boston Middle School. The graffiti removal program at Camp Summit is a partnership with the City of La Porte Police Department which provides student labor removing and restoring property that has been vandalized.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted another Christmas Behind Bars event for the offender population. This is the seventh time the program has come to the facility promoting a spiritual message and giving goody bags to over 1600 offenders.

Pendleton Juvenile held a graduation for 14 GED graduates. Family and staff participated in the ceremony. Three Students received their ServSafe Certificate. One student received his Certificate of Completion.

Staff at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a "Taco-in-a Bag" luncheon. All proceeds went toward Correctional Employee Appreciation Week.

The Wabash Valley PLUS Unit donated \$100 to a Sullivan County American Red Cross fund raiser hosted by Mark Gilbert of Angel's Market.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a ceremony to recognize the facility's most recent graduates of the Inside Out Dads Program.

This weekend, Branchville Correctional Facility will host their 8th Kairos Event. Over 50 volunteers are donating their time to make this event possible. The facility hopes to reach approximately 50 offenders and also establish possible mentors and long term volunteers.

The Joyce Meyer Ministries sent hygiene gift bags to the over 2,100 offenders housed at Wabash Valley. Facility staff helped deliver the supplies followed by evening services.

Recent graduates of the Purdue "Master Gardener Program" held at Chain O'Lakes worked to restore the landscape in front of the Albion County Court House and Probation Department.



Friday
May 7, 2010

Weekly Views

Facilities across the state enjoyed a week full of games, prizes and great food for Correctional Employees' Appreciation Week. IDOC staff at every facility received recognition for their dedication and commitment to the citizens of Indiana.

The IDOC Apprenticeship Team consisting of Doug Evans, Lisa Williams, Hiram Sizemore, and Charles Jones were each awarded Governor Daniel's Public Service Achievement Awards.

Lt. Lori Petty, Officer Ryan Withycombe, Officer Scott McFerren and Tammy Ranard were honored as the 2010 Wabash Valley Employees of the Year during an Employee Appreciation Awards Luncheon.

Plainfield Correctional Facility recognized John Berry, Sgt. Tammy Ray, Don Harris, Sgt. Richard Stern, Sgt. Belvin Campbell and Officer Anthony Lyons for their exemplary service to the Department.

State Representative Nancy Michael and Chief of Staff Dan Ronay spoke at an Employee Recognition Ceremony at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Specialty Team Members and other staff received recognition for their service and Memorial Scholarships were also awarded.



New Castle Superintendent Stine and staff held a special Memorial Service for fallen Correctional Workers in recognition of the start of Correctional Employees' Week.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility passed its ACA Re-Accreditation with 100% on mandatory and 97.39 on non-mandatory standards.

Indianapolis Parole Staff had a staff picture taken at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway Track.

Reception Diagnostic Center recognized Maintenance Electrician Larry Lee as RDC Employee of the Year.

The students from the creative writing program at South Bend Juvenile had their poetry published anonymously in the anthology, "Words of the Forgotten".

Correctional Industrial Facility received a score of 100% for all of the 59 Mandatory Standards and a score of 98.87% for all of the 444 Non-Mandatory Standards for their ACA Audit.

Westville Correctional Facility Re-Entry staff members Cathy Chmielewski and David Sonnenberg were honored by the Educational Opportunity Center Community for Education Partners and received the Director's Award from Lake Michigan College.

Pendleton Correctional Facility's off-ground work crews logged 2,041 hours during April. Since January 1st these crews have provided 6,396.25 hours of community service.

Offenders from New Castle's Minimum Housing Unit provided 3,253 hours of Community Service for the City of New Castle and Henry County during the month of April 2010.

The spring cleaning of state roadways by Wabash Valley minimum-security offenders ended with a whopping 1,852 bags of trash collected, totaling over 11,000 pounds worth of debris.

Educator, youth advocate, and performer Hasan Davis was a guest speaker to more than 50 students at Pendleton Juvenile. Hasan Davis is the founder of Empowerment Solutions and the Vice Chair of the Federal Juvenile Justice Advisory Committee.

The Miami Correctional Facility held a Kairos weekend recently with more than 100 volunteers coming in to work with offenders.

The students in Unit 6 at Madison Juvenile were rewarded with ice cream cones for winning the facility-wide "Safety Award" for having the lowest number of injury incidents for the month of April.





Friday
May 14, 2010

Weekly Views

Three students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a Restorative Justice Project at the Jefferson County Animal Shelter. After their hard work cleaning the shelter, the students enjoyed some “play time” with the animals.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility instituted an “Offender Visitation Information Line” that visitors can access to check on the visitation status of facility housing units.

Congratulations to Susie Brinker on her 35 years of service to the State of Indiana. Currently Susie is a Captain at the Correctional Industrial Facility. Susie was promoted from the Pendleton Correctional Facility in 2000.



Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted an event honoring the volunteers from the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN). Superintendent Knight presented the volunteers with service awards in front of approximately 45 ICAN donors and visitors. Offenders gave a demonstration, displaying the commands the 18 dogs have learned to date and several offenders spoke to the crowd praising the ICAN program and discussed the positive impact it has had in their lives.

Wabash Valley Superintendent James Basinger helped deliver 270 quilts to residents of the Lafayette, Indiana Veterans’ home. PLUS offenders have been making the comfort quilts since January, their largest donation to date in honor of our Indiana based veterans.

The South Bend Community Re-entry Center graduated its first class of offenders from the Relapse and Prevention for Re-entry Aftercare Program. This program is sponsored by the St. Joseph County Drug Free Community Council and is a joint project with SBCRC to provide a substance abuse aftercare program to offenders that have completed substance abuse treatment and/or the Department’s Therapeutic Community.

The Indiana Women’s Prison held a Mother’s Day luncheon for all the women and children that participate in the Family Preservation program. Castleton Christian Church set up tables for the offenders’ children to do arts and craft projects, play games and have the family photo taken. Lunch was served by the volunteers and the families dined on fried chicken, green beans, macaroni and cheese, chips, and cookies.

Staff at the Pendleton Correctional Facility passed out hygiene gift bags to offenders. The bags, which included a bottle of shampoo, a bar of soap, and inspirational literature, were donated by the Joyce Meyer Ministries Organization.

Camp Summit completed its ACA Mock Audit with a score of 100% on the mandatory standards and 99.7% on the non-mandatory standards. The facility will undergo the national audit next month.



50 Wabash Valley PLUS quilts were delivered to the Humane Society of Sullivan County to be given to the new “parents” of each dog or cat adopted at the shelter.

A graduation ceremony was held at Madison Correctional Facility, recognizing 19 offenders for receiving associate degrees, 3 offenders receiving bachelor degrees and 19 offenders passing their GED.

There was a fun filled hard fought softball game between staff from the Correctional Industrial Facility and Pendleton Correctional Facility in celebration of Employee Appreciation Week.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility Interim Superintendent Latoya Lane honored several IREF staff for their commitment and dedication to hard work, and presented awards for staff who have worked for the IDOC between 5 and 35 years.



Friday
May 21, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Miami Correctional Facility's Straight Talk program went on the road to Delphi High School and Twin Lakes High School in Monticello, IN. More than 300 students from both schools heard the offenders speak about their lives and prison life, encouraging them to stay away from drugs and alcohol and get an education.

Congratulations to Maintenance Electrician Foreman Wayne White on his 20 years of service to the State of Indiana. Wayne has worked at the Correctional Industrial Facility the full 20 years.

Wabash Valley Superintendent James Basinger was on hand to congratulate 35 PEN offenders upon receiving U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Apprenticeship Certificates. The USDOL program helps prepare offenders with marketable job skills and meaningful employment upon release.

WTHI News in Terre Haute showcased the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's PLUS unit and its participants' efforts to honor fallen soldiers by creating an over 40 foot American flag quilt. Over 5000 names of fallen heroes serving in Afghanistan and Iraq are included on the memorial quilt.

The Salvation Army of Delaware County donated a variety of vegetable starter plants to the Correctional Industrial Facility's garden. The produce grown will be donated to the Anderson Christian Center.

Indianapolis District#3 Parole Office participated in the IMPD-North District Homicide Response Sweep in response to the rising numbers of homicides in the area recently, by visiting parolees in this area. As a result three paroled offenders were arrested on new charges and one was apprehended on an outstanding warrant.

The "Indiana Offender Workforce Development Specialist" (OWDS) team conducted their second of six workshops in Columbus, IN. The workshop was attended by IDOC, community members and faith based service providers. The six workshops will lead to a team of 30 participants who will attend the full 180 hour OWDS training program in 2011.

Indiana State Prison staff participated in the YMCA Corporate Challenge. Games offered at the event included a Golf Scramble, Bowling, Darts, Texas Hold'em, Hurry up Softball, Euchre and Bean Bag Toss.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility held a ceremony to honor its most recent graduates from the Ball State University and Grace College Programs. Mr. Isaac Randolph, Executive Director of the Office of Faith Based and Community Initiatives, served as the featured speaker for the event.

Oakland City University at the Indiana Women's Prison held their commencement ceremony for 25 graduates, 5 with Bachelors Degrees and 20 with Associates Degrees. The class of 2009 and 2010 celebrated their accomplishments with family, friends, photographs and a delicious luncheon.

The Correctional Industrial Facility raised \$110.00 for the Employee Appreciation Fund by hosting a silent auction, selling 40 donated items.

The twelfth Kairos weekend was held at the Rockville Correctional Facility with 41 participants graduating from the program. 43 Kairos volunteers facilitated the program and distributed homemade cookies throughout the facility to offenders and staff members.

The Westville Correctional Facility Re-Entry Team hosted a meeting with staff from Lake County Community Corrections. The meeting produced a good exchange of information and ideas to help improve the transition of offenders from WCC to the county's numerous CTP programs.

Both the Correctional Industrial Facility and Miami Correctional Facility celebrated "Christmas Behind Bars". Offender had a chance to hear a Christmas program, listen to Christmas music, and receive goody bags.

The Joyce Meyer Ministries paid visits to the Correctional Industrial Facility, Westville Correctional Facility, Miami Correctional Facility, and the Indiana State Prison. Hygiene bags and inspirational literature were distributed at each facility and offenders had the opportunity to attend service.



Friday
May 28, 2010

Weekly Views

Parole Services completed its first-ever ACA audit and is being recommended for accreditation with 100% compliance on mandatory standards and 95% on non-mandatory. All who participated are to be commended for their excellent work.

Over \$4,600 has been donated by IDOC facilities to the Indiana Women's Prison Wee Ones program. Facilities who have donated so far include the Indiana State Prison, Correctional Industrial Facility, Pendleton, Putnamville, Miami, Westville, Wabash Valley, Madison, Plainfield, and Edinburgh.

Major Robert Cabanaw from the Indiana State Prison will be retiring after 34 year of service. Staff had a luncheon in his honor.



Wabash Valley PLUS participants presented a Fallen Hero Memorial Quilt to Gene and Dona Griffin, the parents of Sgt. Dale Griffin, killed in Afghanistan last October. The Griffins, who also volunteer at WVCF, termed the quilt presentation as "overwhelming."

Pendleton Juvenile held its annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner. Volunteers were served by the Culinary Arts students and entertained by the Future Soldiers and Boy Scouts.

GEO Group and the New Castle Correctional Facility were presented an award by the Henry County United Fund as Henry County's "Company of the Year" for their 142% increase in giving to the United Fund for 2009 and 2010.

Offenders at Branchville Correctional Facility raised money to purchase roller coasters for a 6th grade class at Marengo Elementary. According to the teacher, the roller coaster project had an extremely positive impact on the students who are studying motion.

The first Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund (ICPOF) Golf Open raised over \$32,000 for ICPOF.

Westville Correctional Facility held a disaster drill to see how well outside responders and prison staff could coordinate a response to an emergency.

Ball State University held a graduation for 50 offenders at New Castle Correctional Facility. 29 Associates Degrees & 21 Bachelor Degrees were awarded.



Members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Organization conducted a Memorial Day Ceremony.

Lt. Ryan Harrison at the Indiana State Prison partnered with South Bend Juvenile Facility and spoke at Goshen High School. They spoke about the general life of an adult and juvenile offender in the Department of Correction.

Purdue North Central held a graduation at the Minimum Security Unit at the Indiana State Prison. Students received Bachelor degrees, Associate degrees, and certificates. One student was recognized for receiving the Highest Distinction Award. Students were also recognized for being honor students for the term.

Correctional Police Officers Mavis Grady and Captain Cathy Elliott from Pendleton Juvenile and Hubert Duncan and Tom Francum from the Correctional Industrial Facility successfully completed handgun qualifications at the recently constructed range at the Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Profound honesty, openness and treatment occurred at Westville's Therapeutic Community family seminar project. Eight offenders along with thirteen family members participated, where they talked about addiction and the impact and toll addiction takes on the family. The event was made possible by the Justice Assistance grant.

Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility's Employee Appreciation Committee hosted a nacho sale fundraiser. Proceeds from the sale will benefit the facility's SITCON team.



Friday
June 4, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

IDOC Parole Services Division received their first ACA Accreditation, scoring a 100% on mandatory standards and 95% on non-mandatory standards. The auditors said that for a first time audit this was one of the best parole divisions they have ever had the opportunity to audit.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility Interim Superintendent Latoya Lane recently completed the Criminal Justice doctoral program at Capella University, an intensive online distance learning program. Congratulations Dr. Lane!!

Pendleton Juvenile students helped the Anderson Police Department set up for a Crime Watch Seminar. After the students finished that task, they helped officers wash and clean the patrol vehicles. Working with the Anderson Police Department is just one of the community service projects that students are involved in while at the facility.



22 IDOC staff members participated in the Law Enforcement Torch Run for the Special Olympics in Indianapolis. \$966.00 was donated by the IDOC to Special Olympics.

Mr. Tom Zell, from the Correctional Industrial Facility and PEN Products, retired after 20 years of service.

Kiwanis Club volunteers came to South Bend Juvenile with their horses to teach the student about equine sciences and allowed some of students the opportunity to try horseback riding.

Westville Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting for Camp Summit Juvenile Facility, Indiana State Prison and Westville Correctional Facility. Dan Ronay, Chief of Staff presented the Strategic Plan to the community members, and Superintendent's from each facility shared information on how the Strategic Plan affects their facilities. The Westville Culinary Arts Department provided a light lunch to the members.

Offender off-ground work crews at the Pendleton Correctional Facility logged 1001 hours during the month of May. Since January 1, 2010 these crews have provided a total of 7,397 hours of community service.

Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent, Tom Hanlon, welcomed the PLUS Advisory Board Meeting members at CIF. Approximately a dozen members including Commissioner Buss were in attendance. After the meeting, the members toured CIF's PLUS Unit.

Members of the group Camp Salvation, a gospel rap group, performed at South Bend Juvenile and played basketball with the students.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's Fatherhood Program participants donated \$1,500 to the Terre Haute-based Community Center. The money will help provide children with after school programs, warm nutritional meals, clothing, a food pantry and education labs year round.



Camp Summit reached level three on the PBS Performance Measure scale. Camp Summit has the distinction of being the first Indiana facility to reach this high level of performance. Staff were commended by the Commissioner, Chief Ronay and Executive Director Dempsey for their hard work and dedication to the PBS process.



Friday
June 11, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Correctional Medical Services has announced that the Westville Correctional Facility has been named as Facility of the Year! Superintendent Levenhagen praised the relationship between CMS and the WCC staff, stating the professional relationship is the best he's seen in all his years of service. Such an achievement would not be possible without the teamwork between contractual and correctional departments.

Branchville's PLUS program donated \$1000 to the Perry County Child Welfare Department to help sponsor a trip to a local theme park. Approximately 30 kids will enjoy a trip to Holiday World they would not be able to take without the PLUS sponsorship

The Indiana State Prison assisted the Kankakee Valley Pop Warner Football Program with power washing 130 helmets for the up-coming season. Pop Warner is a youth football program where kids compete with kids of similar age and size.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 9 students who completed the PLUS program. The graduation was attended by students, staff, volunteers and family members. This is the sixth group to graduate from the program.

The Christian Motorcyclists Association held a breakout religious service at Pendleton Juvenile. 25 students participated in a morning service and were able to look at Harley motorcycles that were brought in to the facility by the volunteers that afternoon.

A graduation ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor the most recent graduates of the inside the walls G.E.D. Program. A second graduation event was also held to recognize Outside Dorm Security Level 1 G.E.D. and Vocational Horticulture graduates.

A special Wabash Valley PLUS quilt will showcase the IDOC booth at the upcoming Indiana Black Expo in Indianapolis in mid-July. The WVCF quilt will be viewed by over 350,000 people expected to attend the largest ethnic/cultural event in the United States. The quilt was presented to Parole and Re-Entry Services Director Liz Johnson by the PLUS offenders.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) held its second IDOC/U.S. Department of Labor graduation ceremony with 4 offenders completing the In2Work Apprenticeship Program and 27 offenders completing the Housekeeping Apprenticeship Program. Staff, family and personnel from USDOL were on hand for the ceremony. The event was highlighted by the MCF choir singing "Impossible Dream" with the new MCF Band.

This Sunday, IREF will kick off its week-long Tent Revival. Among the guests speaking on Sunday are Reverend William Bumphus of the Jesus Inside Prison Ministry and George Whirley from Unchained Ministries.

The Correctional Industrial Facility in partnership with Ball State University held its 6th annual graduation with 38 men awarded Associates Degrees and 44 men awarded Bachelors of General Studies. Family and friends attended the celebration.

The offender organization, American Legion Post 130 at the Indiana State Prison was featured on Channel 16, WNDU for their contribution to the community with their food sales. The American Legion holds food sales throughout the year and donates all of the proceeds to help others.

Rockville Correctional Facility held a graduation for 28 offenders who recently completed the CLIFF/WHAT substance abuse programs at the facility. Governor Daniels and Commissioner Buss attended the ceremony to congratulate the women.

New Castle Correctional Facility was honored to have staff from Lt. Governor Becky Skillman's Office, Special Assistant Tyler Stock and Senior Policy Director Jamie Mc Nichols, along with Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Dan Ronay visit and tour the facility.

Pendleton Juvenile took two students to Gleaners Food Bank to participate in making boxes filled with a variety of items for individuals that are homeless. The boxes will be distributed at several parks in Marion County.



Friday
June 18, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

The BMV mobile unit was able to process 158 State I.D. Cards for inmates soon to be released from Plainfield Correctional Facility. Thanks to the partnership between IDOC and the BMV, 467 inmates have been provided with proper State I.D.'s prior to their release this year.

Congratulations to Westville's Linda Sward, Director of the facility's Therapeutic Community (TC). Ms. Sward is the recipient of the American Correctional Association's "Best in the Business" award. Her pioneering and innovative leadership of the facility's 440 bed TC Unit was recognized in the most recent issue of ACA's *Corrections Today*.

Congratulations to Wabash Valley staffers Sam Zollars and Aaron Jerrell for being big losers! Both were part of a weight-loss competition in Sullivan County and their team of four took the top prize, losing 235 pounds. Sam lost more weight than anyone else, over 75 pounds!

U.S. Department of Labor Assistant Secretary Jane Oates and other USDOL Regional & State Representatives were on hand for an Apprenticeship graduation ceremony at Plainfield Correctional Facility. 105 offenders were recognized for meeting the on-the-job and related training requirements for completion.

Miami Correctional Facility held its annual Family Fun Day with more than 300 staff and family members present. There were K-9 and E-Squad demonstrations, pony rides, a dunk tank, children's games, corn hole, croquet, ladder ball, water slide, bouncy castle, and an old fashion cookout for all. The day ended with Corey Elzbeck, CMS, kissing a live pig on the snout. Corey was the winner of the Kiss a Pig competition, which raised more than \$350 for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life.

Branchville Correctional Facility's Parenting Department hosted its annual Children's Center picnic. Approximately 15 dads and over 20 kids participated in the event. The children were able to enjoy a day with their fathers including hamburgers, hot dogs, and games.

PEN Products' Job Placement division held two Career Path Planning Workshops at the CCA Marion County Jail 2 and the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility. 56 offenders and 25 re-entry professionals from IDOC, PEN, and area service providers attended the workshops. The groups worked on a variety of activities dealing with decision making, time management and career planning.

Members of the SITCON team hosted a pizza sale at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility. Over \$170 was raised to benefit the SITCON teams' efforts to attend a Hostage Negotiation Conference in South Carolina in October.

Four students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a Restorative Justice Project at the Jefferson County Animal Shelter with Program Director Taflinger and Recreation Staff.

Six staff members from New Castle Correctional Facility served breakfast to approximately 140 kids at the Henry County Sheriff's Youth Camp. New Castle also donated \$500 and loaned the camp 140 mattresses for the week.

Anderson Herald Bulletin reporter Christina Wright and photographer John Cleary visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview Internal Affairs Officer Mike Rains in connection with a story on the Sentinel II Ionscan Machine that has been installed at the facility.

The Correctional Industrial Facility was the site of the Unchained Gang Motorcycle Ministry and the Soul Patrol band from Ellettsville House of Prayer. Inside the gymnasium, sixty volunteers, their motorcycles and the Soul Patrol rock band shook the house.

Pendleton Juvenile had two students work on a Habitat for Humanity worksite. The students participate in community events as a part of the restorative justice mission of the Division of Youth Services.

The Indiana State Prison held two graduations. Offenders received their GED Diplomas and the Department of Labor presented certificates to offenders for the Apprenticeship Programs. Grace College and Ball State University presented Associate and Bachelor Degrees to 62 offenders.



Friday
June 25, 2010

Weekly Views

Facility Volunteer Maleah Stringer was successful in obtaining a \$10,000 grant for the "Saving Max" program from the members of an initiative of the South Madison Community Foundation called "Open Hearts-Open Purses." The money will be used for the program through the Animal Protection League, Anderson Area Care and Control, and the Correctional Industrial Facility. The "Saving Max" program involves inmates and community members fostering pets for victims of domestic violence.

Wabash Valley Officer Shawna Vair, who coordinated the facility's March of Dimes 2010 fund drive, presented Superintendent James Basinger with a March of Dimes appreciation plaque, denoting the facility making the \$2000+ Club!

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 27 students who recently earned their GED's. Indiana Department of Education Assistant Superintendent of Support Services, Rich Hogue was the Keynote Speaker for the event. Also in attendance for the event were Directors John Nally and Susan Lockwood of the IDOC Education Division.

Rockville Correctional Facility staff members participated in the Parke County Relay for Life, raising \$809. The team's luau campsite won 2nd place. Fund raising efforts included a children's book sale and donations for team sponsorship.



The Henryville Correctional Facility had the first Brief Back of the year along with an Executive Staff Meeting with Central Office Executive Staff. All celebrated Chief of Staff Dan Ronay's birthday with lunch cooked by the Superintendent and cake and ice cream.

The Indiana State Prison held a Family Day Celebration. Staff and their families enjoyed a picnic lunch. There were elephant ears, ice cream, horse drawn buggy rides, children's games, tours of the facility, and demonstrations from ISP emergency squads were conducted. The Michigan City Police had a vehicle on display, and the Michigan City Fire Fighters had the smoke house available with a fire truck for the children to try the sirens. The U.S. Coast Guard, Ivy Tech, St. Anthony's Hospital, PEN Products, Any Time Fitness, and CMS had booths available with gifts for everyone.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Job Fair for the PEN Products Brake Remanufacturing Operation. It was reported that over 400 offenders visited the Job Fair display, 100 received information and 66 applications were submitted. The Brake Operation presently employs approximately 100 offenders.

Volunteers from the Totally Free Ministries Program, held an outdoors church revival at the Indiana Women's Prison, approximately 140 offenders were able to attend.

163 Wabash Valley offenders took a giant step in preparation for re-entry into society, graduating from facility GED, Vocational and College Programs. Proud family members were on hand for the milestone event. Superintendent James Basinger said, "A degree in hand will enhance employment opportunities and a successful new beginning, post incarceration."

Westville's Therapeutic Community and PLUS units co-hosted the facility's annual PREP weekend. 33 offenders welcomed their significant others to the relationship seminar. The offenders in the facility's Culinary Arts program utilized their skills to serve meals to the attendees.



At Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility 12 out of the 13 students that completed the G.E.D. test in May passed!

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility is gearing up for the IDOC Blood Drive. American Red Cross representative Leslie Waddell told staffers at the WVCF Re-Call meeting the need for donations is critical, especially during holidays such as the 4th of July. The facility's drive takes place July 1st and 2nd.



Friday
July 2, 2010

Weekly Views

Pendleton Correctional Facility Captain Robert Beaudry retired with 26 years of service. Thank you Captain Beaudry for your years of service and dedication to the Department!

"The Extreme Tour" visited the gymnasium of the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Five Bands played music from hip-hop sounds to heavy metal Christian music. 50 students were chosen to attend the special event. The tour goes from city to city preaching Christianity through music.



Wabash Valley staff, like first time giver Linda Ingram, turned out in droves to launch the 2010 IDOC Blood Drive competition. American Red Cross staff is making donations possible for all shifts just in time for July 4th holiday blood needs around the state.

The Correctional Industrial Facility sent 50lbs of Zucchini from its garden to the Christian Center in Anderson, Indiana.

The Therapeutic Community at the Correctional Industrial Facility is hosting a talent show for offenders. There will be 8 skits or performances focused on the topic, "Freedom, an inside job."

Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) participated in the Teachers Workshop tour conducted by Dr. Elizabeth R. Osborn, Assistant to the Chief Justice for Court History & Public Education. IWP provided a luncheon and gave a tour of the facility to visiting teachers from the Indiana Supreme Court. The teachers were all overwhelmed by the programming available at the prison. Superintendent McCauley, Assistant Superintendent Turner and Community Volunteer Coordinator Atwood were invited by Dr. Osborn to the closing ceremony luncheon at the statehouse.

Delegates from Honduras visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility, Correctional Training Institute, Rockville, Pendleton, and New Castle Correctional Facilities as part of their visit to the U.S. to examine the American judicial system. The delegates are participants in the U.S. Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs International Visitor Leadership Program.



Caleb Hatfield finished his internship at the Correctional Industrial Facility. He began May 12, 2010 and has completed 120 hours. Caleb is taking Criminal Justice/Psychology at Trine University, formerly Tri-State University, and will return to classes on August 24 as a junior.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility recognized 356 offenders for their academic successes during a graduation ceremony. Five offenders received Bachelors Degrees and 18 received Associate Degrees from Indiana State University. 65 offenders received their GED certificates and 268 received vocational certifications.

Westville's Superintendent Levenhagen and the Re-Entry staff are pleased to see the facility's Purposeful Incarceration efforts advance. Four offenders arrived at Westville with abstracts from their sentencing judge ordering the offender to participate in a Therapeutic Community (TC). The Purposeful Incarceration initiative also allows the sentencing judge to modify the offender's sentence once the offender has completed the TC program.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility said "Thank You!" to its over 200 volunteers and community service providers during the 13th annual Community Service Recognition Program. Volunteers like Richard Pressel (winner of the 2010 Outstanding Service Award/Education) provide invaluable help to Religious Services, Re-Entry, Substance Abuse, Education and other programs, to the tune of over 500 hours each month!



Friday
July 9, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

The BMV Mobile Unit visited the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility. IREF staff worked diligently to prepare for the visit. In two days they were able to process 81 offenders to receive a State Issued ID card upon their release! Since April, the IDOC and BMV have collaborated to deliver 548 State ID Cards to soon to be released offenders.

Westville Correctional Facility's Honor Guard, E-Squad, and Canine Units presented in the LaPorte County 4th of July parade. This local parade also hosted Commissioner Buss as its Grand Marshall.

Congratulations to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fire Department! They "smoked" the competition at the annual Firefighter's Contest during the Sullivan County Park and Lake's "Fireworks over the Lake Freedom Festival". The trophy is currently on display at the facility.



Graduates of the Master Gardener class at the Chain 'O Lakes Correctional Facility planned, planted, and cared for several vegetable gardens while also maintaining the landscaping around the facility. They donated their produce to the Central Noble Food Pantry in Albion, delivering an abundance of green beans, peppers, zucchini, cucumbers, peas, and lettuce.

Offenders housed in the P.L.U.S. dormitory at Putnamville Correctional Facility made a \$1500 donation to the Putnam County Family Support Center. Volunteer Coordinator Rick Hayes and Unit Manager Sashi Kumaran presented the check to officials at the Support Center. The Support Center provides counseling and child/baby goods to single mothers and families in need in the Putnam County area.

Wabash Valley staffers, Officer Albert Tovar and Sergeant Justin Fuller successfully completed the Special Emergency Response Team (S.E.R.T.) Academy! Interim Executive Director James Basinger commended their efforts and commitment to the Indiana Department of Correction.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility celebrated its 10th anniversary. The auxiliary committee roasted hot dogs, chicken wings and hamburgers. Employee's families were invited and children played in the jungle gym. Staff members also volunteered to sit in a dunk tank to raise money for the local women's shelter.



The Correctional Industrial Facility held a 2nd Job Fair for the PEN Products/Brake Remanufacturing Operation. 61 applications were taken and 27 workers were hired as a result of this job fair.

Members of the Indiana State Prison Employee Activities Planning Committee presented a "goodie" bag to staff who were working on July 4th to say thank you for working the holiday.

The students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility celebrated Independence Day with educational competitions, games, a cookout, and talent show.

The Wabash PLUS Graduate Program participants have donated over \$340 to the Pekin, Indiana Tabernacle of God Church. The money will help people in need of services at a local food pantry.

Commissioner Buss, Chief Ronay, State Senator Jim Arnold, State Representatives Tom Dermody, and retired Indiana State Prison (ISP) Unit Team Manager Robert Taylor were on-hand to recognize and congratulate eight Camp Summit Boot Camp employees for outstanding performance at the facility's Quarterly Recall. Commissioner Buss also presented Superintendent Davis with a State Prison Lock, commemorating his four years of service as the Superintendent of ISP from 2001-2004.

Off-grounds work crews from the Pendleton Correctional Facility logged 951 hours during the month of June. These work details have provided a total of 8,348.25 hours of community service since January 1st.

Commissioner Buss and Chief Ronay attended the Indiana State Prison's Staff Assembly. Staff received service awards for 20, 25 and 30 years. Additional awards received were Extra Mile Awards, Quarterly and Yearly Awards for Contractual, Employee, Supervisor and Officer.



Friday
July 16, 2010

Weekly Views

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation for 9 students from the PLUS unit. The PLUS unit dedicated this graduation in memory of PLUS Volunteer Mentor Eric Johnson who passed away unexpectedly.

The third session of "Experienced & Emerging Leadership" was conducted July 13-14. Team building activities were held on the beach at Michigan City on day one, and team presentations were presented at Westville Correctional Facility on day two. A total of 38 staff participated.

Indiana State Police TIP (Tactical Intervention Platoons) Team members, along with Emergency Response Operations staff from all three Pendleton facilities, conducted a joint training exercise on Tuesday. The event included cross-training on the weapons and equipment used by our Emergency Squads, followed by tours of each facility.

Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Ronay visited Pendleton Correctional Facility on Wednesday to conduct a Brief-Back Meeting and to update staff regarding various issues impacting the Department.

On July 10, Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Day to recognize the hard work and commitment of volunteers and to thank them for their help to make IREF's mission successful.



57 Indiana State Police Career Camp teenagers, along with 10 state police instructors, visited the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Thursday to view a K-9 demonstration and tour portions of the Secured Housing Unit. (See photo, left)

The Plainfield Correctional Facility PLUS program donated \$927 to the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN). ICAN currently has 18 puppies being trained by offenders at PCF as service companions for the disabled.

Pendleton Juvenile recently held a blood drive and had 26 staff presenting and 19 able to donate.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a graduation ceremony on Thursday to recognize the most recent graduates of the Vocational Training and Apprenticeship Programs. Retired Superintendent Jack Duckworth served as guest speaker.

Westville Correctional Facility held another successful Red Cross blood drive. This important event prompted a response from the facility's EAPC (Employee Action Planning Committee) who were present to award on the spot lunch certificates to those who participated in the blood drive. This team effort produced the largest blood drive at Westville ever.

The Correctional Industrial Facility donated 35 lbs. of zucchini, over 300 lbs. of green beans, 30 lbs. of green peppers, 10 lbs. of peas, and 45 lbs. of cabbage to the Christian Center in Anderson, Indiana.

Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit offenders held a food sale and donated the profits of \$315.99 to the Stepping Stones Shelter in Michigan City on Friday.

Correctional Industrial Facility employees donated 48 pints of blood this week to the American Red Cross. (See photo, right)

EEL participants held a dinner at Washington Park in Michigan City and were given a tour of the Indiana State Prison.

On Thursday, Pendleton Correctional Facility held a blood drive organized in conjunction with the American Red Cross.



The Division of Youth Services participated in the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators' (CJCA) first annual Yearbook Cover Contest. The submission from Pendleton Juvenile, "A Brighter More Colorful Tomorrow," has been selected as the winner of the contest. This was the first time a national search was conducted for the design of the cover.

Doug Evans and Lisa Williams of PEN Products facilitated the 4th Offender Workforce Development workshop at the Fort Wayne Ivy Tech campus on Wednesday, July 15. Workshop topics included barriers to employment, career theory, and assessment. These workshops are a precursor to the full 180 hour training that will be offered in early 2011. Participants at Wednesday's training were from Parole District #2, Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility, Delaware and Grant County Community Corrections, Warsaw Ivy Tech, and other post release service providers.



Friday
July 23, 2010

Weekly Views

Former NFL player Danny Wuerffel visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility. He delivered an inspirational message of encouragement and spoke to residents about the importance of fatherhood and their responsibilities as fathers, leaders, and mentors in urban communities.

Sullivan County residents Jacquie Mize and Diana Daugherty are entering a quilt made by offenders from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS Unit in the 2010 Indiana State Fair. The quilt is in line with the theme of this year's fair "Year of the Pigs," saluting the Swine Industry of Indiana. After the fair quilt competition, the "Piggy" quilt will be donated to an area charity for fund raising purposes.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility will be conducting a picnic and hog roast for employees and their families on Saturday, July 24th at the facility's Employee Recreation Area.

Congratulations Marjorie Wagner from Branchville Correctional Facility for successfully completing an intensive two-year training program to become a Certified Manager in Program Improvement. This certification is the first of its kind in the adult education and literacy field and signifies her as a member of an elite group of professional managers.



Westville Correctional Facility's eyeglass program, in partnership with the local Lions Club, has recycled 5,500,000 pairs of glasses since the program came to WCC in 1994. The Lion's hosted a picnic barbeque honoring staff and offenders involved in this world wide, monumental effort. The Lion's Sight First initiative delivers the recycled eyeglasses to third world countries.

The Indiana Women's Prison held a Teen Day and Summer Camp for children ages 4-12. Approximately 100 children spent the day with their mothers participating in activities including making pizza, water balloon races, and piñatas.



Branchville Correctional Facility's Plus Unit has donated close to 4,000 pounds of garden produce to non for profits so far this year, with the hopes to give away 10,000 pounds.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center recently conducted a summer fundraiser by selling pies, appetizers and other foods. \$254.82 was raised for a winter holiday party.

Three local media outlets attended Wabash Valley's Community Advisory Board meeting hosted by Acting Wabash Valley Superintendent Dick Brown. Attendees

learned about Touch DNA, the need for volunteers, why offenders donate money to worthy local causes, and how education programs saves taxpayers money and reduces recidivism.

The Division of Program Review conducted the second annual internal ACA audit at the Indiana State Prison. The facility received a score of 100% of the mandatory standards and a score of 99.34% of the non-mandatory standards.

Re-Entry level students from South Bend Juvenile assisted in set-up activities for the College Football Hall of Fame Enshrinement Festival.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board Meeting in conjunction with RDC and STOP staff. Board members were informed on recent events taking place in each facility as well as the Department as a whole.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation for 8 students who completed the program. Of the 8 that graduated, 5 earned their GED and 3 are awaiting results. To date there have been 230 students graduate from the CLIFF program.

Pendleton Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board Meeting. Pendleton's Assistant Superintendent of Operations Bruce Helming and Assistant Superintendent of Re-Entry John George both attended.



Friday
July 30, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fatherhood Program donated \$1,500 to Riley Children's Hospital for the second straight year. Program coordinators Michele Lincoln and Josh Collins presented the check and received a certificate of appreciation from the hospital. Riley helped over 7,000 area children this past year alone.

The Boy Scouts at Pendleton Juvenile held a boat regatta. After the students painted their sailboats, they raced the boats in a rain gutter. The boats were powered by the students blowing on the sail.



The month of July was filled with blood drives hosted by facilities across the state for the Department's 2010 IDOC Blood Drive Challenge. To date, over 660 units have been donated by staff at the 20 facilities that participated!

Miami Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee held a chili dog sale recently raising more than \$400 towards future Employee appreciation activities.

The band "Stop on Green" associated with the Campus Crusade for Christ Ministry visited Pendleton Correctional Facility and the Correctional Industrial Facility. The band performed for approximately 100 offenders in the Pendleton Correctional Facility Chapel. The band is composed of ten college students from all over America and plays popular rock music.

Students from the Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility are completing art murals in the housing units.

Inside Outside Dads program participants recorded 15 children's books and tapes to send to their children through the Correctional Industrial Facility Library and Indiana State Library READ-TO-ME Program, which is designed to strengthen offender family ties prior to release.

Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community (TC) in cooperation with the Recreation Department hosted a softball tournament. Players from the Warsaw Community League were invited to the facility to take on the TC All-Star Team. The crowd cheered as the TC team sneaked by the visiting team for a win. The Warsaw team enjoyed the game and requested to come back for a rematch.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 15 offenders who successfully completed the PLUS program. Guest speaker Gary Varvel, an award winning, syndicated, editorial cartoonist for the Indianapolis Star, shared several of his illustrations and discussed how his faith impacted his life and his work.

Commissioner Buss and Chief of Staff Ronay attended Pendleton Juvenile's Quarterly Staff Assembly. As the keynote speaker, the Commissioner spoke to staff about the positive progress of the facility. A graduation ceremony was held after the assembly. Five students received their GED and one student received his high school diploma.



Pendleton Juvenile students were out in the heat again performing community service for Habitat for Humanity. The students are helping build a house in the Anderson Community.

Vickie Schmidt, Culinary Arts Instructor at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, spent a week at the Golden Corral Center for Training and Development as one of three national recipients of the 2010 ProStart Teacher Training and Development award.

During the training she met with Ted Fowler, President & C.E.O. and many other executives to learn the complexities of operating a major restaurant business.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting. Staff and members of the community discussed updates to the ALERT Notification System, Volunteer Appreciation Day and upcoming community service projects.

During the ACA Conference in Chicago, Chaplain Stephen Hall was elected to a two year term as First Vice-President of the American Correctional Chaplains Association.

Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) offenders and staff participated in a Community Arts & Science project creating over 230 pieces for the "Hyperbolic Crochet Coral Reef". IWP is proud to have a satellite reef on display at the Indiana Museum of Art during the months of September and October 2010. (see photo below)



Pendleton Juvenile held their Second Annual Golf Scramble. 16 Teams played and \$1,000 was generated and donated to Women's Alternatives, Center for Victim Services in Anderson, IN.

Wabash Valley staff have been generously donating back to school supplies for area elementary children in need. The WVCF Employee Appreciation Committee Backpack Campaign will deliver the goods to organizations in Vigo, Knox and Greene Counties.

The DOC Central Office Softball Team was very gracious to the visiting Department of Workforce Development team. DOC only ran the score up to 12-2 before letting up on them. The crowd gave the team a crowd wave at least twice during the game. Thank you to all who came out to support!!

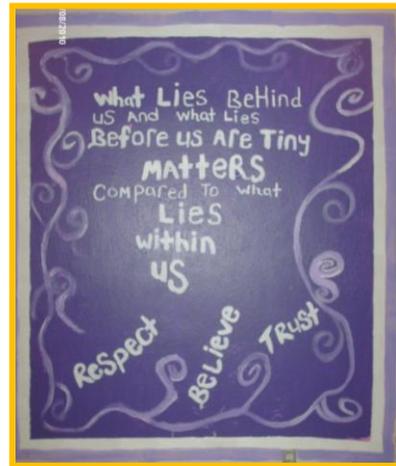
The Indiana Women's Prison held a birthday party for baby Angeline. Members of the General Assembly and the Legislative POWER group attended. This is the first time a baby turns one on the Wee One's Nursery unit.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Recreation Leader Greg Grzesk retired on August 6th. Mr. Grzesk was presented with a plaque in recognition of his 29 years of dedicated service to the Indiana Department of Correction.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a Family Day Ceremony for PLUS students. 31 family members participated in the event which included a Narcotics Anonymous Meeting, Religious Service, Family Counseling and a Cookout. The event assisted in opening lines of communication and provided activities that promote family reunification.

Art students from Ms. Long's art class at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility completed murals in Unit 5 to make their surroundings more uplifting. (see photo right)

Pendleton Juvenile had several students help the city of Anderson set up for Black Expo and work on a Habitat House for the Restorative Justice part of their program.



The Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) has donated \$1000 to the Special Olympics and \$600 to the DOC's Wee-Ones program with proceeds from the facility's offender food sale. Offenders at WCC bought \$23,000 worth of chicken and side orders from the local KFC restaurant.

The Family Education Department at Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Prevention Relationship Enhancement Program (PREP) weekend for 12 residents and their spouses or significant others. PREP focuses on strengthening and maintaining healthy relationships during and after incarceration.

Effective July 1, 2010 completion of the PLUS program makes an offender eligible for six months of earned credit time. IDOC Religious and Volunteer Services has verified completion of PLUS for 229 IDOC offenders with EPRDs through June 2011 and submitted their names to classification for processing. Another 1200 graduates with further EPRDs are being verified.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility PLUS unit donated several pounds of produce from its garden to the Emmaus Mission Center. The produce was grown on the facility grounds as part of its community outreach projects.



Friday
August 7, 2010

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Friday
August 14, 2010

Weekly Views

Governor Daniels received a surprise gift at the Miami PLUS graduation! Staff presented the Governor with a wooden replica of a motorcycle, handmade by Miami PLUS participants, and a special quilt, custom made by Wabash Valley PLUS participants. The quilt's embroidery includes the Governor's years of service, his children's names, he and his wife Cheri's alma maters, the State Seal and much more. (see photo right)



Commissioner Buss announced the IDOC's new Chief Financial Officer, Ronald J. Miller, Jr. He will be responsible for leading all financial and accounting functions of the Department. Ronald brings with him a great deal of knowledge and experience. Everyone please welcome him!

The Reception-Diagnostic Center would like to extend a big "Thank You" to Branchville Correctional Facility for their generous donation of offender books!

On Saturday, August 14, residents at Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility will enjoy a special concert by Carmel-based Christian entertainer, Karl Hinkle, of Karl Hinkle Music Ministry.

Two Rabbinical students associated with the Aleph Institute's Summer Visitation Program visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to lead a service for the facility's Jewish offenders.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Staff Assembly. Facility updates were presented by administrative staff and staff were recognized for various accomplishments.

IDOC offenders and our partners in corrections, Aramark and CMS, donated \$8300 to Governor Daniels' 6th Annual Ride with the Governor Charity ride to benefit the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund. The check was presented to the Governor before the ride commenced. A video of the event can be seen here: <http://www.youtube.com/user/IndianaCorrections> (see photo left)



Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) Superintendent Bennett invites IREF and IDOC staff to join her in congratulating Assistant Superintendent Latoya Lane for completing the Criminal Justice doctoral program at Capella University. Dr. Lane's commencement ceremony will take place in Minneapolis, MN on Saturday, August 14 at 10 a.m. and can be viewed on the web at <http://www.youtube.com/user/capellauniversity>

Westville's Therapeutic Community (TC) hosted a Family Seminar to address Healthy Relationships. Nine TC offenders and 15 guests participated in the presentation, which included a luncheon. The program is a component of the Family/Community Reintegration grant by the Bureau of Justice. All the participants have stated their intentions to continue to attend future Family Seminars in this three part series.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center held a Root Beer Float sale to support the Plainfield Correctional Complex E-Squad team in the upcoming Special Olympics Plane Pull.

"Volunteers of the Year", named for their contributions at the Correctional Industrial Facility were Maleah Stringer, who coordinates three animal programs (FIDO, Saving Max and 9-Lives) and Cheri Karkosky, a volunteer with the PLUS Program.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a ceremony to dedicate offender American Legion Post 608.

Seven students completed their GED test at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility and are anxiously awaiting their results.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner in the facility chapel with over 70 volunteers, staff and offenders attending. State Representative Eric Turner was the guest speaker.



Friday
August 21, 2010

Weekly Views

The sad passing of longtime Westville Correctional Facility friend and employee, Elaine Zschoche, has prompted the staff at Westville to work together and come up with creative ways to honor Ms. Zschoche's 40 plus years of service. Superintendent Levenhagen has announced the renaming of the facility's meeting room in honor of Ms. Elaine Zschoche; the room will now be referred to as the EZ Room.

The Wabash Valley "Piggy" quilt made the show at the Indiana State Fair! The PLUS produced quilt brought home the bacon, taking third place in its judging category. "Piggy" also received the



coveted Coordinator's Theme Award and is currently in a special display case in the Home and Family Arts Building. The Wabash PLUS unit plans to donate the quilt to an area charity for fund raising purposes.

73 students enjoyed a Fresh Favorites Football Season Kickoff. This was the biggest turnout at Pendleton Juvenile in a LONG time. No yelling, no horseplay, just well behaved boys eating their hearts out and enjoying the fellowship of just sitting, eating, talking, and listening to music provided by the Recreation Department.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility residents participated in a Pizza Hut and soda fundraiser in which \$773.74 was raised to benefit the Wee-Ones Nursery at the Indiana Women's Prison.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility held a celebration to mark the "One Year Hire Date Anniversary" of our first group of custody staff that opened the new facility.

The Central Office Paddle Battle Team, "Miss Demeanors," took to the canal in downtown Indianapolis in a race against other state agencies for the coveted Oar Award. The "Miss Demeanors" took 3rd place out of 20 teams. (see photo right)



The Indiana State Prison has begun to use the Sentinel-II IONSCAN Contraband Detection Portal, commonly seen in airports, at their main entrance. In addition to the normal searches and shoe X-rays, the machine analyzes microscopic particles from a person's clothes and skin for the presence of illegal substances.

Wabash Valley Shakespeare players addressed domestic violence in a unique way, through an offender produced adaptation of "Taming of the Shrew." The play targeted male offenders with abusive histories. The goal of the program, founded by Dr. Laura Bates, is to reduce criminal, specifically violent, behavior. (see photo below)



The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF), in collaboration with IUPUI, hosted an Inside-Out Prison Exchange Program closing ceremony at the facility for 13 residents – "Inside" students, and 14 IUPUI "Outside" students. IREF staff joined the participants and their guests to celebrate the success of the program participants, and hear testimonies about their classroom experiences.

Facilities are gearing up for this year's State Employees Community Campaign! Keep a look out for announcements of events around the state, such as the IDOC Fashion Show. This year's

campaign promises to be bigger and better than ever. Also keep in mind that we have our own charity that can benefit from the campaign, the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund!



Friday
August 28, 2010

Weekly Views

Staff and offenders from the Indiana Women’s Prison (IWP) “Sheltered Workshop” sent over 150 items of children’s clothing, toys, & hand-made friendship bracelets to Angels of East Africa, an orphanage in the Sudan founded by Pastor Sam Childers. The workshop offenders adopted this orphanage after Pastor Childers visited IWP last year.

Putnamville Correctional Facility passed its ACA audit, achieving a 100% on mandatory standards and 98.5% on all other standards. Very few issues were raised and staff were praised for their professionalism and positive attitudes.

IDOC Central Office, Indiana State Prison, Westville, Putnamville, Miami and Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facilities participated in the first ever ERO Softball Competition in Union Mills, Indiana. A portion of the concession proceeds went to the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer’s Fund. A good time was had by all and Putnamville was the winner!



The Reception Diagnostic Center held a Walking Taco and Baked Potato sale that raised \$258, a portion of which will go to the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund.

Miami Correctional Facility recently hosted the Gospel Echoes group. More than 100 volunteers were involved in worship services and serving a lunch of grilled hotdogs and hamburgers with their famous woopie pie to all offenders and staff. More than 3,500 meals were served.

Wabash Valley PLUS participants joined a massive fund raising campaign in Sullivan County to benefit leukemia victim Devon LeDune. The PLUS unit donated a quilt and check totaling \$580 to the cause, to help offset medical and other expenses. Wabash and Sullivan County residents revealed a big heart, with nearly \$32,000 raised to help the LeDune family.

A work crew of ten residents from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility assisted their near Eastside neighbors in setting up for the Feast of Lanterns, an annual community event that will take place at Spades Park on Saturday, August 28.



Students at Pendleton Juvenile received their new uniforms and could not wait to get their pictures taken! (see photo left)

Recreation Department Staff at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility escorted three students off grounds to the Jefferson County Animal Shelter for a Restorative Justice Project.

Branchville Correctional Facility hosted its second annual Tent Revival. Sessions were held twice a day with over 300 offenders attending each session. Numerous staff and over 50 volunteers helped organize and facilitate the event. Sermons, music, personal testimonials, and inspirational speakers promoted a positive message.

Westville’s Therapeutic Community (TC) offenders donated \$288.99 from a food sale to South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility’s Good Bears of the World Project. Additionally, the TC’s offenders’ ongoing community service project is collecting pop can tabs. The money from this latest recycling effort was given to the local Independent Cat Society.

The Indianapolis District#3 Parole Office participated with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department in a sweep of the northwest side of Indianapolis. The sweep was in response to a rash of recent homicides and criminal activity. Staff visited paroled offenders in this area in order to validate compliance with parole conditions and assist with obtaining further information to assist with remaining investigations.

Miami Correctional Facility’s fourth annual Golf Scramble was held at Peru Municipal Golf Course. Twelve teams from all across the state competed and several awards were given out. Winning the scramble with a score of 63 was the team from the Indiana Office of Technology.

Two instructors and seventeen criminal justice students from Harrison College in Indianapolis toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility.



Friday
Sept. 3, 2010

Weekly Views

Rockville Correctional Facility presented a check to the Wee Ones Nursery at IWP for \$2500. The money was raised through ice cream and donut sales sponsored by the Recreation Department. Through the same sales, \$2500 will also be donated to the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

The DOC Softball Team took the championship trophy in the State Government Softball League, beating the House Republicans! Once again, DOC put on a great offense. Our defense was on the ball and fielded some pretty well placed hits. The final game was again down to the wire with DOC prevailing at the bottom of the 7th.



New Castle Correctional Facility's Emergency Teams won 1st place in the Public Safety Division for the Indiana Special Olympics Plane Pull in Indianapolis. New Castle also placed 3rd overall in the Top Team Fundraiser out of 74 teams, raising \$4050.

In recognition of National Recovery Month, Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility employees and volunteers will wear purple ribbons throughout the month of September to promote awareness to the disease of addiction.

The Wabash Valley PLUS Unit made a special "Thank You" quilt for WTHI Television in Terre Haute, in recognition of their continuous pro-active coverage of the faith and character based housing unit's community service work. Station meteorologist David Wire and WTHI News Director/Anchor, Susan Dinked showed off the hand painted quilt for the cameras!



The Christian Motorcycle Association visited the Indiana State Prison. They brought 13 bikes to show to the offender population and passed out religious material.

Henryville Correctional Facility held a concert for offenders, by musician Deron Bell. Mr. Bell not only demonstrated different music techniques but also spoke to the offenders about issues with copyright laws and music.

Seven students and two Camp Summit staffers performed several hours of community service at a local LaPorte City Park on Pine Lake. The students removed trash, litter, and debris from the shoreline and waters edge. The La Porte Parks Department and Visitors Bureau expressed their appreciation for having the students volunteer their time and labor to assist the community.

New Castle Correctional Facility was joined by State Representative Eric Turner and members of Bill Glass' prison ministry during the "Day of Champions." 40% of the offender population attended the event.



The Correctional Industrial Facility has donated 4,097 pounds of vegetables from its garden this summer. The vegetables were donated to the Christian Center in Anderson, Indiana to help feed hungry Hoosiers in Madison County.

Offenders from the Westville Correctional Facility assigned to community projects, assisted their neighbors from Union Mills during the town's annual Millpond Festival. The offenders helped with preparations for the weekend festivities and then returned for take down and clean up duty.

Two Wesleyan University criminal justice students visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to tour the facility and interview Superintendent Finnan and other staff in connection with a class project.

State Senator John Waterman visited Wabash Valley Correctional Facility to pick-up 400 medicine bags produced by the facility's PLUS unit for his upcoming annual Pow-Wow, part of the Sullivan County American Indian Council.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held its fourth PLUS graduation for 63 of the program's participants. This included 40 graduates on the character tract and 23 on the faith tract.



Friday
Sept. 10, 2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Putnamville CLIFF program staff will be collecting donated canned goods from the staff at the facility. The offenders in the program will create posters and drawings which will be hung throughout the facility to make others aware of the importance of recovery, and then the canned goods will be donated to a community recovery program. When a staff member donates a canned good he or she will be able to sign his or her name on a pad and, at a later date, wear a hat of his or her choice for one day (custody staff) or wear jeans for one day (non-custody).

New Castle Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit pledged \$2,500 for the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.

Fourteen (14) students from the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility earned their GED through the facility's Vantage Pointe Learning Center, with one of those earning an honors diploma. The facility's school is accredited through the NCA CASI Advanced Education and offers regular high school credit classes, as well as GED education and testing. Thus far in fiscal year 2010-2011, the school has graduated 35 students, and 14 students are awaiting results through the program. Of the 35 graduates, two of those obtained honors diplomas. The Vantage Pointe Learning Center has also issued 201 high school credits to students that were not involved in the GED program during the same time frame.

Staff and offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility participated in the Henry County United Fund's 17th Annual "Day of Caring."

Henryville Correctional Facility had its third round of volunteer training for this year. This year to date, 59 volunteers have been trained to be able to come in to a facility with a maximum population of 200. The volunteers cover the ranges from religious volunteers, AA, Toastmasters, and Life Skills training, to those teaching different cognitive thinking skills.

South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility received a 100% on its pharmacy audit.

Program Director Taflinger recently escorted three Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility students off grounds to the Jefferson County Animal Shelter for a Restorative Justice Project.

The Prison Tails Program and its accomplishments at Westville Correctional Facility were highlighted in the October 2010 issue of Ladies Home Journal. It can be found on pages 86-88.

Offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's minimum housing provided New Castle and the surrounding communities with 2,887 hours of community service for the month of August.

WTWO Television in Terre Haute received a special "Thank You" from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS Unit - a custom quilt in appreciation for their continuous coverage of pro-active events at the maximum-security facility. WTWO has showcased the facility Education, Fatherhood, Substance Abuse and PLUS community service activities, to name just a few. WTWO News Director Tom McClanahan accepted the quilt on behalf of the station. (See photo, right)



To date, South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility has donated 279 lbs of produce to local charities, including the Northern Indiana Food Bank and other Unity Gardens.

Off-ground Work Crews at the Pendleton Correctional Facility provided 910 hours of community service during August. Since the first of the year, crews have logged a total of 10,357.75 hours.

The American Legion and Organic Farmers offender organizations at the Indiana State Prison each donated \$500.00 to the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence.



Friday
Sept. 17, 2010

Weekly Views

The IDOC was recently awarded over \$700,000 for the expansion of the Miami Accessible Media Project (formerly known as the Miami Braille Project) under the Second Chance Act Technology Careers Training Demonstration Projects for Incarcerated Adults and Juveniles Grant. This one year project will expand the depth of training capabilities in the current Braille transcription certification program at Miami Correctional Facility, and add a post-release component to provide transitional services, including small business/self-employment mentoring and assistance through non-profit collaborations. The Miami Accessible Media Project is a joint effort of the Indiana School for the Blind and the Visually Impaired, the Indiana Department of Education, the Indiana Department of Correction and PEN Products.

Offenders from Westville Correctional Facility's level 1 unit are providing home restoration services through the Habitat for Humanity of Michigan City.

Last week, AM radio talk show "Afternoons with Amos" aired live from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF). The historic program was the first time any live radio broadcast had taken place within an IDOC facility. Amos Brown used the show to inform the public about IREF's programs, the residents' contributions to the community and to discuss IDOC's role in preparing offenders for re-entry to Indiana communities amidst America's economic downturn.



WTHI Television crews visited the Wabash Valley PLUS Unit to highlight the need for and importance of volunteers in the offender re-entry process. The upcoming feature report will focus on long time Wabash Valley volunteer Dr. Vince McFarland.

On Saturday, September 18th Pendleton Juvenile's Boy Scout Troop #1888 will hold their annual camp out where students will be setting up tents in the back recreation yard. Matt Bender with the Crossroads of America District will be attending the event and helping supply some of the needed items. The Troop will also be holding a Pine Wood Derby Race on Saturday. The scouts have worked hard making their cars for this event.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) sponsored a bake sale with goods donated by CIF staff members. The proceeds from the sale will go to Camp Riley for Children.

Getting the SECC Campaign rolling, Central Office held a Silent Auction with items donated by local businesses, including the Indianapolis Colts and the Indiana Pacers! Quilts, art work, crocheted blankets and hats, and a hand made wooden clock were also donated by offenders from various facilities. The first ever DOC Fashion Show was also held at the Indiana War Memorial featuring IDOC staff sporting the Do's and Don'ts of the work place as well as some high fashion ensembles!



A graduation was held at the Northern Regional Academy for new Correctional Officer Trainees. Jonetta Broaden from Indiana State Prison received the Teamwork Award.

The Thursday edition of the Sullivan Daily Times featured State Senator John Waterman accepting 400 medicine bags he requested for the Sullivan County American Indian Council's Pow-Wow. All materials for the medicine bags were donated and produced by Wabash PLUS participants.

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) hosted a PROG (Prison Rape Oversight Group) Meeting for IDOC Staff. While visiting ISP, committee members were able to take a tour of the facility.

Ten offenders from the Indiana Women's Prison were hired to sew the official 2012 Super Bowl patch on each of the scarves collected for the Super Scarves program. The 2012 Indianapolis Super Bowl Host Committee launched the Super Scarves program in February to help get the public involved while providing a little reward for each volunteer. 8,000 knitted or crocheted scarves will be collected, one for every volunteer expected to sign up. Some of the offenders have also made their own scarves to donate; more than 100 have come from the Women's Prison!



Friday
Sept. 24, 2010

Weekly Views

To raise funds for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund through SECC, Central Office held a staff cookout, complete with hamburgers and hotdogs provided by Aramark. During the cookout,



some of IDOC's leaders took a swim in the Dunk Tank! (see photo, left) Leftover food was donated to the Dayspring Center, a homeless shelter in Indianapolis.

Five staff members from the Edinburgh Correctional Facility worked alongside representatives from Duke Reality to assist with constructing two houses for Habitat for Humanity. The work consisted of hanging drywall, framing doors, and constructing an attic access. The houses are being constructed in Indianapolis.

Westville Correctional Facility hosted another successful PREP week-end. Eleven offenders from the PLUS program welcomed their significant others for a two day program on relationship enrichment. Offenders from the Ivy Tech Culinary Arts program provided meals for the participants.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted a blood drive in partnership with the American Red Cross. 21 Units were collected from staff.

25 quilts made by offenders from the PLUS Unit at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility were donated to Miller's Vets at the Homeless Shelter in South Bend, Indiana. Miller's Vets is a drill team of selected homeless veterans in South Bend, formed in January, 2009 by Robert L. Miller Sr., a former St. Joseph Superior Court Judge. The vets were pleased and delighted to know that the men on the PLUS Unit made these for them.

The Indiana Blood Center conducted a blood drive at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Participation by staff resulted in 15 units of blood being collected.



Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted an "Open House" for Legislators, Judicial Representatives, Media, and other stakeholders. The event showcased the achievements of both the staff and students.

The New Castle Correctional Facility hosted a Visiting Committee from ACA for a Re-accreditation audit. The facility received 100% compliance on all Mandatory Standards and 100% compliance on all Non-Mandatory Standards.

The Wabash Valley Substance Abuse team hosted Hamilton Center, Freebirds and Unbound Mentoring Inc., providing the offender population with after-release care and relapse prevention information. September is Substance Abuse Recovery Month with Wabash offenders also receiving pamphlets detailing Wabash outpatient services and support programs designed to enhance recovery efforts while incarcerated.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility graduated 15 students from the facility's PLUS program. The program offers many types of curriculum to students, including Renewing the Mind, Commitment to Change, Seven Habits of Highly Effective Teens, Power Source and Community Mentoring. The 16 week program builds upon the students own motivation and strengths. The students averaged 128 hours of group and individual treatment per student.





Friday
October 1, 2010

Weekly Views

Pendleton Juvenile hosted visitors from Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan as apart of the International Visitor Leadership Program. The visitors were here to examine the U. S. penal system, including a focus on Indiana's Juvenile Corrections.

Rockville Correctional Facility held a fall blood drive and collected 11 units, bringing the facility total to 56 units donated for 2010.

American Red Cross sponsored a blood drive at Branchville Correctional Facility. Staff donated 26 units of blood!

Pendleton Juvenile donated \$349 to the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence through money raised during a facility walk-a-thon. Students and staff walked, while other staff pledged donations.



The Reception Diagnostic Center held a "Cookout" sale with Superintendent Hanlon manning the grill, and raised \$285! Proceeds will go toward the upcoming holiday party.

Commissioner Buss issued an Executive Directive that allows all IDOC staff to participate in a "dress down" day. Please see your supervisor or SECC coordinator for details on the levels of participation available.

15 students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in the final Youth at Risk Program presented by Step-Up, Inc. of Indianapolis. This program assists youth in developing skills to avoid risky behaviors, such as sexual practices, drug abuse and alcohol abuse.

PEN Products Central Office awarded its first U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Certificate to an Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility resident worker. IREF resident Jerry King completed his remaining apprenticeship requirements at IREF after working in PEN industries at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Mr. King was released Friday, September 24th credentialed and ready to work.



The Correctional Industrial Facility contributed \$150 to the State Employees' Community Campaign with a Chili Cheese Dog and Soda sale.

To honor National Recovery Month, Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility's Substance Abuse participants presented the Dove Recovery House, located in Indianapolis, with a check for \$500 from proceeds raised during a food fundraiser held at the facility last week.

The Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit was acknowledged for their service to the Michigan City Police Department for painting the inside of the Police Station. Chief of Police Mark Swistek praised the offenders for their hard work completing the job. The same offenders assisted with the Pumpkin Festival in Westville, Indiana by putting up large tents for this weekend's events.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility donated \$750 to Big Brothers and Big Sisters of Vigo County. Funds from the PLUS and Fatherhood programs will benefit the over 200 at risk children involved in the organization. WVCF's PLUS unit also plans to donate two custom quilts for fund raising purposes.

Camp Summit Boot Camp, Westville Correctional Facility and the Indiana State Prison held a Community Advisory Board meeting at Camp Summit. The board members in attendance were given a tour of the facility.



Friday
October 8,
2010

Weekly Views

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility had three students participate in community service at Gleaners Food Bank. The students made boxes containing a variety of food for homeless and low income families. They also worked for the Anderson Police Department by setting up for the neighborhood crime watch meeting and helped detail patrol vehicles.

The Westville Correctional Facility (WCF) was presented the "2010 Creative Genius Award" at the Red Cross Annual Recognition Luncheon. WCF Assistant Superintendent Mike Scott and Parole Secretary Glenda Lewis were present to receive the award on behalf of the facility. The honor was given for the facility's efforts to improve staff donations during their blood drives.



The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted 13 Russian delegates to showcase IDOC training practices. Sergey Nazarov, Deputy Chief of the Russian Law Institute, was on hand to review training used in the IDOC that could be used to improve correctional facilities in Russia.

Through offender fund raising efforts New Castle Correctional Facility donated \$5,000 to the Henry County United Fund. The Henry County United Fund targets community needs by supporting local programs that fight poverty and create opportunities for children, youth, families and neighborhoods to thrive.

New Castle Correctional Facility Physical Plant Director Charles Hamby and Correctional Lieutenant Shad Rice were recognized at the 2010 Indiana Correctional Association Awards Luncheon. Director Hamby received the Physical Plant Director of the Year award and Lieutenant Rice received the Correctional Professional of the Year award.



Wayne Robbins from the New Jersey Department of Correction addressed IDOC staff and law enforcement personnel at both the Pendleton Correctional Facility and the Indiana State Prison on the topic of prison radicalization.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Casework Manager Jacquelyn Ray Walters-Mize and Unit Team Manager Diana Kay Daugherty took top honors at the 2010 Indiana Correctional Association Fall Conference. Daugherty was honored by the Indiana Correctional Association as Correctional Manager of the Year and Mize received the coveted Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner's Award for Employee of the Year.

The SNU Unit, Special Needs Unit, at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility was honored as the 2010 Indiana Correctional Association (ICA) Program of the Year. The ICA also paid tribute to Tim Hill, awarding him Volunteer of the Year for his extraordinary work in the facility PLUS Unit!

Wabash Valley Fatherhood Program Coordinator Josh Collins is featured in the September/October edition of the national publication "All You." Josh, his sister Jenny and niece, Brooklyn are included in an article about families working together to cope in tough economic times.



To honor national recovery month, Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility's Substance Abuse participants presented \$500 to the Dove Recovery House, located in Indianapolis. The proceeds were raised during a food fundraiser held at the facility.

The Westville Correctional Facility welcomed Mike Barber, former tight-end for the Houston Oilers and Los Angeles Rams, to the facility for a week-end of leadership classes and faith based services. Barber, who now has a world wide prison ministry, presented his program to several hundred offenders. Barber and his team had high praise for the offender's participation and showed their appreciation for the warm reception from staff at the facility.



Friday
October 15,
2010

Weekly Views

Madison Correctional Facility raised \$251 during the facility's silent auction for Autism Awareness.

Staff at the Indiana State Prison participated in a chicken dinner sale for SECC, raising approximately \$170 for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund.

The Indiana State Prison held an offender "Toastmasters" speech contest. Approximately 70 offenders attended. Toastmasters is the art of public speaking, listening and thinking skill vitally important to the success of those embarking on life-long learning.

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Employee Action Planning Committee (EAPC) collected \$500 during the group's recent fund raising effort. Members of EAPC sold Little Caesar's frozen pizzas and breadstick kits. Money from the group's fund raisers are used to sponsor employee picnics, gatherings and the WCC annual Holiday Celebration.

The Oaktown and Freelandville Volunteer Fire Department's out of Knox County will benefit from "comfort quilts" made by the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit. The quilts will be kept in their rescue vehicles and provided to those in need at fire and rescue scenes. PLUS participants plan to continue this worthwhile service to both fire departments.



A PEN Products Career Path Planning Workshop was held at the Correctional Industrial Facility. The workshop was given for 24 offender workers from the joint venture operation. The offenders were joined by 12 post-release corrections professionals from IDOC, PEN, Ivy Tech, Aramark and other private businesses. Offenders worked on Time Management, Decision Making and Career Path Planning skills.

Mr. Daryl Walls from South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility has been assigned to the post of Assistant Superintendent of Operations at the Miami Correctional Facility. Mr. Walls has over 12 years of experience in the Department starting in 1998 as a Correctional Officer at ISP and working his way through the ranks to his current position of Custody Supervisor. Mr. Walls has a vast understanding of the Department from working at Westville, South Bend Juvenile, and the Indiana State Prison. He brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to the position.

Commissioner Edwin Buss and Chief of Staff Dan Ronay attended the Staff Assembly at the Correctional Industrial Facility. Commissioner Buss recognized and congratulated several staff. Superintendent Donna Carneygee, Officer Steve Jones and Officer Mark Reno received SECC Champion pins. Officers Steve Fite and Randy Cornwell received recognition for 20 years of state service, and Officer Charlie Hutson was recognized for 15 years of state service.

The Wabash Valley Inside Out Dad's fall event hosted 83 youngsters, guests and 27 offender Dads, helping to strengthen their family bonds, which are crucial to re-entry success. The children left with a bag full of goodies!



Congratulations to Westville's Assistant Superintendent Mike Scott for his participation and contribution to the Camp Riley's Children Foundation during the ICA Conference. Assistant Superintendent Scott was the high earner and high performer of the benefit walk, donating \$523 and finishing first place in the 5K.

Senior Parole Agent Matt Lett from the Evansville Office was presented the Parole Employee of the Year at the Commissioner's Awards Luncheon during the ICA Conference. In the course of his duties, SPA Lett covers seven of the ten counties that comprise the Evansville Parole District. His caseload averages 80 SOMM specific offenders on a monthly basis and is always carefully supervised and actions taken are well thought out and justified.

During the 2010 ICA Conference, Branchville Correctional Facility was selected as the 2010 Facility of the Year. Branchville employee Janet Drach was also selected as the 2010 Teacher of the Year. Branchville Superintendent Gil Peters expressed his pride in his staff, commending them for the dedication they show every day, not only in their jobs but also in using innovative thinking to deliver services in a cost effective way.



Friday
October 22,
2010

Weekly Views

Henryville Correctional Facility (HCF) hosted a "Health Exercise" with multiple State and Federal agencies, including Indiana State Health District #9, Homeland Security, the National Guard and the Monroe Township Fire Department. For the scenario, an offender at HCF received a piece of legal mail that contained white powder. The powder was tested by the National Guard and found positive for anthrax. A Point of Distribution was then set up by the Health Department and medicine was dispensed. It was a good training exercise for all and helped staff think through a critical situation.

PEN Products re-entry efforts were highlighted during regional three day training for Correctional Industries staff from across the country. The training, sponsored through a cooperative agreement with the National Institute of Corrections, was held in Nashville, Tennessee. Doug Evans and Lisa Williams were two of the five trainers that facilitated the three day sessions. The training focused on enhancing re-entry in the everyday Correctional Industries environment.

Madison Correctional Facility staff and offenders wore pink ribbons and collected \$275 in support of breast cancer awareness.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) came to the aid of the American Red Cross by holding an Emergency Blood Drive on site with the Blood Mobile. Seven MCF employees volunteered to donate and five units were collected.

Ball State University Assistant Basketball Coach Mitch Gilliam and players began the Cardinal Care Mentor program at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. 16 offenders will be participating in the program.

In recognition of National Recovery Month, Westville's Therapeutic Community (TC) presented an afternoon of great entertainment. Staff and TC Offenders performed skits, readings and music. The celebration festivities ended with the facility's band, "Times and Tunes," performing the music rendition of "Lean on Me," with all 436 TC offenders joining in.

The word is "success" in judging the first ever Wabash Valley/SECC Spelling Bee! Team Captain James Basinger and Co-Captain Chief Dan Ronay squared off against Team Edwin Buss with words provided by Jeff Foxworthy's Redneck Dictionary 2. When the dust settled Judges Dick Brown and Jack Hendrix (WVCF Assistant Superintendents) determined Team Buss ruled the day, correctly spelling 'queasy' in a tie breaker. Funds raised benefit the 2010-2011 SECC Campaign!

The Covenant Choir came to the Indiana State Prison to be part of the General Christian worship services. Their renditions of "The Bible Says...", "I Wonder If You Know Him Today?," "Our God, He Is Alive," and numerous other spiritual songs were very much appreciated by the Chapels full of residents.

Reporter James Schlesinger and Planning and Development Producer Shoshanah Wofson with the CBS News Program "48 Hours Mystery" visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to follow up on a story concerning an offender.

As part of their examination of the American judicial system, a group of Ukrainian judicial workers visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) where they met with IREF executive staff and were given a brief overview of the facility and its case management, vocational and re-entry processes.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation ceremony for 20 students who have earned their GED through the facility's Vantage Pointe Learning Center; one student earned an honors diploma. The facility's school is accredited through the NCA CASI Advance Education and offers regular high school credit classes as well as GED education and testing. Thus far in fiscal year of 2010-2011 the school has graduated 55 students through the program. Of the 55 graduates 2 of those obtained honors diplomas. Keynote speaker for the event was State Representative Rich McClain.

Henryville Correctional Facility held an SECC fundraiser for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund. A "Dunk Tank" was available for one dollar a throw. Superintendent Chapman and two Shift Supervisors volunteered to man the "Wet Seat." Grilled food was also sold and \$270 was raised.

Wabash Valley and Pendleton Correctional Facilities both hosted Job Fairs. Wabash Valley is seeking to fill 28 open Correctional Officer positions, and Pendleton attracted 34 job applicants. ARAMARK was also on hand, tempting job seekers with cookies and 8 open slots.



Friday
October 29,
2010

Weekly Views

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's CLIFF unit was honored by the Drug Free Cass County Council as its 2010 Recovery Advocate of the Year. The award was presented in recognition of outstanding contributions to the cause of addition treatment, prevention and advocacy.

The Branchville Correctional Facility's Children's Center hosted their annual Children's Halloween Festival. 13 offender dads and 15 kids attended the event and were treated to pizza, chips and soft drinks. The kids played games for treats and prizes while enjoying an extended visit with their dads.

Inside/Out Dads hosted its annual Halloween Party at the Correctional Industrial Facility. There were 70 children and 45 fathers in attendance. This program's events help to strengthen the family bond between the child and father which is a crucial point for re-entry success. Each child left with a bag of goodies.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) has invited Jim Morris, President/Executive Advisor of the Pacer's Organization to attend its "Fifth Sunday Chaplain's Choice" on Sunday, October 31, 2010.

No tricks, just treats were in goodie bags provided to students at the Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility by offenders from Madison Correctional Facility's therapeutic community GRIP.



Brief Back were recently presented to Commissioner Buss and Chief Ronay during Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's Advisory Board meeting. Offender Mental Health, Physical Plant and Human Resources challenges were among the topics covered during a lively idea exchange between board members and staff.

Congratulations to Ms. Evelyn Hicks, Education Project Manager at the Correctional Industrial Facility, for donating the most money from CIF to the Camp Riley for Kids Fund. (see photo right)

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Staff Assembly. Guests included State Senator Tim Lanane, former Regional Director Ron Anderson, Ombudsman Bureau Director Charlene Burkett, and several community volunteers associated with the Kairos Prison Ministry Program who have been assisting staff in the preparation of offender meals during the lockdown. Officer Mark Hahn was recognized as Employee of the Quarter and Lt. Levi Stonebarger as Supervisor of the Quarter.

The Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Recreation Department hosted an afternoon of basketball and entertainment. WCC's Varsity and Junior Varsity offender basketball teams went up against a team from the University of St. Francis in Fort Wayne. The St Francis Cougars barely slipped by their Westville Varsity contenders, 100-97.

Students from Grace College came to the Indiana State Prison and played two basketball games with the offenders. Grace College won both games.

Miami Correctional Facility held a soup fundraiser for its Employee Appreciation Fund, raising \$100. The facility had 6 people participate by bringing in a crock pot full of soup to sell.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility had approximately 75 visitors to the facility to celebrate either their son's GED Graduation or attend Parent/Teacher Conferences.



KAIROS Prison Ministry was held at the Indiana State Prison. Kairos addresses the spiritual needs of incarcerated men. 36 offenders participated in the program and approximately 100 previous offender alumni attended the closing ceremony.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) sponsored a bake sale with the donations going to the Employee Appreciation Fund. The baked goods were donated by CIF employees.

A group from Aftercare for Indiana through Mentoring (AIM) visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) as part of their Prisoner Re-Entry Training. The group toured the facility grounds, including the resident living quarters and the Family Education Department. The tour ended with a panel discussion with residents about re-entry preparations. (see photo above.)



Friday
November 5,
2010

Weekly Views

Jim Morris, President of the Pacer's Organization spoke at the Correctional Industrial Facility's Fifth Sunday Chaplain's. Jim is a retired Lilly Executive and served a term as United Nations World Food Bank Executive Director in Geneva, Switzerland.

Henryville Correctional Facility volunteer Richard Schuster was nominated for the "Bell Award" by TV station WLKY. The Bell Award is a prestigious award given to outstanding volunteers within the community. Mr. Schuster volunteers at Henryville with the Freedom 101 program which is a cognitive thinking program to help offenders view how dysfunctional thinking causes behavior patterns. The broadcast stated, "The work Mr. Schuster does at Henryville, typifies the above and beyond type of volunteer work that Mr. Schuster does to help incarcerated individuals."

The Indiana State Prison held a "Pie-in-the-face" contest that raised \$638 for the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund through SECC. Assistant Superintendent McBride raised the most money and will receive a pie in the face at ISP's next General Assembly.

A delegation of five leaders from South Asia toured Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility to learn best practices for Non-Profit and Juvenile Justice Partnerships. Their visit is part of the U.S. State Department's efforts to help other countries learn how our country addresses critical needs.

Miami Correctional Facility's PLUS unit and its graduate participants sponsored a food sale in conjunction with Pepsi Co and Kentucky Fried Chicken. Proceeds from this successful event will be used to support local charities and the continued operation of these programs.

The Family Education Department at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Halloween party for participants of the Children's Visitation Center. Dressed in their costumes, the children were treated to a cookout lunch with their fathers and toured a haunted house maze. They also participated in arts and crafts, played carnival-style games, won prizes, and listened to spooky stories.

Putnamville Correctional Facility staff participated in the Putnam County, Indiana State Police Post's first annual blood drive. The Indiana Bloodmobile was on site, at District Post #53 in Putnam County, where troopers and correctional staff "gave the gift life."

Indiana State Prison Superintendent Bill Wilson handed out certificates to 23 offenders who completed the Suicide Companions Program. A luncheon was provided by the facility's Culinary Arts Program to the recipients and the PLUS Program volunteers who assisted with the Suicide Companions Program.

An offender recently released from Madison Correctional Facility and the Jefferson Community Re-entry Center retained her position at a local factory and was named Employee of the Quarter. She also received a \$150 bonus for perfect attendance.

This year, the Correctional Industrial Facility has delivered more than 5,067 pounds of vegetables to the Christian Center in Anderson, Indiana to help feed the hungry of Madison County.

The Westville Correctional Facility hosted a week-end of gospel music and fellowship. The musical group, Gospel Echoes, presented two days of their Freedom Rally. This volunteer group participated in three separate concerts, entertaining hundreds of offenders throughout the facility.

Madison Correctional Facility held a "Within My Reach" seminar during their PREP weekend. The seminar teaches better decision making regarding relationships.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center held a Chili Cook-off and raised \$240! Proceeds will go toward the upcoming holiday party.

Westville Correctional Facility sponsored an end of summer Dairy Queen sale for the offenders. Profits from the DQ sales are being donated to the Reins for Life Foundation, a local organization that offers equine-assisted activities for adults and children with disabilities. Our local DQ establishment generated \$13,939 in food sales and, as always, was grateful for our business.

PD#3 Supervisors, Parole Agent's and Central Office staff worked Operation Halloween for Marion County to ensure paroled sex offenders were present at one location during trick or treat hours. During the collaborative effort with Probation and Community Corrections, there were no arrests and the event was successful.

Henryville Correctional Facility had two dynamic speakers, Victoria L. Hubbard and her brother Richard Hubbard, facilitate a seminar on forgiveness, incarceration, self-imposed limitations and working all things through Christ. The message was very well received by the offender population who attended.



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.



Friday
November 19,
2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

Three staff members and six offenders from the Henryville Correctional Facility participated in a panel discussion with psychology club students from Indiana University Southeast located in New Albany, IN. Staff members educated the group on the Department's mission, out-patient substance abuse programming and facility operation. The offenders addressed the students on criminal thinking, drug addiction, being incarcerated and the imposition of self-imposed limitations.

A group of IUPUI's Criminal Justice freshmen class toured PEN Products and the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF). After a tour of the grounds, students and faculty convened at the facility's chapel where a panel of PEN and IREF staff discussed the different career options within the Indiana Department of Correction.

Rockville Correctional Facility donated \$500 to the local Buddy Bag Program through the Rockville First United Methodist Church. Buddy bags are packed with kid-friendly foods and are sent home with elementary school children on Friday afternoons. The program was developed in response to school personnel reporting that students were returning to school hungry on Mondays, not having had enough to eat on weekends. Funds were raised through ice cream sales to the offender population.

The GRIP, PLUS and Toastmasters programs at Madison Correctional Facility donated \$300 to the Sportsmen's Benevolence Association. GRIP also donated 300 cards to "Holiday Mail for Heroes" and addressed 469 cards to send to our troops for the holidays.

Bloomington Parole Agent MaryAnna Moore was recognized for her efforts and dedication to the development of curriculum for the Parole Division by being named as the Parole Trainer of the Year. She contributed to this initiative while also being an EEL participant and managing a large, rural caseload.

Former Colt's Head Coach Tony Dungy visited the Plainfield Correctional Facility to share an inspiring message of faith with more than 300 offenders. Coach Dungy challenged the offenders to seek healthy spiritual relationships and to become caring fathers. A Q&A session concluded the event, where offenders were able to ask Coach Dungy a variety of questions regarding faith and inner strength.

The giant U.S. Flag memorial quilt created by the Purposeful Living Units Serve participants at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility has found a temporary home in the Sullivan County Courthouse rotunda. The 30' by 20' quilt was made to honor all those who have died while serving in Iraq or Afghanistan. The quilt is made up of 6500 4" squares of material and a name is handwritten on each square. The names continue to be updated, and sadly, there are more than 5500 names presently on the quilt.

Chain 'O Lakes Correctional Facility, with the aid of the Noble County Purdue Extension Office, will conduct its second Master Gardner class in December. Since the program began last October, 15 offenders have graduated and helped to create the facility's first garden. Throughout the summer and fall, several hundred pounds of vegetables have been donated to a local food bank. The Master Gardener Program graduates also gave back to the local community by helping with landscaping projects and the creation of a rain garden.

Virgil Madden, Lieutenant Governor Skillman's policy advisor, visited the Correctional Industrial Facility to pick up special holiday wish cards made for U.S. troops overseas. The PLUS offenders made over 1200 cards, 68 letters and 15 book marks.

Students from Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility completed a Restorative Justice Community Service project for Pendleton Power and Light. The students re-strung 26 Christmas wreaths that are displayed throughout the town of Pendleton.

Offenders and staff at the Indiana State Prison were entertained by Mark Lundholm, a comedian working with University of Notre Dame to target at-risk-youth, and student groups, dealing with addictions and alcohol abuse. Mr. Lundholm's performance was a funny and poignant attempt to battle recidivism. The offender population graciously received the welcomed entertainment.

Camp Summit staff served up an Italian beef meal for a staff food sale. The proceeds from the sale will be used to purchase foodstuffs for local area food banks during the holiday season. So far sales have been brisk with tremendous support from staff at the facility. The special meals were prepared with the assistance of Aramark staff.

Three Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility students earned their Microsoft Certification and three college credits from Ivy Tech Community College.

The Covenant Choir visited the New Castle Correctional Facility and put on three performances for the offender population.



Wednesday
November 24,
2010

W e e k l y V i e w s

The Southbend Community Re-entry Center received an overall score of 99.5% during a recent audit by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The facility scored a perfect 100% on 33 mandatory standards established by ACA and 99.5% on 198 non-mandatory standards.

The Chain O' Lakes Men's Gospel Choir performed at the Albion Wesleyan Church located in Albion, Indiana. This is the third performance for the 10 member men's choir, who perform to show the community that people can change if given a chance. "It does wonders for the offenders to share their testimony, and songs to the community," shared Superintendent Michael Cunegin. "It's their way of giving back and healing."

The Indiana State Prison American Legion and Jaycee offender organizations each donated \$500 in support of the local Salvation Army. The donations will be used to purchase turkeys for local families in need and for the annual Thanksgiving meal served at the Salvation Army kitchen.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility will produce 20,000 servings of stuffing that will be sent to 43 Indianapolis area satellite locations as part of the annual Mozal Sanders Thanksgiving Dinner. For more than thirty five years, this cause has been bringing the holiday feast to needy families in Marion County.

Miami Correctional Facility held a facility IN Shape event, hosting an "Introduction to Zumba" class in the training building. A certified trainer donated her time to come in and show staff what this aerobic workout class is all about. Six people attended.

Branchville Correctional Facility completed its annual United Way/Perry County Food Coalition food drive with numerous items being donated to local food banks and charities.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center joined Lt. Governor Becky Skillman's Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes campaign, and submitted more than 100 holiday cards to be sent to Hoosier troops!

The students at South Bend Juvenile took part in a fast-food fund raiser. The students voted on which charitable organization to donate the funds to, and selected Riley Children's Hospital. The profits donated from the food they purchased totaled \$135.99.

Three students from Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility assisted in Habitat for Humanity for a restorative justice project.

Ten units were successfully collected during a Blood Drive sponsored by the American Red Cross at the Pendleton Correctional Facility.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) hosted two graduation ceremonies. 97 offenders from the Therapeutic Community (TC) enjoyed an afternoon with friends and family as they celebrated their completion of the TC program. The TC welcomed back two alumni who shared their stories of success in continued sobriety, gainful employment and healthy relationships. 25 PLUS graduates also celebrated their accomplishments with invited guests. Both events were wonderful examples of the teamwork and dedication of the staff, and their commitment to the positive programming available at WCC.

A lot of positive things have been happening in PEN Products re-entry. Job Clubs were held for 40 offender workers at Westville Correctional Facility and PEN Products Central Office. Discussion topics dealt with employment retention, interviewing, and the 30 Second Elevator Speech. A 19 year former offender, who had worked several of those years with PEN, spoke to IREF residents about finding and maintaining meaningful employment.

In January 2011, the National Institute of Corrections will introduce their latest re-entry initiative that focuses on employment retention for ex-offenders. Indiana has once again been recognized for their innovative approach to offender re-entry by having two individuals selected for the initial team of fifteen. Doug Evans and Lisa Williams will represent the Indiana Department of Correction and PEN Products as part of this inaugural training.

Dr. John Zimmerman and Mary Engle, Prison Fellowship Directors, met with Superintendent Carneygee and other staff at the Correctional Industrial Facility to observe the PLUS and TC programs. After a tour of the facility they met and discussed some options for a Prison Fellowship Program.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted its fourth quarter Recall Meeting. More than 100 staff attended. Staff were shown a PowerPoint program on "Getting Back to the Basics". During the meeting, quarterly Leadership Awards were given out to custody staff, and Employee of the Month awards were announced.



Friday
December 3,
2010

Weekly Views

An offender in the Miami Accessible Media Project at Miami Correctional Facility has successfully completed the course requirements to earn a certificate as an Associate Music Transcriber of Braille through the Library of Congress. There are very few people in the United States with this certificate.

Lt. Michael Cain from Westville Correctional Facility completed the Duty Pistol Course of Fire with the Indiana Police Firearms Training Association, (IPFTA). At the annual banquet, Lt. Cain received a plaque and certificate for placing 5th in the state with the Duty Pistol. The shooting season was comprised of eight competitions where the competitors fired 42 rounds at B-27 targets. Lt. Cain averaged 364.2 out of a possible 420 points. The IPFTA is a volunteer organization of police and corrections shooters that promotes marksmanship in the law enforcement community.

The Correctional Industrial Facility, Pendleton Correctional Facility, and Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted successful emergency response scenario training exercises. This effort was coordinated between the three facilities in conjunction with the Indiana State Police. Pendleton simulated the removal of unruly offenders from the gym by the facility's Emergency Squad. CIF simulated a hostage situation, and Pendleton Juvenile simulated a bomb threat.

A Silent Auction conducted by Staff Development Emergency Operations (SDEO) was a great success! SDEO raised a total of \$608 dollars to benefit the Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund!

The initial class of twelve students at the Parole Academy graduated after four weeks of training. This academy represents years of concept, creation and application to bring to fruition. Parole Services is proud of participating staff and the collaboration with training staff to provide a meaningful product.

Central Office staff enjoyed Soup Day, an idea generated by an entry in an earlier edition of the Weekly Views. Six great cooks delighted the crowds with their creations and raised \$105 for the Employee Appreciation Fund.

The LaPorte County Salvation Army food bank received \$470 in food items for needy families this Thanksgiving due to the efforts of Camp Summit staff and students. Staff raised \$198 through the sale of lunches and Camp Summit students donated \$272 from their trust fund accounts. Several students and staff also from Camp Summit served dinner to the hungry at the Salvation Army on Thanksgiving Day.

Indiana Women's Prison staff and offenders coordinated efforts with four community family centers, churches and ministries to prepare 249 turkeys for the 2,900 free meals that were served to the less fortunate and shut-in on Thanksgiving Day. The community representatives described the level of commitment to this project as phenomenal. The women that helped seemed to be extremely touched about being able to assist and give some back to society.

Lema Vega and the Amish presented four plays of the Amish Nativity Drama for offenders at New Castle Correctional Facility over Thanksgiving Weekend.

Henryville Correctional Facility conducted a training session in partnership with Clark County Community Corrections. Community corrections employees were trained by the facility training coordinator in personal protection with additional training sessions scheduled in the near future.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Electrical Foreman Walter Luke was honored in a ceremony in recognition of his retirement following five years of service to the facility.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) unit conducted a graduation Ceremony for eight CLIFF participants. To date, the facility has graduated 32 groups and 238 students from the program.

Four students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility have successfully earned their GED.

Staff from Madison Correctional Facility rang the bell for the Salvation Army raising over \$250.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility PLUS Program held a fund raiser by selling pizzas to the offender population. The event was a success and resulted in a \$1,000 donation that will be made to the Salvation Army during the holiday season.

The Department Of Family Management will host its annual Inside\Out Dad's Christmas party at the Correctional Industrial Facility for 35 fathers and 62 children. Salvation Army from Delaware County donated gifts for the annual event.

The Northwest Jaycees from the Indiana State Prison donated \$1000 to buy toys which were donated to the Salvation Army of Michigan City. The toys will be given to children in the community. The American Legion Post 130 at ISP donated \$1,000 to Riley Hospital and \$500 to Fisher's Nightingale House.



Friday
December 10,
2010

Weekly Views

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) held a Sesquicentennial Celebration for 150 years of continued business. Approximately 350 people were in attendance. Commissioner Edwin Buss, former Commissioner J. David Donahue, former ISP Superintendent Mark Levenhagen, former ISP Warden Jack Duckworth, members from the Community Advisory Board, local media, and retired staff all came to celebrate this joyous event. A panel of five offenders with a combined total of 150 years served at ISP spoke to the audience about their experiences and the changes they have witnessed at the facility. An offender choir also entertained the audience with Christmas Songs prior to the celebration.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's 2010 Fatherhood Program Winter Carnival was a big success! 84 children, their caregivers and 42 offenders took part, enjoying chicken and noodles while the youngsters made snowflakes, Christmas tree ornaments and Dad cards! PLUS made quilts and stockings stuffed full of goodies were given to all the youth attending this years event.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility donated approximately 200 books to the Read UP program, through United Way. The books will help children advance their reading skills. So far, 1,600 books have been donated to the program by the Department. Steve Vancleave from central office donated over 1,000 books alone! The Read UP program utilizes adult volunteers for mentoring and tutoring 3rd and 4th grade schoolchildren. Over the past school semester, several IDOC staff members have volunteered their time to tutor students in the Read UP program.



Fourteen members of the Lions Club International from China were accompanied by several representatives from the Lions International Headquarters in Illinois to tour the eyeglass recycling program at Westville Correctional Facility. Bringing tears to their eyes, the group was overwhelmed with the scope of humanitarian work done and the dedication of the offenders to providing relief to the world.

New Castle Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit delivered 200 PLUS Critters to Henry County Senior Council for stuffing into snack bags for delivery to County Seniors who are shut-ins. The bags will contain snack items, hygiene items and a "critter" for each recipient.

The IDOC Human Resources Team held their semi-annual conference at the Governor's Residence. The event allowed the team to share best practices, identify and address issues, and build working relationships. Guest speakers from State Personnel Division Field Operations and Employee Relations addressed the group. (see photo above)

Lemuel Vega and 74 volunteers associated with the Christmas Behind Bars Prison Ministry Organization visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to distribute gift bags to the offender population.

New Castle Correctional Facility offenders donated and wrapped \$7500 worth of clothing and toys to be given to 70 unprivileged children this Holiday Season through the Westminster Community Center.

Blood donations are critically needed during the holiday season and Wabash Valley staff, like Motor Pool mechanic Greg Exline, joined 20 of their fellow staffers in giving the gift of life during the Indiana Blood Center drive at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. (see photo right)



Approximately 30 individuals from the LaPorte County Leadership Class came to the Indiana State Prison for a rare opportunity to speak to offenders and administrators and receive a tour of the facility. The group was unanimous in agreeing that it was a valuable experience.

Harrison College Criminal Justice students braved the cold this week to tour the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. The Terre Haute campus students also took part in a question/answer session with Assistant Superintendents Dick Brown and Jack Hendrix, learning more about offender programs vital to successful re-entry.

13 staff members from New Castle Correctional Facility rang the bell for the Salvation Army.

Indiana State Representative Wes Culver came to the Indiana State Prison and was given a tour by Superintendent Wilson.



Friday
December 17,
2010

Weekly Views

Mr. Duane Alsip has been appointed as Assistant Superintendent of Re-Entry at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Mr. Alsip had been serving in this position in an interim capacity since September 27th. Congratulations Mr. Alsip!

Miami Correctional Facility's K-9 team rang the Salvation Army bell at Kroger. Twelve K-9 handlers took turns venturing the cold from 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. This is the third year the team has given its time for this program.

Approximately 150 children and adults attended New Castle Correctional Facility's first ever Children's Party. Each child received a gift bag and had their picture taken with Santa in addition to playing games and feasting on treats.

Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted two events for offenders from the Inside Out Dads Program. Six of the program's graduates completed the "Read with Me" program that allows the offender to sit and read a book, while being recorded on a DVD. The book and DVD is then sent to their child. 32 offenders from Inside Out Dads and 82 visitors attended the "Holiday with Dads" program to spend time with their children. During the event, the offenders and their visitors played games and had snacks.

30 staff members from the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) participated in the local Deserving Children's Christmas program. WCC staff took the children on a wonderful evening of Christmas shopping and dinner. The annual holiday event is sponsored by the Jaycees. This is the third year that WCC has been so well represented at this wonderful community event.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility completed another successful "Toys for Hendricks County Kids" drive. Local schools provided the names of 112 underprivileged children. Staff were in the giving spirit and provided gifts for all of the children, which were delivered to the schools by Santa Claus himself (PCF's own George Shepherd).

Competition among IDOC Parole Districts concluded for the first annual Project GRIN (Giving Resources to Indiana's Needy). Winner of the traveling trophy was the Indianapolis Parole District #3 Office (PD#3). PD#3 donated money, food, and personal hygiene items to the Hunger Incorporated food pantry. They also collected toys and books for the Wheeler Mission Women & Children's Center. As a division, Parole donated 1115 items ranging from food stuffs to hygiene to clothes. This number represents the donations of 120 staff making our average per person just under 10 items each. All contributions went to organizations or directly to needy families within each of the nine districts.

Christmas came early for veterans living at the Hutsonville, Illinois Heritage House, thanks to the Wabash Valley PLUS program! Participants made bags for the homes 56 residents, stuffed with a greeting card, snacks, hygiene items, stamped envelopes and a holiday stocking. Wabash Valley staff passed out the holiday gifts. The PLUS program also made 255 holiday stockings filled with treats; bound for the Lafayette based Indiana Veterans Home.

The Women's Fund sponsored a Holiday Party for the offenders assigned to the Indiana Women's Prison Child Preservation Program. The offenders and 80 of their children had lunch from Chick-fil-A, participated in arts and crafts, face painting and holiday cheer. All of the children received gifts and candy canes to take home.

The Family Education Department at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility hosted a Christmas party for participants of the Children's Visitation Center. The children were treated to a breakfast buffet with their fathers, participated in arts and crafts, and were presented with Christmas gifts.

Sixteen offenders from Henryville Correctional Facility graduated from the cognitive thinking program Freedom 101, which is run by volunteers. Henryville has had a total of 64 offenders graduate from five different Freedom 101 classes in an eighteen month time period.

La Lumiere, a private school in LaPorte, IN, completed a service project to help children in the visiting room at the Indiana State Prison. Children's table and chairs, coloring books and crayons and a magazine rack have been provided to entertain the children while they wait for their visit.

IDOC Central Office staff enjoyed Breakfast with Santa (PCF's George Shepherd). Staff were able to bring their family members to enjoy food provided by Aramark and the culinary arts programs at Rockville Correctional Facility and the Indiana Women's Prison. Central Office also completed their "Holiday Toy Drive" in partnership with the prison fellowship organization Angel Tree. Angel Tree reaches out to the children of inmates and their families, connecting parents in prison with their children through the delivery of Christmas gifts.

Nine students and their professor from the Criminal Justice Department at IUPUI toured the Correctional Industrial Facility.



Wednesday
December
22, 2010

Weekly Views

Miami Correctional Facility staff came to the aid of one of their fellow staff members whose home was recently damaged in a fire by donating more than \$250. Officer Trlak and his family were displaced after the garage, kitchen and living room of the home were destroyed by the fire, and the family did not have insurance. The Indiana Correctional Peace Officer Fund also provided assistance to the Trlak family in their time of need.

The IDOC donated \$10,172 to the Indiana Department of Natural Resources' Sportsman Benevolence Fund. The money was raised through offender and staff fundraisers throughout the Department. Almost half of the money, \$5572, was donated by Miami Correctional Facility's PLUS unit from a Krispy Kreme donut sale. The funds will be used to pay for processing approximately 200 deer taken by hunters during the 2010 deer season. The meat is then distributed to food banks throughout the state.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center donated gloves, hats, scarves and supplies to Mill Creek West Elementary School, located in Amo, Indiana (Hendricks County). Staff generously donated over 100 pairs of gloves, 60 winter hats, and many handmade scarves to less fortunate children. Staff also donated puzzles, coloring books and crayons, hand sanitizer and calculators in an effort to make the holidays a little brighter for these children and their families.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility PLUS program brought a little extra warmth to many sick children this holiday season by donating more than 300 hand knitted hats, scarves and toys to the Riley Hospital for Children in Indianapolis.

Rockville Correctional Facility staff participated in the annual Giving Tree project. This project allows staff to give back to their community by buying Christmas gifts for area school children. The four Parke County elementary schools participated by providing the names of 51 children from 21 families in need of assistance. Through the generosity of the Rockville Correctional Facility staff, all 51 children will have a Merry Christmas this year.

Putnamville Correctional Facility is sponsoring 43 underprivileged children from the Reelsville Elementary School, located just down the road from the facility. The names and wishes of these children were placed on a Christmas tree in the Administration building for staff to pick from. Staff delivered the presents to the school so they could be delivered anonymously to the children.

Plainfield Correctional Facility (PCF) donated \$1,237.18 to the Salvation Army after holding two successful fundraisers. The PCF PLUS Program held a pizza fundraiser and the A&O unit organized a cookie sale. The donation will help the Salvation Army provide emergency services for individuals needing assistance in Hendricks County.

Members of the Gospel Echoes Prison Ministry Team from Goshen, Indiana visited many of Indiana's correctional facilities to sing and spread their holiday cheer as well as passing out homemade cookies to both offenders and staff. Pendleton Correctional Facility, Indiana State Prison (ISP and ISO), New Castle Correctional Facility, and Miami Correctional Facility were all graced with their presence.

During the month of December, students from the English 9-1 class at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a project with children from a local elementary school. The children wrote "Letters to Santa" asking questions about reindeer, Santa, and the North Pole. The PNJCF students responded to the letters from the point of view of Santa Claus, attempting to answer some of the children's questions.

Offenders from the Indiana Women's Prison offenders enjoyed a special holiday meal provided by volunteers from the "Bridge to Home" organization sponsored by Linda Hirsch. Everyone enjoyed a full plate and endless dessert prepared by offender volunteers from Oakland City University.

Wabash Valley PLUS participants made 1,500 holiday cards, part of the Hoosier Cheer for Our Heroes campaign, for Lt. Governor Becky Skillman's office. The cards are being shipped to soldiers that are away from home, either overseas or statewide, and unable to celebrate with friends and family.

PEN Product's IREF resident workers are being challenged in numerous ways to be better prepared for a successful return to the community, and learning to tie a good knot on a necktie can be quite challenging. PEN's Controller, Mark Spratt and Job Placement/Operations Manager Doug Evans, facilitated the first tie-tying class for several of the resident workers at the PEN's Central Office.

Branchville Correctional Facility's Parenting/Fatherhood Department held its Children's Center Christmas party. 14 offender dads and 20 children attended the event to celebrate Christmas together. A children's book was also given to each child through donations made from staff at Branchville.

27 students at South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a gingerbread house decorating contest. The supplies were donated courtesy of the local Wal-Mart. Staff members voted on the student's creations and the winning teams won assorted treats.



Thursday
December
30, 2010

Weekly Views

The Branchville Correctional Facility's PLUS program made over 40 quilts and distributed them among local nursing homes. All material for the quilts was donated by local businesses and volunteers. The PLUS program hopes to expand the program in the coming months to include other nursing homes and shelters. (see photo right)



Staff at the Pendleton Correctional Facility collected food items, winter clothing, and toys. The items were donated to the East Central Indiana Second Harvest Food Bank to assist those in need during this Holiday Season.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility K9 Team presented Correctional Officer Brandon Mackey with the "Outstanding Teamwork 2010" award in recognition of his dedication to accomplishing the mission and goals of the facility's K9 Unit. Congratulations Officer Mackey!

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) delivered 12 large boxes of food collected by staff to the South Madison Food Pantry that serves those in need in south Madison County. The food will be given to those in need from the fellowship hall of the South Madison Community Church. 30 CIF employees also participated in a 'Tree of Warmth' for children in need of a little extra Christmas cheer. The Pendleton School System provided the facility with gift suggestions to hang on a Christmas tree at the facility. Staff then chose an item from the tree to purchase.

Seven graduates of the Madison Correctional Facility Cosmetology School passed their state licensing boards and are now ready for employment upon release or transfer to a community re-entry facility.

The Indiana State Prison donated \$600 in gift cards to the Sand Castle Shelter for homeless children and families. The intent was to use the cards to purchase Christmas presents for the homeless children. The shelter will monitor the use of each card, and the remaining funds will be used for food and clothing.

The Sullivan Junior High football team scored almost \$300 after an end run by Wabash Valley PLUS participants. The PLUS squad donated a quilt which team parents raffled, to help pay for needed uniforms and equipment. Jim Pirtle of Sullivan County won the quilt and scored a holiday touchdown, gifting the quilt to his grandson—who will be playing football next year on the Sullivan Junior High team! (see photo below)



Offenders from the Indiana State Prison Minimum Security Unit (ISO) refurbished 25 bicycles. ISO staff delivered the bicycles in time for Christmas to the Village in Portage, IN. The children were very happy to have received the bikes.

Students and staff from Camp Summit went caroling at several nursing homes in Michigan City and LaPorte, IN. The Camp Summit Carolers visited Golden Living and Fountain View Terrace in LaPorte. The students also sang for the residents at The Arbors, Sterling House, Rittenhouse Assisted Living, and Clare

Bridge in Michigan City, filling the nursing homes with joyous Christmas carols.

Students at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF) celebrated the holidays with parties and a unit decorating contest. The students also received gifts from Madison Correctional Facility's GRIP Unit, the MJCF Education Department, King's Daughter's Hospital and Health Services, AIM Mentors, eleven different religious organizations, and the Madison community.

The Westville Correctional Facility had the opportunity to support a new restaurant in the community. Harold's Chicken in Gary, IN sold chicken dinners to the offenders. The sales took in over \$11,000, and the new establishment was able to secure a good profit. Westville received \$1,100 from the sales. Half will go to the facility's PLUS program and the other half will be donated to a local charity.

Camp Summit collected \$398 to purchase food for a local food bank and gifts for needy families for Christmas. \$220 was raised through staff lunches and \$178 was raised through student donations.

Madison Correctional Facility staff and offenders raised over \$1200 to purchase clothing and toys for nine local children for Christmas.