

Weekly Views

January 6, 2012

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

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

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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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January 13, 2012

Kevin Gilmore, a nearly 28 year veteran of the Indiana Department of Correction is the new Assistant Superintendent of Re-Entry at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! Starting his career as an Officer at the former Rockville Training Center, Gilmore has worked his way through the ranks, bringing a wealth of offender re-entry experience to his new assignment at Wabash, where he has worked with distinction since 1993. Congratulations Assistant Superintendent Gilmore! (pictured below)



The DOC Race Team invites you to participate in the 2012 Indianapolis

Super Bowl's Legacy Loop 5K Run/Walk, which also includes a scavenger hunt en route. For more information, contact

Lisa Salinas at lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov, or register online at

https://secure.getmeregistered.com/get_information.php?event_id=5612.

In preparation for the Super Bowl, sixteen offenders assigned to the Security Level One housing unit at the Pendleton Correctional Facility are participating in an Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) work crew. The offender cleanup crew is picking up trash along Interstate 70 and at the entrances and exits of Indianapolis International Airport. The project began on January 8th and will run through January 23rd.



The Putnamville Correctional Facility donated 70 lbs. of pop can tabs to Reelsville Elementary Student Council members to assist them in reaching their 1,000 lb. goal. Student Council members started the drive in 2010 and have collected over 416 lbs. of tabs. On January 19, the tabs will be delivered to McDonalds with the proceeds going to the Ronald McDonald House for families in need. (see photo left)

Well wishing staff at the Westville Correctional Facility honored Captain Earnest Huff on his final day with the DOC. After 28 years of correctional service, Lead Captain Huff has retired from duty. During an afternoon cake and coffee ceremony, Captain Huff was presented with a plaque and gifts from misty-eyed staff who lined the room to say good-bye. While working for the Department, Captain Huff also remained active in the Armed Forces. He returned to serve in the Iraq conflict and retired from military service in 2003.

The PLUS program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility held a Church's Chicken sale. The event, coordinated by Case Manager Karumathil Kumaran, generated over \$3700 in proceeds that will be used for charitable donations and program needs.

An electronic audit was conducted on South Bend Juvenile Correctional Facility from January 9-10, 2012. The final passing score for the audit was 100% compliance on mandatory standards and 99.68% on non-mandatory standards. South Bend Juvenile Superintendent Donna Carneygee thanks facility staff for being supportive and working closely with the Audit Review Division to achieve a successful audit.

First Lady Cheri Daniels' annual Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive will kick off on Wednesday, February 1st and run through the month of February. Last year, IDOC donated 9,018 cans and over \$1,100 to various food banks across the state. Commissioner Lemmon challenges IDOC staff to double our contribution from last year. Facility coordinators should contact Stephanie Lightfoot (317-232-5766 or slightfoot@idoc.in.gov) for more details on this year's food drive. Start collecting those cans!!

The Therapeutic Community program at the Correctional Industrial Facility presented a skit using the Wizard of OZ theme. The program was loosely based on Dorothy's journey through OZ and her attempt to return home. For TC participants, the skit journey reflected their similar struggles in recovery using the 12 steps as their "yellow-brick-road."

Several Central Office staff joined Commissioner Lemmon at the 21st Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Indiana Holiday Celebration at the Statehouse. Governor Daniels spoke on Dr. King's remarkable character. Several individuals who exemplify the heart of Dr. King received awards, and noted author and Chair of the Black Alliance for Educational Options (BAEO) gave a stirring speech on the importance of education for all American students.

Weekly Views

January 20, 2012

The Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) is pleased to announce that it will again be offering educational scholarships to staff and their families. Information will be coming soon, so watch your email and SCOOP for more details!

For the second year, Parole Services Division has conducted Operation GRIN (Giving Resources to Indiana's Needy). The project is a competition between Parole Districts to accumulate and acquire as many food, clothing and other items or services possible to provide to those less fortunate within the local communities. A traveling trophy was created to acknowledge the staff of the

district that was most successful in obtaining items for donation. The Indianapolis District Office won the initial contest in 2010. The winner for 2011 is the Fort Wayne District Office.

Congratulations to Supervisors Mia Kelsaw and Bobby Yarborough and the office staff for their generosity, commitment and spirit of giving to those less fortunate community members.

Staff from the Indiana State Prison (ISP) rolled up their sleeves for a blood drive hosted at the facility. Fifteen staff donated blood during the drive conducted by the American Red Cross. There were initially 27 ISP staff scheduled to donate, but due to staff illnesses and mandatory training not everyone was able to donate.

Two offenders of the Indiana Women's Prison, Wee One's Nursery (W.O.N.) Program gave birth to baby girls. The two babies increased the programs baby count to nine. Through the W.O.N. childhood development classes, the mothers learn the importance of bonding with their baby during the early stages of the baby's life.

Staff from Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Prison Tails program made a presentation to members of the Duneland Kiwanis Club. Program Supervisor Regan Dietz spoke at length about Mixed Up Mutts and WCC's Prison Tails program. He also performed a training demo with one of the program's graduates, JayJay. Regan was joined at the event by Mixed Up Mutts board member Linda Gurgel. The Kiwanis Club served the visitors lunch and presented a check for \$100 to Mixed Up Mutts.

Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Staff Assembly. Superintendent Butts and Assistant Superintendents Duane Alsip and Bruce Helming presented facility updates addressing recent events and activities that have impacted the facility. New staff members were introduced and other employees were recognized for promotions, years of service, retirements, and other achievements. Facility K-9 Field Commander Sergeant Donald Mockler also presented awards to Correctional Police Officers Jeremiah Norris and Sergeant Joseph McCutcheon in recognition of their contributions to the facility's K-9 Operation. Security Threat Group Coordinator Walter Peterson, who also serves as a Correctional Police Officer, was recognized as Employee of the Quarter and Mail Room employee Alberta Potter was named the facility's Supervisor of the Quarter.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotions of two staff members. Sergeant Robert Runyon was promoted to Lieutenant and Officer Dewayne Sanders was promoted to Sergeant. Mr. Runyon has been working at PNJCF since September 2007. Mr. Sanders has been a correctional officer at PNJCF since September 2009. Congratulations!!

During a recent Red Cross blood drive, 13 Camp Summit staff showed up to donate blood with a total nine able to donate. This was a very good effort despite the fact the area was experiencing the worst snowstorm of the season. According to the American Red Cross the drive had the potential to save 27 lives. Blood donations are separated into three components, plasma, platelets and red cells, which get used by different patients. The facility is planning another drive in the summer.

The loyal volunteers of Friendship and Fellowship held a Birthday Bingo Party for 91 offenders at the Indiana Women's Prison with a birthday in December and January. The Volunteers served cake and ice cream while handing out prizes to the Bingo winners. The evening was enjoyed by all offenders and the prizes of shampoo, water bottles and food items helped to make the birthdays special.

Sixteen Offenders from the Westville Correctional Facility Level 1 Unit have been selected to participate in a college course along side with sixteen students from the University of Notre Dame. The college course, Rethinking Crime and Justice: Explorations from the Inside Out, is taught at the facility by two Notre Dame Professors. The intended goal is to allow the college students to observe, experience and participate with offender stakeholders in the Criminal Justice System. The offender/students were selected to participate in the class for their motivation, diversity and the possibility of completion. The once a week course will run until May.

January 27, 2012

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Letter to Superintendent McCauley from the Super Bowl Host Committee: I wanted to let you know that we have been delighted to have the Indiana Women's Prison assist us with our Super Scarf Project. Over the last few months, Ms. Atwood and the ladies have gone above and beyond what we have asked of them. In December, we needed to ramp up our efforts in getting out scarves patched. Ms. Atwood and the women were able to complete the extra scarves as well as a few "emergency" patch runs! Thank you so much for your assistance throughout the last few months, we are so grateful to have had this partnership with the Indiana Women's Prison. Due to the hard work and effort of the women, we are now sure that we will be able to provide a warm thank you to the thousands of volunteers who will make this a successful Super Bowl!

Last week, several Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility residents moved into the new Reformative Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP) dorm. The RRRP focus is to provide residents with programs that are characterized with the core values of honesty with self and others, tolerance of the views and beliefs of others, caring for others and personal responsibility.

Sixty-four PEN Products offender workers at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility participated in a graduation ceremony to receive their U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Certificates. Offenders earned apprenticeships in eight different occupational titles and two offenders completed apprenticeships that required 10,000 hours of on-the-job training plus 720 hours of related instruction while working in either the PEN Products printing operation or one of the two joint venture operations. Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland and Superintendent Richard Brown addressed the graduates and their families.

Family, friends, and current and former co-workers came together to celebrate the retirement of Parole Agent John Bolla from the Gary Parole Office. Mr. Bolla dedicated 37 years of service to the citizens of Indiana and staff appropriately congratulated and recognized his accomplishments. Best wishes to John and his wife Sue as they move on to a new chapter in their life.

Miami Correctional Facility invited Alex Huskey, a Marion pastor who serves as chairman of the Indiana Alcohol and Tobacco Commission, to speak to offenders during a special assembly celebrating Martin Luther King's Birthday recently. Huskey is a veteran public servant with 20 years of law enforcement experience. In addition to his full-time state responsibilities, Huskey has served since 2007 as the pastor of New Bethany Church of God in Christ.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility sponsored a Clay County Girls Basketball game during which staff presented the team with a check for \$750. Coordinated by Carie Hardman and Tonya Morris, cake, cookies, pies and "angel tree" ornaments were sold to raise the money and a generous donation from the Aramark Fresh Favorite Community Involvement Fund enabled staff to exceed their monetary goal. On game night, Carrie Hardman presented the check to the "Lady EELs" who wore pink sneakers, in honor of the Susan G. Komen Breast Cancer Foundation, the intended recipient of the donation.

The Rockville Correctional Facility donated \$500 to the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA) to benefit victims of sexual assault. The money raised for this very worthy cause came offender ice cream sales through the Recreation Department at the Rockville Correctional Facility.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility Held a PLUS graduation for eight students. These students each completed 96 hours of faith and character based programming, accumulated a total of 200 hours of community service, knitted hats for the community, sponsored two children from the Salvation Army's Angel Tree Program, and raised \$360 during the 16 week program.

Branchville Correctional Facility donated \$1000 to Heritage Hills High School to help support their band program. Offenders from all dormitories raised the money through a series of fundraisers throughout 2011.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility is pleased to announce that Mr. Glenn Handzlik has been hired as the facility's new Physical Plant Director. Mr. Handzlik was welcomed to the facility during a meeting held in the Superintendent's office on Monday that was attended by members of the facility's Executive Staff. Mr. Handzlik served as the Director of Telecommunications/Security Systems at the Indiana State Prison.

Please join Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent Wendy Knight in congratulating officers Mark Daulton, Darquan Neal, Charles Houchins, and Lucas Stroud on being promoted to the rank of Sergeant and welcoming Utility Captain Larry Taylor as a lateral transfer from Pendleton Correctional Facility.

The Westville Control Unit reached a new milestone in providing programming to offenders. For the first time in the unit's history, four offenders were released from their cells to collectively participate in group. The group is led by Dr. Ron Williams and will be focusing on developing social skills and relating to others. The goal of the group is to help these selected offenders live successfully in general population.

February 3, 2012

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The Plainfield Correctional Facility donated over 350 cell phones to Sheltering Wings, a center providing emergency shelter to victims of domestic violence. Sheltering Wings will send the phones to a service that will rehabilitate them and return the usable ones to the shelter and will receive cash for each phone that is not usable. The donated phones were prohibited property that had been confiscated from offenders over the past few years.

The Community Corrections Advisory Boards of several counties were pleased to have Commissioner Lemmon meet with them this week so they could discuss their hopes and plans for the continued success of Community Corrections in their locales.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility held a GED graduation ceremony for five offenders. The graduation ceremony was attended by close family members. Superintendent Griffin stated it was a proud moment for the graduates and their families.

A bake sale was conducted and donations were collected for a Pendleton Correctional Facility Aramark employee who recently became seriously ill and has been hospitalized in intensive care at an Indianapolis hospital. Through the generosity of IDOC employees and contractual staff, \$250 has been raised to assist the family with medical-related expenses.

Superintendent Stanley Knight congratulates staff on their recent promotion at the Putnamville Correctional Facility! Doayne Houghton, Michael Ellis, William Hyatt, and Scott Rodgers were promoted to Correctional Sergeant. Randy Seats was promoted to Correctional Lieutenant, and Adam Cornelison was promoted to Correctional Training Officer III.

Ten potential recipients of graduating ICAN dogs visited the Indiana Women's Prison. Eight clients were matched with dogs and invited to participate in the March 2012 team training. Team training is a two week long training program that gives recipients of the dogs the tools to learn how to enhance their lives with the dog's skills and ability. (see photo right of Assistant Superintendent LaShelle Turner training an ICAN pup)

Team DOC had a small but tough group of participants in the NFL's Legacy Loop 5K. Commissioner is proud of those who sucked it up and faced the wind and cold to represent the Department at this historic event. Your next chance to join Team DOC is at the Polar Bear run/walk on Saturday, February 25th. The choice is yours: three miles, five miles, or the "doubler", all eight miles! Register now at www.indypolarbear.com. Not quite sure you want to be a polar bear, but don't want to miss out on the fun? Contact Lisa Salinas (lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov) about volunteer opportunities.



All four Indiana Department of Correction legislative initiatives have passed through the first half of this year's legislative session, as the Indiana General Assembly moves closer to Halftime. They include:

- HB 1204 Sex and Violent Offender Registry passed 92-0 in the Indiana House of Representatives
- HB 1365 Dual Juvenile and Criminal Jurisdiction passed 93-0 in the Indiana House of Representatives
- SB 0256 Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund passed 50-0 in the Indiana Senate
- SB 0322 Tort Immunity for DOC employees and Contractors passed 48-2 in the Indiana Senate

In connection with Super Bowl weekend activities, offenders at the Pendleton Correctional Facility were permitted to order "Super Bowl Snack Packs" consisting of a variety of assorted snack items along with a 20 oz Pepsi. This event was conducted by the facility's American Legion Organization. Offenders were also allowed to order wings and pizza from Papa John's Pizza. This fund-raising event was sponsored by the facility's PLUS program.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons addressed employees during the quarterly staff assembly. She recognized recently promoted employees, employees that go the "Extra Mile" and those with perfect attendance. During the assembly, several staff members were recognized for their years of service with the IDOC. Quarterly Employee Awards were also presented. Officer Frank Bohannon was named Officer of the Quarter. School secretary Debbie Lee was named Non-Custody Employee of the Quarter. Program Director 2 Christian Blakey was named Supervisor of the Quarter. Employee of the Year award was presented to Administrative Assistant Natalie Walker. Congratulations to all!

February 10, 2012

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The deadline for applying for the CPAFI educational scholarships is just two weeks away. Seven scholarship awards are available, with amounts ranging from \$750 to \$4,000. For more information, contact your CPAFI Facility Representative or Superintendent's Office.

The Indiana State Prison's offender basketball team played Team Taylor, a local park league team. The game was close with a very enthused crowd. The half time score was ISP 59 and Team Taylor 54. The second half had several lead changes with no team leading by more than six points. With five minutes left in the game, ISP took control of the game and went on to a 105 to 99 victory. This was another great out-reach between the local community and the Indiana State Prison

The Wee Ones Nursery Program at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) received a donation of 20 quilts made by the PLUS offenders at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). The generous donation was delivered by Executive Director of Adult Facilities James Basinger and Tammy Ranard from WVCF. On behalf of IWP, Assistant Superintendent LaShelle Turner thanked the offenders of the Wabash PLUS Unit and ED Basinger for the blanket delivery.

Amy Rollings has been named Unit Team Manager at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! The Indiana State University Criminology and Psychology graduate (zeroing in on a Masters Degree in Criminology) is a five year Re-Entry Professional at WVCF, most recently serving with distinction as Casework Manager. Amy, a valued member of the Southern Regional CISM team, also facilitates the Promoting Positive Correctional Culture Program. Congratulations Amy!

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's CLIFF Unit conducted a graduation ceremony for four participants. The graduates are part of an intensive drug recovery program that focuses on offenders with, or at risk of methamphetamine use or addiction. In addition to the group of four completing the CLIFF program, two students earned their GED while enrolled in the program. The CLIFF program began at the facility in December 2005 and is the only unit of its kind for male juvenile offenders. To date, the facility has graduated 44 groups with a total of 313 students from the program.

Camp Summit recognized five students for completing their GED with a graduation ceremony at the facility. Staff, students and family members celebrated their success with cake and punch after the awarding of certificates. Also present for the ceremony was Jim Fanswell, president of the LaPorte Lions Club. The Lions were recognized at the ceremony for their donation of \$300 for the purchase of caps and gowns for the students to wear during the event.

IDOC Central Office held a Soup and Salad Sale for staff to raise money for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive, sponsored by First Lady Cheri Daniels. This is the second successful food sale staff have conducted to collect money for this worthy cause. So far, Central Office has raised \$424 and collected 135 cans, putting them half way toward their goal of 1,000 cans. This year Commissioner Lemmon challenged staff to double their contribution from last year. Throughout the month of February, state employees will be collecting canned food and raising money for Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers. At the end of the month, IDOC will go up against other state agencies in IndiCANa, a canned food sculpture building competition. Go TEAM DOC! Yes we CAN!

The PLUS program at the Westville Correctional Facility sponsored another successful food sale, this time partnering up with a local KFC restaurant. KFC developed a special menu with chicken dinners and favorites for purchase by offenders of the PLUS program and Level One offenders. The total KFC sales amounted to \$5931. The PLUS unit profited \$847.38, which will go toward programming material and books for the PLUS participants. The facility food sales create a win-win situation, and local restaurants are always appreciative of our extraordinary business.

Fourteen Ivy Tech students accompanied by their instructor and former DOC employee, James Houston, toured the Rockville Correctional Facility. They visited the Offender Services Building, the CLIFF and Intake Units as well as an open population dormitory, offender dining room and recreation building. Following the tour several students indicated that they would be interested in being future employees of the Department of Correction.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held its 8th PLUS Graduation Ceremony. Attending and speaking at the ceremony were IDOC Director of Religious Services Dr. Stephen Hall, Deputy Director of Religious Services Dave Liebel, CIF Superintendent Wendy Knight, and CIF Chaplain Alan McCraine. 33 offenders graduated after successfully completing the program, having finished extensive classroom work and demonstrating knowledge and application of the core values of the program. Following the ceremony the graduates visited and celebrated with their families and IDOC Central Office visitors.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Black History Program that was attended by approximately 100 offenders. Clete Hassan Ladd, Principal of the Excel Center at Decatur High School in Indianapolis served as the special guest speaker for the event.

Lemuel Vega and the Christmas Behind Bars program visited New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF). NCCF offenders received gift bags from the prison ministry volunteers and were entertained by a church choir.

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February 17, 2012

Pendleton Correctional Facility Powerhouse Supervisor Danny Metzger was honored during a retirement ceremony at the facility in recognition of his 31 years of service to the State of Indiana. Congratulations Mr. Metzger!

Diana Daugherty was honored for over 19 years of dedicated service to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility during a retirement reception. Diana served as an Officer, Counselor, Casework Manager and Unit Team Manager during her tenure, and was honored in 2010 as Correctional Manager of the Year by the Indiana Correctional Association. Superintendent Dick Brown lauded her efforts and her strong support of the Wabash PLUS Unit.

"Diana is a role model who has inspired staff with her commitment to re-entry of our offenders back to society as community contributors," Brown said. (see photo right of Diana and Superintendent Brown)

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted a group from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy. Twenty-one Jail Officers from Sheriff's Departments throughout the state toured the facility and learned about the DOC intake process.



Staff from Miami Correctional Facility participated in the Special Olympics Polar Bear Plunge in Kokomo, IN. Six employees, Jason Kochensparger, Earnest Parkin, Christopher Ertel, Craig Stoll, Daniel Madson, Douglas Nelson, and one non-employee, Shannon Fields, braved the 13 degree temperatures to take a dip in the water. The water temperature was a chilly 36 degrees and the wind chill at the time of the plunge was -1 degrees.

Through this event, the group raised \$1,067 for Special Olympics of Indiana. They were also asked to participate in the Law Enforcement Torch Relay for the Special Olympics Summer Games held at Indiana State University, because of their contributions both this year and last.

Superintendent Stanley Knight presided over Putnamville Correctional Facility's Staff Recall. Knight relayed recent facility highlights. Laundry Foreman Beverly Wiseman, Casework Manager Steve Weltzin, Correctional Officer Travis Sutherlin and Correctional Lieutenant Bettina West were all recognized as Employees of the Quarter for their professional contribution to the facility. Assistant Superintendents Craig Grage and Tim Phegley gave Operations and Re-Entry updates. Officers Mark Neese and Michael Scales were recipients of the Promoting Positive Correctional Culture certificates.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen honored numerous well-deserving staff at the facility's quarterly assembly. Plaques, pins and certificates were distributed to recognize employees for years of service, staff of the quarter, and perfect attendance. The facility's newly formed Honor Guard captivated the attendees with their presentations of colors while WCC's own Iraq War veteran, Sergeant Sherri Washington, called cadence.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Valentine's Day candy gram fundraiser for the Employee Appreciation Fund. Staff sold 900 candy grams and raised over \$500 for the fund.

Natasha Allen, from the Indianapolis Veterans Center, delivered hand-made Valentine cards to the Veterans in the Indiana Veterans Education and Transition Unit at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility. The cards were made by elementary students at a local church school.

The Indiana State Prison Recreation Department invited William Franklin to speak to offenders at the facility. Will Franklin is one of the most respected personal trainers in the Chicago area and is also a motivational speaker. Through his work, he tries to make the athlete visualize what the future can look like. "Proper preparation prevents poor performance." The offenders were very enthused by his coach-like approach and they could relate very well to his life journey. This was a great community outreach for the Indiana State Prison Recreation Department.

The Branchville Correctional Facility PLUS Program held a graduation ceremony for approximately 70 offenders who completed the intensive 12-18 month program. This was the first graduation for the program since the program was moved from a dorm with a capacity of only 108 to a dormitory which holds 240 offenders. Over 15 visitors were in attendance, including offender family members and volunteers who assist with the PLUS Program.

Forty-one members of the Elnora Bible Institute Choir came from across the country to perform gospel renditions for the offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Choir members hailed from as far away as Ohio, Oregon and Pennsylvania.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Black History Program which was attended by approximately 100 offenders. Indianapolis Deputy Mayor Olgen Williams served as guest speaker for the event.

February 24, 2012

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PEN Products convened a group of 22 local business owners and faith-based organizations at Harry and Izzy's Northside location. PEN Products detailed the certifications and training that PEN offender workers earn while working in PEN industries. Attendees committed to being on an email string, reviewing offender resumes, interviewing potential post-release workers, and some to mentoring PEN offender workers prior to release.

Gerardo F. Primo Ajuria from the Mexican National Consulate spoke to 75 Mexican nationals at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Offenders received information regarding the rights of foreign nationals arrested or detained in the U.S. and the responsibilities of Consular Officials to assist them.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF) staff celebrated the retirement of Connie Miller, a 25 year employee. Mrs. Miller served as Administrative Assistant to eight different Superintendents during her career at COLCF. Commissioner Lemmon and Executive Director Basinger visited the facility to honor Mrs. Miller for her outstanding years of dedication and service and presented her with a Commissioner's coin. Miller was joined by friends, family, and co-workers during a nice luncheon. Superintendent Griffin and staff thank her for her service and wish her the best as she begins a well deserved retirement with a trip to Italy. Everyone at the facility will certainly miss Connie. She was truly an outstanding employee whose work ethic inspired staff as well the offender population.

The 2012 National Institute of Corrections (NIC) Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) training was held at the Correctional Training Institute. OWDS training, presented through a partnership between IDOC, PEN Products and NIC, is an intense three week 180 hour program that focuses on Career Development for the offender and ex-offender population. This year's class includes 24 corrections professionals from Community Corrections, Parole, and the IDOC, plus a team of 10 Department of Workforce Development professionals.

Miami Correctional Facility held a quarterly recall meeting where several employee awards were handed out. Among those receiving Employee of the Quarter awards were Robin Burton, Correctional Employee of the Quarter; Lieutenant Christopher Ertel, Supervisor of the Quarter; and Officer Doug Maurer, Officer of the Quarter. Also receiving awards were Clair Barnes, Challenge the Process Award; Sergeant Craig Stoll, Inspire a Shared Vision Award; Jodi Mann, Enabling Others to Act Award; Sergeant Robin Byrum, Modeling the Way Award; and Sergeant Larry King, Encouraging the Heart award. Staff also received information from University of Phoenix on going back to school.

The American Legion Post 130, an offender organization from the Indiana State Prison, had a food sale fundraiser. They sold \$30,317.26 worth of products to fellow offenders which consisted of Pepsi products, Krispy Kreme Donuts and Papa John's Pizza. A portion of the profits will be donated to Riley's Children's Hospital.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen is very pleased to announce the facility's most recent promotions filling two critical vacancies. Tommie Horne, currently assigned to the Indiana State Prison, will become WCC's newest Unit Team Manager. WCC Lieutenant Michael Reeves has accepted the promotion to Correctional Captain. Lieutenant Reeves has been a valued employee at the facility since 1985, where he began his career as a Correctional Officer. Congratulations gentlemen!

The Terre Haute Branch of SCORE scored a custom PLUS quilt in thanks for a recent workshop held for Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) offenders. SCORE is a nonprofit group dedicated to education and helping small businesses start, grow and succeed. Retired business leaders from the local chapter met with select WVCF population to discuss how to lay the foundation for a successful small business plan.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) conducted a Security Threat Group (STG) Seminar that was organized and coordinated by PCF Internal Affairs personnel. The event was attended by officials from the Madison County Prosecutor's Office, local and state law enforcement personnel, STG Coordinators from surrounding facilities, and officials representing IDOC Central Office in Indianapolis.

John Cosich, Sunny Akhigbe, and Michael Barry were presented with service awards for their outstanding contribution to the Camp Summit Boot Camp by Superintendent Cecil Davis during the facility's Quarterly Staff Recall. On hand to help recognize the employees was Bob Taylo and Joan Wiseman, members of the Regional Community Advisory Board. During the recall, Camp Summit department heads provided updates from their areas to those in attendance.

Offenders at the Rockville Correctional Facility supported the Parke County Girl Scout Council by purchasing 358 boxes of Girl Scout Cookies. A total of \$1,253 was donated to area Girl Scout Troops through this effort.

Forty Kairos volunteers and 35 offenders had a four day retreat at New Castle Correctional Facility. Everyone enjoyed spiritual lessons and good food.

The Indiana Criminal Justice Association (ICJA) is getting the word out about their organization and the upcoming Annual ICJA Fall Conference. If you'd like to know more about ICJA or the conference, follow them on Twitter at <https://twitter.com/ICJA2012>.

March 9, 2012

Weekly Views

Nineteen offenders in the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Wee Ones Nursery (WON) Program attended infant CPR training facilitated by IWP's training department Secretary and Certified CPR Instructor Donna Burke. All of the offenders, which included WON mothers, expectant mothers, offender nannies, the WON clerk and the Family Preservation Center clerk, passed the written test as well as the practical applications of the training.

WFIU Public Radio (I.U. Bloomington) News Director Stan Jastrzebski visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview Superintendent Keith Butts relative to a story that will focus on the relationship between the economy and the management and operation of correctional facilities. The story will air next Friday on WFIU 103.7FM and online at www.indianapublicmedia.org/radio.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility took part in two telethons, donating \$1000 and 75 PLUS quilts to the American Red Cross, assisting southern Indiana tornado victims. Both WTWO/WAWV and WTHI TV hosted events and Wabash Valley made the contributions on behalf of Fatherhood and PLUS participants. 100 percent of the telethon proceeds were dedicated to disaster relief efforts.

Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community (TC) hosted "Keeping the Faith Alive," an event of offender testimony about their struggles with addiction and their commitment to new changes in their lifestyle. Offenders spoke to a crowded gymnasium of all 436 TC offenders, IDOC staff and Corizon guests. Highlighting the afternoon event were interludes of music performed by the facility's Complex Choir.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility had a facility wide celebration of Black History Month with guest speaker Ike Randolph, Deputy Director of Volunteer Services. The facility band provided music for the event which concluded with an art contest. Plainfield staff and 375 offenders attended the program.

Offender dog handlers, Directors, and volunteers of the Prison Greyhound program met for the first time during an orientation at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The offenders received instruction on dog handling, care, and feeding. Three canine graduates of former prison programs, ISR, IYC and the Ohio State Prison, facilitated hands on instruction. The Prison Greyhound program is scheduled to commence with the arrival of three dogs on March 17.

Madison Correctional Facility's ADOPT (A Dog on Prison Turf) canine and feline rescue program donated \$500 for medical expenses for animals injured in the recent tornados in Southern Indiana.

Chain O' Lakes (COL) Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board where Superintendent Kathy Griffin took the opportunity to introduce Mrs. Rhonda Thomas Hardy, newly promoted administrative assistant. Superintendent Griffin shared several retirements of long term staff and let the board know that the facility is in the process of hiring new staff and if they knew of anyone interested. Superintendent Griffin also informed the board that the population count is back up and that COL is in a better position to help the community with any special projects.

Employees at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) participated in the state-wide Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. ISP collected 379 non-perishable food item and toiletries and received \$335 in donations. All of these donations were given to the Michigan City Salvation Army, which serves over 800 families within the community. During the food drive, Superintendent William K. Wilson put out a challenge to staff stating they would match all cash donations given on Ash Wednesday. The Superintendent's office sent out a big "Thank You" to everyone for their donations.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) participated in the Hoosier Helping Hoosiers Food Drive, under the leadership of Indiana's First Lady, Cheri Daniels. CIF staff collected two containers of non-perishable food items and \$400 in donations. All of these donations were given to the Second Harvest Food Bank of East Central Indiana in Muncie.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility staff donated 402 food items during the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers food drive. Students from the Venture Scouts, Future Soldiers and PLUS units competed to earn the most donations. Venture Scouts earned the top award with their efforts resulting in 200 food items.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility PLUS unit delivered food and cash donations to the Emmaus Mission Center Food Pantry. The facility, along with community support, delivered 1803 food items to the food pantry and also presented a check for \$250 from the fundraising efforts of the PLUS unit.

Superintendent Stanley Knight congratulated staff on the success of the Putnamville Correctional Facility's Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. Event Coordinators Cara Rush and Sarah Laroche delivered 1,267 food items and monetary donations totaling \$1,322 to the Clay County Emergency Food Pantry, Cunot Community and Senior Citizen Center and the Putnam County Emergency Food Pantry. Each organization received 422 food items and a check for over \$440.00 thanks to the generous donations of staff, PLUS, the Employee Recognition Committee and the ISF Community Fund.

PLUS offenders at the Plainfield Correctional Facility made a \$300 donation to the tornado relief fund. Several offenders in the PLUS unit are from the affected area and wanted to help where help was needed most. Their donation will be added to staff donations as part of the Department's effort to provide assistance.

March 16, 2012

Weekly Views

Spring is almost here and that means the 2012 Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAF) Golf Outing is quickly approaching. The tournament will be held on Friday, May 11, 2012 at the Eagle Creek Golf Club in Indianapolis, IN. For any questions or if you are interested in participating, please contact Jim Kimmel at jameskimmel@comcast.net or (219) 362-6150.

The Gary Parole District Office held a luncheon to help celebrate the recent promotion of Robert Ruwersma from Parole Agent to the Gary Parole District Supervisor. All current Gary District Staff were in attendance as well as retired Parole Agents from the district. Robert began his career with the IDOC in 1993 at Indiana State Prison as a Correctional Officer and rose through the ranks at the facility, until 2008 when he accepted a promotion to Parole Agent.

Reception Diagnostic Center staff were quick to help fellow IDOC staff after learning of the tornado disaster in Southern Indiana. RDC staff donated money and the Activity Committee held a Hot Dog Sale for four days, raising a total of \$1,100 to help those affected!

The aroma of cookies, cakes, and pies filled the halls of the Putnamville Correctional Facility during a Bake Sale held for Henryville tornado victims. Sponsored by the Employee Recognition Committee, proceeds in the amount of \$610 will be donated to displaced IDOC staff at the Henryville Correctional Facility.

Camp Summit Boot Camp staff participated in the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive, collecting more than 185 food items. The food was donated to the Good Shepherd Food Pantry, which serves about 400 families in the community each month. The food was delivered to the pantry by John Cosich, Community Service Director, and three students from the facility. After the delivery staff and students assisted the pantry with stocking the shelves.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen made special recognition to WCC's PLUS Program Director Sandy Sharp on her 16th PLUS graduation since the conception of the unit in November 2005. The facility's most recent graduation celebrated the completion of 38 offenders from the program. The facility opened its graduation ceremony to friends and family of the graduates. The facility's Culinary Arts Vocational Education class provided the refreshments.

Miami Correctional Facility held a bake sale to benefit Officer Rodney Gahl, who was recently assaulted by an offender. The facility raised more than \$300. Facility staff donated bags of cookies and brownies to the cause.

Jim Kennedy was honored for 17 years of dedicated service to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) and PEN Products. PEN Manager Victor Manzo joined WVCF Superintendent Dick Brown in thanking Mr. Kennedy for his service as Plant Foreman in the Print Shop. Manzo said Kennedy's vast knowledge of the printing industry and calm, cheerful outlook and wisdom will be missed, not only by staff but also the offender workers he supervised.

The Red Cross Bloodmobile was at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility, where staff donated 14 units of blood. Superintendent Linda Commons commented on staff's dedication to give to this community organization.

Participants of the Residential Reformatory Re-Entry Program at Madison Correctional Facility donated over 100 non perishable items for the Hoosiers Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. Items were donated to the Salvation Army.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility loaded their first shipment of 200 renovated wheelchairs for "Wheels of the World" Thursday March 15. The wheelchairs are slated to be shipped to Romania where they will be individually fitted to each recipient.

New Castle Correctional Facility and Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) were visited by Tibetan Mongolian Buddhist religious leaders from the Buddhist Cultural Center in Bloomington, IN, including Center Director Arja Rinpoche.

The CIF PLUS unit held a KFC Fundraiser in which they raised well over \$1400. \$960 will be donated to Pendleton School System and \$500 will be donated to the CIF FIDO (Faith+Inmates+Dogs=Opportunity) Program.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Community Services Department donated \$500 to the American Red Cross to assist with the tornado relief efforts in Southern Indiana. The funds were raised during a food sale organized by IREF residents. Residents purchased food items with available funds on their inmate account.

Superintendent Keith Butts is pleased to announce that Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Maintenance Supervisor Bobby Latour has been promoted to the position of Powerhouse Supervisor 2 at PCF. Mr. Latour began his career at the facility in 1990. Congratulations Mr. Latour!

Wabash Valley presented appreciation quilts to editorial staff at both the Sullivan Daily Times and Terre Haute Tribune-Star in thanks for their ongoing coverage of proactive and breaking news events at WVCF, always in a fair and accurate manner. The PLUS unit made quilts featured the logos of both media outlets.

Marian University students and staff visited IREF as part of an Alternative Spring Break program which examines community outreach efforts and helps programs that benefit members of the community. The group visited all areas of the facility, while IREF staff and residents gave the group a broad overview of the IREF program and addressed their questions about resident life and re-entry.

Weekly Views

March 23, 2012

Due to the overwhelming generosity of staff, the DOC family was able to raise over \$9000 in relief funds for those most devastated by storms in Southern Indiana earlier this month. Commissioner Lemmon was pleased to distribute checks this week to staff whose homes had been destroyed in the tornado. They were grateful to receive the assistance, and deeply moved by the thoughtfulness of their coworkers.

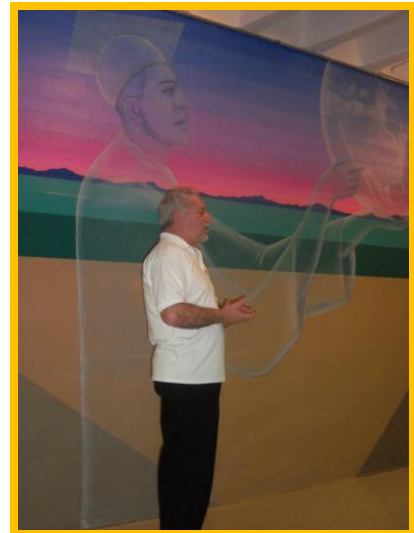
Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) hosted the first in a series of IDOC Public Information Officer Round Table Meetings, discussing social media and other facets of media coverage. Susan Dinkel and Mandi Scott of Terre Haute's WTHI TV exchanged ideas and shared their expertise with the group.

The Indiana Women's Prison is proud to announce, two offender ICAN dog handlers graduated from the 3600 hour U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program for Animal Trainer. The offenders worked very hard to achieve this goal. The facility congratulates both offenders on their accomplishment.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted an Open House for the unveiling of a 47 x 11 foot mural titled "Go and Make your Mark on the World". The mural was painted by students with the guidance of the nationally renowned muralist, painter and sculptor Emanuel Martinez for The Emanuel Project. The project's history began in January 2011 for juvenile detention facilities across the nation. The mural in Logansport marks the completion of the 17th mural painted in 12 juvenile detention centers in Georgia, Tennessee, Indiana, Kentucky, Colorado and Texas. Several dignitaries were at the unveiling included State Representatives, Senators, local Principals, School Board members, the media as well as high ranking staff members from the Department. (see photo right of Emanuel Martinez)

A PLUS Commencement Ceremony was held for 114 graduates at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Opening remarks were given by Superintendent Stanley Knight followed by an address from the Keynote Speaker David Liebel, Deputy Director of Religious & Volunteer Services. Testimonials from graduates, presentation of certificates and recognition of program volunteers concluded the ceremony, coordinated by Case Manager K. Kumaran.

Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion Post #608 conducted a program that was attended by Pendleton administrative staff, offender members of the American Legion Organization, Indiana American Legion officials, and other outside guests from the community. During the event a "MIA/POW Missing Man Table" ceremony was conducted, and a donation of \$250 was presented by Post #608 to the family of University of North Carolina and Muncie Central High School graduate and track athlete Vanneisha Ivy in support of her quest to compete in the 2012 Summer Olympics in London. Indiana Legion Commander Michael Miller also presented Post #608 with its permanent charter and paperwork and those in attendance recognized and celebrated the 93rd anniversary of the American Legion Organization.



The Indiana State Prison's PLUS program conducted their first social event of the year. The PLUS Social Committee hosted the event that included a cookout and various tournament games on the PLUS unit. In keeping with the five core values of the program (Compassion, Tolerance, Honesty, Respect, and Responsibility) and promoting pro-social behavior, the participants provided meals for all the men on X-row and 91 non-PLUS participants as a gesture of goodwill and expressing social altruism. It also provided an opportunity for the PLUS offenders to interact with volunteers and show potential volunteers what the program is about.

Staff and offenders contributed to Westville Correctional Facility's effort in the Hoosier Helping Hoosiers Food Drive. The facility collected approximately 1000 items which were donated to the local Baptist Church and Supplemental Food Pantry. A huge thanks to the facility was expressed by local recipients of the donated goods.

The Indiana Women's Prison PLUS Program donated \$500 to the Henryville Disaster Relief Fund. The offenders said they are glad to help with the recovery efforts.

Nikki Simpson and Regina Engle of the March of Dimes met with Wabash Valley staff, thanking Superintendent Dick Brown for PLUS quilts made to help comfort babies at Terre Haute area hospitals. Team WVCF will again take part in the local walk to benefit the March of Dimes on April 28th

The Putnamville Correctional Facility raised \$2010 for victims of the Henryville tornado. The facility's Employee Recognition Committee hosted a two-day bake sale, and the Ivy Tech Culinary Arts class donated proceeds from a two-day staff luncheon to raise the money. A donation was also received from the Facility's Community Service Fund. Superintendent Stanley Knight extends his appreciation and thanks to all who diligently worked and generously donated to make each event a success.

Weekly Views

March 30, 2012

Marion Superior Court Judge David Certo held an open forum question and answer session with Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's (IREF) Reformative Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP) participants during the group's "Coffee Talk" hour. Each morning, before the start of their day, residents come together to discuss issues pertaining to the RRRP core values: Honesty, Tolerance, Caring for Others, and Personal Responsibility. IREF Superintendent Steven Keever and Assistant Superintendent Mike Pavese also answered residents' questions pertaining to Department's re-entry and community efforts.

Miami Correctional Facility staff met with fellow Correctional Officer Rodney Gahl. Officer Gahl was recently released from the hospital after being seriously assaulted by an offender on February 29, 2012. Superintendent Mark Sevier presented Officer Gahl with a check for almost \$2000 raised through a bake sale, a pizza sale, and donations from staff and the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana. Officer Gahl is doing well and thanked the facility and staff Department-wide for their cards, well wishes, and kindness during his continued recuperation.

For seven days Edinburgh Correctional Facility supported the cleanup efforts in Henryville, IN. Edinburgh sent four offender work crews to the Henryville and Marysville area with 10 offenders per crew under the supervision of Edinburgh Correctional Officers and Correctional Sergeants. In total Edinburgh provided approximately 3500 man hours.

Staff and offenders from the Henryville Correctional Facility assisted the community of Henryville in removing debris after an F-4 tornado destroyed much of the school and town of Henryville. The IDOC's Emergency Operations Command requested assistance from staff and offenders from the facility to help clear roads, separate types of debris, load vehicles and remove trash from the stricken area. Under the supervision of James Basinger, Executive Director of Adult Facilities, and Kevin Orme, Director of Construction Services, the offenders provided 4,950 man hours of labor to the cleanup efforts. The facility worked for nine consecutive days on the disaster.

Staff and offenders at the Rockville Correctional Facility joined forces to raise \$650 for southern Indiana storm relief. The grand total resulted from direct donations as well as proceeds for Culinary Arts luncheon sales to staff members.

Eleven offenders from the Madison Correctional Facility passed their state exams for licensing. Six received state licenses for cosmetology and five for manicurist.

A Prison Greyhound program was implemented at the Putnamville Correctional Facility with the arrival of Dillinger, Rosy and Gordy. Over the next three months, six offenders will receive interactive instruction on training and socialization of the retired race dogs after which the canines will be adopted out to families. Case Managers Ed Joslyn and Steve Shotwell is the coordinator and assistant coordinator, respectively. For additional information visit www.prisongreyhounds.org

The Pendleton Correctional Facility held an Easter Egg Hunt for employees and their families at the facility's Recreation Area. Separate egg hunts were set up for children representing three different age groups and approximately 30 children participated. The successful event was planned and organized by the facility's Employee Appreciation Committee.

Westville's Therapeutic Community Basketball team hosted an evening of joyous competition with the Concordia Seminary students from Ft. Wayne, IN. Although the Concordia students triumphed over our WCC TC team, 71-63, the evening was filled with fellowship and fun. The students from Concordia were delighted to bring their message of hope and salvation into the facility.

The Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) sponsored a graduation for seven ICAN dogs at the Indiana Women's Prison. There were over 140 attendees from throughout the state. The offender handlers completed a successful two week team training process which consisted of training the clients to work with their new canine assistant. The graduation concluded a two year training process for the dogs in a total of three different IDOC Facilities. Superintendent McCauley stated "I'm proud to have this unique component of the ICAN Program at the Indiana Women's Prison. It's unique because the client comes into the facility and is matched with the canine assistant, and then with coaching from the offender handler the two began specific training for the clients. This is just one way our facility gives back to the community."

Six women from the Rockville Correctional Facility were interactive participants during a live episode of Oprah's Lifeclass on the Oprah Winfrey Network. The women answered questions asked by both Oprah and her guest Iyanla Vanzant. The offenders will participate in two more episodes on April 2nd and 16th.

Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 held their monthly meeting. Post 555 received special recognition from 5th District Commander Jerry Stevens, 5th District Membership Chairman Richard Thomas, and Department Commander Michael Miller for earning 1st place in the district with a 135.14% membership rating. Post 555 was commended for their "top of the list" placement and it was noted that this is "quite an achievement". A special certificate and ribbons to hang from the Post's flag were presented to commemorate the occasion.

Weekly Views

April 5, 2012

Correctional staff from the Illinois Department of Correction toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility's (PCF) Equine Management program with hopes of modeling the PCF program at one of their facilities. Superintendent Stanley Knight and Equine instructor, Barbara Holcomb, relayed the day to day operations, classroom instruction, care and adoption of the horses. Since inception in 2007, the program has graduated 58 offenders, processed 62 horses, and facilitated 30 adoptions. Two of the horses were adopted by St. Mary of the Woods College for their Equestrian program.

Dr. John Nally, Director of Education, and Dr. Susan Lockwood, Director of Juvenile Education, have been appointed to a five-member national task force regarding the implementation of computer-based GED testing in correctional facilities. Indiana is currently a pilot state for this initiative.

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen and Major Danny Forker are pleased to announce the promotions of the following custody staff to their new rank: Captain Michael Reeves, Lieutenants Donald Winters and John Creasy, and Sergeants Christina Stobaugh, Timothy Phelps, Darrell Holmes, Refuge Curtis, Daniel Pomeroy, Brandon Jensen, and Alonzo Burris.

A staff awards ceremony was held at the Indiana State Prison. Recognized for years of service were Rollin Pomeroy Jr., Daniel Easton and Eddie Hull for 30 years of service; Christie Scott and Sherry Hatchel for 25 years; and Larry East, Michael Everett, Christopher Prohl, Steven Burkholder, Carl Keller, Matthew Florer, Brandon Scott, Michael Haas and Tamara Baum for 20 years of service. Extra-mile awards were presented to Daniel Easton, Mike Abraham, Brad Cox, Iona Horde, and Robert Roose. Dr. John Frazee, received the Contractual Employee of the Quarter, Mark Hubbard, Employee of the Quarter, Nathaniel Talbot, Officer of the Quarter and Ron Neal, Supervisor of the Quarter. Senator Jim Arnold also made a special visit to congratulate Jerry Lubiniecki on his retirement. Senator Arnold mentioned how he appreciated all employees of state government and thanked them for their dedication, but it was a special honor to present his childhood friend with an award on this special day.

PEN Products Re-entry Job Placement Team members, Doug Evans and Lisa Williams, were presenters at the National Correctional Industries Conference attended by 47 corrections professionals in Sacramento, CA. The presentation, titled "Innovative Re-entry Inside Today's Correctional Industries", focused on four specific areas of re-entry training that offenders are receiving while working in PEN Products industries operations.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Superintendent Keith Butts is pleased to announce that PCF has been recommended for reaccreditation by the American Correctional Association following an auditing by a visiting committee. The facility received 100% on mandatory standards and a 98.6% on non-mandatory standards. Staff Pendleton put in a lot of hard work, time and effort preparing for the accreditation.

Merle Wininger has retired after 19 years of service at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. At a reception held in his honor, Wininger received a plaque, commemorating his outstanding and dedicated service. A handcrafted PLUS "retirement quilt" and an inscribed key were also presented by appreciative staff for nearly two decades of protecting the public.

Please join Superintendent Wendy Knight and the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) in congratulating Captain Larry Taylor on his promotion to Correctional Major. Major Taylor started his career in 1989 as a correctional officer and has since promoted up the ranks working at Miami, Pendleton and most recently as Utility Captain at CIF. Major Taylor brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to this position.

New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) staff and offenders donated a total of \$1450 for Henryville Correctional Facility staff affected by the recent tornados. 38 toy cars & trucks made by NCCF Building Maintenance and painted by PLUS offenders along with four handmade quilts were also sent to the Henryville Tornado Relief effort.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility PLUS unit held a fundraiser for the victims of the Southern Indiana Tornado disaster. The unit donated \$250 to the Convoy of Hope relief fund. The check was distributed through The First Assembly Of God in Logansport Indiana.

Dr. John Nally, Director of Education and Dr. Susan Lockwood, Director of Juvenile Education, attended the National Correctional Education Association Leadership Forum in Columbia, MD. They presented on their implementation of the "Problem Solving Strategies for Successful Reentry" curriculum in adult and juvenile correctional facilities in Indiana.

Staff at Pendleton held a successful fundraiser to assist the family of PCF Correctional Officer J.C. Jackson. A total of \$377 was raised to offset medical expenses incurred with the birth of Office Jackson's daughter Lily Marie who was born 12 weeks early on December 3, 2011.

At the request of facility Librarian Brad Deal, Director Alice Greenburg and Assistant Director Lynn Tweedy of the Putnam County Public Library spent the day at the Putnamville Correctional Facility auditing the library's educational, recreational and cultural reading materials and services. Deal, will use their recommendations to expand collections and improve services of the program.

Superintendent Knight supported the informal audit stating, "We strive to provide a quality program that meets the needs of the offender population. I commend staff for their initiative."

April 13, 2012

Weekly Views

Pendleton Juvenile Superintendent Linda Commons presented Executive Director of Division of Youth Services Michael Dempsey with a totem pole created by students as a collaborative art project. A student that helped create the totem pole explained the meaning of the animals on the totem pole: a spider (balance, wisdom, creativity, communication), a bear (courage, industrious, instinctive, healing, power), a scorpion (transforming, strong, inspiring, passionate) and on the top is a dragon (longevity, richness, prosperity, wisdom) (see photo below)

The Pendleton Correctional Facility began participation in the Indiana Department of Transportation (INDOT) Trash Bash Project. A road crew of eight offenders from the facility's minimum security Outside Dorm will be picking up trash along Interstate 70 through April 19.

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Therapeutic Community (TC) offenders rose to the occasion by collecting over \$1,700 for the State sponsored Methamphetamine Project. Each TC across the state was requested to participate in the donation effort. Ms. Sward, WCC's TC Director, was not surprised by the generosity of the participants, who took money from their limited accounts. She acknowledged the offenders for their empathy and acts of moving past selfishness for a cause bigger than themselves.

Staff and offenders at New Castle Correctional Facility donated over \$500 for Miami Correctional Facility Officer Rodney Gahl, who was injured in an offender assault



Superintendent Steve McCauley is pleased to announce the promotion of Kenneth Wiltsie to the position of Major at the Indiana Women's Prison. Mr. Wiltsie began his career as a Correction Officer in Montana and Arizona for 13 years before coming to the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) as Sergeant in 2002. As a result of his willingness to thrive within the organization, he promoted through the ranks to lieutenant, captain, facility investigator, correctional police officer and now major. Superintendent McCauley stated "It is rewarding to have the opportunity to promote employees that work hard to achieve organizational goals. I have absolutely no doubt that Major Wiltsie will continue on this outstanding path for IWP." Congratulations Major Wiltsie! (see photo left)



Camp Summit hosted a GED graduation for five students who earned their GED diplomas last month. Several parents attended the ceremony in which Camp Summit Youth Service Instructor Robert Post was the keynote speaker. Mr. Post reinforced the importance of improving one's education for success in the job market and in society in general. School Principal, Terry Moore encouraged the students to continue to pursue educational opportunities vigorously.

The American Legion Post 130 offender organization from the Indiana State Prison held a meeting where members presented checks to the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund for \$650, Michigan City JROTC for \$1,000, Center for the Homeless in South Bend for \$500, and the Child Welfare Foundation for \$1,000. Outside representatives from the ROTC and the American Legion came to the prison to accept the donations. A hand painted portrait was also presented to Linda Luke of her late husband Butch Luke 3rd District commander, who passed away last fall. He had contributed a lot of his time to Post 130.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility held a carry-in lunch to celebrate the retirement of 17-year veteran officer Steve Hoyle. Officer Hoyle started his career in corrections in Fort Wayne at North East Juvenile Correctional Facility, before transferring to Chain O' Lakes in March 2010. Superintendent Kathy Griffin presented Officer Hoyle with a plaque for his dedication to the department. Officer Hoyle's immediate plans are to work on his golf game. (see photo below)

Charlene Burkett, Ombudsman Bureau Director, was the keynote speaker at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Community Advisory Board meeting. Director Burkett explained the process of resolving offender issues and said she works closely with facility staff, utilizing their input and Department Policy and Procedures to address concerns and when needed recommend change, in a timely manner.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility successfully completed an audit conducted by representatives of the American Correctional Association (ACA) and will be recommended for re-accreditation. During the audit process, the facility scored 100% on mandatory and 97.3% on non-mandatory standards.

Superintendent Brian Smith thanked the audit team for their thorough and fair evaluation and praised staff for their outstanding efforts in preparing the facility for the audit.



April 20, 2012

Weekly Views

Madison Correctional Facility dedicated two buildings at the facility. A housing unit was dedicated in honor of Dana Blank. Ms. Blank worked for several years at the Indiana Women's Prison and was instrumental in changing programming and re-entry for women offenders. The facility also dedicated its recycling building to Bob Dixon, who helped initiate the recycling programs at Putnamville Correctional Facility. (see photo below of Madison Superintendent Jan Davis with Dana Blank and Commissioner Lemmon)

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted the Chief Probation Officer of Morgan County and a young woman from the Australian Group Study Exchange Team through Rotary. They toured the facility and learned about corrections in Indiana and the IDOC intake process.

PEN Products staff facilitated the second week of the Offender Workforce Development Training program at the Correctional Training Institute (CTI) in New Castle. 28 participants from Department of Workforce Development, Indiana Department of Correction, Community Corrections, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons have now completed two thirds of the requirements of the training program.

Fifth graders in Daviess and Vermillion County were a captive audience for Wabash Valley Correctional Facility staff, taking part in LEAD activities. Project LEAD (Legal Education to Arrest Delinquency) generated lively discussion and questions from the students about life at Wabash, including the opportunity for positive change. (see photo below of Wabash PLUS Program Coordinator Jacquie Mize)



A Staff Assembly was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility and the facility was honored to have Commissioner Bruce Lemmon in attendance. Facility updates were presented by administrative staff and awards were presented to staff for various achievements. Andy Conrad of the University of Phoenix also attended the assembly to discuss the educational opportunities and options offered by the University.

Staff members and offenders at the Rockville Correctional Facility have joined forces to make blankets and layettes for premature babies in support of the upcoming March of Dimes March for Babies. At this time they have completed approximately 185 items for the project. Members of the offender based Teddy Bear Club have also crocheted and donated approximately 25 hat, scarf and mitten sets to Parke County Healthy Families.

With the arrival of spring, and the end of the semester, come college tours at the facilities. Twenty-five Valparaiso University Criminal Justice students visited the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC). The students were introduced to the facility's Therapeutic Community and allowed to ask questions to selected offender participants. At the other end of the spectrum, the students toured the facility's Maximum Control Unit, giving them insight to the diverse offender population at WCC.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) held its 10th KAIROS weekend. This KAIROS was a special event, since the group reached out to CIF's Behavioral Modification Unit to attend the ceremony. Over 55 guests attended the closing ceremony.

Officer Miranda Cannan from the Indiana State Prison received the Teamwork Award at a CTI Pre-Service Academy graduation. The instructors nominate an individual who exemplified the highest standards of teamwork by their leadership, positive attitude, and willingness to work with, motivate, and assist others throughout the Pre-Service Academy. Congratulations Ms. Cannan, and welcome to the Indiana Department of Correction!

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted the Pendleton Correctional Complex Community Advisory Board meeting. Each facility shared information on new and upcoming operations on all three facilities.

A blood drive was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility, sponsored by the Indiana Blood Center, resulting in eleven 11 units of blood being donated by staff.

140 offenders at the Indiana State Prison gathered in the Chapel to watch the Men's NCAA Basketball Tournament Championship Game. The offenders were selected by Unit Team staff based on overall conduct, work performance, and involvement in programming related to self-improvement. The game was broadcast on a large screen and refreshments were served that included hot dogs, nachos and cheese, cookies, and punch. The offenders had a good time and appreciated being given recognition for their positive behavior.

April 27, 2012

Weekly Views

The Indianapolis Parole District #3 Office, in conjunction with Marion County Sheriff's Department (MCSO) Sex and Violent Offender Unit, participated in an activity to inspect Marion County sex offenders under parole supervision for compliance with parole expectations and their responsibility with all facets of sex offender registration, identification, and residency. Positive contacts were made with 219 offenders, and a total of eight arrests were made for registry violations. This is the second concentrated effort sponsored by Project COPS Grant monies awarded to MCSO for this purpose.

In recognition of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, each IDOC facility held a memorial service and tree planting ceremony to honor victims of crime in Indiana. The Indiana Department of Natural Resources generously donated 26 Bur Oak trees, and memorial signs were provided by PEN Products. Many facilities invited staff, offenders, and Community Advisory Board members to attend the ceremony. Pendleton Correctional Facility was visited by IDOC Director of Registration and Victim Services Brent Myers and Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA) CEO Anita Carpenter, who was presented with a check from the facility for \$512 to support INCASA. Director Myers also made a check presentation to INCASA during their recent annual gala for \$12,667.58, which was raised through staff donations and offender fundraisers from multiple facilities across the state. (see photo below)

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) processed 342 offenders within a three day period at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Kelli Searing, Pre-Release Re-Entry Coordinator, was commended by BMV Mobile Unit staff for running an efficient and rule conforming ID operation, setting the standard for other IDOC facilities.

Commissioner Lemmon, Executive Staff, and re-entry and parole staff joined in celebrating the opening of Indianapolis Parole District #3's new office on the far-eastside of Indianapolis. Commissioner Lemmon thanks everyone involved in giving PD3 a new home, including the IDOC Construction Service Division, PEN Products, and the Indiana Department of Administration. (see photo left)



New Castle Correctional Facility's Volunteer Services Program and Culinary Arts Program provided an appreciation dinner for 60 community volunteers and recognized the Volunteer & Volunteer Organization of the Year.

Plainfield Correctional Facility completed their 10th Kairos Weekend where 42 volunteers spent four days instructing, sharing, and educating offenders. Over 90 staff, volunteers and offenders attended the closing graduation ceremony.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) continued the Emanuel Project by having Jeanne Wines-Reed and Cynthia Bricking from the Project

provide art curriculum training to the LJCF teachers, as well as having the students work with different art mediums. The Emanuel Project brought a variety of art supplies worth thousands of dollars to be used with the students.

Westville Correctional Facility's first Inside/Outside college program celebrated their semester completion. 12 offenders and 16 students from the University of Notre Dame completed their course entitled, "Rethinking Crime and Justice: Explorations from the Inside Out." During their final meeting, each group presented their project and gave individual speeches about their experiences in the class. Reports from Notre Dame are that there will definitely be more Inside/Outside classes. Also present was a professor from Valparaiso University, who sees Valpo's participation in an Inside/Outside class in the near future.

It's not every day that one reaches the half century milestone, and no easy task to keep a secret when planning a surprise birthday party at a maximum-security facility but both happened at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! Assistant Superintendent Kevin Gilmore said he was truly surprised and touched by Wabash Valley staff turnout for his 50th Birthday. His wife, Casework Manager Beverly Gilmore, pulled off the major surprise coup!

Miami Correctional Facility donated \$6,000 to several area charities. The money comes from the Community Involvement fund generated from the sale of Aramark's Fresh Favorites food. Six charities received \$1,000 a piece. Those charities include Miami County YMCA, Peru Public Library, Ole Olsen Memorial Theatre Children's Theater, Circus City Festival, Peru; Emmaus Mission Center, Logansport; and Kokomo Rescue Mission. Future monies generated by the food sales will be put into a fund and area not-for-profit agencies can apply to the facility for funds.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a staff assembly advising staff of Department and facility information regarding new programs that are being implemented such as ICAN and the Department of Labor Maintenance Program. New security procedures were discussed along with overall facility goals and expectations. Staff were also advised about exciting upcoming activities for Correctional Employees Week.



May 4, 2012

Weekly Views

An Earth Day Tree Planting Ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility as the result of collaboration between the IDOC and Johnson Controls. The purpose of the event was to recognize the Department's sustainability efforts through our partnership with Johnson Controls and to highlight how we have reduced our carbon foot print. Commissioner Lemmon, along with Pendleton Juvenile Superintendent Linda Commons, Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent Wendy Knight, IDOC staff, and representatives from Johnson Controls, assisted offenders from the facility's Horticulture class in planting 100 Blue Spruce tree saplings provided by Johnson Controls.

Congratulations to the Rockville Correctional Facility! With 19 staff, friends and family participating on Team DOC for the 2012 Race For The Cure, Rockville edged out Central Office by just one team member to win the challenge set out by Chief of Staff Copeland. Madison Correctional Complex comes in third with 16 participants. Special recognition goes to Joy Sedam of the Madison Correctional Facility for coordinating a local Race event for their team members, and to Elizabeth Weber of Correctional Industrial Facility for raising over \$1000! In total, Team DOC had 76 participants and has raised nearly \$2500 to support breast cancer detection, treatment, and research. Congratulations to all!

PEN Products re-entry department held a "Career Path Planning Workshop" at Westville Correctional Facility (WCC). 30 offenders were joined by 12 re-entry staff from Work One, Lake County Community Corrections, WCC and PEN Products. During the six hour workshop, participants took career based self assessments, worked through a time management scenario, and participated in a discussion and activity dealing with job retention.

Current Pacers forward David West and former Pacer Darnell Hillman spoke to 50 students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. West shared stories of his family and friends who have been incarcerated and discussed self-acceptance and attitude. West stated "Chances are you are going to commit a crime against someone who looks and acts like you. It's called self-hatred." Darnell Hillman discussed how "a positive attitude can help them take back power, because it shows they have control." West and Hillman also autographed pictures for staff and students.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility donated more than \$3,200 to the Sullivan County Brown Bagger School Food Program! Proceeds from the facility ARAMARK Fresh Favorite Community Involvement Fund made the gift possible. The money will help provide nutritious meals to 100 children on weekends, holidays and vacations

Fourteen students from DePauw University visited the Rockville Correctional Facility for a tour. The class, instructed by Ms. Rebecca Bordt, focuses on prisons and the students varied by major. Both students and teacher expressed interest in the ICAN, CLIFF and Hope Center programs and asked many intriguing questions about offenders' daily lives and classification.

Substance Abuse Director Chastity Montalvo and the CLIFF unit at the Plainfield Correctional Facility held a pizza sale for the offender population, and as a result, were able to contribute over \$2100 to the "Life After Meth" initiative.

Allison Green, counselor for the Indiana Women's Prison Wee Ones Nursery Program attended a luncheon at the Broadway United Methodist Church. The purpose of the visit was to provide church members an overview of the program and its benefits to the new mothers and their children. The church was extremely generous to the program by donating a very nice supply of new baby clothing, diapers, blankets and other items. Superintendent McCauley is very appreciative to Phyllis Newton and all the other Broadway UMC members involved in this wonderful donations.

The huge, motor home looking van parked in front of Westville's Perimeter Office belongs to the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). The BMV mobile unit has been at the facility registering offenders for State ID's, while WCC's re-entry team checks for Birth Certificates and Social Security cards. By the end of their visit, Re-Entry Program Director Sandy Sharp and the re-entry team will see 463 offenders.

Ms. Margareth Travessoni, Chief of Police and Deputy Secretary of Transparency and Control from Minas Gerais, Brazil visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to meet with staff and tour the facility. Ms. Travessoni was accompanied on her visit by Stefanie Krevda who serves as the Policy Director and Deputy Legislative Director for Governor Daniels and Justin Hage who serves as Program Director for Government Efficiency and Financial Planning for the State's Office of Management and Budget. Ms. Travessoni is a participant in the "Partners of the Americas" Legislative Fellows Program and is visiting the United States for the purpose of observing the operations of law enforcement and correctional systems in this country.

Branchville Correctional Facility's InterFaith Council held a fundraiser during their Easter Celebration. The group sold pancake breakfasts to the offender population prior to Lent. The event raised over \$1000 which will be sent to Angel Tree, a prison ministry program which provides Christmas gifts to the children of incarcerated men and women.

Several residents from Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility participated in a home rehabilitation for Habitat for Humanity of Indianapolis. The home is located on Winthrop Drive in Indianapolis and once completed will be donated to a family registered through Habitat for Humanity.

May 11, 2012

Weekly Views

A production crew from Plum Pictures Ltd out of London finished their first week of filming at the Indiana State Prison for a two-part TV documentary series about the facility. The documentary will feature both staff and offenders and will give the audience insight into the day-to-day operations of a maximum security prison, as a community. They are expected to return June 4, 2012 for an additional week of filming. The host of the show is Sir Trevor McDonald, a highly respected British broadcast journalist. The documentary will be broadcast in primetime on ITV1, the UK's highest-rated commercial channel.

The Indiana Department of Correction was well represented at the Governor's Public Service Achievement Awards Ceremony in the statehouse. Among those honored from IDOC were Mike Callahan who received an individual award for his work instituting green practices throughout the Department; the Indiana SAVIN team of Jan Tyree, Laura Walker, Tom Lucas, and Brent Myers for improving the victim notification process and reducing costs through more efficient and accurate notification; Dushan Zatecky, Mark Olson, Julie Haynes, Linda Barker, Matthew Eby, and Jason Fedeler for their work with the new IDOC Operations Center to streamline all emergency information to a central location and distribute to appropriate staff for a quick and effective response; and Mark Sevier and Mike Herron along with the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired for their partnership through the Miami Accessible Media Program, saving taxpayer dollars while providing jobs for offenders both in and out of the correctional facility.

Madison Correctional Facility and Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility participated as a satellite team in the 21st Annual Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. Offenders in the ADOPT (A Dog on Prison Turf) program along with their dogs and employees from both facilities completed a 5K walk around the grounds. Members of MCU's sewing program made quilts and a bag that was auctioned off to raise money for the event. Staff raised a total of \$148.75 and the offenders raised \$162.

Reporter Amanda Matlock of the Pendleton-Lapel Times-Post Newspaper visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview Re-Entry Staff relative to the many ways offenders and employees give back to the community. Ms. Matlock will return in a few days to interview offenders and compile information for the purpose of doing a story on offender organizations that participate in community service activities and projects.



A bit of the Down Under graced the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility as Australian native Tashka Renouf toured the facility, part of a Terre Haute Rotary Club exchange program. "Tash," a social worker, had specific interest in offender mental health care and asked lots of questions of Corizon psychologist Dr. Brad Huff. (see photo left)

Linda Commons, Pendleton Juvenile Superintendent, announced the promotion of Officer Gerald MacMurray to Lead Instructor of the Future Soldiers Program. Mr. MacMurray stated "I hope to continue the improvements of this successful program."

Public Information Officer Mark Baker and Training Officer James Young with the Michigan City Fire Department visited Camp Summit Boot Camp for a career day presentation to students. They spoke about and demonstrated the requirements for and the job of a career firefighter. The firefighters brought a full firefighter's suit which they explained had to be put on in 90 seconds. As part of Camp Summit's education program, Civic leaders are invited to discuss various aspects of their jobs. Camp Summit staffer Rachel McLane coordinates the program. (see photo right)

After nearly 40 years with the Department, Ralph "Pete" Taylor has decided to retire. He has provided invaluable service not only to the Department and facility as Safety/Hazard Manager, but also 20 years as Fire Chief for the Van Buren Township Volunteer Fire Department. A celebration was held to honor Pete for his service and dedication to the Department. Congratulations and good luck Pete!

A Volunteer Banquet was held at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Approximately 30 volunteers attended the banquet. Venture Scout students performed a skit for the volunteers, a student and volunteer performed a song together, and Lois Hudson, Religious Services Administrative Assistant, read a poem. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a meal prepared and served by the Culinary Arts students and teacher.



Seventeen Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) residents, together with their spouses or longtime significant others, participated in a Prevention Rehabilitation Enhancement Program (PREP) seminar, a full-day workshop designed to teach IREF participants to build trust, find solutions, and develop positive and healthy communication skills.

May 18, 2012

Weekly Views

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff, retirees, and special guests, including Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, gathered to celebrate WVCF's 20 years of public service during Correctional Employees Week! Superintendent Dick Brown, among the first to join the facility as an Officer 20 years ago, paid tribute to his correctional professionals, thanking them not only for their commitment to public safety but for their diligence in preparing offenders for a successful return to society.

Mixed Up Mutts, Inc hosted their 6th Annual Dog Walk to benefit the Prison Tails program at Westville Correctional Facility. The event, held at Bluhm Co. Park in Westville, IN, featured four Prison

Tails dog handlers and their adoptable dogs, raffles, food, games, and music. This fundraiser raised over \$1200 for the program.

A film crew from Towers Production in Chicago completed 13 weeks of filming at the Indianapolis Parole Office. The 13-episode documentary series, *Parole Diaries*, is expected to air this fall. Staff enjoyed the experience and look forward to seeing the final product.

Representatives from the Illinois Department of Correction toured Putnamville Correctional Facility's (PCF) Prison Greyhound Program with hopes of modeling the program at one of their facilities. Superintendent Stanley Knight, Prison Greyhound Vice President Jeff Loudon, and Prison Greyhound Facility Director Edward Joslyn relayed the day to day operations, classroom instruction, care and adoption of the dogs. The three greyhounds arrived at the facility in March for a three month rehabilitation program from the race track to becoming an adoptable pet. The group also visited the Equine Management program to learn more about the day to day operations, classroom instruction, care and adoption of the horses.

Branchville Correctional Facility's PLUS program made 135 quilts and donated them to families affected by the tornado which destroyed the town of Henryville. Offenders sewed the quilts to gain hours for the community service requirement of the PLUS Program.

IDOC Central Office celebrated Correctional Employees Week with staff enjoying various events planned Central Office's FISH/Employee Appreciation Committee. The week was full of fun activities which included a sign language class, staff cookout, corn hole tournament, ice cream truck, Minute-to-win-it games, and a healthy lunch pitch-in and fitness walk. Staff won prizes for playing games, and everyone who participated in an event during the week was entered into a prize drawing.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted several Employee Appreciation Activities as an expression of thanks for the tremendous job employees do on a daily basis to promote public safety. Festivities included a cook out, facility tours for employee's families, and a Nutraloaf eating contest between Assistant Superintendents Bruce Helming and Duane Alsip that raised \$424 in staff donations. The proceeds from the competition will be used to purchase school supplies for employees' children and grandchildren.

Miami Correctional Facility honored several employees during Correctional Employee Appreciation Week, including four people for Employee of the Year. Those named are: Employee of the Year (non-custody) Tami Clothier, Operations Secretary, and Casie Klepinger, Security Threat Group Coordinator; Correctional Officer of the Year, Officer Jason Miles; and Supervisor of the Year, Lt. Christopher Ertel. More than 100 people received years of service pins for 5, 10, 15 and 45 years as well as Perfect Attendance awards.

In celebration of Correctional Employees Week, staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility participated in various activities organized by the facility's Employee Recognition Committee including a fitness walk, corn hole tournaments, blood drive, ice cream social, softball game, dunk tank, K-9 demonstration, 8th annual motorcycle run, picnics and luncheons. During an employee appreciation ceremony, Superintendent Stanley Knight expressed his appreciation of staff's hard work and commitment and presented Employee of the Quarter/Year awards to Captain Mike Mecila, Lieutenant Brian Chalfin, Accountant Jenny Alex and Case Manager David Mikles. In attendance from Central Office were Executive Director James Basinger, Director Kevin Orme, and Executive Director Jerry Vance.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) celebrated Correctional Employee Week with numerous activities for staff to participate in which included a cook out, bowling, and a softball game. The week kicked-off with a staff breakfast and chair massages from Health 1st. CIF staff attended a staff assembly where over \$1000 dollars in prizes were given away. Several guests also visited the facility throughout the week. Andy Conrad from Phoenix University set up a booth for staff to visit. Tom Hanlon, Director of Program Review, Scott Brenneke, Director of Operation Support, Craig Hanks, Director of Mental Health and retired Superintendent Jack Duckworth served as this year's judges for the annual Taste of CIF. The week will conclude on Saturday with CIF's 1st Annual Motorcycle Ride and Picnic.

The first Father's Traveling Word DVD story book reading was recorded at the Indiana State Prison. The offenders read bed time stories which were recorded on a DVD to be sent to their children.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility Superintendent Steven H. Keever proudly announces that IREF passed the American Correctional Association One-Year Program Review, earning 100% on mandatory standards and 99.5% on non-mandatory Standards with only one Standard in non-compliance.

May 25, 2012

Weekly Views

The BMV Mobile Unit has been busy at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility helping soon to be released offenders get the picture, a proper photo identification that is! Over 85 minimum and maximum security WVCF offenders within a year of release will receive the BMV ID card as they return to society. The legally recognized ID will help overcome a number of hurdles, such as being able to cash a check.

The Correctional Training Institute (CTI) is proud to announce the addition of wireless internet at the facility. The wireless technology affords added value to the training capabilities the IDOC provides to Department staff and other federal, state, and local agencies. Staff can access the technology from common areas of the facility enhancing connections to email, internet, or social media sites. The

project was accomplished through the efforts of IDOC Central Office staff, CTI staff, and Indiana Office of Technology staff.

The Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators for PbS (Performance based Standards) announced that Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) has attained PbS Level 3. PNJCF achieved Level 3 by focusing on safety and security through de-escalation and increasing student programs and activities. Superintendent Commons remarked, "All of the teamwork, commitment to the standards of PbS, and dedication to accomplishing our facility improvement plans has had a tremendous impact."

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) said its goodbyes to Purdue North Central during the facility's final college graduation ceremony. Purdue had been an integral part of the Education Department at WCC since 1986. This last graduation saw 28 offenders receive their college degree. Purdue's long partnership with Westville has provided hundreds of offenders with a vital re-entry tool, education. Staff and volunteers, under the direction of Superintendent Levenhagen, are already brainstorming to fill the vacant space with programming opportunities.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) conducted a college graduation ceremony to recognize graduates of the Ball State University and Grace College Programs. Re-entry Marion County Superior Court Judge Jose Salinas served as guest speaker for the event. Following the graduation program, a reception was held to say goodbye and good luck to Dr. Charles Greenwood who has served as the Ball State University PCF Site Coordinator for the past five years. Dr. Greenwood was honored not only in conjunction with his work with Ball State but also for the many other services he has provided to the facility including his work with the American Legion Organization. Now that the college programs have concluded at the facility Dr. Greenwood will be returning to the Ball State Campus to begin his new role in the area of community relations for the University.

Indiana State Prison Sergeant Cedano and his K-9 dog, who is trained to search for bombs, assisted the Michigan City Police Department in a search of Michigan City Air Port in Michigan City, Indiana. This was an excellent opportunity for the staff of the Indiana State Prison to demonstrate we are good neighbors and are always here to support the needs of the community.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility (PCF) won first place during the Federal Correctional Workers Softball Tournament for the second consecutive year. Teams hailed from the Federal Correctional Complex in Terre Haute, Federal Correctional Institution in Greenville, IL, Vigo County Sheriff's Department and the Indiana State Police. PCF team members, Mike Adams, Brad Alspaugh, Darrin Chaney, Kevin Daniels, Trey Ellis, Mike Ellis, Chad Evans, Chris Lanning, Michael Moore, Ryan Nicholson, Justin Noblitt, Josh Stark, Frank Vanihel went undefeated winning the final match with a score of 16-5 against the Federal Correctional Institution from Greenville.

Liberty Hall, a work release facility in Indianapolis, donated 92 cell phones to the Julian Center. The phones that were confiscated from offenders will be used by the Julian Center for victims leaving shelters and through partnership with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department.

Throughout the month of May staff members at Rockville Correctional Facility tossed their spare change into donation jars as part of the Pennies for Preemies campaign in support of the March of Dimes/March for Babies. Nikki Simpson, March of Dimes representative, was presented a check in the amount of \$205 as well as 200 handmade preemie sized blankets and layette items. The blankets and layette items were crocheted, quilted or hand-tied by staff members and offenders at the facility.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility started Correctional Employees Week with Superintendent Griffin and other administrative staff preparing lunch on the grill. Other events that staff enjoyed throughout the week included ice cream sundaes, a car wash, barbeque chicken on the barbeque with all the trimmings, fresh fruit, doughnuts and coffee, and bowling and chicken wings for those interested. Various games were played throughout the week with a gift card given away daily. The week ended with a staff breakfast.

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Volunteer Appreciation Banquet with over 50 volunteers in attendance. Guest speaker Isaac Randolph from Religious Services & Community Involvement provided uplifting and inspiration words to those in attendance. Superintendent Knight stated we could not do what we do day in and day out without the valuable assistance these volunteers provide our facility.

Twenty two members of the Christian Motorcycle Association visited the New Castle Correctional Facility with 15 motorcycles. Over 800 offenders were able to enjoy the event.

June 1, 2012

Weekly Views

IDOC staff joined representatives, athletes, and supporters of Special Olympics Indiana, along with fellow law enforcement officers, at Victory Field in downtown Indianapolis for the final leg of the Law Enforcement Torch Run to kick off the 2012 Summer Games. (see photo below)

Camp Summit Boot Camp has been awarded Level 4 by the Council of Juvenile Correctional Administrators for Performance Based Standards (PbS). Level 4 is the highest level possible in PbS and represents that the facility staff has a high degree of commitment to improving the lives of the youth we serve.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility accepted a \$300 check from The Screaming Eagles R/C Club to help buy vegetable plants for the facility garden. The garden will be maintained by PLUS offenders, supervised by facility staff and a Purdue University Master Gardner intern. All harvested food will be given to local food banks and shelters as part of the facility's continuing effort to be a viable part of the community.

A donation of over 200 assorted books was presented to the Rockville Correctional Facility by members of the Indiana State University Alpha Phi Sigma National Criminal Justice Honor Society and students in the Special Topics in Criminology: Correctional Institutions in Indiana class. Following the donation, guests were invited to tour the facility.



The ADOPT nursery at Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility is full again! The newest residents are a basset hound mother and her 9 puppies that came from a local rescue. Since the mother is unable to feed all 9 puppies, the facility was asked to take them in so that the puppies could be bottle fed every two hours. The 3 girls and 6 boys were only 12 days old when they were brought to the facility.

It is hay baling time at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Wabash is donating its part of the harvest to the Putnamville Retired Thoroughbred Horse Project. Not mowing creates tons of bales of hay, employs an area farmer, provides funding for PEN and saves Wabash over \$3,300 in fuel costs each year! (see photo left)



In response to the Correctional Employees Week, Westville Correctional Facility hosted their own appreciation effort by donating \$591 to the local Jaycees Deserving Children Shopping Fund. The money was raised by hosting a pie throwing contest, where staff were encouraged to fill donations jars to support their favorite "recipients". Assistant Superintendent Mike Scott and Major Dan Forker took one for the team, a pie in the face each.

Branchville Correctional Facility hosted its first graduation ceremony for the Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Program. Thirty-three offenders successfully completed the six month behavior modification program. Special guest Dr. Stephen Hall congratulated the graduates along with their family members.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility was selected to receive a grant from the Laura Bush Foundation for America's Libraries. The grant money will be used to purchase library books and magazines for the students to use.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a ceremony to honor the most recent graduates of the Ivy Tech GED program. Pastor Demetrius Warren served as the keynote speaker for the event. Pastor Warren is the founder of Everlasting Dominion Ministries and the Senior Pastor of the Everlasting Dominion Fellowship Church in Kokomo, IN. The facility was also honored to have IDOC Deputy Commissioner of Re-Entry Randy Koester attend the program and speak to the graduates and guests.

Indiana State University (ISU) Criminal Justice students toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. ISU professor Dr. Shannon Barton-Bellessa was very complimentary of staff, facility operations and was impressed with the various programs that were available to the offender population.

On Memorial Day, INVET residents placed memorial flags under the magnolia tree by the Administration Building at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Education Facility. Both residents and staff raised \$100 to donate to "Wish For Our Heroes," a national non-profit organization which assists active-duty United States Service Men and Women across the US. Each flag is a memorial for family members and friends who have served their country. Every year, the INVET Unit sponsors this fundraiser.

In remembrance of Memorial Day, the American Legion members from the community of Michigan City came to Indiana State Prison and placed a wreath in the cemetery and played taps.

Weekly Views

June 8, 2012

Miami Correctional Facility has been awarded a \$3,500 grant from the Indiana State Library and the Institute of Museum and Library Services. A total of 268 books were purchased and placed in the facility's two libraries for offender use. The goal of the project was to provide resources to support the educational needs of the offender population, offering tools to enhance learning and decrease illiteracy.

Indiana State University Criminology and Criminal Justice students toured Wabash Valley for a hands-on look at corrections and a maximum-security prison. Professor Shannon Bellessa said she has heard nothing but positive feedback from the students regarding their experiences. The classroom extension field trip has proved so successful that she's booked another tour for her 2013 class!

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Offender Family Preservation Committee held a fundraiser for IWP's Annual Summer Teens and Kids Camp. Chicken, soda and chips were sold to the offender population, netting \$2,200 to fund the Teens and Kids Day Camp scheduled for July 13 and 14. Superintendent McCauley is very pleased with the Family Preservation program and is looking forward to this year's camp.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) held its annual major disaster drill, a hostage scenario including a fire set inside the building. The drill required the facility to relocate to a secondary command center with deployment of the Homeland Security Regional Command Center. Coincidentally, WCC Emergency Squad established the secured perimeter just as two A-4 Warthog "tank killer" jets did a low-level flyover. Talk about a show of force! (see photo below of an injured hostage, played by a staff member, and emergency responders)



Students from Indiana State University's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. OLLI promotes learning for individuals 50 and older through lectures, courses and special events. Superintendent Stanley Knight welcomed the visitors at the onset of the tour and participated in a Q & A session at the conclusion of the tour. The students ranged in age from 53 to 90 years.

Mark Spratt, PEN Products Controller, competed in the Great Hudson River Swim in New York City on May 26, 2012. Mark finished 13th overall in a field of 374 and finished first in his age category completing the 1.6 miles in 31 minutes and 28 seconds. Besides swimming in the Hudson River, he withstood the mid-sixty degree water temperature and was first to finish without a wetsuit. Great job Mark!

The Correctional Industrial Facility conducted a final commencement ceremony to honor the facility's most recent offender graduates of the on-site Ball State University. Ball State University recognized 44 offenders for earning an Associate Degree and 23 offenders were conferred with a Bachelor Degree from Ball State. Mr. Isaac Randolph of Religious Services & Community Involvement served as the guest speaker for the graduation event. Mr. Randolph delivered a powerful and inspirational message to the offender graduates.

South Madison Community Council held their monthly meeting at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. They were provided lunch by the Culinary Arts program. After the meeting, the members participated in a facility tour.

Camp Summit students and staff were treated to an outdoor concert by the Mirror Image Tour Group from the First Baptist Church of Spartanburg, SC. The entertainment included songs, dance demonstrations and stories of hope and encouragement by the nearly 90 participants. This year marked the group's 20th year of their Summer Tour of performing at Juvenile Correctional and Detention facilities throughout the country. The group's main performers are high school seniors from the Spartanburg area who contributed a portion of their own money to fund the tour.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) conducted a graduation ceremony to honor the most recent graduates of the facility's Level One Outside Dorm GED and Vocational Horticulture programs. Former PCF offender Glen Ford served as guest speaker for the event. During Mr. Ford's incarceration he completed the GED Program and participated in the Thinking for a Change program. Mr. Ford is now a productive citizen, works as an Independent Contractor, and is actively involved in providing services in the community.

The Indiana State Prison conducted what may be their final college graduation to honor 78 men from Grace College. 44 Associate and 36 Bachelor Degrees were earned by the graduates. This marks the 26th year Grace College has been educating the men incarcerated at the Indiana State Prison. Grace College honored six men from Ball State who also graduated with this class. Commencement Speaker Summa Cum Laude graduate Michael Penrod stated he did this for his parents. This gives him the opportunity to be the best he can possibly be. He was asked, "Why get an education?" and his response was, "This is the beginning of a journey to help others."

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility held a GED graduation ceremony for five offenders. Twenty-five family members and friends attended the ceremony to show their support for the offenders. After the ceremony the celebration continued with refreshments, pizza and cake.

June 15, 2012

Weekly Views

In celebration of Flag Day, the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit invited Indiana War Memorial Executive Director, Retired Indiana National Guard Brigadier General J. Stewart Goodwin, to speak about the American Flag. General Goodwin passionately delineated the history of the American flag, from its conception through the American Revolution, the World Wars, to its current significance and the symbolic meaning to the United States as a whole. Attendance to this event was mandatory for INVET residents, and open to other residents and staff to attend. (see photo below of IREF Release Specialist Mia Black, Retired Brigadier General Goodwin, and IREF Superintendent Steve Keverer)



Indiana State Police Pendleton Post Commander Lieutenant Robert Burke along with twelve Indiana State Police K-9 Officers toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility and met with staff. The visit focused on identifying ways the State Police and PCF K-9 Operations can benefit from a collaborative relationship for the purpose of sharing information, coordinating efforts and activities, and providing mutual assistance as needed.

Congratulations to Amanda Hall and Ellen Sheets. Because of her stellar performance with the IDOC, Amanda has been selected by National Institute of Corrections to help develop national best practices in programming policy through the Intergovernmental Personnel Act for the next two years. Amanda leaves Monday to head to her new station in Colorado. Effectively immediately, Ellen Sheets has been named the new Director of Case Management. She began her career with the Department in 2001 as a Correctional Counselor at Miami Correctional Facility. We anticipate great things from both of these talented women.

Ivy Tech Community College held a commencement ceremony at the Correctional Industrial Facility with 58 graduates for both GED and Vocational Trades. Mr. Demetrius Warren from Everlasting Dominion Fellowship was the guest speaker who delivered a motivational speech that gave examples of "being touched" by a higher being and having a vision. He also emphasized how it is never too late to start over and complete your goals.

Six staff from New Castle Correctional Facility assisted with feeding breakfast to approximately 150 kids attending the Henry County Sheriff's Camp.

Indiana State University graduate students toured Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) and even went to class with the WVCF mental health team! Wabash Corizon psychologist Dr. Brad Huffey, the Crisis Intervention class instructor, along with Branchville's Mental Health Professional Becca Gardner coordinated the tour with classroom presentations from Unit Team Manager Amy Rollings (Critical Incident Stress Management), Sergeant Jason Irvine (Situation Control) and de-escalation instruction from Dr. Julie Hoepfner (Special Needs Unit).

Offender Workforce Development Training concluded with the graduation of 28 individuals representing the Indiana Department of Correction, Department of Workforce Development, Community Corrections, and the Federal Bureau of Prisons. The training is facilitated through a cooperative agreement between PEN Products and the National Institute of Corrections, and serves an important role in reducing recidivism by building bridges between the IDOC and post release agencies.

Westville Correctional Facility celebrated its annual Family Day Open House. Members of the Employee Planning Action Committee (EPAC) hosted a wonderful event including lunch, facility tours, vendors and demonstrations by the facility's emergency Squad Units. The tour buses were filled with staff's family excited about getting to view the campus and to enter the Westville Correctional Unit. The EPAC estimated over 400 staff and family members participated in the day's festivities.

Commissioner Lemmon attended a graduation ceremony at Madison Correctional Facility's (MCU) for multiple facility programs. He complimented Madison's programs and the facility's high number of graduates and spoke to the graduates about the importance of education for gaining employment after release. Among those graduating were ten Business Technology graduates, 33 GED graduates, 30 Growth, Responsibility, Integrity, and Purpose (GRIP) graduates, 21 Residential Reformatory Re-Entry Program (RRRP) graduates, 20 Master Student Master Employee graduates, five graduates from Apprenticeship programs, four In2Work graduates, and seven cosmetologists and seven nail technicians from the Montgomery School of Cosmetology.

Rockville Correctional Facility held its second tent revival sponsored by Revival in Prison Ministry and David and Debbie Brewer, who were joined by Kairos volunteers from several IDOC facilities. Each session of this three-day event was attended by approximately 600 offenders. The offenders enjoyed music and a message of hope under the 40 x 60 foot tent erected especially for the event.

The Christian Motorcyclist Association, Breaking through Prison Ministry Bike Show made a visit to the Indiana State Prison. There were five bikes brought inside the facility. The group presented a prison a ministry program with Christian music, and offer fellowship to the offender population.

June 26, 2012

Weekly Views

Putnamville Correctional Facility's first offender graduates of the Prison Greyhound program were awarded certificates during a greyhound volunteer meeting. A bitter sweet moment, the graduates also said good bye to Rosie, Gordy, and Dillinger the facility's first greyhound residents. The friendly canines were adopted by members of the community. Staff and offenders anxiously await the arrival of the new greyhound companions.

In partnership with the Indiana Department of Natural Resources (DNR), staff and offenders at the Branchville Correctional Facility have built 17 cabins for the Deam State and Starve Hollow Recreation Areas. The DNR Division of Forestry provides an array of materials and funding needed to produce and transport the cabins

from inside the secure facility perimeter where they are manufactured to the camp sites, and the facility provides the pine logs, which are harvested directly from the IDOC property, and labor force needed for the construction. With an additional 8 cabins slated to be delivered to Starve Hollow later this summer, the product of this partnership has led to an increase in visitation at the State Parks and has created a substantial number of offender jobs for our population.

136 Wabash Valley Correctional Facility offenders donned caps and gowns, receiving certificates, diplomas or degrees, to the strains of Pomp and Circumstance. Family members were in attendance to witness this important milestone in the re-entry process and the Departments' efforts to further reduce recidivism.

A commencement ceremony at Putnamville Correctional Facility was held for 269 graduates of GED, Vocational Trades, and Associate and Bachelor's degree programs. The Keynote speaker, Dr. Ann Valentine, Ivy Tec Chancellor, gave a motivational speech encouraging students to "put what they've learned to good use."

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation for seven students who completed the program. This was the facility's 48th group to graduate the program, bringing the total number of graduates to 338 since its opening in October 2005.

Oakland City University held their last college graduation at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP). The ceremony celebrated 20 Associate degrees and 11 Bachelor's degrees. Each graduate was given the opportunity to invite seven visitors, including children, and were seated "family-style" for a graduation meal of fried chicken, corn, green beans, corn muffins, ice tea, and cake. The graduation theme centered on the book, "Before you Leap," by Kermit the frog, a character from The Muppets. This occasion also served as a reunion for former Oakland City employees and professors and former IWP employees. There were forty-two inmates that helped with cooking, cleaning, and other preparations. Congratulations to the IWP graduating Class of 2012!

The Indiana State Prison celebrated its annual Family Day Open House. Approximately 400 staff and family members enjoyed the warm sunny day along with elephant ears, hamburgers and hot dogs cooked on the grill. Vendors, staff, and their families enjoyed the demonstrations by the facility's Emergency Squad Units. Horse drawn carriage rides, numerous healthcare displays, and four children's bicycle give-aways were just a few of the many activities available for enjoyment. Superintendent Bill Wilson took time to help raise donations for a local food bank by volunteering to be one of the staff in the dunk tank. Superintendent Wilson was "high and dry" for just a short while, raising a total of \$108. Over 100 staff and family members toured the facility. Many comments were received about the awesome job done by the facility's Employee Appreciation Planning Committee (EAPC) in planning the event.

The PLUS Unit at the Putnamville Correctional Facility held a pizza sale for the offender population. Coordinated by Casework Manager Karumathil Kumaran, over 1259 orders were filled generating \$3,777 that will be used for program supplies and community donations.

Eight residents from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility participated in the Near Eastside Englewood Community cleanup. Residents cleared trash from the streets and helped set up for Englewood's Pogue's Run and Community Festival. The proceeds from these fundraisers go into a housing scholarship which assists low-income and formerly homeless families attain permanent quality housing.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotion of Sergeant Heather Ehle to Correctional Lieutenant. Superintendent Commons states, "Lieutenant Ehle has a positive leadership style that will impact our facility."

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility CLIFF unit presented its Student Talking About Recovery (STAR) program to a group of IVY Tech nursing students. The facility and the CLIFF program have been working with IVY Tech for the past few years in delivering this program to the students in their nursing program.

Miami Correctional Facility celebrated a U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) graduation for 75 successful completers of the largest USDOL program in the IDOC. Commissioner Bruce Lemmon noted that while most offenders who return to the Department are unemployed, these graduates are now much more likely to succeed upon their release because of how the men not only have learned a trade but have learned how to work. As he offered his congratulations, Superintendent Mark Sevier shared how proud he was of all the hard work these men have done to complete their USDOL programs

June 29, 2012

Weekly Views

Branchville Correctional Facility and PEN Products opened a Career Resource Center (CRC) in their Industry building. The CRC will allow offenders the opportunity to work on several areas of their re-entry including the development of a Career Path Plan. These offenders will develop their plans using the same career based assessments utilized by professional career counselors. The opening of the CRC was followed the next day by a Career Path Planning workshop attended by 12 re-entry/corrections professionals and 24 Branchville offenders.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility has expanded its Prison Greyhound program to eight handlers and four greyhounds with the arrival of 5-year-old Onyx, 3-year-olds Midnight and Basil, and 2-

year-old Hunter. The ex-racers made the long trip to the facility from Daytona, Florida and are now in the orientation phase of the program, coordinated by case managers Ed Joslyn and Steve Shotwell. (see photo right of the offender handlers and their new canine companions)

Commissioner Lemmon hosted a private tour of the Reflections of Pride: The History of IDOC Museum at the Correctional Training Institute. Special guests included former Chairman of the Board of Correction Mr. Daniel F. Evans Jr., President and Chief Executive Officer of Clarian Health Partners, and former Deputy Commissioner of Operations, Mr. Cloyd L. Shuler, Vice President of Business Development for The GEO Group.



The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) American Correctional Association (ACA) audit ended on a high note! Wabash scored 100% on 55 mandatory standards and 99.3% on 451 non-mandatory standards. This is the highest score ever for Wabash on non-mandatory standards! Superintendent Dick Brown noted the auditors were highly complementary of the professionalism of staff, the appearance of the facility and the overall atmosphere in general! Superintendent Brown commended staff for an outstanding job in preparing the facility for the audit. Congratulations WVCF!!!

The Pendleton Correctional Facility was honored to welcome some distinguished visitors. IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Executive Director of Adult Facilities James Basinger, Director of Mental Health and Special Populations Craig Hanks, and Vice President of Business Development for The GEO Group Cloyd Shuler visited the facility to meet with staff and observe facility operations.

A group called "Family Matters" has formed at the Indiana Women's Prison with 15 offenders meeting once a week for 12 weeks. The course focuses on experiences in families, including children, parents and grandparents. "Family Matters" will be utilized as an introduction to family issues and will follow more specific courses on marriage or parenting.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) congratulates Lieutenant Daniel Ward! Daniel has accepted a Parole Agent position at the Gary Parole District Office (PD#6) effective July 1. Daniel began his career as a Correctional Officer at WCC in 1997 and was recently promoted to Correctional Lieutenant in March 2012. We will miss Daniel, but we know that WCC will always have a great friend at PD #6.

Miami Correctional Facility celebrated its Family Fun Day, bringing in more than 300 family members and staff. Everyone was treated to hotdogs and hamburgers, snow cones, nachos, pony rides, a corn hole tournament, music, Special Emergency Response Team (SERT), Emergency Squad and K-9 demonstrations, and lots and lots of water fights. The kids also got to play in a bouncy castle and on a couple water slides. Several staff also volunteered to sit in a dunk tank. Fun was had by all!

The IDOC Audit Division is proud to announce that the initiation of electronic files for American Correctional Association (ACA) accreditation purposes has reduced travel time, hotel accommodations, vehicle wear and tear, per diem, and costs from paper, folders and other supplies. Using a template available to all the facility ACA managers and adjunct auditors the Audit Division is able to complete reviews from Central Office. For reaccreditation audits program review staff are taking lap tops to the facilities and the American Correctional Association Auditors are logging on and completing the audits electronically as well. The ACA is touting electronic files and our Department is front and center. To date IDOC has completed three electronic audits this year and will complete four more by year's end.

Tammy Atwood, Volunteer Coordinator for the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP), visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) to pick up a Doll House that was generously donated to the IWP Family Preservation Center. IREF Offenders Pierce and Moore invested countless hours building the Victorian style doll house custom making most of the detail work. "These two gentlemen will certainly brighten the faces of all that behold their talent, generosity and sense of care for the children," says IWP Superintendent Steve McCauley, Thank you to IREF staff and offenders!

July 6, 2012

Weekly Views

Camp Summit staffer John Cosich and several students performed two days of Community Service with the Maple City & LaPorte Lions Club recently. Mr. Cosich and the students assisted the Lions during their semi-annual Pancake Breakfast fundraiser, which was held at the LaPorte National Guard Armory. The students assisted in preparing and serving meals and cleaning up afterward (photo

right). The Lions Club is a community service organization that provides free eye examinations and glasses for those citizens that cannot afford them. Camp Summit's participation in Community Service events in LaPorte County is part of the Restorative Justice programming that aims to allow students the opportunity to make reparations to the community at large and to learn and experience the value of service to others.

The Building Trades class at Wabash Valley has donated their latest assignment to the Prairie Park Baptist Church in Vigo County. The playhouse will have a featured spot and see lots of use at the church playground. The

class gives offenders training needed for a good position upon release, opening the doors to apprenticeships or entry-level construction jobs. All class projects find much needed and appreciated "homes" in the community! (photo left)

Saturday, June 30, 2012, The Indiana Women's Prison, along with the National Council of Negro women, sponsored a Breast Cancer Walk. The offenders made and donated a homemade quilt to the Susan B. Komen Foundation along with a check for \$737.00.

Westville's Employee Action Planning Committee proudly donated \$153.00 to the Fellowship Baptist Church Food Pantry in Westville. The money was raised at the facility's Open House/Family Day where some of WCC's most daring employees spent time in the dunk tank. The EPAC has promoted several local charities in the name of the facility; the donations reflect the facility's efforts to embrace their community. (photo right)

PNJCF Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotions of Correctional Officers and a Recreation Leader to the position of Psychiatric Social Services Specialists 3. Correctional Officers Tyler Mason and Christopher Vieweg were selected. Recreation Leader Mark Stevenson was also selected for a PSSS3 position. Superintendent Commons stated "these individuals will be a great addition to our treatment staff."

Miami Correctional Facility recently promoted five officers to Sergeants. Those promoted included: Bruce Shaw, James Summers, Paul Parrow, Ernest Parkin and Delbert Williams. Their promotions were effective at the end of June. All were originally hired with the Department of Correction at MCF.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a ceremony to honor the most recent graduates of the Security Level One Outside Dormitory (OSD) Inside-Out Dad program. As their service project the offenders made totes out of Capri Sun bags that were filled with hygiene items to be donated to a local women's domestic violence shelter. (photo right)



Three members of the IDOC Regional Honor Guard from Rockville Correctional Facility demonstrated the folding of the American Flag with full explanation at the First Christian Church in Clinton, Indiana. Captain Linda Vermillion, Officer Melissa Lutes and Officer William Siegelin attended the Independence Day service at the church's invitation. Following the demonstration, many of those in attendance commented that although they have witnessed the folding of the flag at funerals they were not aware that each fold had a specific meaning.



The Mobile BMV visited the Putnamville Correctional Facility where 319 offenders were processed over a 3-day period. Kelli Searing, Pre-release Re-entry coordinator, and staff were commended by BMV personnel and Superintendent Stan Knight for orchestrating a smooth and well-organized process.



Pictured are L to R: Tammy Wroblewski WCC EPAC member, Pastor Mark Smith and Patricia Kimmel WCC EPAC member.



July 13, 2012

Weekly Views

The Rockville Correctional Facility recently held its first fundraiser for the ADOPT (Animals Depending On Prison Time) program. RCF staff were able to purchase homemade cheesecakes created by offenders in the Inmate to Workmate and Aramark DOL programs. Aramark Foodservices Director Mike Ritchie donated the ingredients for the cheesecakes. Over \$300 was raised for this new DOC apprenticeship program, which pairs shelter dogs with offender dog handlers for behavior training and socialization in hopes of increasing the chances of adoption.

Jessica Bradley and offenders enrolled in the ADOPT program at Madison Correctional Facility attended the Jefferson County Fair this week and have adopted out 7 dogs and 4 kittens so far. (see photo)



IWP Community Outreach has recently had another offender donate her hair to Locks of Love, which provides wigs to children in chemotherapy. IWP offenders have been doing these acts of kindness for years

PEN Products Director Mike Herron has been named as the 2013-2014 Treasurer of the National Correctional Industries Association (NCIA). Mr. Herron completed a term as Board Member at-Large for NCIA and President of the Central Region of NCIA. The NCIA is an association of correctional industries who share information and ways to improve preparing offenders for a successful reentry by providing meaningful work and on-the-job training while incarcerated.

Superintendent Frances Osburn is proud to announce the promotion of Sergeant Justin Bennett to Correctional Lieutenant/Custody Supervisor at Edinburgh Correctional Facility. Lieutenant Bennett has been employed by the Indiana Department of Correction since June 2010. Before joining the Department, Lieutenant Bennett was on active duty with the US Marine Corps and supported both Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

Harrison College Criminal Justice students toured the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, supplementing their classroom experience. The group got a first-hand look at life in a maximum-security prison, viewing everything from the PLUS Unit to Industries to Segregation. Harrison College Associate Dean Louis Reeves said it truly benefits them to see the facility in operation, fulfilling its re-entry mission. (photo lower right)

Indiana State Trooper Detective Gardner presented a signed card from the children of the recent "Pioneer Camp" to Branchville Correctional Facility. Branchville donated \$2500 from their recent offender fundraisers to entirely fund the camp. The camp is hosted by the State Troopers to give "at risk" youth a positive summer camp experience.

Amy Bond and Tammy Noland of "Alternatives Incorporated" visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to accept a donation from offenders involved in the security level one housing unit "Inside-Out Dad" program. Alternatives Incorporated provides shelter and other services to victims of domestic violence in Madison, Hancock, Hamilton, Henry, Tipton, and Marion Counties. Ms. Bond and Ms. Noland were presented with ten (10) tote bags made by the Inside-Out Dad offenders using Capri Sun pouches in connection with the group's community service project. The totes were filled with a variety of personal hygiene items that were donated by the facility's PLUS Program. (photo left)



Westville Correctional Facility has been offered a unique opportunity to provide spiritual studies within the Therapeutic Community. The University of Notre Dame is sponsoring Father Jim Bracky to develop and direct a spiritual recovery program to men who have lived a life of addiction. Father Jim, who has been at the university for 32 years, where he served in the field of spiritual education, will lead group studies and offer spiritual guidance to clients of the TC.

Staff from The Changed Life (TCL) visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) to tour the facility and speak with specialists and residents about possible employment opportunities and training offered through their organization. TCL is a not-for-profit that provides job skills training and life skills training to ex-offenders in the

Indianapolis area. Their mission is to reduce the recidivism rates of individuals returning to Marion County (Indianapolis) from incarceration through life skills training coupled with transitional jobs programs.

Two facilities, Indiana State Prison and Miami Correctional Facility, participated in blood drives this week. The facilities were able to donate 33 pints each, but Miami is not giving up yet. A challenge was issued to all who could not donate to try to find another local blood drive to donate and add to Miami's total.



July 20, 2012

Weekly Views

Congratulations to this semester's Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) scholarships winners: Amos Olajimbiti (RDC), Commissioner's Scholarship; Alyssia Newby (PNJ), Public Safety Scholarship; Mauya Stover (COA), Public Service Scholarship; Tabitha Glenn (Camp Summit), supplies scholarship; Sharon Noble (BTC, wife of Sgt. Joseph Noble), supplies scholarship; Brittany Sherron (RTC, daughter of Brenda Sherron), supplies scholarship; and Christina LeBlanc (CIF, daughter of Donald N. LeBlanc), supplies scholarship. (See photo below of CPAFI Scholarship recipient Mauya Stover and Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland)

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) welcomed the arrival of eight dogs to the facility's new Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) program. The event began with a "meet and greet" session for the dogs, Duet, Aria, Mac, Tina, Harmony, Melody, Maestro, and Minuet, and their handlers. The handlers then received a short instructional lesson on leash application. CIF is the state's third correctional facility to offer the ICAN program, joining the Indiana Women's Prison and Plainfield Correctional Facility.



Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) hosted its first ever Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP) graduation. RRRP is an Indiana Department of Correction program designed to provide residents with programs and understanding for four core values: honesty with himself and with others, tolerance of the views and beliefs of others, caring for others, and personal responsibility. 48 residents completed the six month program in which they participated in various educational classes, programming, and seminars. Each graduate also completed a required amount of community service hours, earning a three month time cut from their sentences. IDOC and IREF staff, volunteers, family members and guests of the graduates attended the event. A reception honoring the graduates followed the ceremony. (See photo below of the first class of RRRP graduates and the program facilitators)



It is a first-ever event for the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) and the Greenfield Creative Arts and Event Center, an exhibition by artists housed at WVCF. "Unchained Art" currently features original black and white and color pencil art work. Wabash Assistant Superintendent Kevin Gilmore and Recreation Coordinator Mike Miller attended the opening reception for the exhibition, which was recently featured in the Indianapolis Star.

Plainfield Correctional Facility's "Knit Wits", a group of Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program offenders, completed a collection of hats and scarves to be donated

to an orphanage in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. They are taught knitting by Donna Olson, a 17 year volunteer at the facility, and make at least two donations of knitted items yearly to orphanages throughout to world.

Westville Correctional Facility honored the graduation of 44 offenders from the PLUS program. The offender graduates celebrated their accomplishment with staff, friends, family and volunteers from the PLUS program. Guest speaker and Program Director, Ms. Sandy Sharp, acknowledged their dedication and hard work. She expressed her high expectations of the graduates as they leave the unit to pursue other programming assignments. The graduates and guests enjoyed baked goods from the facility's Culinary Arts program.

Administrative personnel at the Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a Staff Assembly to update staff on new initiatives at the facility and to recognize employees for various accomplishments. Physical Plant Department Secretary Jill Davidson was recognized as Employee of the Quarter and Lieutenant Michael Caylor was announced as the facility's Supervisor of the Quarter.

Ten offenders from the Indiana State Prison held a 2012 Speech Competition sponsored by the Continuing Education Council and Toastmasters Internationals "Seriously Speaking Gavel Club". Toastmasters International is the leading movement devoted to making effective oral communication a worldwide reality and helps men and women learn the art of speaking, listening, and thinking-vital skills that promote self-actualization.

July 27, 2012

Weekly Views

Marion County Community Corrections staff toured Putnamville Correctional Facility programs and observed facility operations. Visitors commented on the professionalism of staff and stated that they were impressed with the variety of programs available to the offender population.

Join Indiana's "first motorcyclist" Governor Mitch Daniels on Friday, August 10 to celebrate the "last round-up" of "Ride with the Governor" to benefit the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund. This year PEN Products is working with ABATE of Indiana on the commemorative shirt for this ride. Visit www.abateonline.org to get your commemorative t-shirt for the Last Roundup with Governor Daniels. A portion of the proceeds go to the Indiana National Guard Relief Fund.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Indiana Veterans Education and Transitional (INVET) Unit donated a dollhouse to the Pink Ribbon Foundation to benefit their fundraising efforts. Pink Ribbon Foundation Executive Director Dori Sparks-Unsworth was presented with the dollhouse, painted pink in support of cancer research. INVET Resident Rick Buffum worked on the dollhouse for several months and handmade all of the furniture included with the house. The dollhouse set was donated by IREF's Recreation Department, and paint and wallpaper were donated by Sherwin Williams out of Avon, Indiana. (photo below Resident Buffum, Dori Sparks Unsworth, and INVET Coordinator Jacinda Estle-Croneau)

The first Wabash Valley Workmate class, coordinated by ARAMARK, celebrated graduation by doing what they do best, cooking a lunch special! Nine offenders completed the extensive 78-week food services program, garnering valuable job skills. Their recipe for re-entry success includes U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship and ServSafe certifications. Students had to pass a stringent National Restaurant Association test during their three courses of study.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility (PCF) received a generous donation from the Screaming Eagles R/C Club to purchase vegetable plants for the facility's garden, which is maintained by PCF PLUS offenders and PCF Sergeant Bobby Paige. Under the advisement of Purdue Master Gardeners, the garden has produced enough vegetables to donate to Damar Corporation and Sheltering Wings in spite of the recent drought conditions. The facility hopes to provide vegetables to Gleaners Food Bank as well.

The "Girls of RDC" Plane Pull Team is teaming up with the IDOC E-Squad Team to host a free bike ride this weekend to raise money for Special Olympics Indiana. The Reception Diagnostic Center Activity Committee is also generously hosting a food sale to benefit both teams. E-Squad is teaming up with Orange Leave in Avon Wednesday, August 1, and the Girls of RDC are teaming up with Noodle Company in Plainfield Friday, August 3. The Girls of RDC Plane Pull Team have raised about \$500 towards their goal of \$1,200.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility hosted a blood drive conducted by the Indiana Blood Center and 14 units were collected. Donors received an Indianapolis Indians t-shirt in appreciation for their participation.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility Superintendent Frances Osburn is proud to announce the promotion of Officer Adam Behmlander to Correctional Sergeant. Sergeant Behmlander has been employed by the Department since May 2011. Before joining the Department, Sergeant Behmlander received a Bachelor of Science in Criminal Justice from Concordia University. Sergeant Behmlander's leadership and professionalism will be an added asset to the facility.

Gospel Praising in the Prison visited the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) for an all day event. It began with feeding the entire population ribs, chicken and all the sides. The IWP Ensemble Choir and Liturgical Dance performed. There was a special Christian rock band and a professional praise dance troop as special guests. The evening ended with a message from a local pastor.

Seven offenders from the Indiana State Prison assisted the City of Gary with a program titled "Gary Truancy Court". The offenders made a video and spoke to the children about their personal journeys and what lead them to prison. Topics addressed were bullying, skipping school, and being in a gang. Mayor of the City of Gary, Karen Freeman-Wilson, Director of Planted Seed Ministries, Ms. Reneica Williams, and Commander for the Gary City Police, Kerry Rice wanted to thank the offenders for their assistance with the program now called "Gary Rebuild". The Commander stated, "This helps the City of Gary get better, the children have to get an education".

The Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) hosted its 2nd annual "Week-End of Excitement" Mike Barber Prison Ministry Revival. The three-day event included several large and small group meetings and the Mike Barber volunteers visiting the housing units to involve those offenders who could not participate in the revival. Christian Rock bands, spiritual motivational speakers and Mike Barber himself entertained the offenders. WCC's custody and non-custody staff coordinated their efforts to escort over 700 offenders to the 200 foot revival tent.



August 3, 2012

Weekly Views

The Rockville Correctional Facility held its first offender-driven fundraiser for the ADOPT program. ADOPT (Animals Depending On Prison Time) is completely self-sustaining and all funding for the program must come through donations and fundraisers. Offenders were allowed to order two slices of cheesecake made by the Inmate to Workmate offenders and Aramark staff. The overwhelming support of the offenders for the program resulted in 628 slices of cheesecake ordered. This amounted to 25 Oreo cheesecakes, and 28 Turtle and Snickers cheesecakes respectively.

Miami Correctional Facility emergency and executive staff and were awakened early to a phone call from the facility asking them to report to work, "MCF was under an Emergency Count". The facility

held its annual mock drill, simulating an offender escape. Emergency Squad members as well as members of the K-9 team and on-duty staff used trailing dogs around the property to locate the "offender." MCF is the second facility in the state to conduct its annual drill. Communication was efficient and effective. This year the scenario was focused around utilizing in-house staff, instead of going outside the facility and utilizing other agencies. It also encompassed shift change and calling in staff who were off-duty at the time it kicked off at 4:30 a.m. Assistant Superintendent Daryl Walls headed up this drill getting first-hand experience on running things in an emergency. "I thought everyone here did a fantastic job," he said.

PEN Products Operations Manager Doug Evans and Apprenticeship Program Coordinator Kristin Tisdale traveled to Washington, D.C. to accept an award on behalf of the IDOC and PEN Products from the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL). IDOC and PEN received national recognition by the USDOL as a 21st Century Registered Apprenticeship Trailblazer and Innovator. There are currently more than 24,000 registered apprenticeship programs in the nation, and only 70 of those programs were chosen for this award. Evans and Tisdale also able to joined U.S. Secretary of Labor Hilda Solis at a celebration for the 75th Anniversary of the signing of the National Apprenticeship Act.

U.S. Representative Andre Carson, who represents Indiana's 7th congressional district, stopped by the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) to discuss efforts by the Department and IREF to prepare residents for return to the community, specifically public and private community-based programs that further reduce declining recidivism rates. Several residents and staff from IREF, IDOC, and PEN Products gathered to meet with Representative Carson prior to accompanying him on a tour of the facility. Carson also took the opportunity to greet and speak with residents in several housing units.

Madison Correctional Facility's ADOPT (A Dog on Prison Turf) program is featured on Cesar's Way, a website run by the Dog Whisperer, Cesar Millan. The Dog Whisperer is known for rehabilitating dogs and training their owners. The dog handlers at Madison Correctional Facility practice many of the "Cesar's Way" techniques. The article can be found at <http://www.cesarsway.com/dogrescue/rescuestories/The-Pawshank-Redemption-Part-One>

Rockville Correctional Facility, getting ready to launch a Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit in September, got a boost from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). Wabash PLUS presented Rockville staff with a check for \$1,000 to help the faith and character based housing unit get rolling. PLUS is self supporting and Rockville went to Wabash to discuss curriculum, fund raising techniques and staff/volunteer training along with a tour of the WVCF unit.

Administrative personnel at the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) conducted a Staff Assembly to update staff on new initiatives at the facility and to recognize employees for various accomplishments. Casework Manager Curtis Duncan was recognized as Employee of the Quarter; Delana Ritchie was announced as the facility's Supervisor of the Quarter; Vicki Angell was recognized as Officer of the Quarter, and Melissa Miels as Contractual Employee of the Quarter; and the Extra Mile Award was awarded to Jeffery Riggs.

Logansport Juvenile, Camp Summit, CIF, Pendleton Juvenile and Westville Correctional Facility hosted facility blood drives for the Annual IDOC Blood Drive Challenge. Logansport collected 48 units from 58 donors in two days. Camp Summit staff donated 18 units and were given Red Cross T-shirts as a show of appreciation. CIF had over 50 staff donate, collecting 41 units over two days. Pendleton Juvenile hosted a blood drive during the facility's Community Day, collecting 16 units. Westville collected a whopping 86 units during a two-day blood drive. The IDOC Blood Drive Challenge coincides with a nationwide goal to restore blood levels that reach an emergency low during the summer months as donors are caught up in seasonal activities. Regardless of the country's trends, IDOC staff always come through.

Pendleton Correctional Facility honored two employees who are retiring from state service. Accountant Teresa Pettigrew was honored for 22 years of service and Correctional Sergeant David Manship was recognized for 17 years of service with the Department. The facility would like to thank these employees for their years of distinguished and dedicated service and offer best wishes for a great retirement.

The Indiana Women's Prison received a short visit from a new resident. A baby bird that had fallen out of its nest was rescued and cared for by offenders and staff. The bird's mother came back to reclaim her missing chick and took it back to the safety of their nest.

New Castle Correctional Facility hosted 32 Kairos volunteers in a four-day workshop for 30 offenders. Volunteers provided cookies to more than 3100 offenders throughout the facility.

August 10, 2012

Weekly Views

Plainfield Correctional Facility's Wheelchair Repair shop, working in partnership with Wheels of the World, completed restoration of 223 wheelchairs and loaded them in a cargo container bound for Lima, Peru. Wheels of the World technicians will meet the container upon its arrival in Peru and personally fit each chair to a person in need. The facility has shipped over 400 chairs this year.

A group of representatives from the Indiana State Library visited the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) at the request of Timothy Owens, Senior Program Officer for State Library Programs from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) in Washington, D.C. The IMLS funds the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grants provided for the IWP library. Mr. Owens specifically requested a tour of the library and a meeting with Officer Frank Bryan to discuss how grant funds are used. Mr. Owens stated he was quite impressed with the level of service provided and the enthusiasm that surrounds the library. He also found it inspiring to see and hear about the tremendous impact the library makes and how the LSTA funds support these efforts. Congratulations to Officer Bryan and his library clerks for a job well done and receiving recognition on a national level for IWP.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Venture Scout Unit camped out in the facility recreation area. The student's first activity during the evening was a six hour relay to finish their Walk Across America. The students also made small sail boats to compete against one another in the Rain Gutter Regatta and broke up into teams to see which team could assemble their tent the quickest. The students also completed work on the Pet Merit Badge and enjoyed pizza and other treats throughout the evening.

The PEN Products moving crew assisted the Indiana Department of Environmental Management set up their booth at the Indiana State Fair and also installed new playground equipment on the grounds of the Indiana School for the Deaf. The PEN Products moving crew supervised by Bob Durham utilizes offenders from the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) to provide services to other state agencies. The offenders are learning marketable skills to prepare for employment after their release.

Thousands of visitors stopped by the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility display for the third annual National Night Out (NNO) and Kid's Fair at Humphreys Park in Linton, IN. Wabash Emergency Squad, Fire Department and Custody staff passed out ALERT informational flyers and assorted goodies, joining 54 other booths taking part in NNO. Superintendent Dick Brown termed the event "a huge success and lots of fun!"

Staff with Hoosier S.T.A.R.T and Great West Retirement Services visited the Westville Correctional Facility. The crew flew in from Denver, CO to film a portion of a video to showcase Hoosier S.T.A.R.T and the benefits of contributing to the retirement plan. The film crew was quite excited to learn about the facility and how staff deal with the multiple levels housed at Westville. People from northwest Indiana who are interested in seeing the completed video can sign up for the Hoosier S.T.A.R.T event being held at the Strongbow Inn in Valparaiso, IN on October 30, 2012. Other events are being held in Indianapolis, Evansville, Henryville and Fort Wayne, Indiana. Registration details should be available soon online at www.in.gov/auditor/hoosierstart.

Thirty visitors arrived at the Putnamville Correctional Facility to spend a "Day with Dad." Graduates from the Inside Out Dads program and their children reconnected while playing games and petting the new arrivals from the Prison Greyhound program. The event was coordinated by Casework Manager James Bennett.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional delivered its fifth donation to the Noble County Food Bank. Despite the lack of rain and extreme heat, Chain O' Lakes garden is still producing an abundant amount of vegetables. The latest delivery included potatoes, squash, tomatoes, cucumbers, cabbage, onions and garlic.

The Continuing Education Council at the Indiana State Prison presented a check for \$500 to Ms. Lela Ewers, Director of Citizens United for Rehabilitation of Errant's (CURE). CURE has been involved in the creation of programs to compensate victims and continues to work for the rights of the victims of the crime.

PEN Products Program Director Lisa D. Williams along with three interns from IUPUI and Anderson University who are working with the IDOC were provided a tour of the Pendleton Correctional Facility by Community Services Director Wayne Scaife. In addition to the tour, the interns had the opportunity to meet with custody, unit team, and release personnel to discuss the various functions and operations of a maximum security facility.

Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) gathered to listen to Superintendent Levenhagen deliver his "State of the Facility" address at WCC's quarterly roll call. Numerous awards were presented for 5, 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of service along with special recognitions and the top honor at the facility: the Ambassador of the Quarter; which was presented to Recreation Director Karl Gast for his unwavering service to special events, community projects and the facility's Employee Action Committee.

IDOC Deputy Director of Religious and Volunteer Services Isaac Randolph and Program Coordinator Jerry Anderson visited the IREF to meet with residents and Chaplain Blackburn to discuss possible mentoring services. Director Randolph answered the residents' questions and concerns about how they might build better relationships, find job opportunities, establish community support and housing before and after release from incarceration.

August 17, 2012

Weekly Views

Commissioner Bruce Lemmon hosted a tour and luncheon at the Indiana State Prison for Scott Waddell, Commissioner of the Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV), and key staff from the BMV and PEN Products. The focus of the tour was the Digital License Plate Operation. The offenders in the Culinary Arts program prepared lunch for the guests. Superintendent Wilson was honored to be able to assist with the event, which demonstrated how state government works together for key projects.

The Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) will be celebrating their 10th anniversary this year with a "Decade of Dogs" art show and auction at the Indiana Roof Ballroom in November. The ICAN handlers and other offenders from the Indiana Women's Prison,

Correctional Industrial Facility and Plainfield Correctional Facility are creating the artwork to be auctioned. Paintings, crochet art, poetry, collages and other forms of art are in progress. This type of event allows the artist from all the three facilities to practice their passions of creative arts and support the ICAN program.

The Correctional Industrial Facility's (CIF) Therapeutic Community (TC) and Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit raised \$2068 during a Papa John's pizza sale. At the request of the TC offenders, \$1034 went to Life after Meth program in Vincennes, which provides an educational curriculum on the harmful effects of meth to offenders in IDOC facilities. The PLUS unit requested that their \$1034 be donated to Prevent Child Abuse Indiana, an organization dedicated to the prevention of child abuse through education. CIF would like to give a big thank you to Papa John's who made this fundraiser possible.

New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) donated \$3000 to the Henry County Community Foundation in support of New Castle's Little League and their trip to Williamsport, PA as a finalist in the Little League World Series. This money will be matched by the Foundation. NCCF also donated \$5000 to the Henry County United Fund to start the Annual Campaign.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) K-9 Handler Misty Stamper-Reger and her K-9 Debo were honored during a ceremony conducted in conjunction with a K-9 Operations training event. Aggression K-9 Debo was retired in June after providing eight years of dedicated and meritorious service. With the retirement of Debo, Officer Stamper-Reger will no longer serve as a K-9 handler. She was honored at the ceremony for her outstanding performance and lasting dedication to the facility's elite K-9 Operation. (see photo right of Misty and Debo with Lieutenant Daniel Mockler, PCF K-9 Field Commander)

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility hosted the Central and Southern Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) team for their quarterly meeting. Dr. Bradley Huffey, from Corizon, provided the training with a presentation on "Crisis Intervention" followed by a team building facility tour. The session also featured an interactive review of CISM intervention activations. If you are interested in being part of this important team please contact any CISM member at your facility.

Staff and offenders at Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) PLUS program are literally reaping what they sowed! WCC Superintendent Levenhagen has designated a large piece of land behind the facility's Administration Building for the PLUS Garden, and the offenders have been tending it all summer. Their first crop was donated to the local Food Pantry, where the fresh vegetables will be added to the grocery sacks of food given to the needy. The PLUS Garden produced 12-inch zucchinis, cucumbers, peppers and kohlrabi.



The Honorable Theresa Springmann, a judge from the U.S. Federal Court in Fort Wayne, and her staff toured the Indiana State Prison (ISP). The mission of the tour was to educate and give an understanding of how ISP provides daily activities to the offender population. The members of the tour group were very impressed with all of the staff's professionalism in what can be a very frustrating and challenging environment. It was clear to the group that the IDOC mission and vision is being carried out quite ably at Michigan City!

Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 has collected 179,220 soda pop tabs for the Ronald McDonald House. The pop tabs were counted among the 19 million that have been collected for all of Miami and Howard Counties according to the Kokomo Tribune.

Thank you to everyone who contributed to the Muscular Dystrophy Association (MDA) Lockup and for supporting Commissioner Lemmon, Chief of Staff Copeland, Deputy Commissioner Koester, and Deputy Commissioner Osburn. Together we raised over \$2600 that will help MDA in its mission of curing muscular dystrophy, ALS (Lou Gehrig's disease) and related diseases by funding worldwide research, providing comprehensive health care and support services, advocacy and education.

August 24, 2012

Weekly Views

The Indiana Horseman's Benevolent and Protection Association (INHBPA) donated \$15,000 to the Indiana Chapter of the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation and Equine Management program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. INHBPA is an organization of owners, breeders and trainers committed to the future of horse racing and the protection of horses.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Correctional Police Officer and Internal Affairs Staff member Jeremiah Norris received a tremendous honor. Jeremiah serves as a member of the PCF K-9 Operation and was selected along with his explosives detection K-9 Hanni to search areas at Grissom Air Force Base prior to the landing of the presidential jet. Congratulations to Jeremiah and Hanni for being selected for this prestigious assignment! (see photo below)

PEN Products Doug Evans and Lisa Williams presented a workshop at the American Parole & Probation Association conference in Indianapolis. The workshop focused on Correctional Industries (CI) and the role it plays in re-entry. Parole and Probation officers were encouraged to seek information from their clients as to their CI experience and how to utilize it as a tool in obtaining employment post-release.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) donated a dollhouse to the Larue D. Carter Memorial Hospital. Recreation Clerk Resident Tim Spratt spent several months building the home and refining artistic details. He revamped the donated dollhouse to include hardwood floors, hand-cut shingles for the roof, and hand-made wallpaper and accessories. Along with IREF Recreation Director Chad Platt, Resident Spratt delivered the dollhouse to Larue Carter's youth units where it will be utilized in supervised play and as a tool during therapeutic activities for children who may have experienced traumatic events.

Branchville Correctional Facility held its annual old fashioned Tent Revival. Over 200 offenders attended each of the 11 sessions. Over 20 volunteers and countless staff helped make this event possible. Saturday's session will mark the end of the event with over 70 family members expected to attend and share in the offenders' spiritual growth.

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen has proudly announced the promotion of Randall Earhart to Correctional Captain. Captain Earhart began his career in the Department in 1982, and has held numerous positions at Westville and the Westville Control Unit. Captain Earhart currently serves as the facility's Assistant Shift Commander.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted a SITCON meeting for several team members from Miami Correctional Facility and Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). During the meeting a walk through was conducted at both the intake and treatment units of the Logansport Facility. ERO drills were reviewed and evaluated by the team members. Facility functions within the custody, treatment and education departments were evaluated so that the team members would better understand the operational function of the facility.

Wabash Valley staffed a booth at this year's Sullivan Night Out at the city park. Over 1,400 people stopped by, talking to WVCF Emergency Squad, Fire Department and Custody staff who passed out ALERT flyers. The Wabash display also featured a facility offender transport vehicle. The event is designed to improve relations between law enforcement and the community.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) hosted a blood drive sponsored by the Indiana Blood Center (IBC). A total of 37 staff were a part of the life saving network of donors whose generosity helps meet the need of more than 60 hospitals in Indiana. Donna Burke, Training Department Secretary, coordinated the drive by working with staff and IBC to ensure this drive was a success for those in need. After staff gave their donation, Donna made sure each donor and the center's staff received grilled hot dogs and beverages for the efforts. Superintendent McCauley was a donor and thanks every IWP staff that participated in the Blood Drive.

The Northwest Jaycees, an offender organization at the Indiana State Prison, donated \$1000 each to the Make a Wish Foundation and Ronald McDonald House. The offenders raised the money by having food sales for the offender population. The food sales consist of vendors such as King Gyros, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and Rally's to name a few.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) announces the graduation of 31 offenders from the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program. During the graduation ceremony, family and friends of the graduates helped to celebrate this accomplishment. The invocation was given by Deputy Director of Religious and Volunteer Services David Liebel which was then followed by an inspirational speech by Chaplain Keith Blackburn from the Indianapolis Re-entry & Education Facility.



Weekly Views

August 31, 2012

Over 300 Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) staff members, representing 17 teams, participated in the 2012 FedEx Plane Pull Challenge at the former Indianapolis International Airport. Through various fundraisers and donations, the IDOC raised over \$30,000 for Special Olympics Indiana. While everyone put forth a valiant effort to pull the 164,000 pound FedEx Boeing 757 across the tarmac, Putnamville Correctional Facility's team, The Dark Knight Rises, not only won the Public Safety category but also had the fastest time overall, pulling the plane 12 feet in just 6.026 seconds. Many other IDOC teams also took home prizes for the competition. Commissioner Lemmon expressed his gratitude to those who contributed to this event. He also commented on how remarkable it was to see so many IDOC staff on their day off supporting a great cause and that he would like to see this become an annual event for staff. Among the teams that participated were: IDOC SERT, Central Office, Pit Bulls and Parole Agents (Parole Division), Girls of RDC, Indiana State Prison, Correctional Industrial Facility/Pendleton Juvenile, Rockville, Plainfield, Logansport Juvenile, Madison Dream Team (Madison/Madison Juvenile), Miami, Wabash Valley, Putnamville, Westville/Camp Summit, Pendleton, Edinburgh, and New Castle Correctional Facility. Donations for Special Olympics also came from Henryville, Branchville, and Chain 'O Lakes Correctional Facilities. (see photo left of all 17 IDOC Plane Pull Teams)

Miami Correctional Facility staff, led by Officer Randy Bingle, held a benefit to raise money for Officer Jody Buell who was diagnosed with Colon Cancer in April. Buell has been a Correctional Officer at Miami for nine years. The benefit brought in more than \$2,100. Several current and former employees attended the event along with Officer Buell.

Several students and a staff member from Camp Summit performed community service at the Lubeznik Center for the Arts in Michigan City. This year the Center sponsored the Lakefront Art Festival and the students assisted in putting up tents, fences and general labor and broke-down the tents upon completion of the festival. The festival, which was open to the public, was held at Washington Park at the beach and displayed work from over one hundred national and local artisans. Alison Jackson, coordinator of the festival, stated the work performed by the Camp Summit staff and students was a tremendous boost to the success of the festival.

Indianapolis Parole District#3 agents and supervisors, in conjunction with the Marion County Sheriff's Department (MCSD) Sex and Violent Offender Unit, participated in a week-long activity to inspect Marion County sex offenders under parole supervision for compliance with parole expectations and their responsibility with all facets of sex offender registration, identification, and residency. Positive contacts were made with many in compliance with expectations. Others received the benefit of intermediate sanctions and warnings, and some were arrested for serious parole violations or outstanding warrants. All computers and cell phones in their direct possession received cursory forensic review as well and no additional criminal charges resulted from these investigations. This activity was sponsored by a Project COPS Grant awarded to MCSD for this express purpose.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotions of Correctional Lieutenant Sabrina Ivy and Correctional Sergeant Eric Coffin. Superintendent Commons states, "These individuals bring a commitment to support the philosophy of the Division of Youth Services and the willingness to improve the conditions of confinement for the youth. We are confident that they will excel in their new roles."

Nine Pendleton Correctional Facility offenders received a special haircut, donating their hair to the Locks of Love organization based in West Palm Beach Florida. Locks of Love is a public non-profit organization that provides hairpieces to financially disadvantaged children in the United States and Canada under the age of 21 who are suffering from long-term medical hair loss from any diagnosis.

Francina Carter, from the National Institute of Correction's (NIC), conducted a train-the-trainer certification program at the Correctional Training Institute. Ms Carter is the NIC's National Director of both the Offender Workforce Development Specialists (OWSDS) and the Transition from Prison to Community (TCP) programs. Eleven individuals who completed Indiana's OWDS training in 2011 or 2012 were certified as OWDS trainers, and now carry the additional certification of Offender Workforce Development Specialist Instructor.

The Indiana Women's Prison Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) offender handlers and dogs created their own abstract painting on canvas using tempera paint on the dogs' paws, noses, ears and tails. The ICAN art will be auctioned off to help fund the "Decade of Dogs" fundraiser dinner on November 10.

The Putnamville Correctional facility completed their year two ACA Electronic Facility Review scoring 100% on mandatory standards and 98.02% on non-mandatory standards. Superintendent Stanley Knight commended staff stating that the scores reflected the great job that staff perform each day.



September 7, 2012

Weekly Views

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen congratulates facility staff for a big job well done. The WCC custody and re-entry staff combined their expertise and generated over 1300 offender moves in just three days. The unprecedented move was part of a facility/complex reorganization that increased the number of offender participants in the Therapeutic Community (TC). The TC has expanded to provide substance abuse programming to 640 offenders.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Executive Assistant Jack Binion who serves as the facility's recycling and composting program coordinator, reports that during the month of August the facility

collected 246,887 pounds of recyclable material contributing to a total of 843,605 pounds so far this year. These sustainability efforts have translated into recycling revenue of \$7,461.90. The program has also resulted in the creation of 59 offender jobs for the facility. Superintendent Keith Butts reports that the facility continues to identify strategies and opportunities to promote and expand its "greening" efforts.

It is never too early for the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Fatherhood Program to be thinking about Christmas! Community Services Director Michele Lincoln presented a check for \$550 to the Parke/Vermillion County Fraternal Order of Police (FOP) for their "Cops and Kids Christmas" event. The Fatherhood donation will help the FOP make the holidays a little brighter for 85 underprivileged youngsters! (See photo right of Vermillion County Sheriff's Detective Mike Phelps and WVCF Community Service Director Michele Lincoln)

American Legion Post 130, an offender organization from the Indiana State Prison, held a charity softball game in the facility's recreation yard. In attendance were eleven players from Lakeville, IN American Legion Post 363 and four other American Legion members from other American Legion Posts in the area. American Legion Post 130 donated \$550 to American Legion Post 363 which they will donate back into their community for items such as food baskets and school back packs. Each team won one game. Everyone that participated enjoyed the games.

In preparation of the commencement of the Rockville Correctional Facility's (RCF) Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program, members of RCF's staff attended the Indiana State University Volunteer Fair. They shared information concerning volunteer activities at the facility, including PLUS, parenting, education and chapel programs.

A seminar concerning Identity Theft Protection was held at the Rockville Correctional Facility. Michelle Mayer and Chris Wilson provided instructions and general information for staff members on identity theft. They presented a separate seminar for offenders, providing information about what to do after your identity has been stolen.



Putnamville Correctional Facility staff delivered 200 food items and made a monetary donation to the Putnam County Emergency Food Pantry. The delivery concluded a "Be a Life Saver" food drive sponsored by facility Promoting Positive Corrections Culture members. "Those less fortunate than we are will benefit from your generosity," Supt. Stan Knight told staff as he thanked them for their participation. (see photo left)

The first and second place teams of the recent Pendleton Correctional Facility offender softball tournament were treated to a Papa John's Pizza party. This opportunity was afforded in recognition of the outstanding responsibility and sportsmanship demonstrated by the offender participants during the course of the tournament.

September 14, 2012

Weekly Views

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Superintendent Keith Butts has announced that he will be retiring after proudly serving the Indiana Department of Correction for 33 years. Superintendent Butts has accepted a position with GEO and will assume the duties as Superintendent of the New Castle Correctional Facility on October 8, 2012. Staff at PCF will certainly miss Superintendent Butts and want to wish him continued success as he embarks upon this new phase of his correctional career.

Towers Production hosted a Premiere Party at the Madame Walker Theater for the upcoming series *Parole Diaries*, which follows Parole Agents and parolees from Indianapolis Parole District #3. Staff from PD#3, IDOC Central Office, Towers Production, TV One, and

distinguished guests, including radio personality Amos Brown, enjoyed a sneak preview of the second episode in the series. At the end of the screening, the room erupted in a standing ovation. *Parole Diaries* premiered on TV One on Wednesday, September 12. Twelve new episodes will follow each Wednesday at 10:00pm EST. Please consult your local cable or satellite listings. (See photo right of PD#3 staff following the *Parole Diaries* premiere)
<http://www.tvoneonline.com/shows/parole-diaries.html>



Putnamville Correctional Facility's Indiana Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation (INTRF) was the recipient of the first Racing Legacy Fund Grant ever awarded by the Indiana Horse Council Foundation. INTRF received the \$2,500 grant in recognition of the facility's contribution to the training, rehabilitation and adoption of retired, thoroughbred race horses. Barbara Holcomb, INTRF Coordinator and Equine Management Instructor, has overseen the re-training of 73 horses, 39 adoptions and graduated over 80 offenders since the program's inception in 2007.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit donated two dollhouses to the Hemophilia of Indiana. Hemophilia of Indiana Director Briana Zieke stated the dollhouses will be used to raise funds for specialized medicine for children, which can cost more than \$250,000 a year. INVET Resident Denver Claywell designed both houses (a pink country cottage, and a blue beach cottage), which includes spiral staircases, and rocks gathered from IREF grounds that were used as foundations for the houses. (see photo below of Ethany Wilson and Briana Zieke, representatives from Hemophilia of Indiana, checking out the dollhouses)



A special graduation took place at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility for 82 Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) participants who successfully completed the 16 month faith and character based program. Since the program began at Wabash in late 2005, PLUS participants have donated over \$37,500 to a wide variety of charitable causes throughout Wabash Valley. A special presentation was made to Wabash Valley Big Brothers/Big Sisters just in time for the upcoming holiday season! 228 quilts and 225 Christmas stockings were presented to Jeanne Etheridge of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Ms. Etheridge presented the PLUS unit with a special appreciation certificate in thanks for its ongoing support.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) hosted "Christmas Behind Bars" with Lemuel Vega. Mr. Vega, a former offender himself, began the group over 15 years ago after being released from prison and becoming a Christian. Approximately 1300 offenders from CIF attended the program. Gift bags were distributed to the offenders at the conclusion of event.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotions of Correctional Officers Joshua Roe and Brandi Speights to Sergeant. Superintendent Commons remarked that, "Sergeant Roe has demonstrated great leadership and role modeling for the youth in the Future Soldier Program and we see that skill as a plus as he moves into a supervisory role with staff. Sergeant Speights has continuously demonstrated a positive attitude toward her work. As a member of the Promoting Positive Corrections Culture for the facility, she has demonstrated the ability to impact the culture for the betterment of all."

The Prison Greyhound handlers welcome new arrivals to the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Carmella (2), Banjo (3), Luna (3) and Denny (6) made the long journey from the Daytona race tracks to Indiana for socialization and adoption. (See photo right)



September 21, 2012

Weekly Views

It's not too late to register for the upcoming Indiana Criminal Justice Association (ICJA) Fall Conference! The conference is being held at the Crown Plaza in historic Union Station from October 3 – 5, 2012. The registration form can be found on ICJA's website at www.indianacriminaljusticeassociation.org. You can also follow them on Twitter at www.twitter.com/ICJA2012.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Superintendent Keith Butts met with a group of offenders to say his good-byes and to express his thanks for their support during his tenure as Superintendent. The offenders that participated in the meeting represented several of the facility's programs to include the PLUS Program, the American Legion Organization, the Community Outreach Forum, and members

of the facility's Religious Services Band and Choir. The offenders expressed their sincere appreciation to Superintendent Butts for being afforded the opportunity to participate in these programs, and Superintendent Butts encouraged the offenders to "continue on the track they are on" and to continue "being about the right thing". Superintendent Butts will be retiring from the Indiana Department of Correction and will become the new Superintendent at the New Castle Correctional Facility.

IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon presented U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship certificates to 142 offenders at the Correctional Industrial Facility. "PEN Products and the Department of Correction continue in its innovative efforts to prepare offenders with job skills for a successful re-entry. These offenders will have a greater chance of finding employment after release and inspire other offenders to work hard on the inside for success on the outside," says Commissioner. Commissioner Lemmon also spoke to the graduates and their visitors at the graduation. The offenders have completed their On-the-Job Training and required class work while working in jobs such as PEN/Meritor Brake-Shop, maintenance, laundry services, FIDO program and the Barbershop.

Miami Correctional Facility facilitated an offender interview with E! Network for a special program called "Teens that Kill". The network interviewed Offender Andrew Conley, who was convicted of killing his 10-year-old brother when he was 17-years-old. The special is focusing on interviewing the families and loved ones of those killed and the teen perpetrators behind bars. In addition, the show will also feature interviews with psychologists, law enforcement, prosecutors and defense attorneys.

Eleven members of the West Vigo Lions Club toured the Rockville Correctional Facility Lions Eyeglass Operation. They brought a donation of glasses to the facility as well. While at the facility, they learned how the offenders repair the glasses and process, pack and prepare them for distribution to third world countries.

Criminology students from Ivy Tech Community College toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The visitors, who observed facility operations and programs, were very complimentary of the cleanliness of the facility, professionalism of staff and diversity of programs available to the offender population.

Reception Diagnostic Center (RDC) Superintendent Jim Wynn is pleased to announce that Guy Rosebery has been promoted to Captain. Captain Rosebery began his career at RDC in 1993. Congratulations Captain Rosebery!

Jason Irvine has been promoted to Correctional Lieutenant at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. He began his career in June of 2001 as a Correctional Officer and advanced to Correctional Sergeant in February of 2008. Irvine is the recipient of numerous Commendation and Appreciation Letters. He joined the facility SITCON team in May of 2003 and currently oversees the facility operation. Lieutenant Irvine has been assigned to the evening shift as Assistant Shift Supervisor, overseeing 90 custody staff.

Twenty-one New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) staff and 12 NCCF offenders participated in the Henry County United Fund's Day of Caring. There were over 650 volunteers this year.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility raised money through pizza and Subway sales and donated the proceeds to the Indiana Coalition against Domestic Violence and the Boomerang Backpack Program.

Stepping Stones ministry, an Amish community from Oden, IN, held a cook-out and worship service at the Indiana Women's Prison. Stepping Stones served approximately 675 inmates and employees hamburgers, hot dogs, homemade potato salad, and freshly baked pies. During the outdoor picnic, volunteers played a variety of songs on their fiddles and guitars. Prior to the meal, 143 inmates attended a Stepping Stones General Christian worship service with stringed instrumental music, preaching, and prayer.

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) successfully completed year one of the ACA Audit. There are a total of 61 Mandatory Standards, 59 of which were applicable to ISP. ISP was found in 100% compliance with Mandatory Standards. There are also a total of 468 Non-Mandatory Standards; 451 were applicable to ISP. ISP received a score of 98.89%. Thank you to the staff at the Indiana State Prison for their hard work and dedication in completing this task.

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen announced the appointment of three new case workers. Previous Correctional Officers, Allison Baker, Kelly Mackey and Jessica Linscott are a welcome addition to the facility's re-entry team. Congratulations all!

Weekly Views

September 27, 2012

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) and Martin University are collaborating to offer a free volunteer college program to the offenders. The incarcerated women from Marion County and the surrounding counties who have completed high school degrees or GEDs can apply to the program. Some of the courses offered will include intro to college studies, literature writing, political science and remedial reading and writing. The goal of the program is to provide quality liberal arts education for women in prison that will allow them to be more productive and constructive members of society.

Members from the U.S. Department of Veteran Affairs Veteran Justice Outreach Initiative (VJOI) at the Veterans Affairs (VA) Medical Center in San Diego, California and from the local Indiana VA office visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility to learn about the INVET Unit. INVET residents served as tour guides for VA Specialists Angela Simoneau and Joy Villavicencio, showing them around the facility, visiting each area in which residents transferring in from other IDOC facilities intake and process before being placed in the INVET Unit where they are eligible to participate in specialized programs geared towards helping incarcerated veterans. Simoneau and Villavicencio stated the VJOI is considering modeling a program similar to that of INVET format in order to assist veteran offenders involved in the local courts, jails, and state correctional facilities.

Camp Summit Boot Camp received a special visit by former Governor Joe Kernan, who spoke to students about his experience in the United States Navy and his time in a North Vietnamese prison camp. Governor Kernan emphasized perseverance and good decision making as important elements in overcoming obstacles to be successful.

Future Soldier Program students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility were visited by guest speakers Staff Sergeant Pedigo and Staff Sergeant Antrim. Staff Sergeant Pedigo and Staff Sergeant Antrim shared their experiences of serving in overseas in Afghanistan, Iraq and Bosnia. Both men serve in the 1st Battalion of the 151st Infantry Division which is part of the 76th Infantry Brigade of the Indiana National Guard.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility delivered pumpkins to Mill Creek East elementary school to be utilized in their fall programming. Kids who would not have been able to participate in the activities because of a lack of a pumpkin, are now able to.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted groups from the Indiana Law Enforcement Academy and Franklin College. Jail Officers and students from a corrections class toured the facility and learned about the IDOC intake process.

"Revival in Prison Ministry" held an old fashioned tent revival at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Evangelists Dave and Deb Brewer led the offenders in prayer, song, and testimonial. The Friday, Saturday and Sunday event was organized by Volunteer Coordinator Derek Smith.

Employees at the Indiana State Prison and the offender population played three softball games. Each offender recreation line made up a team to play against staff. ISP staff did not come out victorious, being swept by the offender teams 3-0. Even though the employees did not win, it was a positive experience, and both staff and the offender population look forward to playing again.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COL) held a staff recall. Superintendent Kathy Griffin announced Sergeant Jason Brooks was selected by COL staff as Employee of the Quarter. Sergeant Brooks has worked at Chain O'Lakes for eleven and a half years and has been a Sergeant for five of those years. Sergeant Brooks serves as the assistant ACA Coordinator and is described as dependable and hard working. Officer Joseph Weaver, a six year veteran in custody and adjunct instructor, was also promoted to the position of Training Officer. During the recall, staff were reminded of the facility's upcoming ACA audit and to keep up the good work.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Straight Talk Program for students from Clinton Central High School. The students are in George Gilbert's Sociology Class. Mr. Gilbert brings students to the facility twice a year to talk to offenders about prison life. They also get a chance to talk to a few staff members about their jobs and what it is like to work in a prison.

In cooperation with ARAMARK Food Service, Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) is now serving Fresh Favorites to visitors. Upon arrival, visitors seeing offenders in General Population may place Fresh Favorite food orders as they register for their visit. The order is promptly sent to the facility's Production Kitchen for process. ARAMARK Staff and WCC offender deliverers are guaranteeing the food's arrival in the Visiting Room within 15 minutes of placing their order. Westville is now in its 2nd full week of service and the response has been positive and the participation encouraging.

Evangel Prison Ministries visited Madison Correctional Facility and provided a sort of "Concert in the Park." All offenders and those involved in the work release program were invited to enjoy hot dogs, chips, cookies, and a beverage, along with an Evangelical worship service, complete with a band. The weather held out and a great time was had by all.

Pendleton Correctional Facility K-9 Handlers Jeremiah Norris and Eric Hammond along with explosives detection canine Hanni were selected once again for a special detail to search the grounds of Grissom Air Force Base prior to the landing of a Presidential Jet.

October 5, 2012

Weekly Views

Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Superintendent Steve McCauley and IWP Staff thank the Department of Correction Central Office staff, CISM and DOC Facilities for their flowers, phone calls, e-mails and support during this difficult time. A special thanks to Rockville Superintendent and staff for relieving IWP facility staff to allow an opportunity for them to pay their respect to Major Wiltsie and his family during the funeral on Saturday. There are not enough words of gratitude. "We are family, and it was evidenced throughout this past week!"

Staff from throughout the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) attended the 2012 Indiana Criminal Justice Association's (ICJA) Fall Conference in Indianapolis. During the ICJA/IDOC Awards

Luncheon, Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland, and Deputy Commissioner Randy Koester presented the Annual Commissioner's Awards to staff who have exhibited exemplary service to the Department and the State of Indiana. Among this year's recipients were Gil Peters (Branchville)- Superintendent of the Year, Ernest Rush (Putnamville)- Chaplain of the Year, Camp Summit Boot Camp- Facility of the Year, Keith Butts (Pendleton)- Correctional Professional of the Year, Michael Biddle (Miami)- Corrections Supervisor of the Year, Michele Lincoln Wabash Valley)-Distinguished Service, Sandra Kibby-Brown (Central Office)- Employee of the Year. Bryan Dobbs (Edinburgh)- Administrative Support Employee of the Year, Jessica Townley (PD 6 Gary)- Rising Star, Pam Powell (PEN)- Prison Enterprise Employee of the Year, Jon Scheets (PD1 Re-entry)- Parole Agent of the Year, Michele David-Masley (Indiana State Prison)- Human Resources Employee of the Year, Roger Dagley (Wabash Valley)- Physical Plant Employee of the Year, and Kelli Searing (Putnamville)- Re-Entry Employee of the Year.

IDOC hosted its 3rd Annual Softball Tournament at Hummel Park in Plainfield, IN. Thirteen teams from throughout the Department participated in the tournament. The Championship game was between Madison's "Underdogs" and Putnamville's "DYNASTY". "DYNASTY" pulled out a victory in a highly competitive game. Travis Mitten from Putnamville received the MVP Award and Terri Riley received the Sportsmanship Award. Everyone who came to play or cheer for their team had a great time.

Putnamville Correctional Facility Assistant Superintendent Tim Phegley presented Correctional Officer Howard Wilson with the Governor's Long-term Service award in recognition of 35 years of service to the Department. Officer Randall Gordon, Caseworker Nora Spence, Sergeant Daniel Bell and Administrative Assistant Alisia Lawrence were recipients of the Employee of the Quarter awards and a retirement celebration was held in honor of Caseworker Jim Louderbac, 33 years, and Clerical Assistant Patty Freeman, 27 years.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's Fatherhood and PLUS programs each donated \$250 to a class at Carlisle Elementary and Junior High School in Sullivan County. The \$500 donation helped fund her 5th grade students' "Nature Classroom" field trip at the Merom Conference Center. The students learned about the history of the area, natural resources, and how the Wabash River benefits the entire Wabash Valley region.

The Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting. Members of the Board discussed and provided feedback on proposed new and current projects occurring at IREF, including the upcoming grand re-opening of the Family Education Department and the Children's Visitation Center on October 27. Family Management Coordinator Tamera Shirley oversees the programs, which once operated on federal grants, has revamped and developed family-friendly programs and designed classes based on the needs of the incarcerated fathers and their children. The Children Visitation Center has undergone an artistic transition that promotes interaction and stimulates discussion among residents and their children.

Volunteers from the Liberty Bible Church, in cooperation with the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC), presented the first class of Dave's Ramsey's Financial Peace to offenders from WCC's Therapeutic Community. The nine session program is a spiritually based curriculum that teaches the fundamentals of managing money, while showing participants how to make better financial decisions. Fifteen offenders were selected to participate in the program based on their interest in gaining monetary information and their commitment to a financially responsible lifestyle.

The PEN Products Miami Accessible Media Project, known for Braille transcription and large print publishing, is proud to announce that two offenders have earned their certifications from the National Library Service through the Library of Congress as Proofreaders. They are the only certified proofreaders in the State of Indiana.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) would like to give a big thank-you to the Bureau of Motor Vehicles for sending an exceptional team of employees who provided over 100 state IDs to offenders at CIF. According to Re-Entry Program Coordinator Dan Crafton, "The BMV team was outstanding and the process went extremely well. The offenders were very appreciative." All offenders had to be within three years of release and were excited to have another step in the process toward re-entry complete. Thank you again BMV!

Four Probation Officers from Putnam County toured the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF). The tour provided the Officers a chance to speak with programming staff and the opportunity to see the many rehabilitation programs available to female offenders at the largest women's facility in the State. The group asked many thoughtful questions regarding the intake and sentencing processes and opened the lines of communication between RCF staff and Probation staff.



Weekly Views

The Correctional Industrial Facility held a Blessing of the Animals. The service commemorates the life of St. Francis of Assisi, who is remembered

The Pendleton Correctional Facility hosted a retirement dinner honoring Superintendent Keith Butts. Mr. Butts is retiring after 33 years with the Department, effective October 13, 2012. Mr. Butts will go on to serve as the Superintendent of New Castle Correctional Facility. Commissioner presented Mr. Butts with a plaque recognizing his years of service.

The Westville Correctional Facility hosted its first ever Offender Catholic retreat. The retreat was a daylong event sponsored by and included many Priests and volunteers from Northwest IN and Ohio. It featured small group sessions, confession, a traditional mass and communion served by Bishop Dale Melczek from

Bill Glass' "Champions For Life" event came to Camp Summit facility recently. The event included speakers and performers that entertained and gave students positive and powerful information on setting goals and meeting the everyday challenges of life. One of the guest speakers was former NFL Offensive lineman Shawn Harper, who played for the Los Angeles Rams and the Indianapolis Colts before retiring in 2000. Mr. Harper, demonstrated his physical strength by bending a frying pan with his bare hands which captivated the students. He then went on to tell



Staff from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) participated in the School of Public and Environmental Affairs' (SPEA) 25th Annual Career Information Day. The Event was held at the Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis's (IUPUI) Fall Career Week. IREF staff answered questions from several of the 450 Criminal Justice and Public Safety undergraduate and graduates students about career and internship opportunities within the IDOC and IREF.

Volunteers in the community help support the facility by providing materials for the offenders in the IWP Community Outreach program. The women are busy creating blankets, bags and dog beds to support the ICAN “Decade of Dogs” project to be held on November 10at the Indiana Roof Ballroom Downtown Indianapolis.

Weekly Views

October 19, 2012

Indiana Women's Prison Superintendent Steve McCauley led a tour of the facility to Indiana Court of Appeals Judge Patricia Riley and two colleagues, Milkah Murugi Cheptinga and Eric Gumbo from the Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret (LACE) in Kenya. Cheptinga and Gumbo were visiting Indianapolis for a presentation. The Legal Aid Centre of Eldoret (LACE) in Kenya is a human rights law clinic working in close association with the Indiana University-affiliated and Nobel Peace Prize-nominated AMPATH (Academic Model Providing Access to Healthcare) program in Eldoret, Kenya.

The Rockville Correctional Facility held its second annual Cupcake War to benefit the 2012 Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure.

Staff met the challenge this year, as both groups and individuals, with entries such as the Pink Lemonade which won first place in the multi-cake display category, the first place Apple Cider cupcake with Pumpkin Pie topping in the individual cupcake winner (created by the Steve Hazard family) and the chocolate ganache cupcake with mint icing, topped with an Andes mint, which took home third place in the multi-cake display competition (courtesy of Superintendent Julie Stout, Assistant Superintendents Pam Ferguson and Stacey Milner). Other entries included a jack-o-lantern/spooky cupcake themed display which won best of show and a chocolate cherry coconut cupcake which took second place in the individual competition, both created by Aramark staff. Officer Lana Carr won second place in the multi-cake display category with her banana split cupcakes. Judging was once again provided by Phyllis Akers, Parke County Home Extension member. The sale of the delectable treats netted \$319.50 for Race for the Cure. (see photo below of Steve Hazard and Phyllis Akers)

The Promoting Positive Corrections Culture and Employee Recognition Committees sponsored a Health Fair and Blood Drive at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Representatives from St. Vincent, Clay & Putnam County Hospitals, Aflac, Sonus Hearing Care, American Cancer Society, Hamilton Center, Indiana State Farm Insurance and PNC Bank distributed pamphlets and novelties promoting stronger, healthier lives and mental health awareness. On-site Flu shots, diabetes, blood pressure and ear canal exams were available, along with a variety of heart healthy refreshments served by Culinary Art students.



The Correctional Industrial Facility garden has had its final harvesting for the year. Even with a dismal growing year due to the drought, much hard work and dedication yielded almost 7,500 pounds of fresh vegetables that were dispersed between six Madison and Hancock County food banks and one soup kitchen in Anderson, IN. The Correctional Facility would like to thank our sponsors who donated the plants and seeds to help develop our garden: Brawners Greenhouse in Fortville, Mathews True Value Hardware and R&R Market in Pendleton, and Stephanie Grissom.

PEN Products held a Career Path Planning Workshop at the Indianapolis Re-entry and Education Facility (IREF). In attendance were 29 IREF residents along with 12 Corrections/Re-entry professional from IDOC and community service providers. Utilizing Career Assessment tools, the participants learned how they can leave prison and use an entry level job as a starting point for developing a lifelong career.

New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF) staff welcomed Keith Butts as the new Superintendent at NCCF effective Monday, October 15th. Welcome to the NCCF team Superintendent Butts!

Vincennes University Law Enforcement students got a firsthand look at life in a maximum-security facility during a tour of Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Students, taking a course dealing with corrections by instructor Dottie Stanfill, visited segregation, open population units and programming areas, learning more about the re-entry process.

The Therapeutic Community at Westville Correctional Facility hosted celebrated the unit's recent expansion. In August, the community moved to another area of the facility and increased its population by 200. The day's celebration included guest speakers, music, stompers, and acknowledgment of the community's success thus far. The gymnasium was filled with excitement and support for the 640 offenders now housed in the Therapeutic Community.

Rockville Correctional Facility Sergeant Jeff Duffer was presented with a plaque for 20 years of E-Squad service. Sergeant Duffer began his career in corrections on March 11, 1991 and joined the E-Squad on March 19, 1992. In his 21 years of service, he has served as a Personal Protection/Security Skills Instructor for the past 18 years as well as a member of E-Squad Special Weapons Team for the last 15 years. He has been a supervisor for the last 8 years and has attended 39 academies in his career. Congratulations Sergeant Duffer! Rockville Correctional Facility is proud to call you one of its own!

Samples of the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) promotional items have begun to arrive at facilities. To check out what items are available for those who donate to the CPAFI (code 662100) through this year's SECC campaign, and to try on sizes, see your CPAFI Facility Representative today!

October 26, 2012

Weekly Views

Governor Mitch Daniels made a final trip to the Rockville Correctional Facility before leaving office to show his support for offenders who successfully completed the CLIFF program. Governor Daniels met with the ladies and personally congratulated them on taking important steps in their rehabilitation. He also commended the Department for meeting his challenge of a "Meth Free Indiana" by establishing the CLIFF program soon after he took office almost eight years ago. (see photo below)

Horticulture Instructor Jack Mitchell and offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility grew 150

pumpkins, doubling last year's harvest. Just in time for Halloween, the pumpkins were delivered to pre-school and first grade students at Cloverdale and Central Elementary Schools. Superintendent Stan Knight commended the efforts of all involved and issued a friendly challenge, "Great job! Next year let's grow 200."

The community responded in a big way to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Job Fair! 74 area residents applied for jobs which include 30 correctional officer and two recreation leader slots. ARAMARK and CORIZON also took part. The event featured on the spot interviews and job shadowing tours of the maximum-security facility.

PEN Products and the Putnamville Correctional Facility provide services to various state agencies and the private sector with products made on-site at the prison's Park & Patio department. Over 745 picnic tables, two swings and four shelters have been constructed and delivered to state parks, churches, bingo halls and private individuals. Sixty-six picnic tables were also delivered to Prophetstown, Indiana's newest state park located in West Lafayette.

Indianapolis Mayor Greg Ballard recognized staff and residents from the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) who participated in this past weekend's Keep Indianapolis Beautiful, Inc. Great Indy Clean Up. During his kick-off speech, Mayor Ballard thanked IREF and other participants for being good neighbors and helping to keep Indianapolis' neighborhoods clean and free of litter and debris. (see photo below)



Miami Correctional Facility promoted Dennis Reagle to Captain. Captain Reagle began his career with IDOC as a correctional officer in January 2000. He promoted to Sergeant in April 2002 and Correctional Lieutenant in 2007. In addition to attending Leadership training, he is also certified as E-Squad, SERT and Quick Response Team instructor and is Field Training Officer Coordinator for new hires. He was recently appointed as E-Squad Field Commander after serving many years on E-Squad.

The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles Mobile made a stop at the Indiana Women's Prison to help offenders prepare for re-entry. Over the two day period, 129 state ID's were processed for offenders at the facility who are within three years of their release date.



On October 15, Officer Kenneth Gray, an 18-year IDOC employee, was leaving the Plainfield Correctional Facility in route to Indiana University Hospital to relieve an officer on post. A short distance from the facility he saw an accident involving a man on a bicycle who had been hit by a car and stopped to see if assistance was needed. Finding the victim in a ditch several yards from the bicycle, Officer Gray observed the man was critically injured and immediately applied first aid. Officer Gray stayed with the injured man until EMS personnel arrived on the scene. Officer Gray's quick and heroic actions in all likelihood saved the man's life.

Moody Bible Institute basketball players visited the Indiana State Prison (ISP) for a game with the ISP Basketball Team. It was a very exciting game, and ISP took home the win with a final score of 80-70. Coach Dunn of Moody Bible Institute said "He and his team always enjoy playing here because it is not staged. They can play in the real atmosphere and fellowship with the team and fans."

Approximately 300 people, consisting of staff and their families enjoyed an evening of events which included a DJ, hog roast, kid's games, free pumpkins and hay rides. This year Chelsea Humes headed the group's Community Project to raise money for the Pendleton Police Department. Donations from PNC Bank, Madison County Winery, The Flower Cart, Citizens State Bank, Jimmie's Dairy Bar, Papa John's Pizza, Deb and Donna's Diner, Danny Fountain, Jeremiah Norris, Paula Dickson, Mike Rains and Keri Johnson, were raffled to raise money for the project. \$308 was raised to be donated to the Pendleton Police Department, which will assist them in purchasing a Special Purpose Vehicle.

Westville Correctional Facility hosted the Community Advisory Board (CAB) meeting for Westville, Indiana State Prison, and Camp Summit Boot Camp. Discussion centered on the efforts to maintain the physical plant at the facilities and brainstorming ideas to improve contraband interdiction efforts. CAB members also asked questions about the community service work crews provided by the IDOC.

November 2, 2012

Weekly Views

GreenPrisons.org and the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) co-hosted the Second National Symposium on Sustainability in Corrections in Plainfield, IN. Correctional practitioners from across the country gathered in Plainfield, IN for the conference to learn about and discuss the utilization of sustainable products and services in the corrections profession. During the conference, Greenprison.org presented IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon with the first-ever Rees-Stalder Award for Sustainability in Corrections in recognition of the Department's many accomplishments in correctional sustainability. The conference concluded with over 50 participants from several states touring the Pendleton Correctional Facility to

learn about the facility's recent greening efforts. Executive Assistant Jack Binion, who oversees the facility's green initiatives, highlighted areas of the facility that have been designated to promote green efforts within the prison. These included compost, recycling, bio mass energy generation and speakers from several companies providing services and products.

Parole agents and staff from all nine Parole Districts participated in the ninth annual Operation Safe Halloween to monitor paroled sex offenders during designated trick or treat hours. Every year, the IDOC Parole Service Division collaborates with local law enforcement agencies within the community to ensure complete compliance and accountability. In Marion County, Re-entry Parole District #1 and Indianapolis Parole District #3, collaborated with Marion County Superior Court Probation, Marion County Community Corrections, United States Probation, and the Marion County Sheriff's Department, in order to monitor and assist offenders with the responsibility to register as a sex offender and to provide assistance and ongoing training with employment opportunities. Parolee attendance results included 115 offenders reported and four offenders failed to report as directed. Additionally, six paroled offenders were arrested on outstanding warrants and new technical or criminal conduct registry violations.

Miami Correctional Facility passed its Re-Accreditation Audit from the American Correctional Association with a 98.2 percent rating. The facility went through its three-year audit and was met with very positive comments by all three auditors. "My first impression turned into my last impression," stated Auditor Barbara Skeen. "Staff appear to be professional and dedicated to the facility and seem to like working here. Your commitment to excellence is obvious." Superintendent Mark Sevier commended the facility staff for its teamwork in getting ready for the audit.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted groups from Kaplan College and Ivy Tech Community College. Criminal Justice students toured the facility and learned about the Department's intake process.

The ADOPT (A Dog on Prison Turf) program at Madison Correctional Facility received a grant for \$1000 from the Spirit's Fund through the Community Foundation of Madison. The donated money will go towards an agility obstacle course for the dog program. The program will offer a day camp for children in the community to come in and work with the dogs on the obstacle course. The Spirit Fund aims to help children become better pet owners.

Wabash Valley Correctional Officer Gerald "Jerry" Kieffer has retired after 20 years and 5 months of dedicated service! Jerry was among the first class of officers that started at Wabash Valley in 1992, working in several capacities during his career including maintaining the top-notch Tool Room. Superintendent Richard Brown hosted a retirement reception, presenting Officer Kieffer with a Service Recognition Plaque for his dedication and professionalism.

Community Volunteer Coordinator Tammy Atwood, Chaplain Catherine Bowie and Psychiatric Services Specialist Allison Green from the Indiana Women's Prison participated in WTU's IN Focus Program on "Women In Prison." The 30 minute program aired on October 26, 2012. The interviews and panel discussion can be viewed at <http://indianapublicmedia.org/infocus/women-indianas-prison/>

PEN Products staff Doug Evans and Lisa Williams facilitated two interactive Career Path Planning Workshops for 60 offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The offenders and 14 professionals from Centerstone and IDOC staff from Central Office, Miami Correctional Facility and Putnamville Correctional Facility engaged in activities developed to hone job retention, time management and career path planning skills.

Staff Development Emergency Operations (SDEO) and the Correctional Training Institute (CTI) are pleased to report a very successful year two Program Review for CTI. CTI achieved 100% on 12 Mandatory Standards and 100% on 88 Non-Mandatory Standards. Congratulations to all the training staff for their diligence and teamwork in accomplishing such outstanding scores!

Basketball season is up and running at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC). WCC hosted its first weekend of ball, and a great weekend it was. The WCC team crushed Concordia College on Saturday and triumphed over Purdue North Central on Sunday. The facility basketball team is made up of offender's who display good behavior and programming success. Recreation Coordinator Dan Palombizio, who heads the facility's team, is a former NBA star.

IDOC Central Office held a Fall Football Frenzy Festival at Military Park in downtown Indianapolis to conclude the 2012 State Employees Community Campaign. Staff enjoyed hot dogs and hamburgers fresh off the grill and a variety of games and goodies, including a corn-hole tournament, pumpkin bowling, hot apple cider, s'mores on the bonfire, and great prizes. Some members of Exec Staff and Division Directors also took turns in the "waterless" dunk tank to raise money for a great cause.

November 9, 2012

Weekly Views

Aisha Brandy had never seen a live pig until she got to kiss one on the snout. Aisha was the winner of the Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) Kiss-A-Pig Competition which was started in September to promote the State Employees Community Campaign. The competition raised \$217 and a great deal of awareness about the campaign, especially the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) to which 60 people from MCF donated \$16,500. MCF raised more than \$37,683 through the SECC campaign, an increase of 70.4 percent over last year, according to Miami's SECC/CPAFI Chair Scarlett Graves. (See photo below)

Offenders and staff from the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle is Freedom Forever) unit held a fundraiser to benefit the Riley Children's Hospital Neonatal Unit. The offenders and staff prepared sack lunches of hamburgers, hot dogs, chips, cookies and soda for sale to RCF staff. This event raised \$1396. CLIFF is donating \$600 to Riley's and the remainder of the funds is for programming needs for the self-sustaining therapeutic community.



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility assisted the Larwill Volunteer Fire Department with their annual fish fry fundraiser. Eleven offenders helped with the preparation of over 700 pounds of fish and 200 pounds of onion rings. The offenders returned the following day to help with the clean up. Larwill Fire Department personnel stated they appreciated the help provided by the offender volunteers.

In remembrance of Veteran's Day, the American Legion Post 130 held a service at the Indiana State Prison. This ceremony recognized the service of past, present and future veterans. The American Legion Post 130 reached a milestone of donating over \$100,000 to charities in the last twelve years. In attendance were Senator Jim Arnold, American Legion State Commander Richard Jewell, American Legion 3rd District Commander Daniel Lee, Assistant Superintendent Dan McBride, Superintendent William Wilson, Major Kenneth Gann and Gus Carlson, former staff.

Lieutenant David Ezekiel along with eleven members of the Hostage Negotiation Team at the Federal Correctional Complex in Terre Haute, IN visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) for a tour and to meet with members of PCF's administrative staff and Emergency Response Operations Teams.

The halls of the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility's (WVCF) Administration Building were filled with health care professionals taking part in The WVCF Health Fair! The WVCF Employee Appreciation Committee came up with the health fair for staff to coincide with annual flu shots. Over 13 agencies from around the Wabash Valley took part in the event. Staff received everything from bone density, body fat monitoring, and hearing tests to therapeutic massage. (See photo left of WVCF staff meeting with healthcare providers)



Thanks to donations from staff and other sources, 30 dads from the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility, along with 55 of their children, enjoyed a Halloween Festival, which included clowns, face painting, crafts, games, prizes, and an all-you-can-eat buffet—prepared by Culinary Arts students and their instructor Dennis Brady—and complete with beef hotdogs, candied apples, baked cookies, cakes, brownies, drinks, chips, and snacks. The Art Department clerks transformed the hallway leading from the FED classroom to the recreation center into a haunted house with a live Dracula and werewolf to spook the children. A Piece of Cake Company provided a bounce house, which got plenty of use by the kids.

Miami Correctional Facility hosted a Kairos Ministries Retreat. Thirty-six men from all denominations are allowed to participate in the program, which brought in 42 volunteers, plus another 50 for the ending ceremony on Sunday. Once the weekend program is completed, the offenders continue to meet in reunion meetings each month with others who have completed the program.

The Westville Correctional Facility (WCCF) hosted another successful Kairos weekend. The four day event welcomed 35 Kairos volunteers and 40 offenders who participated in a collection of activities and faith building exercises. The participating offenders were personally interviewed and selected by WCC's facility Chaplain. Along with their spiritual messages, Kairos volunteers brought thousands of bags of homemade cookies for delivery to each and every offender at WCC.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted Kairos with 42 Kairos volunteers from a wide array of religious and ethnic backgrounds offered guidance and provided refreshments and meals for 42 offenders. On the last day of the program all past graduates that had continued with the weekly meeting and 62 guests from outside the facility attended a ceremony that allowed the offenders a sometimes tearful opportunity to tell what the weekend had meant to them.

Weekly Views

November 16, 2012

The quick actions of rookie Officer Raymond Peters at the Westville Correctional Facility likely saved the life of fellow Officer Brian Herndon, when he was involved in a car accident just outside facility grounds. From his tower post, Officer Peters witnessed Officer Herndon drive his car off the road and drive into a field after losing consciousness. Peters immediately called in assistance from facility ground units and the City of Westville Emergency Staff. Officer Herndon was taken to the hospital where he is being treated for compound fractures in both legs, a fractured nose and a black eye. Several days after the accident, Herndon remembers leaving work and entering his car but nothing much after that. One thing is for sure, Herndon said, was that he appreciates the comradeship of his fellow officers and staff, as well as the Westville Police.

Indiana Department of Correction Deputy Commissioner of Operations Michael Osburn, who also serves as Brigadier General in the Indiana National Guard, met with members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion to present military coins honoring their service. Attending with General Osburn were Command Sergeant Major Patrick Fromme and Sergeant First Class Kara Ruczynski from the National Guard.

The Correctional Industrial Facility's first-ever Offender Talent Show was a tremendous success and was the first of many more to come. Over 30 offenders participated in the two hour program providing a diverse array of talent. The program was divided into four categories; solo singing, solo rap, musical group and poetry. All categories included many original songs and pieces of poetry that expressed insight into the lives of offenders. Astonishing guitar skills were displayed in songs like "Free Bird" and a jazz medley. The offenders performed two shows one for staff and another for general population and both groups were impressed by the talent CIF offenders had to offer.

Sarah Peckham, Wayne Scaife and Chawn Davis of Pendleton Correctional Facility delivered twelve blankets to the Indiana Women's Prison Wee Ones Nursery program. The blankets were made by offenders who are part of the Inside Out Dads program at Pendleton. The babies and their mothers appreciated the time, effort and thought put into the blankets.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility held a Subway food sale with proceeds being donated to the Central Noble Food Pantry. Donation boxes for non perishable food items have been placed throughout the facility so offenders and staff have the opportunity to help the food pantry this holiday season.

The Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit at the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) was involved in an outside work crew of 24 men helping the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation (HVAF) with winterization of their scatter site properties for homeless veterans. The event was a huge success and HVAF wishes to be more active in partnering with IREF on whatever level is needed.

Madison Correctional Facility's garden produced more than 4,000 pounds of produce this year. Radishes, cucumbers, yellow squash, zucchini, green peppers, banana peppers, green beans, tomatoes, egg plant, and watermelon were all grown. The majority of the produce was donated to the Salvation Army of Madison, and the rest was given to Aramark to supplement offender meals. The garden was cultivated, planted, watered, and harvested by offenders. The facility has also acquired a new green house. The garden workers saved many seeds from the produce grown this year and from the plants that are located around the facility. As soon as the greenhouse is operational, they will begin growing plants for next spring. The green house should allow the facility to be able to give vegetables and other items to both the City of Madison as well as the Salvation Army year round.

Pendleton Correctional Facility held a PLUS Program graduation for 45 offenders. Family members who attended the event were treated to a meal with the offenders. The Honorable Jose D. Salinas of the Marion County Superior Re-Entry Court served as the guest speaker.

The Community Service staff at Westville Correctional Facility have received 58 boxes of men's clothing, including warm winter sweaters and coats. The donations are from the Orphan Grain Train in Elizabethtown. Westville releases, on an average, 150 offenders a month. The warm clothing donations will allow the facility to release offenders in appropriate winter attire.

Superintendent Stanley Knight extends his congratulations to Joshua Mattox, Casey Harder and Robert Myers on their promotion to the rank of Sergeant at the Putnamville Correctional Facility.

Superintendent William K. Wilson proudly announced staff promotions at the Indiana State Prison. Anthony Watson and Steven Hough were promoted to Correctional Lieutenant. James Tibbs, Tim Redden, and Matthew Phillips promoted to Correctional Sergeants. Congratulations to all!

Miami Correctional Facility's Correctional Employee Appreciation Committee held a successful fundraiser selling chicken and noodles with mashed potatoes to staff. The committee raised more than \$200 to be used for employee appreciation activities during the year.

Maria Acosta, Correctional Officer Trainee from the Indiana State Prison was presented the Teamwork Award during graduation of the Regional Training Academy by ISP Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Ron Neal, who served as the keynote speaker for the graduating class.

Weekly Views

November 30, 2012

Through the efforts of Parole Agents George Armond and Paul Rains, the Gary Parole District has found yet another way to partner with the City of Gary. Starting in December, several unemployed parolees will be donating their time for community service at the Humane Society of Northwest Indiana. Everyone involved is extremely excited about this new partnership. Congratulations to both Agent Armond and Agent Rains for their efforts in coming up with this new program! "Everyone needs a second chance...from puppies to humans!"

Commissioner Bruce Lemmon presented Putnamville Correctional Facility Physical Plant staff with Commissioner Coins in recognition of their contribution to the community. Recipients Charles Sage,

Charles Knuf, Brian Archer and Mike Riley volunteered their time to construct and install gates and rail fencing along the Vandalia Trail Corridor. The four mile trail is Putnam County's portion of the National Road Heritage Trail. (see photo below of Sage, Knuf, Archer, and Riley on the Vandalia Trail)

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility, in support of Central Noble Food Pantry, continued to hold fund raisers and collect non perishable food to help provide a Thanksgiving Holiday Meal to those in need. Boxes were placed throughout the facility for staff and offenders to donate.

The Jaycees, one of the offender organizations at the Indiana State Prison, donated \$1,000 to purchase 112 gifts. The gifts were wrapped and donated to the Michigan City Salvation Army.

Several of the Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach offenders donated their time and talents to complete 200 sets of hats, scarves & mittens for the Toy Store at the Centenary Christian Church of Indianapolis for the families that visit the food pantry.



Staff from PEN Products' Re-entry Division spoke to three criminal justice classes in the past two weeks, one from Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis and two classes from Anderson University. Also included were tours of the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility and Correctional Industrial Facility. Students were given an inside look into our state prison system and more specifically the role that correctional industries plays in reducing prison idleness and preparing offenders for meaningful careers after release.

The Correctional Industrial Facility received two new ICAN puppies. "Teller" and "Holly" were the 10th and 11th dogs to enter the program. The Indiana Canine Assistant Network Program (ICAN) began at the Correctional Industrial Facility on May 22, 2012. The program started out with 8 handlers, with the first group of dogs arriving on July 7, 2012. Currently, the program has expanded to 11 handlers and 11 dogs. The dogs are taught 50 commands over a 2 year period. Once the dogs learn all of the commands, they are ready to be turned over to a client as service animals. Some of the clients the service dogs assist are those who are autistic, have mobility/balance issues, and who are diabetic. (See photos below of Teller (left) and Holly (right))



Offenders in the Therapeutic Community (TC) at Westville Correctional Facility have once again dazzled residents at the Life Care Nursing Center in Michigan City with their decorative, festive Thanksgiving cards and decorations. The offenders in the TC adopted the 102 bed Life Care Center about two years ago and have since been supplying the center with holiday greetings and decorations to the center during the major holidays. The offender's jovial greeting cards, funny words of wit and ornaments help with holiday spirits at the Life Care Center the patients always look forward to the next holiday delivery.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) held a recognition ceremony for students who have completed educational and vocational programs offered by Oakland City University, ARAMARK, and the United States Department of Labor (USDOL). Students in the Building Maintenance, Business Technology, In2Work/Culinary Arts, General Education, and USDOL programs were presented with certificates of completion. Following the ceremony, the offenders visited with guests during a reception, which included snacks prepared by current Culinary Arts students. IREF Superintendent Steven H. Keever, along with other IREF staff, Oakland City University President Dr. Marley, class instructors, and other guests attended the ceremony.

Superintendent Stanley Knight and staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility extend their best wishes to Carpenter Foreman William Fisher who is retiring after 21 years of service and Secretary Paula Alberts who is leaving the Department after 9 years of service.

December 7, 2012

Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon addressed CLIFF (Clean Lifestyle is Freedom Forever) offenders and visitors during a Family Unification program held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Commissioner Lemmon stressed the importance of maintaining family relationships and its correlation with recidivism. The program is coordinated by CLIFF ARS Lauren Orme.

Offenders housed at Edinburgh Correctional Facility raised \$600, through fundraisers, that were donated to The American Legion Department of Indiana Children's Education and Welfare Committee's Emergency Financial Assistance Program (EFAP). The EFAP is designed to provide immediate financial assistance to

families of veterans with minor children in the home, in order to protect the health and well-being of such minor children until more permanent aid and assistance can be obtained.

The Rockville Correctional Facility held its 6th Annual Field of Flags ceremony in honor of all veterans and servicemen and women past and present. This year, the facility was able to more than double last year's donation to the Indiana Military Family Relief Fund with a total of \$450. Thank you one and all for your continued generosity and support!

It's beginning to smell a lot like Christmas! The Indiana Women's Prison In2Work class decided to begin the Christmas season with a tree covered with edible decorations. All of the decorations were made from scratch, from the braided bread topping, to the orange, apple, grape slices and gingerbread men ornaments with peanuts and cranberry garland. (see photo right)

PEN Products Central Office staff collected and delivered a carload of food products, hygiene products, children's clothing and toys for the Westminster Neighborhood Ministries (WNM). WNM serves the near eastside of Indianapolis, operating a food pantry, preschool and after school program, as well as serving 225 families with a Christmas basket program.

Dorothy Morris is the new Wabash Valley Training Department Coordinator! Dorothy, has been on the job at Wabash for five years as a Caseworker, serving with distinction in the Youth Incarcerated as Adults unit. She brings a wealth of experience to her new job. Dorothy is the facility instructor for the PPCC (Promoting Positive Correctional Culture) and Calming the Storm. Ms. Morris is a proud graduate of the Commissioner's Experienced and Emerging Leadership Program, and received the Indiana Criminal Justice Association's 2012 Counselor of the Year Award!

The Correctional Industrial Facility had its annual visit from the Gospel Echo Ministry. Seven Mennonite volunteers along with other facility staff and volunteer offenders from the PLUS program delivered over 10,000 cookies to the offender population and staff. Each bundle contained 6 cookies, a bundle of holiday cards and a small address book. Gospel Echo Ministry is a Christ-centered ministry headquartered in Goshen, IN. Currently, 74,000 prisoners across North America study Bible courses provided free of charge by Gospel Echoes.

Staff at Westville Correctional Facility have once again proven their dedication to the American Red Cross (ARC) and shown their empathy for those less fortunate. The latest blood drive exceeded the ARC goal by 20 units, bringing in a total of 67 units. For this achievement, WCC received a special commendation by the Indiana/Ohio Blood Region. Staff cover for other staff and pull double duty to allow donors to take time from their busy schedules to give blood. "The support and teamwork among our staff remains remarkable," expressed Assistant Superintendent Mike Scott.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) celebrated the retirement of Jim Dibble, Physical Plant Director, after 28 years with the state. Dibble was presented with a plaque thanking him for his years of service. "I've worked with Mr. Dibble since I came to MCF and have found him to be a very good man and an excellent employee. The number of maintenance employees has dwindled over the years through attrition and budget cuts, but the work has continued to increase.

Dibble and his crew have always met the challenge and kept the facility running in tip-top shape. I wish him well in his future endeavors and am proud to have served the facility with him," Superintendent Mark Sevier said. (see photo left of Jim Dibble with Superintendent Sevier)

The new AVIAN System was installed at the Indiana State Prison and a demonstration was given to administrators. The system is a heartbeat detection system used to screen vehicular traffic exiting the facility. This device will detect the presence of a heart beat of a person who may be hiding in, under or within a container that may be being transported by the vehicle. The additional piece of equipment will help prevent possible escape attempts.

Lemuel Vega with Christmas Behind Bars was at the Pendleton Correctional Facility with a group of volunteers passing out Christmas sacks to offenders and staff.



December 14, 2012

Weekly Views

Under the direction of facility volunteer Donna Olson, a group of Plainfield Correctional Facility PLUS offenders, known as the "Knit Wits", completed more than 50 knitted hats and scarves to be sent to orphanages in Krasnoyarsk, Russia. This is the second shipment of knitted wear for the orphanage this year.

Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility adopted 15 children from a local women's shelter in Albion, IN for the Holiday season. Staff purchased presents to be presented at the shelter's annual Christmas party.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) donated \$1,000 to the Homes for Wounded Warriors Program, to help build a house for a wounded veteran in Kokomo, IN. The money was raised by a PLUS

program White Castle hamburger sale and proceeds from the Fresh Favorites Program. Indiana has one of the highest numbers of veterans per capita, with many returning from war with physical limitations. The Wounded Warriors Program provides assistance to these men and women, improving the quality of their lives in many ways.

IDOC Central Office participated in a "Toys for Tots" toy drive this Holiday season. Over the past month, staff donated 102 toys that will be delivered to Hoosier children. "Toys for Tots" is a program run by the United States Marine Corps Reserve that provides toys to children whose parents cannot afford to buy them gifts for Christmas.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility staff went Christmas shopping to help over 200 Knox County kids during the 15th annual Shop with a Cop event. The Vincennes Fraternal Order of Police sponsored event was filled with joy and laughter as children involved in the Head Start Program happily gathered toys and needed clothing, \$170 worth per child.

Thanks to the generosity of staff, the Pendleton Correctional Facility was able to donate 157 food items to the Operation Love Ministries located in Anderson, IN. This organization operates a food pantry and offers a variety of other services to Madison County residents in need.

Staff from Pendleton Correctional Facility's PLUS program visited the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) to present a check in the amount of \$1000 to the Rockville PLUS program for cases of paper, pens, pencils and several copies of *The Purpose Driven Life*. Pendleton staff enjoyed a tour of the facility to learn more about the other innovative programs offered at RCF. The RCF PLUS program is extremely grateful for this generous donation from Pendleton. (see photo below of Pendleton Officer Tesdale, Assistant Superintendent Andrew Cole and Chaplain Peterson from Pendleton and Rockville Chaplain Hayes, Superintendent Julie Stout and Casework Manager Christine Barclay.)

Team DOC announced its next racing event, the American Lung Association Fight for Air Climb on March 9, 2013 in downtown Indianapolis. Support lung health and earn bragging rights by climbing 35 flights of stairs in Regions Tower. Visit www.fightforairclimb.org and search for Team DOC to learn more, register, or donate.

Ann Keil, a reporter from WXIN Fox 59, was on grounds at the Indiana Women's Prison to interview two offenders and Psychiatric Social Services Specialist Allison Green. The story is about one offender in the Wee Ones program and another offender who is receiving help with foster care from a family in the community through Stepping Stones Ministries. Mrs. Green shared her vast knowledge as she spoke about the Wee Ones program.



Madison Correctional Facility held its Celebration of Achievement. Over 200 offenders graduated from various programs, including Business Technology, GED, Growth Responsibility Integrity and Purpose, Residential Reformatory Re-entry Program, Master Student Master Employee, Cosmetology, and the vocational apprenticeship. The keynote speaker was a former inmate who returned to the facility to speak about how the programs she was involved in while incarcerated have helped her turn her life around. The ceremony concluded by recognizing Case Manager Steve Clark who will be retiring on December 21, 2012 after 25 years of service.

Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) celebrated the season with their annual Christmas Luncheon and holiday gathering. The scrumptious meal of ham, turkey and all the trimmings was hosted by Superintendent Levenhagen and prepared by the facility's Culinary Arts Vocational Education program, with desserts provided by ARAMARK. WCC's executive and administrative staff were happy to help in the celebration by serving the holiday meal to over 300 staff and contract employees.

PEN Products held its annual Board meeting. PEN Products presented strategic goals, performance metrics, re-entry initiatives, new products and new joint venture partnerships. Board members, IDOC Superintendents, joint venture partners, and a work release offender attended the meeting.

In observance of the holiday season, the Gospel Echoes team distributed 3100 cookie gift bags and shared the gospel with offenders and staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility.

Weekly Views

December 21, 2012

Plainfield Correctional Facility delivered toys to students throughout Hendricks County Community Schools. Deb Higgins coordinated with 17 schools to give 128 students gifts for the holiday season. The special Deliveries were made by Santa himself! The facility's Education Director, George Shepherd, reprised his role as Santa for the 12th year to visit with students and classes. The facility received over \$1000 in donations from the offender PLUS program, DUKE Energy, Aramark, Kairos, and staff contributions. For 15 years, Plainfield staff have been purchasing gifts for needy students across Hendricks County. (see photo below of Santa Shepherd)

In observance of Christmas, the Shifting Gears program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility, with the assistance of PEN Products and Bicycle Garage Indy, donated 51 bicycles to elementary school students and to Holy Cross St. Vincent de Paul Church for homeless individuals and indigent families.

The Correctional Industrial Facility was pleased to support American Legion Post #53 by donating \$800 to aid in the effort of building two wheelchair ramps for WWII Veteran George Ellis. The money was raised through the visitor's Fresh Favorites program through Aramark. The donation was accepted by American Legion Post #53 Officers Gene Herkless and Joe Peeper.

Gospel Echoes Volunteers came to the Indiana State Prison and distributed homemade cookies to the entire offender population and staff. Officer Dell thanked all staff for being so kind and courteous during the distribution. The Prison Ministry was founded by her great aunt and uncle who are CEO and President of the company.



Madison Correctional Facilities' (MCU) offenders performed "A Charlie Brown Christmas" for MCU and Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility staff, their families, and their fellow offenders. This production was a huge success and ran solely by offenders. The offenders made the props, costumes, and organized the entire event. Santa and Mrs. Claus visited the staff show for pictures. The offenders were thrilled to do it and are looking forward to their next production. (see photo left of the cast)

Madison Juvenile presented a check of \$1,239 to Girls, Inc. The money was raised through a variety of activities including a walk-a-thon by the students and silent auction for handmade quilts. A hotdog dinner raised over \$600 and \$300 was raised from the community's participation at the facility sponsored Community Day.



Miami Correctional Facility sold over 845 candy grams to staff during the month of December as a way to say thank you to each other. The Correctional Employee Appreciation Committee started selling the candy grams during the Holiday season two years ago as a way for staff to wish each other well. Although it was not meant to be a fund raiser, but just a fun way to share the holiday spirit, the committee raised more than \$400 this year. Sales far exceeded all expectations!

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility has provided a \$1,500 boost to the Sullivan County Brown Baggers School Food Program. The funds will help the youngsters they feed during the upcoming Christmas break from school. The donation was made on behalf of ARAMARK, through their Community Involvement Fund. \$3,200 was also donated this past April to the program. (see photo right of the check presentation)

The students in Mrs. Richmond's classes at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility read the book *A Christmas Carol* and were motivated to make a difference in the lives of those less fortunate during this Christmas season. The students brainstormed ideas and decided that they would make Christmas cards for the children at Riley Children's Hospital. The students ended up making 163 cards. The Director and Head Nurse of Riley North were very grateful and appreciative of the students' efforts, and said that the children would enjoy the cards.

During the Staff Recall/Christmas party at Chain O'Lakes, Rebecca Cornett was named employee of the quarter. Superintendent Kathy Griffin handed out gifts to all Chain O'Lakes staff saying "I just want to take this time to say thanks for making 2012 a good year at Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility. Your professionalism and pride in what you do has shown up in full force.



A blood drive was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility by the Indiana Blood Center resulting in 29 units of blood being donated by employees. Donors were provided with a limited edition Colts Coach Pagano football in appreciation of their participation.

Happy Holidays!

Weekly Views

The IDOC Central Office FISH Employee Appreciation Committee hosted the Annual Holiday Breakfast for Central Office Staff. Everyone enjoyed a wide array of pastries and a yogurt parfait bar. Two very special guests stopped by to visit with Commissioner Lemmon, Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer, Beth Anderson, and one of Santa's helpers, Teresa Turner. (see photo below)



The Putnamville Correctional Facility recognized IDOC's first graduates of the Navigators program. The ceremony was organized by Volunteer Coordinator Derek Smith with Superintendent Stanley Knight giving the opening remarks. Guest speakers included program facilitators Charles Broughton, Roy Boissy and Deputy Director of Volunteer and Religious Services David Liebel. Navigators teach bible stories using hand motions to enhance memory and spiritual development.

Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility has been busy collecting donations for multiple non-profit organizations. Staff delivered Christmas presents to Noble House Ministries Women's shelter. Executive Director Debi Pfaffenberger thanked the staff of Chain O'Lakes for their continued support. A total of 404 food items were collected from the staff and donated to the

Central Noble Food Pantry. Chain O' Lakes also conducted a food sale with the proceeds going to Noble House and the Central Noble Food Pantry.

Staff at the Pendleton Correctional Facility provided a generous donation to Operation Love Ministries located in Anderson, Indiana. The donations included children's winter clothing items which were collected in connection with the facility's annual "Tree of Warmth" project. Forty pillows, eight cases of pop, and over 150 food items were also donated to the organization that provides a variety of services to Madison County residents in need. (see photo right)



Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 donated \$300 to the Miami County Military Rites Unit to help fund the American Legion's fourth grade Flag Education Testing Program contest. Members of the unit were present at the Legion's meeting to present them with a check. The testing program holds an essay contest for fourth graders about the American Flag. They students must also take a test.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) underwent their reaccreditation audit by the American Correctional Association. LJCF scored a 100% on the mandatory standards and a 97.8% on the non mandatory standards. The auditors were extremely complimentary about the interactions they saw between the staff and students, the staff with each other, and the students with each other.

As a gesture of goodwill and expressing social altruism, the PLUS Program at the Indiana State Prison put together Christmas bags filled with holiday treats for the men on X-row. "Since the majority of these men on X-Row don't receive visits nor have funds to purchase items from the facility's commissary, the PLUS program thought it would be a kind gesture to give something to the less fortunate within our community," said Randy Miller, Project Chairman. "Projects such as this allow the PLUS participants to engage in pro-social behavior and truly live-out the five core values of Compassion, Responsibility, Tolerance, Honesty, and Respect", said M.D. Williams, Program Director. (see photo left of the PLUS offenders preparing the goodie bags)



Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) and Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) held a two week training course at the facility for the recipients of the dogs graduating from the program. The dogs graduating will be a diabetic alert dog for a 15-year-old girl, a total assist dog for a man paralyzed in the Indiana State Fair stage collapse, a companion dog for a lady with Spina Bifida, and a therapy dog for a pediatrician. The opportunity to train with the dogs' recipients enriches the offenders' lives and teaches skills that are important and transferable to their lives when they are released from prison.

PLUS offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility made a sympathy card imprinted with hands and wrote a letter of condolence to the families of the victims of the Newton, Connecticut shooting. The gesture was initiated by offenders Andrew Devore and Travis Lyell. The offenders used supplies that were available to them and made a card decorating it with imprints of their hands and words of encouragement, "We wish that there was more that we could do to express our hearts to you all, to lessen and to diminish the pain and hurt that you feel."

The Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana is pleased to announce that it will once again be awarding seven scholarships, ranging from \$1000 to \$5000 each. For more information or to apply, visit www.cpafi.org. The deadline for submission is February 4, 2013.

Weekly Views

December 28, 2012

Carrie Thorman, Edinburgh Correctional Facility Program Coordinator, delivered nearly 350 Christmas cards to Riley Children's Hospital just in time for Christmas. Each card was hand drawn, colored and stuffed into brightly colored envelopes by offenders participating in Edinburgh's Reformatory, Residential, Re-entry Program (RRRP). The intent of this program is to instill a set of core values into the offenders who successfully complete the requirements of the program. The offenders enjoyed making these cards and hope they

brought a ray of happiness to the children and their families during the holiday season. (see photo right of Carrie Thorman)

The New Castle Correctional Facility donated 662 pounds of food collected from staff, offenders, and the facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) Unit to God's Grain Bin, a local food bank in New Castle, IN.

The PLUS students at Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) made their first donation of loom-knitted hats, scarves, tube-socks and a baby blanket to Jason Mitchell of the Logansport Emmaus Mission. Since January,

Chaplain Hedges has been teaching volunteer PLUS students loom-knitting as a way to give to the community and earn service points required for their program. Once a student learns to do the loom-knitting he then teaches another student. A loom-knitting project may have several successive students working on it before it is completed. (see photo left)

The Correctional Industrial Facility was pleased to close the year with a few fun events. The Dog Scouts of America, a non-profit organization, donated gift bags containing toys and treats to the FIDO (Faith+Inmates+Dogs=Opportunity) and 9-Lives programs. The animals were eager to receive their gifts. The facility also made brighter for a few local families. Staff adopted a local family with three children and helped provide Christmas gifts and gift cards for them. The gifts were supplied by generous facility staff through personal donations. The facility was also able to donate \$250 to the Pendleton Elementary school through the "Helping Hands" program. The money was generated through the facility's Fresh Favorites program.

Congratulations to Pendleton Correctional Facility Case Worker Chad Smith who was recognized during a ceremony in the Superintendent's Office in connection with his promotion to the position of Correctional Lieutenant. (see photo right of Major Cathy Elliott, Lieutenant Chad Smith, and Lead Captain Michael Conyers)

Miami Correctional Facility promoted four people to sergeant and one person to lieutenant. Staff who were promoted to sergeant include Justin Crousore, Dale Chasteen, Quentin Coppennoll and James Marshall, and Christopher Meredith was promoted to lieutenant.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Fatherhood Program made its final 2012 donation to North Knox Social Ministries, with a \$1,000 gift. This year was marked by strong community support from WVCF with Fatherhood supplying over \$10,000 to not-for-profits, benefitting children. The WVCF PLUS unit made total cash contributions of over \$14,000 to worthy causes and donated nearly 3,000 handcrafted quilts to benefit those in need! (see photo below of Community Service Director Michele Lincoln, Cheryl Smith, NKSM and Re-Entry Coordinator Mark Mackey)

Offenders at Westville Correctional Facility completed their Inside/Out Dad's program just in time for the holidays. At the conclusion of their 12 week curriculum, offenders made videos to their children sending messages of hope and wishing them "Happy Holidays". Some offenders choose to read a story or recite a poem, some even got a little sentimental when talking about the Holidays. The videos are sent to the children as a reminder of their father's commitment to be a productive part of their lives, inside and out of prison.

Students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility made sun-catchers for residents at Rawlin's House. The sun-catchers were delivered to the nursing home on Christmas Eve. Residents were very appreciative of these Christmas gifts.

