

January 4, 2013

Weekly Views

The USS Vincennes Ticonderoga Class Missile Cruiser has left "port" from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) bound for a permanent home in Vincennes, IN. The model was presented in appreciation to former Vincennes Mayor Belle Kasting. Ms. Kasting is a long time member of the WVCF Community Advisory Board and active supporter of the facility PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) unit. PLUS offender Larry James constructed the scale model. The "ship" took over 1000 hours to complete and is made entirely from card stock paper, cardboard, thread, paint, and glue. The "real" Vincennes was launched in the 1980's and retired nearly two years ago. (see photo right)

Several residents from the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility assisted staff at Community Action of Greater Indianapolis, Inc. in preparing more than 1,000 food boxes for the agency's Holiday Meal Program. Director Cynthia Taylor and other agency representatives presented the group of residents with certificates of gratitude for their work in feeding the needy.



IDOC Superintendents and facility staff from across the state joined Central Office for a preview of a new documentary featuring the Indiana State Prison (ISP). This two-part documentary series, titled "Life and Death: Inside the Indiana State Prison", was filmed at ISP in May/June 2012 by a production crew from Plum Pictures Ltd out of London. The documentary features interviews between the host, Sir Trevor McDonald, and ISP Superintendent Bill Wilson, staff and offenders. The series aims to give audiences insight into the day-to-day life inside one of America's oldest maximum security prisons. During Sir Trevor McDonald's journey inside the wall, he visits the facility's Barber Shop, Administrative Segregation, and even Death Row. The documentary will be broadcast this month in primetime on ITV1, the UK's highest-rated commercial channel, with expectations for a future U.S. airdate. Following the premier, Superintendent Wilson, Public Information Officer Pam James, and Correctional Lieutenant Curtis Gillespie spoke about their experiences in filming the documentary and answered questions from the audience.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility is pleased to announce the promotion of three staff members. Correctional Officers Sean Reger and Jason Servizzi have been promoted to the rank of Sergeant, and Sergeant Steven Hill was promoted to Lieutenant. Best of luck to these employees as they begin their new roles at the facility!

Offenders at Edinburgh Correctional Facility completed several fundraisers in 2012 with the proceeds donated to several worthy causes including the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Special Olympics Indiana, Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence, and American Legion. 1,500 pounds of fresh vegetables from the facility's garden were also donated to the Hope Food Bank. A total \$2,200 was donated throughout the year. All of the money was raised through fundraisers where the offenders are offered the opportunity to purchase outside food items from McDonalds, Arby's, Kentucky Fried Chicken, and other local restaurants. All of the profits from the food sales are donated to charities and worthwhile causes or events. Edinburgh is already preparing to jump in head first in 2013, participating in the annual Polar Plunge which raises money to assist Special Olympics. The event takes place in February 2013.



Bill Glass Champions for Life came to the Indiana Women's Prison. David Pendleton, a ventriloquist, participated in the morning session. The offenders were entertained by a "dummy" prisoner and a "dummy" grandma that brought humor and lightheartedness to the New Year. In the afternoon session, the Zak Alwin band from Campus Life played Christian rap and various melodies. In both sessions, the offenders broke off into small groups with Campus Life college student to discuss their faith and place with God.

The Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit at the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) donated a dollhouse to the facility's Family Education Department Children's Visitation Center (CVC). INVET Resident Denver Claywell (pictured left) devoted several months renovating the structure and foundation of the dollhouse, which was in disrepair when it was received by the unit. Upgrades include new doors, trimmings, fencing, outside steps, fresh paint, spiral staircases, and hardwood floors which he fashioned from Popsicle sticks. Claywell also added a steeple and a three story fireplace, which he decorated with pebbles and rocks he hand-picked from around the facility grounds. The dollhouse's new wallpaper was donated by the Sherwin William Avon store. The new house will be displayed in the CVC's play area.

January 11, 2013

Weekly Views

At a press conference in the Indiana Statehouse, Governor-elect Mike Pence announced the reappointment of Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon. Pence remarked on Commissioner Lemmon's impressive record of accomplishment since taking office in 2011. Following the press conference, Commissioner Lemmon shared the announcement with IDOC staff, along with his encouragement to continue our efforts to "establish Indiana as one of the safest places to live, work and visit."

PEN Products and the Branchville Correctional Facility began a partnership with a polymer company to recover different types of plastics and paper. The operation is currently in a test mode.

Offenders are separating different types of plastics from car door panels, diaper manufacturing operations and retail outlets. This operation helps local manufacturers keep recyclables out of landfills and creates offender jobs.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) received four new ICAN puppies. Star, Tracker, Alli and Cosmo were the latest dogs to enter the successful program. The Indiana Canine Assistant Network Program (ICAN) began at the Correctional Industrial Facility on May 22, 2012. The program at CIF has expanded to 11 handlers and 11 dogs. The dogs are taught 50 commands over a two year period. Once the dogs learn all of the commands, they are ready to be turned over to a client as service animals. Melody, Aria, Minuet, Harmony, Maestro and Duet were sent to the Indiana Women's Prison for the next phase of their training. The service animals receive training from multiple handlers so that they will be accustomed to receiving commands from different people. This ensures that when they are placed with a client they will readily accept commands from them. Some of the clients the service dogs assist are those who are autistic, have mobility/balance issues, and who are diabetic. (see photo left of Cosmo and handler)



Offenders at Plainfield Correctional Facility received a visit from Coach Don Nava of The Totally Fit Life. Coach Nava was able to conduct a workshop with several offenders from PCF and teach them the values and importance of living the totally fit life. Coach Nava explained that the Totally Fit Life is NOT just about exercise or eating; it's about healthy relationships, spiritual growth, and living a purpose-filled life. The Totally Fit Life is built upon grace and not guilt, encouragement and not condemnation.

Reception-Diagnostic Center (RDC) Superintendent Jim Wynn is pleased to announce the recent promotion of Nikki Reed to Correctional Sergeant. Congratulations!

A student from Indiana University-Kokomo, Angie Smitherman, began an internship at the Pendleton Correctional Facility working in the Office of Administrative Assistant. She will be working one day a week in conjunction with her studies in a Criminal Justice Masters program.

The Terre Haute Union Hospital based Family Medical Center (FMC) has 200 much needed quilts, thanks to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) PLUS unit. Over 200 baby quilts will be put to good use by the FMC, which helps lower income women visiting the clinic for prenatal care. The quilts are part of a care package provided to the new moms. WVCF Corizon staffer Dr. Brad Huffey helped organize the quilt project after hearing about the need from FMC social workers. (see photo right of Pictured from left: Laura Dever, Nancy Haynes and Dr. Brad Huffey)

There was a Cupcake War at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Students in the In 2 Work and Culinary Arts programs baked and decorated cupcakes in the theme of "Dreaming of Spring." Aramark staff Mrs. Hess and Physical Plant Director Bob Flynn judged the cupcakes on taste and presentation. The winners were the In 2 Work students with their "Snowmen in the Barnyard" display.

The SL One Unit at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) will graduate 22 offenders from their Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP). These select offenders have successfully completed the six month extensive curriculum. This is the unit's fourth RRRP class, totally 51 graduates in all. A new RRRP class of 17 will begin on Monday.



The Indiana Blood Center Bloodmobile was at the Plainfield Correctional Facility for two days, during which 26 PCF and RDC staff donate blood, and those who signed up to donate received a limited edition Chuck Pagano Colts football! The Indiana Blood Center is looking forward to coming back for two more days in April!

The staff at the Indiana State Prison held a blood drive. This provided staff with a good opportunity to start the year with giving to others. The American Red Cross came to the facility for the donations.

The RDC Activity Committee recently made a \$100 donation to the Riley Children's Foundation, where it will be matched by Circle K as part of the Holiday Match Challenge.

January 18, 2013

Weekly Views

Frank Littlejohn is the new Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Assistant Superintendent of Operations! Wabash Superintendent Dick Brown said Frank Littlejohn brings over 16 years of experience as an Officer, Sergeant, Lieutenant and Wabash Correctional Police Officer (CPO) Commander to his new assignment. Littlejohn has served as an Assistant Shift Supervisor, Housing Lieutenant over two segregation units and been a member of the WVCF Emergency Squad. Superintendent Brown noted Littlejohn has been an Internal Affairs Investigator since 2006 and graduated from the first IDOC CPO Academy. Congratulations Assistant Superintendent Littlejohn! (see photo right)

The Executive Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) are quite pleased with the results from efforts to improve staff attendance. During the 2012 calendar year, 59 staff did not call off sick. This means that 13% of WCC's workforce had perfect attendance. This type of team work and dedication improves staff morale and saves taxpayer dollars. These 59 employees will be publically recognized at WCC's next staff assembly.



Groups from the Indianapolis Women's Chorus and various religious sects came to the Indiana Women's Prison for the Winter Solstice. The Winter Solstice service summarized the movement from winter darkness to spring light. The metaphor for dark encouraged offenders to learn from the pain and difficulties of life, knowing the hope of light is promised, the light that moves toward celebration, new birth and renewed life. The darkness to light metaphor was detailed through music, song and dance that was enjoyed by all.

Renita Hills, renowned inspirational speaker and domestic violence survivor, spoke to offenders assigned to the Putnamville Correctional Facility's Pre-release Re-entry class. Ms. Hills told her personal story of physical abuse, vindication, and the long road of healing and the importance of forgiveness. As an advocate for victims of domestic violence, Ms. Hills has been presented before the General Assembly, served as a Domestic Violence Panelist, and championed causes promoting teen self-esteem and domestic violence awareness and prevention. (see photo left)

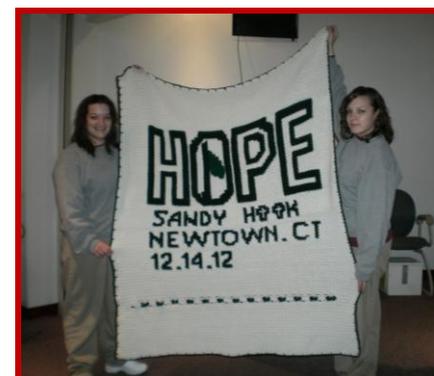


The Plainfield Correctional Facility (PCF) received a visit from Pastor Dean Bouzeous, a sports minister from The Gathering Place of Greenwood, IN and his basketball team, the Greenwood All Stars. Pastor Bouzeous gave the offenders a sermon focusing on their game plan for life. The Greenwood All Stars played a game against Plainfield's offender team, the PCF All Stars. The PCF All Stars were able to pull out a 63-44 victory over the Greenwood All Stars for the first time in five years!

The Correctional Industrial Facility recognized two employees for their hard work that has saved thousands of dollars for the facility. Maintenance Foremen Jeff Riggs and Jeff Pyle were both honored for their continuing effort of installing heavy duty security screens in the facility housing units. The screens are manufactured, painted and installed all at the facility, saving thousands by not paying outside contractors. Great job guys!

The Rockville Correctional Facility PLUS offenders donated a hand-crocheted blanket to the Sandy Hook Elementary School. The word "HOPE" is a design created in Newton, Connecticut where the flag in the "O" represents an iconic flag that stands in the town. There are 26 hearts on the bottom of the blanket to represent the 26 lives lost during the tragedy. Along with the blanket, the PLUS offenders created a card that included a check in the amount of \$100 to benefit "Sandy Hook Promise", a non-profit corporation created by members of the Newtown community in hopes of affecting positive change in response to the events on December 14, 2012. For more information about this program, visit www.sandyhookpromise.org (Pictured below are offenders Tosha Fording and Jessica Boyd holding the blanket.)

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) recognized the accomplishments of many staff. Those honored as Employees of the Quarter include: MAMP Director Robert Eutz – Employee of the Month, Lieutenant Matthew Clothier – Supervisor of the Month and Officer Jean LeJeune – Custody Officer of the Month. Among those honored with quarterly Leadership Challenge Awards were Sergeant Cody Bockover – Inspire a Shared Vision Award, Correctional Release Assistant Matthew Bishir – Enabling Others to Act Award, Correctional Caseworker Kelly Bradley – Challenge the Process Award, Sergeant Jeff Childers – Encourage the Heart Award, and Sergeant Hardy Scott – Model the Way Award. Miami Superintendent Mark Sevier also announced the promotion of David Waggoner to Maintenance Supervisor 3. Waggoner "has consistently accepted new job duties and responsibilities and works hard to maintain a safe and comfortable environment for staff and offenders," stated Superintendent Sevier.



January 25, 2013

Weekly Views

Utilizing start-up funding from a U.S. Department of Justice Second Chance Act Grant and the collaborative efforts of PEN Products, the Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired, and the Indianapolis Re-entry Education Facility (IREF), a Braille/Accessible Media transcription project has been established at the IREF Education Building. This project will be a satellite operation under the direction and oversight of the Miami Accessible Media Project, located at Miami Correctional Facility. This provides the opportunity for IREF residents who are Braille/accessible media transcriptionists to continue performing the useful transcription work, during the remainder of their time at IREF. The project expands the capacity of the Miami Accessible Media Project, which saved the State of

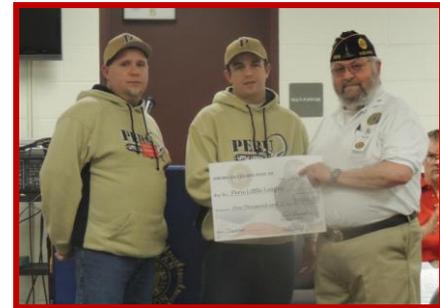
Indiana \$442,000 last year in the production of school educational materials in Braille, large print, and e-Publication/Accessible Medial formats for Indiana's blind and visually impaired students.

Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) American Legion Post 555 presented a check to the Peru Little League for \$1,000. In appreciation of the donation, the Peru Little League (PLL) will place a sign on all five of the ball fields featuring the MCF American Legion Post 555's sponsorship. The legion collected the money through offender food sales. (See photo right of PPL President Blake Barnes, PLL Vice President Sam Childers, and American Legion Post 555 Commander Earl Kimmerling)

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) held a two day pie sale to benefit the facilities employee appreciation fund. Staff members donated over 50 delicious pies some of which came from local bakeries and some that were made from scratch by CIF's talented cooks. Everyone was in agreement that the New Year diet was officially over. The sale generated over \$200 for the appreciation fund which will be used for the employee appreciation week of fun in the spring.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) participated in a project creating Valentine letters and cards that were sent to the U.S. forces, thanking them for their service and dedication to our country. IWP's Recreation Department sent out the first batch of 70 letters & cards that were created during a card making group initiated by Recreation Leader Maggie Ballard. When word of the project spread, additional help came from the staff and offenders of Ms. Denise Tague's Culinary Arts class, Mrs. Brenda Gullett's Horticulture class and Ms. Tamara Nance's Business Tech class. The collaborative efforts created 122 additional cards and letters that were sent to the troops! "It was really wonderful to see, not only the offender population working well together" said Mr. Dennis Evans, Recreation Director, "but to see the IWP Recreation Department and the staff of Oakland City University working graciously together for our Troops to achieve our goal was rewarding."

The Reception-Diagnostic Center hosted the Community Advisory Board meeting for the Plainfield Correctional Complex with a special guest in attendance. Chris Meloy, retired Superintendent and Parole Board Chairman, was on hand as one of the representatives from the Hendricks County Sheriff's Department. RDC also hosted a group of 22 students from DePauw University, who toured the facility and learned about the DOC intake process.



District 45 State Representative Kreg Battles is the newest member of the Wabash Valley Community Advisory Board. Representative Battles recently toured WVCF to learn more about the correctional environment and talk to staff about our proactive re-entry efforts. Superintendent Richard Brown said staff professionalism, pride and sincerity, along with the cleanliness of Wabash Valley were noted by Representative Battles. (see photo left of Superintendent Brown with Representative Battles)

The Indiana State Prison Purposeful Living Unit Served (PLUS) program presented a program to the offender population celebrating Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr. Vernon G. Smith, State Representative 14th District, was the guest speaker. This is the seventh year the program has been presented at ISP. The celebration was held in the facility chapel with approximately 125 people in attendance. There were reflections from offenders and volunteers. Dr. Smith gave a community message to the attendees, and offenders performed special musical songs honoring the day for the audience.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) conducted a program to honor the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Dr. Frank Beard, Senior Pastor at the Castleton United Methodist Church, served as the guest speaker for the event that was attended by approximately 90 PCF offenders.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility is pleased to announce that Belinda Stamper won the Assistant Food Director of the Year Award. We are proud of Belinda and her accomplishments. She oversees the Inmate to Workmate program at PNJCF and recently organized the Cupcake Wars event.

The staff at Westville Correctional Facility took a break from their work schedules to attend the facility's quarterly roll call. Superintendent Levenhagen opened the assembly with informational and inspiring messages to the staff. During the assembly, several staff were recognized for their years of service and others for their exemplary work performance. A unique and proud moment of the assembly occurred when the perfect attendance staff were recognized; 58 staff were awarded for their six months of perfect attendance.



February 1, 2013

Weekly Views

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) is gearing up to march for babies by taking part in the 2013 Wabash Valley March of Dimes campaign. Division Director Nikki Simpson noted WVCF has been a strong supporter since 1998 in the effort to improve the health of our most valuable resource, by providing baby quilts made by the PLUS unit and much needed funding. This week marked the formal launch of the campaign as the March of Dimes celebrates 75 years of service.

Superintendent Stanley Knight commends the efforts of Putnamville Correctional Facility staff and offenders for their 2012 contribution to charitable donations totaling \$6,950. Knight's 2013 community involvement objective is to increase monetary donations, expand the recipient base and engage more offenders in the process.

Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) Recreation Department hosted two college basketball teams to play the offender all-star team. Indiana Wesleyan University's basketball team played 21 and had a three-point and half court contest. They were restricted from playing a scrimmage game because of National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics rules. Bethel College's Junior Varsity Basketball team played the all star team, and took home a win with the final score Bethel 60 and MCF 54. Both experiences were positive for the outside team and coaches as well as the offenders.

Nick Felder, Director of Admissions for Ivy Tech Valparaiso Campus, and Derek Dembrowiak, Northeast Regional Director of Admissions for Ivy Tech, visited Camp Summit to inform the GED and Post-GED students of Ivy Tech's course and program offerings, as well as obtaining financial aid, and the procedures for applying. They answered numerous questions concerning career options and college life in general. Mr. Dembrowiak also cited numerous Camp Summit success stories of previous students who have gone on to further their education at Ivy Tech.

During Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility's (PNJCF) quarterly assembly, Superintendent Linda Commons recognized staff members who achieved perfect attendance for the quarter and the year and congratulated staff who have gone the extra mile. Staff members were also recognized for their years of service with the Department. The program culminated with the recognition of Correctional Officer M. Abrams as Officer of the Quarter, maintenance staff Paul Livingstone as Non-custody Employee of the Quarter, and Sergeant Dixon as Supervisor of the Quarter. Superintendent Commons also presented Employee of the Year to Captain Vanlandingham.

The Correctional Industrial Facility's (CIF) Religious Services and Grace Community Education jointly planned and sponsored the program "Remembering: The Dream Is Still Alive" honoring Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Pastor Demetrius Warren, the founder of Everlasting Dominion Ministries and the Senior Pastor of Everlasting Dominion Fellowship in Kokomo, IN was the guest speaker. The CIF Praise Team provided the music for the program and there was a picture anthology of the life of Dr. King. The 102 offenders who attended the program enjoyed the chance to honor Dr. King.

Twelve residents from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) partnered with faculty, staff, and the Students In Action group from the Carpe Diem School, in response to President Obama's call for National Day of Service and honoring the life and legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Students In Action is a community service group dedicated to making positive and lasting changes in the community. The group made Valentines for Vets and goodie bags filled with hand-made cards, candy and meaningful messages thanking veterans and their families for the sacrifices they make to ensure our country's freedom.

Correctional Sergeant Ryan Jones from the Indiana State Prison spoke to seven classes of young adults in the ROTC program at Portage High School. There were approximately 215 children in attendance. The presentation was about the Indiana State Prison and was titled, "The choices you make today, can affect the rest of your life".

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Organization conducted a program that was attended by Indiana American Legion State Commander Richard Jewell and other American Legion officials from the community. The group presented donations that were made possible by various fundraising activities at the facility. A check for \$614 was presented to the American Legion 5th District for donation to the Veterans Homeless Shelter in Lafayette, IN. Another check for \$614 was donated to the Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation and a \$500 donation was made to a local veteran to assist with expenses associated with his service dog.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility "Knit Wits" group from the offender PLUS program, lead by volunteer Donna Olsen, are continuing their donation efforts of knitted hats. The current batch was recently delivered to an orphanage in Jharsugunda, India. Past donations have been sent to Russia, Afghanistan, South America, and within the local community. The yarn used was donated and the PLUS participants are guided by Mrs. Olsen.

The Employee Planning Action Committee (EPAC) at the Westville Correctional Facility has again taken action by holding elections and nominating new officers. The retiring board members have set the standard for the EPAC, which sponsors lunch sales, fundraisers and motivating activities for the staff. The EPAC's two largest events are the Annual Holiday Dinner and Dance and the facility's Open House/Family Day. Current EPAC President, Recreation Leader Karl Gast, will pass the torch to President-Elect, Captain Otis Thompson.

Aramark Food Service Supervisor Greg Sheward, from the Pendleton Correctional Facility, received Aramark's Food Service Director of the Year award. Congratulations Greg! Pendleton and Aramark staff are proud of his accomplishments.

February 8, 2013

Weekly Views

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

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



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

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



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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

February 15, 2013

Weekly Views

The Pendleton Correctional Facility would like to express appreciation to everyone who provided assistance in connection with the power outage experienced at the facility. Thanks to the teamwork and cooperation of all concerned, the facility was able to avoid a total lockdown situation and was able to operate on a restricted movement status with minimal disruption of operations considering the magnitude of the issues involved. Special thanks go to Central Office staff and especially to Kevin Orme and Mike Callahan for the outstanding assistance they provided in ensuring that necessary resources were allocated to address the situation.

Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach Program offenders are making dolls for Dr. James Lemmon, founder of the Riley Mother Baby Hospital of Kenyon. So far 600 of the 1000 dolls that are needed have been completed. Named in the honor of Riley Children's Hospital in Indianapolis, the Riley Mother Baby Hospital in Kenyon can accommodate 12,000 deliveries a year. The hospital has operating rooms for Cesarean deliveries, and it has the first functioning Neonatal Intensive Care Unit in all of east Africa.

Miami Correctional Facility awarded \$4,300 through two grants funded by Aramark's Fresh Favorites sales. A committee reviews grant applications and forwards their selection to the Superintendent for approval. \$1,500 was donated to Tomorrow's Hope, a facility used to reduce the number of interviews a child victim must endure, reducing their stress and making them more comfortable during questioning. Another \$2,800 was donated to the Family Service Association Prevent Child Abuse Program, which sponsors an annual educational conference open to law enforcement, probation, social service workers, educators, hospital personnel, and the public.

In an effort with Grace College, the Westville Correctional Facility has introduced their first offender instructed education class for offenders working toward their GED. Fifteen offender students, assisted in self-study by three offender tutors, are working to advance their levels of reading, language and math. Along with their regular studies, these students will gain a sense of self-discipline, motivation and develop a sense of confidence. The offender tutors selected for this program learn important re-entry skills as well.

Assistant District Supervisor Erik Kruper, Parole Agent Kristy Jones, and Parole Agent Paul Rains partnered with staff from Lake County Community Corrections to participate in the 2013 Polar Plunge at Valparaiso University. Together they raised over \$1100 for Special Olympics Indiana. Although it was cold and windy, with the water being ice cold, a good time was had by all, and plans are already in the works to participate again next year.

The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility Choir made a surprise visit to the Noble County Library to perform at the Albion Lions Club's annual Valentine's Day party. Approximately 35 members of the Lions Club attended and were very pleased with the choir who sang a selection of five songs. Some of the songs were meant to be in theme with vision, due to the work the Lions Club does with collecting eye glasses.

Robbie Marshall has been named Chief Internal Affairs Officer at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Marshall began his career as an Officer in 1994, advanced to Sergeant in 1997 and to Security Threat Group (STG) Coordinator in 2002. Marshall has worked as an Internal Affairs Officer the past five years, focusing on STG related cases and criminal investigations. "Rob Marshall is a highly respected security threat group authority and a skilled investigator," said Superintendent Richard Brown. Congratulations Robbie!

At the invitation of Plainfield High School Head Coach Brian Woodard, Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) resident Thomas Nathan Harmon addressed the school's football, track, and other student athletes about peer pressure and the importance of making good decisions. In a passionate address, Harmon detailed the string of bad decisions that led to his decline from a straight A student athlete, to his experimenting with drugs and alcohol, to being kicked out of the military and the events that landed him in prison. Harmon has attended several speaking engagements around the state as a component of IREF's Straight Talk program.

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) held a Community Advisory Board Meeting. Attending this meeting were the following, Judge Leo Burns, Dave Wegner-Cass County Community Corrections, Jill Rife-Cass County Sheriff's Department, Mayor Ted Franklin and Barb Taylor, LJCF volunteer representative. Superintendent Lori Harshbarger shared recent events from the facility as well as from the Department and Division of Youth Services.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted a Community Advisory Board meeting. Superintendent Stanley Knight welcomed new members Dr. Michael Rader, Vigo County Court Judge, Eric Bernsee and Jared Jernagen, Editor and Assistant Editor of the Banner Graphic newspaper. An Education presentation was given by Barb Auman, Director for Oakland City University, and IDOC and facility updates were presented. Lunch was prepared and served by Culinary Arts students under the instruction of Penny Clevenger.

Kojak Fuller, former Mr. Basketball of Indiana, spoke with students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. He shared his life story and difficulties he had to overcome. He explained how he continues to address those issues. Students enjoyed hearing his experiences and words of encouragement.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) held their quarterly staff assembly. Several employees were recognized with quarterly awards, including: Officer of the Quarter Karen Cochran, Employee of the Quarter Jerry Hooley, Supervisor of the Quarter Ed Lessley, Contractual Employee of the Quarter Tina Collins, Extra Mile Award Ricky Rider.

February 22, 2013

Weekly Views

Members of Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) K-9 team were recognized for their collaborative efforts with the Lake County Community Corrections (LCCC) staff to conduct shakedowns at the community's facility. Three K-9 handlers and their dogs used their expertise to locate unauthorized material that had gathered in the offender's housing areas. A letter of appreciation to WCC Superintendent Mark Levenhagen noted the shakedown team's professionalism and showed appreciation for helping to improve safety at LCCC and for promoting a positive working relationship with Westville.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility minimum-security crews donned hazmat suits to clean up five cabins at Shakamak State Park in Greene County. The crews received special training and safety gear to clear the cabins of bat guano. Over three pounds of the toxic but highly effective fertilizer was harvested from the cabins and will be tilled into the soil throughout the park as the spring growing season begins. Wabash Valley crews also made repairs to the cabins to prevent future bat visits. (See photo right)

Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) PLUS program offenders have completed the first supply of crocheted hats to be delivered to the Peyton Manning's Children's Hospital in Indianapolis. The hand-made caps are of all colors and sizes for the children undergoing treatment. The RCF PLUS program intends that this community service project remain on-going.



The Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted a PLUS graduation ceremony for 174 offenders. Keynote speaker and facility volunteer Robert Walsman addressed the graduates along with Religious Services Director David Liebel and PLUS graduates Ernest Collier and Stephen Hatton. The ceremony was organized by PLUS coordinators Karumathil Kumaran and Lynn Kortum. Refreshments were prepared and served by Culinary Arts students.

The Indiana State Prison held a General Assembly to honor staff with years of service and quarterly awards. Years of Service Awards were presented to Charles Wright, John Ratkay, Marion Thatcher and Meczyslaw Piskor for 20 years of service, Robb French, Howard Wilson, and Robert Kent Sr. for 25 years of service, and Carol Fisch and Bradley Hutchison for 30 years of service. Extra Mile awards were given to Susan Jones, Corizon, Phyllis Newkirk, Lieutenant James Meehan and Officer Carl Keller. Quarterly Awards were presented to Cynthia Lasco, Lorraine Fath, William Huffman and Pam Bane. Ivan Jones received the Ambassador Award for his dedication and 40 years of service. (see photo left of (L to R) Lorraine Fath, Pam Bane, Cynthia Lasco, Superintendent Wilson, Ivan Jones and Susan Jones)



Wilma Moore, Senior Archivist of African American History at the Indiana Historical Society (IHS) served as the guest speaker at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's (IREF) Black History Month program. Ms. Moore recounted stories of Black History and African

American accomplishments in Indianapolis and Indiana, and spoke about her love of history and her work at the IHS. Ms. Moore addressed questions posed by IREF staff and residents during the Q&A session that followed. The Indiana Veterans Education and Transition Unit residents presented Ms. Moore with a home-made card, thanking her for participating in the event.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted the Karl Hinkle Ministry in Song program. Forty offenders attended the program which featured music provided by Mr. Hinkle, as well as a sermon given by Mr. Stephen Richards. The program was appreciated and well received by the offenders.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility donated \$532 to the Animal Protection League from Anderson, IN. The donation was made possible as the result of proceeds from an offender food sale. The purpose of the Animal Protection League is to provide a compassionate, humane community for animals and to make second chances possible through the human/animal connection. (see photo right)



The Putnamville Correctional Facility donated \$1500 to Putnam and Clay County non-profit organizations. The United Way, Crime Victim Services and YMCA were recipients of \$500 dollars each. The donations represent the first of Superintendent Stanley Knight's 2013 initiative to increase donations and expand the recipient base. The money donated was generated from Aramark food sales to staff and visitors. (see photo left)

Plainfield Correctional Facility Superintendent Brian Smith is pleased to announce the recent promotion of Jason Trinh to Correctional Sergeant. Congratulations Sergeant Trinh!



March 1, 2013

Weekly Views

IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon announced the promotion of Plainfield Assistant Superintendent Dushan Zatecky as the new Superintendent at Pendleton Correctional Facility (PNCF), effective March 4, 2013. PCF would like to welcome Mr. Zatecky and express appreciation to IDOC Mental Health Director Craig Hanks for the outstanding job he did as interim Superintendent at the facility.

99.8 percent is the final re-accreditation score for Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF)! Wabash asked for and received standard waivers boosting the final tally from 99.3 to just under a perfect 100 percent. Superintendent Richard Brown made the case for Wabash during the American Correctional Association's Winter Conference in Houston, Texas. The score is the best ever for WVCF!

Stanley Knight and staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility bid farewell and extended best wishes to Steve Weltzin (pictured right) who is retiring after 21 years of service. Weltzin began his career as a Correctional Officer, then promoted to counselor, ending his service with the Department as a case manager.



The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Wee One's Nursery (WON) and the Family Preservation Program received a generous \$680 donation from the Women's Fund of Central Indiana. IWP's staff purchased supplies and children's books for both programs through Angel's Wings. The mission of the Women's Fund is to create opportunities for women and girls in central Indiana through the effective distribution of grants and through philanthropic engagement and education. Superintendent Steve McCauley thanked the Women's Fund for their continued support. Both programs operate solely on donations, and the WON Unit currently has three infants housed with their mothers and several mothers awaiting their delivery dates.

The Continuing Education Council (CEC) at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) sponsored a Black History Celebration in the Religious Center Auditorium. The talent of the men at ISP was used to celebrate the legacy and history of African Americans past and present. They incorporated music, spoken word poetry, skits, and speeches to commemorate the day. A movie was also shown on the CEC channel for the duration of Black History month for the offender population. The title of the movie was "Something the Lord Made". It was about Vivien Thomas, an African-American without a college degree, who invented the tool to assist with bypass surgery for infants and children.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility allowed offenders to purchase Girl Scout cookies with proceeds going to troops in Hendricks County. 411 boxes of cookies were sold totaling \$1438.50. With the facilities help, Troup 1236, based in Danville, Indiana raised enough money to attend a week long "camporee" in Europe this summer!

Edinburgh Correctional Facility staff participated in a Polar Plunge at Eagle Creek Reservoir. The facility donated \$500 to the Special Olympics Indiana raised through offender fundraisers.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Superintendent Steven Keever and Resident Michael Coffy were guests on WFYI's public radio and weekly news and public affairs program No Limits. The show focuses on topics of interest to Central Indiana residents. Along with Allen Superior Court Judge John Surbeck, Superintendent Keever (pictured left) and Resident



Coffy discussed the barriers of prisoner re-entry and IREF's role in preparing its resident to successfully return to the community after incarceration. The show is posted online at <http://www.wfyi.org/radio/localprograms/nolimits.asp>

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) completed construction on another one-of-a-kind conference table made from recycled wood for the Commissioner of the Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV). WCC Maintenance Supervisor Alex McEathron designed and supervised the project, along with eight offenders who assisted McEathron over the two years it took to complete the table. The half-ton table made the 150 mile journey from Westville to the BMV office in downtown Indianapolis. The 17' x 7' table sits on a four leg pedestal base, with a hand carved five foot medallion of the BMV seal. Most of the wood came from trees that had to be cut down inside the facility to improve lines of sight within the prison, and much of the labor was done by the inmates at minimal cost to the taxpayers. (see photo below of BMV Commissioner R. Scott Waddell, IDOC Construction Services Director Kevin Orme and Commissioner Bruce Lemmon)

Madison Correctional Facility made donations to three local not for profit agencies. The donations came from the Fresh Favorites commission percentage set aside for community involvement. Donations of \$500 each went to Ruth Haven House, Lide White Boys and Girls Club, and Girl's Inc.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility staff donated to the Food for Homeless Pets Program. The Venture Scouts collected and donated 150 pounds of pet food to the Madison County Humane Society.

Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) staff Heather Robertson and Nick Eblen spoke to the Terre Haute Optimists Club. Club Vice-President Terry Daniels invited Rockville staff to speak about the facility's population, history and the programs offered for successful re-entry. They were treated to breakfast with the club and a warm reception from all.



March 8, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) Family Education Department hosted its first Circle of Discussion, a forum by which IREF residents who are soon to be released back to the community can engage with agencies and employers to address their questions and concerns regarding employment, human services, and other areas of re-entry. Director of Creative Media Services at Tennessee State University John Girton served as the guest speaker. Girton, a former hip hop concert tour manager and media industry entrepreneur, discussed a variety of topics, including effective communication, networking, male empowerment, building relationships, and making good choices. The Circle of Discussion will meet on a monthly basis, and will host a different guest speaker each month.

Pendleton Times-Post Staff Writer Amanda Matlock visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview newly appointed Superintendent Dushan Zatecky for the purpose of introducing Superintendent Zatecky to the Town of Pendleton and its surrounding communities. (see photo below)

The Terre Haute CBS affiliate, WTHI TV, joined news organizations statewide in reporting that Indiana's recidivism rate has dropped to 36.1 percent! Gina Glaros from WTHI went to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility to find out why. She told viewers more about the Department's push for re-entry success through strong education and vocational efforts, substance abuse counseling, anger management, fatherhood and faith and character development programs.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility held a Behavior Bucks Auction for students in the facility's Intensive Treatment Unit. Students earned "bucks" during the month for positive behavior. They were then able to use the bucks to bid on food items, hygiene products, games and craft supplies.

Camp Summit Boot Camp conducted an Employee Assembly to brief staff on significant events taking place at the facility, within the agency and to recognize staff accomplishments for the preceding quarter. Staff members Christian Bryce, Patrick Cleary, Jeremy Dykstra, Colleen Gourley, Erin Viou and Kenneth Watts were given awards for outstanding contributions to the facility and state service over the past few months. Four employees were also honored for years of service to the state ranging from 10-15 years. Lt. Commander Stephen Batusic was honored for 15 years of service and Counselors Nicole Doctor and Sally Powalski were recognized for 10 years of service. In attendance for the recall were Community Advisory Board Members, Robert Taylo, John Stemmler and Faye Moore.

Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent Wendy Knight would like to congratulate Bruce St. John on his promotion to Correctional Lieutenant and William Graham on his promotion to Recreation Coordinator 3. William Graham has served in the Department since 1989, starting as a Correctional Officer then promoting through the ranks. He served as a Recreation Leader for six years and brings a wealth of knowledge to his new position. Lt. Bruce St. John started his career with the Department at Plainfield Correctional Facility in 2011 where he worked as a Correctional Officer before his transfer to CIF in 2012. He was soon thereafter promoted to Sergeant. Lt. St. John's 22 years of service as a full time National Guardsman and his work ethic have contributed to his rapid ascension through the ranks. Please join us in congratulating both of these gentlemen for their promotions.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen has announced the promotion of Sandra Sharp to Unit Team Manager. Ms. Sharp, who began her career in 1989 as a Correctional Officer, will supervise the Industrial Complex and the facility's level one unit. Ms. Sharp joined the WCC team in 2005 and has been Director of the PLUS Unit since its conception in 2006. Ms. Sharp is recognized throughout the state for her active participation and numerous positions in the Indiana Criminal Justice Association.

While a participant at the Indiana Department of Correction Pre-Service Academy, Officer Jamica Tucker from the Indiana State Prison was the recipient of the Professionalism Award. Officer Tucker exemplified the highest standard of professionalism in her demeanor, behavior, appearance and attitude.

Residents of the Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit at IREF donated a fire station dollhouse to the Craine House. The Craine House is a court-ordered alternative sentencing, work release program dedicated to serving non-violent female offenders with pre-school children. INVET Resident David Pierce, who conceived the design for the fire station house after reviewing several pictures and research about firefighters, worked for more than four months collecting materials, cutting, painting, making furniture, and adding personal touches and comforts. Supplies for the fire house were obtained by donations raised by INVET and Reformative Re-Entry Residential Program (RRRP) residents via food sales fundraisers. IREF Building Trades also donated some material items, and Sherwin Williams of Avon donated the wallpaper and paint. The Indianapolis Fire Department (IFD) provided the decals and stickers decorating the inside of the fire truck garages. (see photo left)

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility Superintendent Linda Commons attended the Madison County Leadership Breakfast for Scouting. The Boy Scouts and Troop Leaders discussed the importance of positive role models and mentors.



March 15, 2013

Weekly Views

Henryville Correctional Facility held a graduation for the first 15 offenders who successfully completed the Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Program (RRRP). The offenders learned how to be honest with themselves and others, to show tolerance in the views and beliefs of others and to show caring for others as well as personal responsibility for their actions. The course also requires a minimum of 124 hours of community service. The offenders in this class also donated money they earned from fund raisers to local charities within the Henryville community. Dr. Hall, Director of Religious Services, was the key note speaker. Dr. Hall asked the graduates to take what they learned with them and use their new tools when they were released. He stated the importance of following through with what they learned to help them

from returning to prison. After receiving their diplomas, offenders from the U.S. Department of Labor kitchen crew provided refreshments for the graduates and their families. The program concluded with a short visitation for the offender graduates and their family members. (photo below)

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) promoted four staff. Those promoted to sergeant include: Dell Sefton was hired in March 2003; Kipp Long was hired at MCF in December 2004 and rehired in October 2008; and James Rayle was hired at MCF in November 2009. All started out as officers. William Gilbert was also promoted to Maintenance Foreman. He was hired as a Repairman 2 in August 2008.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility Department of Labor staff passed their annual audit with flying colors. The entire Department was commended for their organization, offender packets, level of training, and commitment. The audit team was impressed with the teamwork and leadership exhibited and the obvious ownership of the specific programs. The results showed a complete turnaround from the previous year's audit and were so successful their model will be duplicated in other facilities.

Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) Superintendent Dushan Zatecky is pleased to announce that Andrew Cole has been promoted to the position of Assistant Superintendent of Re-entry, and Paula Dickson has been promoted to the position of Supervisor of Classification. All of the staff at PCF would like to express congratulations to Andrew and Paula and wish them well in their new roles at the facility.



Putnamville Correctional Facility PLUS dorm representative Ataul Shateef and program coordinator Karumathil Kumaran presented a \$500 check to legionnaire Michael Sparks for the Sons of the American Legion Post #58. The donation will be used to help construct a \$4500 ceremonial flag burning pit in Veterans Plaza in Greencastle, IN. The pit will be officially opened during a dedication ceremony to be held on Memorial Day. (see photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility Superintendent Mark Levenhagen and Corizon Health Service Administrator DeAngela Boyan are pleased to congratulate newly promoted Director of Addictions and Recovery Emily Kirk. Ms. Kirk's promotion puts her in charge of the facility's 604 bed Therapeutic Community (TC), one of the largest TC's in the nation, and the facility's 104 bed outpatient unit. Ms. Kirk joined the TC in November of 2011, bringing 10 years of experience in the addictions field, including the LaPorte County Drug Court and certification as an Alcohol and Drug Addictions Counselor.



Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Aramark staff celebrated their first ever Aramark Employee Appreciation Day! Food Service Director Lisa Bock said it meant a lot to her crew of 33 to be honored and personally thanked for their hard work via an appreciation letter from Aramark CEO Eric Foss. Bock said it is important to make sure everyone feels valued, recognized and appreciated. Superintendent Richard Brown also thanked Aramark staff for their efforts and contributions to facility safety and security. The Wabash team supervises offender workers as they prepare and serve over 2,100 offenders nutritious meals three times a day, 365 days a year. The Wabash event mirrored similar appreciation celebrations at IDOC facilities statewide. Thanks Aramark!!!!

Aramark held an Employee Appreciation Day at the Indiana State Prison. This was the first time Aramark has held an Appreciation Day for their employees. Each Aramark staff member was presented a commemorative coin and a Certificate of Appreciation from Aramark. Lunch was provided with ice cream and cake. In attendance were Superintendent William Wilson, Assistant Superintendent Dan McBride, and Aramark Managers Sammie Taylor, Wayne Peoples and Melvin Smith. Each shared a few moments thanking the employees for the great job they are doing, and expressing how important they are to the Department of Correction.

Motivational speaker Gary Woods spoke with students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. He shared his story of a motor cross injury that resulted in his paralysis from the neck down and his ultimate triumph of regaining the use of his limbs. Mr. Woods discussed opportunities for a second chance in life. He described how he was able to overcome the adversity in his life. He encouraged the students to evaluate their choices and seize the opportunities to improve their lives.

March 22, 2013

Weekly Views

The annual Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) Golf Open is scheduled for Friday, May 10, 2013, at the Eagle Creek Golf Course in Indianapolis. The cost remains the same as last year, just \$300 per foursome, which includes breakfast, lunch, dinner, 18 holes of golf, gifts, and prizes for the top three teams on each course. Please contact Michelle Bowlby (tytoddder@gmail.com) for more information or to submit a team. Proceeds will support the CPAFI.

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility Chaplain Keith Blackburn was a guest on the Katie Couric Show. The theme of that show was redemption. Chaplain Blackburn shared his story about his past

criminal history, the crime that landed him in prison where he found solace in Christ, and how forgiveness from his victim has given him life anew. Blackburn, along with his victim and

other high profile guests, completed filming the show last Wednesday. The show will air on the ABC network at 3:00 p.m. March 25.



Illinois Department of Correction Program Director Kathleen Mattingly and Vandalia Correctional Center (VCC) Equine Instructor Jessie Maske spent a day with Barb Holcomb and offenders assigned to the equine management program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The guests observed classroom instruction and general operations of the equine program. VCC is scheduled to open a retired thoroughbred program in May 2013 and has used Putnamville as a model. The visit also included a tour of the PLUS, CLIFF and Prison Greyhound programs. (see photo right)

Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF) held its semi-annual Community Advisory Board Meeting. Superintendent Kathy Griffin welcomed two new board members, Randy Sexton, Noble County Surveyor and Chad Kline, Nobel County Commissioner. A letter from a mother whose son is incarcerated at Chain O' Lakes was read to the board members, sharing how she is impressed with her son's improvement since being at the facility. Superintendent Griffin also outlined Governor Pence's Road Map for Indiana, speaking about how to take Indiana from Good to Great and asking the group for their suggestions for improving the facility. Chain O' Lakes Park Manager Sam Boggs gave a presentation on the IDOC and park partnership, outlining how last year COLCF offenders provided over 50,000 hours, with a cost saving of over \$400,000 in labor. Mr. Boggs summed it up stating "I can't imagine Chain O' Lakes Park without Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility."

The Westville Correctional Facility was graced with the inspirational and motivational teachings of Vic Porter, of Vic Porter Prison Ministries and founder of The Institute of Self-Worth. Mr. Porter spent two evenings at the facility delivering the message of "Leadership through Grace" to offenders in the Therapeutic Community. The message left such a positive impact on the offenders that the community sent letters to personally thank Mr. Porter for his presence at Westville. Vic Porter's Outreach Ministry travels to prisons in all 50 states and 103 countries around the world.

Staff from the Indiana State Prison (ISP) played a basketball game against the offender's basketball team. Staff were able to gain the lead at half time and continued to hold on to that lead for the victory. The final score was 72-63. The game was well received by the entire ISP staff and offender population. This was another example of ISP bridging the gap between staff and offenders at the State Prison.

It was "lights, camera, action" at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Indigo Films taped a segment of their highly popular "I (Almost) Got Away with It" show which airs on the Investigation Discovery Network. The crew interviewed an offender who eluded authorities for several days after escaping from prison over six years ago.

The Villages of Indiana President and CEO Sharon Pierce and Sandy Runkle, who serves as Program Director for the Indiana Chapter of Prevent Child Abuse America, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to meet with staff and PLUS offenders to discuss fundraisers and other activities planned for the facility in connection with National Prevent Child Abuse Month in April.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) hosted 55 high school students from Logansport Century Career Center for a Straight Talk Program. The students, who are part of a Criminal Justice Class taught by retired Indiana Department of Correction Superintendent Bruce Jordan, heard the stories from four offenders incarcerated at MCF and asked the offenders questions about life in prison.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Library, through matching grant opportunities and Net Literacy, has been able to expand computer programming by roughly 70%. They have also been able to begin facilitating a documentary group designed to increase awareness on hot topics such as politics, historical events, and health related issues, and have purchased 264 new titles. The addition of the new titles has allowed them to meet increasing offenders recreational reading requests, begin a GED study program, which is a peer facilitated program designed to give those offenders who seek out extra assistance with GED preparation one on one tutoring, and supplement additional research needs for both college students and DOL apprenticeship participants. The Library has also seen a 50% increase in functionally illiterate offenders coming forward to participate in the peer-tutored literacy program.

March 28, 2013

Weekly Views

Putnamville Correctional Facility Superintendent Stanley Knight, Mike Rains, Dean Treash, Terri Russ, dog handlers Brian McCubbins and Jackie Berry, and greyhound "Quinn" presented Humane Society directors Lynn Bohmer (Putnam County) and Candace Dean (Owen County) with a check in the amount of \$500 each for their organization. Terri Russ, Putnamville employee and avid dog lover, recommended the organizations citing their desperate need for funds. Proceeds for the donation were generated by Aramark staff food sales. (see photo right)



Indiana Women's Prison student/offenders enrolled in Martin University held a fundraiser that raised \$860.02 to support the Putnam County Community Foundation for the benefit of The Indiana Prison College Fund. Professors from the local community donate their time, and Martin University sponsors the classes that will afford the offender an opportunity to earn college credit. The second semester is underway with two groups of offenders enrolled in three classes weekly. The money raised will be used to purchase needed class supplies.

Pendleton Correctional Facility Mail Department staff member Mary Ann Higgs was honored in recognition of her retirement from the IDOC with 23 years of distinguished service. All Pendleton employees want to congratulate Mary Ann and express best wishes for a great retirement! (see photo left of Ms. Higgs with Superintendent Zatecky)



The PLUS program at Westville Correctional Facility has a new Program Manager. Jessica Rain began her career as a Casework Manager in August 2006. She is a graduate of the Leadership Academy and a current participant in the Commissioner's Experienced & Emerging Leadership program. She earned her Bachelor of Science Degree in Criminal Justice from Tri-State University in 2002.

The Correctional Industrial Facility has two new caseworkers. Wendy Knight, Correctional Industrial Facility Superintendent would like to congratulate Jennifer Matthews and Officer Phil Allen on their promotions to Correctional Caseworker. Jennifer Matthews has been with IDOC since 2012. In her short time with the Department, she has proven herself a valuable asset with over 20 years in customer service and management. Phil Allen joined the Department in 2011 and brings over 10 years of prior law enforcement experience with him.

The Screaming Eagles Radio Controlled Airplanes Club donated \$300 to help fund the U.S. Department of Labor and PLUS offenders garden at Plainfield Correctional Facility. All vegetables grown will be donated to local non-profit food banks. Presenting the check to Sgt. Bobby Paige is Club President Bob Groves. (see photo right)



Following a two-day audit conducted by the IDOC Program Review Division, Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Superintendent Steven H. Keever announced the facility has passed the year two audit which assesses the facility's progress and continuing compliance with American Correctional Association (ACA) standards. Of the 34 mandatory standards reviewed, IREF was found to be 100% compliant, and of the 219 non-mandatory standards reviewed, 33 were non-applicable and three were non-compliant, giving the facility a score of 98.39%. Two of the three non-compliant marks dealt with physical plant issues due to the age of the facility, and are beyond the facility's control. In a letter to Superintendent Keever, Vanessa Krause, IDOC Director of Program Review, praised IREF for being a national correctional model, and the staff's dedication and continued maintenance of ACA standards.

Pendleton Town Court Judge George Gasparovic hosted a Victim Impact Panel at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Students were presented with stories about drinking and driving and the effects of poor choices. Family members of victims of DUI fatalities spoke and conveyed the damage one's poor choices on themselves and their families. A woman who was convicted of DUI causing death also spoke about the damages one poor choice has made in her life.



Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff rolled a major strike in support of Big Brothers/Big Sisters (BBBS). The annual Terre Haute based Bowl for Kids' Sake event was no gutter ball with the WVCF Fatherhood program hitting the pin for \$500 and adding another \$500 as an event sponsor. The Wabash PLUS unit supplied two custom quilts for an upcoming raffle to raise even more dollars for the BBBS. A whopping \$28,256 was the perfect total score raised by those taking part in the annual fundraiser. (see photo left)

April 5, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon presented Dr. Robert McKinney, IDOC School Psychologist, with a Distinguished Hoosier Award from Indiana Governor Mike Pence. Dr. McKinney recently retired with over 44 years of service to the State of Indiana.

Three staff members from Westville Correctional Facility's Internal Affairs Division were, once again, invited to speak at Valparaiso University. IA Supervisor Charles Whelan, along with investigators Tom Stinson and Marshall Hayes presented information on Security Threat Groups in prisons to students in the school's penology class. This is the second year that the team has represented the DOC to students studying the effects on gangs in our society.

The Gary Parole District joined various local, state and federal law enforcement agencies in Operation Lost Innocence, a coordinated effort in La Porte County to conduct a joint compliance sweep. Assistant District Supervisor Erik Kruper and Agent Dan Ward, along with investigators from the La Porte County Sheriff's Office, Indiana State Police, Michigan City Police, and United States Marshals Service verified residency and employment of 87 sex offenders who reside and work in La Porte County. The compliance sweep was held in conjunction with the National Child Abuse Prevention Month, which is recognized in the month of April. The sex offenders who were targeted were those that have been identified by Indiana Code as Sexually Violent Predators or Offenders Against Children. Of the 87 targeted offenders, 93% were found to be compliant, and only six offenders were non-compliant.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held an Open House in the education department. During Open House, parents met with education, treatment and administrative staff members. Parents were also made aware of the newly installed Promethean's Interactive Whiteboard Systems that were made possible by a grant obtained by IDOC Central Office. (see photo left)

Current and past Superintendents Stanley Knight, Richard Clark, Brian Smith, Dushaun Zatecky and Al Parke bid farewell to Administrative Secretary Marilyn Detro and Captain Steve Little during a retirement celebration held in their honor at the Putnamville Correctional Facility (PCF). PCF staff extended their best wishes to the two who represent 67 years of correctional experience.

Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) offenders from the Rockville Correctional Facility made crocheted blankets for the canines in the facility's Animals Depending On Prison Time (ADOPT) program as a community service project. They made 13 blankets so that the dogs will have a soft blanket to lay on in the housing unit. (see photo right)

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) said goodbye to Jim Hoover who worked as Internal Affairs Director at MCF since the facility opened in 1999. Hoover has a total of 46 years of experience with the state. He worked as an Indiana State Policeman prior to his employment at MCF. Hoover was honored with a plaque and a reception.

A retirement ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor Steam Plant Operator Richard Rumble in recognition of twenty years of state service.

All of the employees at the facility want to congratulate Mr. Rumble and wish him the best as he begins his retirement.

Tim Greathouse, Superintendent of Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility, is pleased to announce the promotion of William Phelps to Correctional Lieutenant. Lieutenant Phelps began his career in 2003 at South Bend Juvenile as a Correctional Officer, and in 2006 he was promoted to Correctional Sergeant. Lieutenant Phelps is a graduate of the D.O.C. Supervisory Program, Leadership Academy, and the Experience and Emerging Leadership Program.

The Indiana Women's Prison celebrated an Easter Service with 194 offenders. The celebration included an offender choir led by volunteer Pastor Bennie Polin, a Biblical Storytelling presentation by the storytelling class, an offender Liturgical Dance ensemble with a theme of redemption, poetry presented by offenders and volunteer, and a sermon focused on moving from darkness to light. The service was enjoyed by all participants.

Boy Scout Troop 240 was the latest recipient of a charitable contribution made by the Correctional Industrial Facility. A donation of \$1000, which was raised through the facility's Aramark Community Fund, was given to the troop. Boy Scout Troop 240 has 39 members and celebrates their 50th anniversary this year. Troop 240 provided over 850 hours of community service in 2012 and promoted three scouts to the rank of Eagle Scout. Troop 240 is always looking for more donations for underprivileged Boy Scouts. (see photo left)

The Wabash Valley March of Dimes campaign has received a \$500 boost from Wabash Valley Correctional Facility! The Fatherhood and PLUS programs teamed to present Wabash Valley Division Director Nikki Simpson with the check during the Wabash Re-Call Meeting. Superintendent Richard Brown encouraged staff to take part in the April 27th March for Babies Walk in Terre Haute.



April 12, 2013

Weekly Views

Parole Agent Denise Jackson from the Indianapolis Parole Office was chosen to be a Keynote Speaker at the 18th Annual Women in Criminal Justice Conference "2013 The Power of Women in Developing New Leaders" in Springfield, MA. Agent Jackson was presented with the Edna Mahan Award for innovative leadership for her commitment to advance the roles of Women in criminal justice. (see photo right)



The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) unit held a family day. During this event, students and family members participated in group activities designed for family reunification and the pre-release needs of the students. 20 family members and 14 students were in attendance for the event.

Miami Correctional Facility held its ninth PLUS graduation with more than 100 offenders completing the program. IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, along with his Executive Staff, was present for the program. Miami has had more than 1,500 offenders complete the PLUS program since its inception and now has two and a half units filled with PLUS program participants and graduates. (see photo left of Commissioner Lemmon and Superintendent Mark Sevier congratulating the graduates)



The American Legion Post #130, an offender organization at the Indiana State Prison, sponsored a program where 12 men had their hair cut and donated to Locks of Love. An offender who participated wrote a few last words for his hair, "You have kept my head warm through these cold winters, now go forth and warm someone's heart". The men spoke about cutting their hair for the kids and for family members suffering from or who have lost their fight with cancer.

The Second Grade class at Western Wayne Elementary School donated 95 skeins of yarn to the Plainfield Correctional Facility's Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit for their "Knit Wits" program. The offenders, under the direction of volunteer Donna Olson, knit hats and scarves for orphanages in third world countries.

"Race for the Cure" with Team DOC on April 20 at Military Park in downtown Indianapolis in support of the Komen Foundation. To register for the event or donate to the team, please visit <http://bit.ly/10OGR1U> or contact Lisa Salinas at lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov for more information. Team DOC t-shirts are also available separately through PEN Products. Please contact penwebsales@idoc.IN.gov to order or for more information.

As part of their ongoing commitment to community service, the Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion Post #608 presented a check for \$500 to the Muncie Boys and Girls Club. The agency's interim Executive Director Yolanda Bonner, along with other Club personnel, were present at the facility for the check presentation ceremony. The Boys and Girls Club serves over 100 children a day and provides diverse activities that meet the interests of all youth. (see photo right)



Chain O' Lakes Correctional staff celebrated the retirement of Sergeant Larry Weeks, after 24 years of service. Sergeant Weeks started in October 1989 as an officer until his promotion to road crew officer where he supervised offenders working throughout Noble County. In January 1991, he was promoted to sergeant, taking lead role in training staff. Sergeant Weeks will be missed!



Students at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility received visits from special guest speakers. Indiana Pacers players David West and Roy Hibbert stopped by the facility to talk to the students about finding ways to give back to their communities. Mr. West encouraged the students to identify their talents and to share them with their families and the community. Colts Chaplin Ken Johnson, Elwood Police Chief Sam Hanna, and Second Chances founder Kevin Hummel also spoke with students at Pendleton Juvenile regarding priorities and choices and how they can change one's life path. Mr. Johnson shared that most juveniles are focused on friends and being cool, but they need to realize the importance of their freedom and families. (see photo left of David West)

Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community (TC) hosted an "It's Spring" food sale that sold sandwiches and fresh baked goods to the offenders. The food sale sold \$6500 for the local vendor and profits of \$2000 were divided and donated to LaPorte County and Porter County Substance Abuse Counsels. Ms. Kirk, TC Director, believes that the county counsels were excellent choices to receive the donations.

April 19, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Deputy Commissioner James Basinger, Executive Director Michael Osburn, Edinburgh Correctional Facility Superintendent Fran Osburn and Edinburgh staff joined Major General R. Martin Umbarger, Adjunct General for the State of Indiana, and Colonel Ivan Denton, Camp Atterbury Post Commander for a tour of Camp Atterbury for the possibility of conducting future IDOC leadership meetings there.

(Pictured right) Topics of discussion consisted of offender work crews, level one population and the Department's valued

partnership with Camp Atterbury and Muskatatuck.

The tour continued to the Muskatatuck Urban Training Center (MUTC). A presentation of their operation was conducted by Lt. Colonel Roger Lyles, MUTC Post Commander, followed by a tour of MUTC'S unique training facilities.



Can a radio be converted into a cell phone? Is college back on the table for offenders? Do U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Programs really work? Those were just a few of the questions answered during the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Advisory Board meeting. And the answer is yes to all three questions. Superintendent Richard Brown thanked Internal Affairs Lead Investigator Rob Marshall for his staff's diligence in tracking down cell phones, making the facility safer. Doug Evans of PEN Products told the board how WVCF helped launch the Department's Apprenticeship Program incentive, giving offenders a good chance to find a rewarding career upon release.

At a monthly meeting, the American Legion Post #130, an offender organization at the Indiana State Prison, gave three checks totaling \$2,900 to local charities. The Child Welfare Foundation and Riley Children's Hospital each received a check for \$1,000. The Legion also sponsored three local boys from Michigan City to go to Hoosier Boys State to learn about the workings of State Government.



A Pinwheel Garden was planted in front of the Pendleton Correctional Facility Administration Building in recognition of Child Abuse Prevention Month. The Prevent Child Abuse America organization has selected the Pinwheel as a symbol for child abuse and neglect prevention, and describes the concept as an uplifting reminder of childhood and the bright futures all children deserve. Approximately 1,100 pinwheels were planted by staff and offenders as a visual demonstration of the facility's support for this cause. (see photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility is planning to expand its garden production this year to donate to local food pantries. Offenders from the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit and in the Therapeutic Community and the Reformatory Residential Re-entry Program are being challenged to contribute back to the community in this effort.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility made a \$1000 donation from their community involvement fund to the Kingsway Community Care Center. The Kingsway Community Care Center provides low cost medical services for uninsured Hendricks County residents. Presenting the check to John Mollaun, Executive Director of the Center, was Superintendent Brian Smith and Assistant Superintendent of Re-entry Phil Slavens.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) hosted its annual Volunteer Recognition Banquet with more than 80 volunteers in attendance. Commissioner Lemmon spoke to the volunteers, praising them for their service to the facility and to the offenders. In the past year, volunteers at MCF donated 15,159 hours of their time in the past year to offender programs.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility (LJCF) PLUS unit held a fundraiser and donated some of the proceeds to the Emmaus Mission Center in Logansport, IN. The \$250 donation to the center will be used to purchase food for the Mission Center's food bank. The LJCF PLUS unit has donated to the Mission on other occasions, as well donating money and nonperishable food items the unit collected.

The Indiana Women's Prison staff completed its Biggest Loser contest. The weight loss contest ran for three months and raised \$140 for the employee appreciation fund. 36 staff participated and ended with some wonderful results! Winning the title of Biggest Loser was Release Assistant Jayne Byrd with an amazing 10.74% of total body weight lost! A very close second place finish went to Counselor Stephanie Graves with 10.18%, and rounding out the top three with another great result of 9.27% was Officer Damaris Davis. Congratulations and appreciation is extended to all participants. Those completing the contest lost a combined final total weigh lost of 125.6lbs! Everyone who lost weight truly won!

Commissioner Lemmon and Division of Youth Services (DYS) Executive Director Michael Dempsey toured the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility Intake and Treatment Units. Commissioner Lemmon was presented with a painting of the IDOC seal and Mr. Dempsey was presented with the DHS seal. The paintings were created by students in the vocational program at the facility.

April 25, 2013

Weekly Views

A surprise gift for Indiana Governor Michael Pence came courtesy of the Indiana Department of Correction and the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. A custom quilt, made by offenders in the WVCF PLUS (Purposeful Living Units Serve) Unit was presented to the Governor by Commissioner Lemmon, Deputy Commissioner of Operations Jim Basinger and Superintendent Richard Brown. The quilt features his Alma Maters and other remembrances of his public service to the State of Indiana. (see photo below).

Join Team DOC at the Prison Greyhounds dog walk on Sunday, May 19 in downtown Indianapolis. To register,

donate, or order a super-cute Team DOC t-shirt, please contact Lisa Salinas at lsalinas@idoc.IN.gov or 317-233-5541.

The Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted facility tours for staff from Marion County Community Corrections, Monroe County Prosecutors Office and criminology students from Vincennes University. The guests overwhelmingly expressed highlights of the tour as being the Prison Greyhound program and the Security Threat Group presentation by Darrin Chaney and J.R. Smith. All expressed their appreciation to Superintendent Stanley Knight for the opportunity.



Offenders and staff at the Pendleton Correctional Facility forged a partnership with Prevent Child Abuse America and Prevent Child Abuse Indiana, a Division of the Villages, in conjunction with Child Abuse Prevention Month. Fund raising activities at the facility resulted in over \$4,000 being raised that was distributed evenly to both organizations. A check presentation was conducted in the facility Chapel which included attendance by Commissioner Lemmon and members of his Executive Staff.

The Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office joined Marion County Sheriff's Department, Sex and Violent Offender Unit and Warrants Teams coupled with other representation of neighboring local law enforcement agencies in a pre-dawn, weekend initiative targeted at identifying sex offenders in non-compliance with registration responsibilities residing in "Operation: Tent-Cities," within multiple locations within Indianapolis. The results included contacts with 125 persons, four collateral arrests on outstanding warrants, and one arrest for multiple counts of Failure to Register as a Sex Offender, C-Felony, indicating a previous conviction for an offense of this same type. This collaborative activity was funded by Project COPS Grant monies awarded to Marion County Sheriff's Department for registry enforcement and included no violations or arrests for any persons under parole supervision.

Staff from Rockville, RDC, Pendleton Juvenile, Madison Juvenile, Putnamville and Central Office gathered with thousands of runners and walkers in a sea of pink at Military Park in downtown Indianapolis for the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure. To date, IDOC staff have raised over \$1,100 to benefit the Central Indiana Susan G. Komen Foundation for breast cancer research. (see photos left.)

The sound of song, testimonies, and joy filled the chapel at the Correctional Industrial Facility when the Anderson Mt. Zion Men's Choir and their guests provided a concert for about 40 offenders. The group inspired the offenders with their hand-clapping southern style gospel music. Mr. M.L. Allen and his guitar, which he has appropriately named Magic, provided excellent background for most of the songs. The group wowed the offenders with renditions of favorites like; What a Friend I have in Jesus, Victory is Mine, Old Time Religion and Bound for Mt. Zion. The group has been touring throughout Indiana, offering spiritual guidance to offenders at numerous facilities for approximately 20 years. Per Deacon Warner, "We are impressed and inspired by the greetings and participation we get from the offenders."

Miami Correctional Facility hosted two Straight Talk programs and a facility tour with High School and College students from Western High School and University of Saint Francis in Fort Wayne. Students heard from three offenders about life in prison and those in college studying criminology were also taken on a tour of the facility.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation for students of the PLUS unit. This is the unit's 25th graduation ceremony. A celebration was held in the facility Chapel with staff, students, parents and staff members in attendance. Each graduating student completed over 100 hours of PLUS programming and as a group accumulated 250 hours of community service during the 13 week program. The unit also held fundraisers and were able to donate \$250 to the Emmaus Mission Center, \$250 to Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence and \$250 to the local Big Brothers/Big Sisters Chapter.

Future Soldiers students participated in a balloon ceremony for Crime Victim's Awareness Week. Students read apology letters to individuals affected by their crimes, including family members and the community. At the conclusion of the ceremony, students released balloons that representing letting go of the past and aspiring for a brighter future.



May 3, 2013

Weekly Views

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Family Education Department (FED) Director Tamera Shirley and Assistant Superintendent Dalton Haney met with U.S. Representative Andre Carson at his office in the Julia Carson Government Center to update him on the recent changes and events that have taken place at the facility since his visit in July 2012. Shirley and Haney also discussed the implementation of FED programs that emphasize cognitive thinking and change, and important key components of re-entry for IREF's population of offenders returning to society. Rep. Carson has been an active supporter in recidivism reduction since taking office in 2009, and has pledged his support and partnership in IREF's efforts to more successfully reintegrate residents into the community.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) Purposeful Living Units Service (PLUS) program raised \$4,052 through a Papa John's pizza sale. A huge thank-you goes to Papa John's for fixing and delivering 1005 pizzas, 250 cinnamon pies and 350 orders of chicken wings. Half of the money raised went back into the PLUS program and the rest was distributed to several local community organizations. \$500 was given to both the Indiana State Police Summer Youth Camp and Alternatives, Inc, an Anderson women's shelter. \$552 went to the Animal Protection League and \$500 to the Pendleton Junior Baseball Champions League a league for children ages 5 to 18 with physical and developmental disabilities.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Family Preservation Program held a Mother's Day Luncheon for the program's 46 offender mothers and their 96 children. This event was sponsored by the Castleton United Methodist Church, whose many volunteers were present to help the children with crafts, games and to serve the mothers and children a delicious fried chicken lunch. The IWP clowns of the Clown Ministry presented a skit as well as make balloon animals and provided face painting for the children. Offender handlers and dogs of the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) were present to greet the children and mothers in attendance.

Kaplan College Career Services Center and students attended a presentation by Denise Jackson, a parole officer from the Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office, to learn first-hand inside the daily work of a parole officer and their various interactions with their clients in the community. Denise Jackson challenged students interested in criminal justice studies to be prepared to motivate persons they will work with to become productive, law-abiding members of their community, in order to aid in their successful transition into society.

There is one less horse in the herd at Putnamville Correctional Facility. Opening Bob, a 14-year old chestnut, was adopted by a family from Indianapolis, IN. "Bob" will be the family's new 4-H horse and receive training in barrels, poles, trails and be taught English discipline. Equine instructor Barbara Holcomb supervises the program of 30 horses and 8 offenders.

The Knox County "Kids Against Hunger" program has received a \$1,000 boost from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Community Involvement Fund. "Kids Against Hunger" provides prepackaged meals of rice, soy, dried vegetables and several vitamins and minerals. Meals are distributed to 8 Knox County food pantries and ministries. WVCF staff joined nearly 300 volunteers to help package 81,432 meals.

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) planted a tree in remembrance of Crime Victims' Rights Week. Mr. McBride, Assistant Superintendent of Re-Entry, shared a few words with the staff present for the tree planting ceremony. The American Legion Post 130 and Northwestern Jaycees, offender organizations located at ISP, also donated \$800 to the Indiana Coalition Against Sexual Assault (INCASA).

Detective Marty Corley of the Michigan City Police Department (MCPD) spoke to students in the GED program at Camp Summit Boot Camp about gangs, criminal behavior and problems associated with those kinds of choices. He also spoke about the keys to success in school, in their communities, and in the Boot Camp program. When discussing the pathways to success and the pitfalls of criminal behavior, Detective Corley drew upon his experiences in school growing up in Michigan City and with working the police beat.

Members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility K-9 Team conducted two demonstrations at the Indianapolis Motor Speedway in connection with the annual "Mutt Strut" event that benefits the Indianapolis Humane Society. The demonstrations involved aggression tactics as well as drug and explosives detection techniques.

Students from the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility participate in the newly formed Automobile Technology program. Student who have achieved their GED are offered a program where they learn real world application for automobile maintenance and repair. The program is taught by the Logansport Juvenile Maintenance staff during school hours as an alternative to the C-Tech program.

Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) are excited to restart the vocational education class Automotive Technology. This vocational opportunity has been missing from the education curriculum for over two years. Eleven offenders are slated to begin Auto Tech on Monday, and the class will increase to eighteen in the coming months. With hundreds of offenders awaiting programming at WCC, this re-entry skill class is a welcome addition.

The Correctional Industrial Facility joined the nation for the 2013 National Day of Prayer. This year's focus was "Pray for America". Chaplain Alan McCraine led the ceremony by reading a Proclamation by President Barack Obama declaring the day of prayer; scripture from Matthew 12:21, "In his name the nation will put their hope"; and a prayer written by 2013 National Day of Prayer Honorary Chairman Greg Laurie.

May 10, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indianapolis Parole District #3 was well represented by Specialized-Agents Gerald Carter and Denise Jackson, who spoke to the Ben Davis Lions Club about the challenges of the work they are presented with and the shortage of resources available to assist their clients in their transition to becoming self-sufficient and productive members of the community. Those in attendance were raving fans of the recent docu-drama *Parole Diaries* that aired on TV-ONE, depicting their daily interactions and challenges in effecting positive change. Following their presentation, Tim McDonough, pictured below, Lions Club president provided a large donation of food items for immediate assistance to those in need.



The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Faith and Character Based Advisory Board commenced their quarterly meeting at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) where they discussed topics concerning Purposeful Living Units Served (PLUS) policies and procedures and plans for future involvement in IDOC facilities across the state. Among those in attendance were IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Deputy Commissioner Randy Koester, Executive Directors Jerry Vance and Julie Lanham, and Director Mike Lloyd. Honorable Eric Turner from the Indiana House of Representatives, Dr. Angelique Walker-Smith with the Church Federation of Greater Indianapolis, and Dr. Melissa Stacer with the University of Southern Indiana were also among the many guests attending the meeting. Board members toured facility units where participants in IREF's Indiana Veterans Education & Transition and Reformatory Residential Re-Entry Programs presented program information and highlighted past program-sponsored events. Students of the Oakland City University culinary arts program at IREF prepared an elegant meal for the Board members. The meal and service showcased the various food preparation and restaurant service and management skills the students have learned in class.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a program to celebrate the opening of the Pendleton Correctional Complex Staff Fitness Center and to also celebrate the 90 year history of the facility. Case Worker Dan Fountain provided an informative presentation of the facility's history from its origin in Jeffersonville to the present time. Indiana Department of Correction Executive Director of Adult Facilities Tom Hanlon and retired Superintendent Jack Duckworth served as guest speakers for the event.

Staff picnics, corn hole, ping pong, fitness walks, bowling and basketball with Superintendent Stanley Knight was enjoyed by staff during employee recognition week at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. An employee recognition ceremony, motorcycle run, softball game, ice cream social and gun shoot concluded the week of events.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) celebrated Employee Appreciation Week with a Recognition Ceremony, honoring several staff with their years of service pins and perfect attendance awards. Also recognized were those who retired and passed away in the past year as well as staff involved in the military. The ceremony culminated in the announcement of the facility's three Employees of the Year: Captain Danny Tucker was named Supervisor of the Year; Officer Jean LeJeune was named Officer of the Year; and Robert Eutz, Director of MCF's Braille and Large Media Program, received Employee of the Year.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility kicked off Correctional Employee Appreciation week with a cookout and ice cream sundaes for all staff members. Throughout the week staff were treated to breakfast cooked to order by Superintendent Griffin, a very interesting scavenger hunt, a complimentary car wash, courtesy of Supt. Griffin, loaded baked potatoes with all the fixings, bowling, a picnic style lunch, and fresh donuts and cold chocolate milk.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility observed Correctional Employees Week, paying tribute to its 664 staff members. Superintendent Richard Brown expressed his appreciation saying "You are committed to preparing offenders for a successful return to society. You have my thanks and deep respect." Amy Eickmeier was honored as Supervisor of the Year, Officer of the Year honors went to Fred Roessler. Rookie of the Year is Charlie Dugan and Employee of the Year is Joe Burkhardt. Congratulations all!

The Trader's Point Christian Church Celebrate Recovery volunteers facilitated a live concert at the Indiana Women's Prison which involved recovery testimonies, homemade cookies and lemonade offered to the 204 offenders in attendance. Several offenders spoke of their continued recovery from addictions and how the Celebrate Recovery Program offers support and options for their healing.

The Kairos Prison Ministry was held at the Correctional Industrial Facility for the 12th time in six years. The four day program involved participation by 42 offenders and 50 Kairos volunteers. The Kairos Organization is an international Christian faith based ministry. An inspirational closing ceremony offered the offenders the opportunity to give powerful testimonies which attested to the impact of the program.

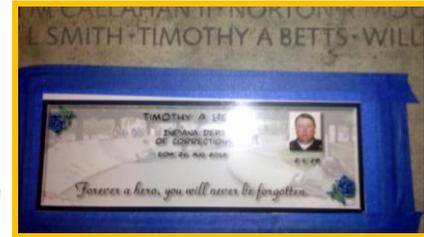
Offenders participating in the Dave Ramsey Financial Peace University program at Westville Correctional Facility are ending their course by making videos. 22 offenders have spent 13 weeks learning approaches to a healthy financial lifestyle and how to avoid financial disasters. These videos, sent to the offender upon release, will serve as a reminder of their fiscal goals and will prompt them to follow through with their financial commitments. These offenders will have the opportunity to continue, free of charge, in any Dave Ramsey program in the country.

Lemuel Vega and company delivered Christmas Behind Bars at New Castle Correctional Facility for the offender population.

May 17, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Correctional Officer Timothy Betts was honored during a memorial ceremony at the National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial in Washington D.C. Officer Betts, a 15 year veteran, died in the line of duty on August 26, 2012 at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Officer Betts name was among the 321 officers who were added to the memorial wall this year. In September, Officer Betts will also be honored with his name inscribed on the Indiana Law Enforcement and Firefighters Memorial in Indianapolis. (see photo right)



The Rockville Correctional Facility's ADOPT (Animals Depending On Prison Time) program presented a check to the Parke Vermillion County Humane Shelter for \$448. The money was generated through a fundraiser where offenders donated money in order to receive Vidal Sassoon hair conditioner. The ADOPT program has been up and running for one year and much of the success is due to the wonderful partnership with the shelter and its staff and volunteers!

Officer Donald Gouldsmith of the Plainfield Correctional Facility built a military display to create positive and meaningful recognition and to reflect the sense of professionalism and dedication of staff in the armed forces both past and present. The memorabilia cabinet will display unit patches, unit crests, photos, rank insignia, and any number of small items that are donated. "As proud as I was to have served, I am even prouder to have been given the opportunity by the facility to have this completed for all veterans." (see photo left of Officer Gouldsmith)



Madison Correctional Facility participated in the annual Day of Caring, sponsored by the Jefferson County United Way. This event conducts local service projects for area organizations. Volunteers performed lawn work and exterior maintenance, such as gutter cleaning. Other volunteers were sent to local businesses to paint, and five offenders, with Unit Team Manager Howerton, stained a deck at Life Springs Mental Health.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) has two new Correctional Police Officers (CPOs). Emergency Operations Executive Director Richard Curry presented Keith McDonald and Nick Hatfield with their CPO credentials and badges. McDonald, formally with the Linton Police Department, and Hatfield, former Military and Sullivan Police Officer, have joined the Internal Affairs Division at WVCF and have "hit the ground running" as relentless, seasoned investigators.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) held its Annual Volunteer Appreciation Dinner prepared by Aramark for over 60 volunteers from a variety of organizations. The visiting room was decorated with posters that the offenders had made expressing their thanks to the volunteers, and music was provided by the Praise Team. A special plaque was given to Carolyn MacDougall in memory of the 13 years her husband Deacon James MacDougall, who passed away this year, had given to CIF. Certificates of appreciation and excellence coins were given to each group by Superintendent Wendy Knight, who thanked the volunteers for the difference they are making in the lives of the population.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility was filled with the sound of children's laughter as 12 offenders from the facility graduated from the InsideOut Dads program. Over 40 family members attended the graduation, including the children of the graduates, to share the joy and have a little fun with dad. Games such as musical chairs, pool, ping pong, and corn hole were available to allow the fathers to interact with their children outside in the beautiful Chain O' Lake State Park. Pizza, cupcakes, and ice cream were provided for everyone to enjoy.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a presentation on the Shroud of Turin. Students, staff and Central Office personnel and community members were in attendance for the presentation. The presentation included a replica of the Shroud, negative images of the Shroud, artifacts from the period to include a spear head, nail. The presentation was delivered by Dr. Charles Dietzen, MD, the founder of Timmy Global Health.

Offenders in Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic Community are learning the art of expression, literally speaking. Addiction Recovery Specialist Aleycia McCullough, an accomplished artist, teaches the fundamentals of drawing and painting. As an elective in the TC, offenders are encouraged to discover hobbies that replace addictive behavior. The art class is the newest of numerous creative energy classes in the community.

The Indiana State Prison Celebrated Correction Week with many activities. There was a Flag Ceremony for staff in front of the Administration Building, a luncheon for both the educators and medical staff, a 5K Walk/Run at Striebel Pond, and a guess the baby contest. A quarterly assembly was held in the chapel to honor staff with a special presentation from Bill Moulton on Suicide Prevention/Intervention.

The Indianapolis Parole District was well represented by Specialized Parole Agent Denise Jackson who attended a play presented by the Indianapolis Public Library African American History Committee, titled "Re-entry: Doing Time is Easy; It's Living That's Hard." Agent Jackson interacted with those in attendance, answering questions about the experience of the past season of filming and identifying community resources to aid those offenders in need of additional tools to aid in their successful re-entry.

A Pendleton Correctional Facility work crew participated in a community service project at the historic Grove Lawn Cemetery located in Pendleton, IN. A group of six offenders housed at the facility's minimum security Outside Dorm, supervised by Correctional Officer Terry Riggs, trimmed around grave markers.

May 24, 2013

Weekly Views

The Prison Greyhounds Pet Walk exceeded everyone's best expectations. Team DOC had 27 registered walkers, many of whom brought along their canine companions. Several greyhound graduates and their adoptive families also joined the walk. Preliminary figures indicate a total of nearly \$6000 was raised from this event! Of this fantastic figure, about \$4000 is from Team DOC, Madison Correctional Facility and Putnamville Correctional Facility. Thank you to all who participated. (see photo below)

More than 100 walkers and runners participated in Miami Correctional

Facility's 3rd annual Prison 5K Run/Walk and Fun Run.

T-shirts were given out as well as trophies to the first and second place winners in several age categories. The event is held in Bunker Hill near the prison and is an official 5K race. This year the facility was placed on the Club Kokomo Roadrunners official points calendar, which helped bring in more people. The club has members in several surrounding counties. The event raised more than \$1,000 for the facility's Correctional Employee Appreciation Committee.



The Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana received many good applications for the Spring 2013 scholarships and are pleased to announce the following winners: William Welch, employee at the Reception Diagnostic Facility, \$5000 Commissioner's Scholarship; Bridget Elston, daughter of Madison Correctional Facility employee, \$3000 Public Safety Scholarship; and Bradley Burton, employee at the Rockville Correctional Facility, \$2000 Public Service Scholarship. Four \$1000 scholarships were also awarded to Stephen Hancock, son of Wabash Valley Correctional Facility employee; Kayla Brennan, daughter of Westville Correctional Facility employees; Jason Underhill, Corizon contract employee at the Branchville Correctional Facility; and Naomi Whitaker, daughter of Corizon contract employee at the Correctional Industrial Facility.

Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility, along with seven community first response agencies, participated in the facility's annual disaster drill. Though it happens yearly, preparation for the mock emergency scenario is one of the best kept secrets and generated a quick response from everyone. The annual drill emphasizes and reinforces cohesion and teamwork among agencies. This year's scenario involved an explosion and fire in one of the facility's large biomass boilers. Four personnel were injured, with injuries moulaged in advance for realism. (see photo left) After the drill, everyone gathered to debrief and share refreshments offered by Aramark.

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility's Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit donated two dollhouses to The Emberwood Center, which offers adult and adolescent drug, alcohol and other addictive treatments.



Pre-release Re-entry coordinator Kelli Searing and staff processed 297 offenders for state IDs from the Bureau of Motor Vehicles. The mobile BMV unit issued over 238 pieces of identification to offenders at the Putnamville Correctional Facility.

Members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility Honor Guard were selected to place a wreath during the unveiling of a new K-9 Memorial that was dedicated at The Gardens at Willowcrest Park in Anderson, IN. (pictured right) The memorial honors K-9 Officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty and those who have faithfully served, retired, and passed on. Guest speakers at the event included Anderson Mayor Kevin Smith and Anderson Police Chief Larry Crenshaw.



Indianapolis Parole District #3 (PD3) is participating in 24 Hours of Booty, a fundraising event for national and local cancer initiatives. On June 28, staff from PD3 will take turns riding the bicycle course at Butler University's for 24 hours. The team's goal is to have someone riding at all times! If you would like to support PD3 in the fight against cancer, please click on the link below to help them reach their goal of \$2200. www.24hoursofbooty.org/goto/IDOC-PD3 24 Hours of Booty is the Official 24 Hour Cycling Event of the Lance Armstrong Foundation (LAF) and benefits the IU Simon Cancer Center.

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COL) participated in Noble County's Relay for Life fundraiser for the American Cancer Society. Staff and offenders combined with a team for the event called "Butterflies from Heaven". Cheryl Kirchner, the nurse at COL, represented the facility by walking the track at the event. Ms. Kirchner collected donations by selling luminaries, which she decorated and placed around the track. The team collected a total of \$3,311.50, taking first place. The entire event brought in over \$40,900.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted its annual Volunteer Recognition Dinner, attended by approximately 40 volunteers. Certificates of appreciation were presented to the volunteers, and dinner was prepared and served by the Culinary Arts teacher and students. Entertainment consisted of a "Family Feud" game show skit by the Venture Scouts.

Offenders from the PLUS Program at New Castle Correctional Facility donated \$3,000 to the Henry County Sheriff's "Kids Camp."

The Correctional Industrial Facility held their quarterly and yearly award ceremony to recognize employees for their contributions to the facility. Rookie of Year awards went to Officers Sarah Runyan and Meggan Smith and Caseworker Jennifer Matthews. Most Dedicated Employee of the Year went to Secretary Laura Rasmussen, while Employee of the Year went to Elmer Blevins, Physical Plant Manager/Maintenance Supervisor. The Yearly Extra Mile Award went to Officer Michael Tonuc and two Supervisors of the Year awards were given one to Capt. Charile Fox and the other to Lt. James Powell. Quarterly awards were given to Dr. Melissa Hurst, Lead Physiologist, Contractual Employee of the Quarter; James (Matt) Johnson, Employee of the Quarter; Manuel Diaz, Officer of the Quarter; and Sgt. Brian Stoner, Supervisor of the Quarter. The Extra Mile Quarterly Award went to Carleatta Wright, mailroom. Wendy Knight, Superintendent, expressed her gratitude to all the award winners saying, "Their hard work is appreciated and we are happy to have the opportunity to recognize those who perform at such a high level of excellence."



WJLT radio based in Evansville, broadcast LIVE from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS Unit, a first ever for a maximum-security facility! Show host Johnny Kincaid, a long time Kairos volunteer, wanted to showcase PLUS and its emphasis on community service. Johnny and co-host Julie Michaels let their audience know how the faith and character based unit helps prepare offenders for a successful return to society. They also talked about the need for volunteers in the unit and got input from PLUS participants noting how the program has positively impacted their lives. (see photo left)

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation for eight students who completed the program. Students and their parents celebrated that achievement together at the graduation ceremony. This was the facility's 58th CLIFF graduation to date. The program was implemented in October of 2005 and is the only CLIFF unit operating within a juvenile facility.

Playwright and Martin University Liberal Arts Professor Nicole Kearney Davis, along with an eight-member cast, presented her play entitled "re-Entry" to staff and residents at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility. The play centers around the life of George Jackson, as he struggles to rebuild his life, reposition himself within society, find employment and housing, and repair family relationships strained by his repeated incarcerations. After the play, Dr. Willie Jenkins, Re-entry Administrator for the Office of Mayor Greg Ballard, and cast members (pictured right) discussed ways residents can overcome some of the barriers to successful re-entry such as homelessness, drugs, and other causes of recidivism depicted in the play.



Kristine St. Martin, Correctional Lieutenant at the Indiana State Prison, graduated from the La Porte County Leadership Program. Throughout the nine month program, participants gain valuable exposure to community leaders, programs and service initiatives, while engaging in interactive assignments, which raise community awareness and action.

Miami Correctional Facility held its first-ever combined Clean Living is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) and Growth, Responsibility, Integrity, Purpose (GRIP) graduation ceremony for 83 graduates. Both programs are designed to provide intensive drug rehabilitation for methamphetamine/amphetamine users (CLIFF) and poly-substance users (GRIP). The first residential CLIFF program opened at Miami in April 2005. After the success of the CLIFF program, the state opened the GRIP program in May 2011. The programs have proven to be successful in that recidivism rates after leaving prison have been shown to be much lower among those who participated in the CLIFF program versus those who did not.

The Indianapolis Parole District has engaged in an innovative and strategic partnership with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department (IMPD) Northwest District, to identify and more closely monitor offenders released to parole with a history of violent crime, burglary, or robbery. Specialized Parole Agent Ryan Matthys and dedicated police officers assigned to such paroled-offenders will routinely communicate and coordinate supervision activities in an effort to reduce recidivism by providing motivation and support to offenders to remain crime-free and become productive members of society. The available resource support for the offenders may include access to counseling, mentoring, employment referrals, financial assistance, and housing. The approach to public safety moving forward is an initiative hopeful to be duplicated in each IMPD District with IDOC Parole Agents in tandem situated in those District Offices.

On Mother's Day, 46 members of The Notre Dame Folk Choir were in the Indiana State Prison Chapel to put on a choral program for the offender population. There were approximately 180 offenders in attendance along with Catholic volunteers. ISP is one of many places the choir sings each year.



The Putnamville Correctional Facility's K-9 unit held a demonstration for 4th and 5th grade students on Career Exploration Day at Rio Grande Elementary School. The students were excited and captivated as handlers issued commands and canines performed tactical maneuvers. School administrators commended staff for giving an informative and professional presentation. (see photo left)

Pendleton Correctional Facility Payroll Department employee Joann Colvin was honored during a retirement celebration in recognition of her 23 years of dedicated service to the State of Indiana. Everyone at the facility will miss Joann and wish her the best as she begins her well deserved retirement.

The New Castle Correctional Facility hosted a golf tournament with players coming from across the state. The proceeds from the tournament, totaling \$1,884.48, were donated to the New Castle Animal Shelter.

May 31, 2013

Weekly Views

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility has joined forces with Indiana Special Olympics as the Summer Games begin next week. Stephanie Stewart and Dave Breen of Special Olympics Indiana briefed staff about the upcoming Bocce Ball competition. Wabash PLUS and Fatherhood participants donated funds to make (thanks Wabash Maintenance) 12 new Bocce Ball courts for the games and Wabash crews have volunteered to staff the event for the very special athletes.

Miami Correctional Facility held its second Employee Appreciation Ride with about 30 bikes participating in the 100-mile trek across northern Indiana. The ride began at the facility and headed north on a scenic route

to Kerstings Harley Davidson Shop, and then to the Wooden Nickel Restaurant where riders ate and received door prizes.

Riders had so much fun another ride is being considered for the Fall. (see photo right)



The First United Methodist Church Ministries of Pendleton was the recipient of a food donation made possible by the Pendleton Correctional Facility/Grace College Vocational Horticulture Program. Instructor Phil Greenburg and the students enrolled in the program harvested 76 pounds of Boston Head Lettuce and 63 pounds of Romaine lettuce that was donated to the Methodist Church Food Pantry which is located at Grace College's Ingalls, IN campus. Since January 1, the vocational program has donated over 500 pounds of vegetables and herbs to this organization.

The Rockville Correctional Facility Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program has created a PLUS garden as part of the community service required of program participants. The garden has been planted and labeled and will be tended to by PLUS offenders. All of the resulting harvests will be donated to the House of Hope in Brazil, IN, an organization dedicated to assisting those in need with transitional housing, food and other needs. (see photo below)



Memorial Day is a time of remembrance for all veterans who served their country, and now in cemeteries throughout the country and on foreign soil. The American Legion Post 451 of Michigan City joined in this remembrance by placing a wreath at cemetery flagpole located on the grounds of the Indiana State Prison in order to pay tribute to any veterans which may be resting there.

Martin University has begun their third semester at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP). The enrollment has increased nearly 50% with 53 offenders participating in classes such as Journalism, Sociology, History, studying the History of Indiana Women's Prison and Music Appreciation. All the professors are volunteers and donate their time to instruct the classes three days a week. Offenders will be able to earn their Liberal Arts degree, or upon

discharge from the facility have earned credit hours from Martin University. The offenders and staff at IWP appreciate all the work, coordination and commitment from Dr. Kelsey Kauffman and James Patterson for spearheading the program and giving the offenders a wonderful opportunity for successful re-entry into their communities.

The Correctional Industrial Facility's 14 member Praise Team entertained over 80 offenders with song and praise. The two hour gospel concert was held in the chapel and included an original song written by one of the team members. Chaplain Alan McCraine played guitar and led a sing-a-long with a "Do Lord Medley" and the crowd favorite "Old Time Religion."

Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility staff and guests gathered in the facility chapel to celebrate the graduation of residents who have completed U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) apprenticeship programs. Ten residents completed registered USDOL skills and training programs in Residential Commercial & Industrial Housekeeping, Office Management & Administrative Services, and Automotive Technician, earning them nationally recognized certifications in their fields. Combined, the graduates logged a total of 23,584 hours utilizing their education and practical skills while working at jobsites both on and off facility grounds. A small reception honoring the graduates followed the ceremony.



Teamwork between custody staff at the Westville Correctional Facility, the Therapeutic Community (TC) and ARAMARK provided the groundwork for a successful Therapeutic Community Family Reintegration seminar. Fourteen offenders and their families participated in the program. Family members could hear and experience firsthand from their offender about their participation in the TC. With the support of the TC staff present, the offender's discussed their fears and anxieties about their release and shared their goals of a healthy re-entry. Everyone in attendance enjoyed a special luncheon provided by ARAMARK.

The Indianapolis Parole District Office hosted their first "Bring Your Child to Work" day with breakfast, crafts and games. Twenty children attended and participated in the event along with parole staff. Everyone had fun and enjoyed spending time together.

June 7, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) Executive Director Sally Irvin, along with some of her staff, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to take photographs of the offenders that have been selected to participate in the new ICAN Program being implemented at the facility. Sally will be visiting the facility once a week to conduct training for the first group of offender handlers, with the first group of dogs expected sometime in late July. (see photo below)



Seven low-security offenders, supervised by Westville Correctional Facility custody staff, assisted LaPorte County Habitat for

Humanity in moving, painting and light construction work to prepare their Michigan City location for a July 1 Grand Opening. Habitat for Humanity staff complimented the staff and offenders on their efforts and were impressed enough to request our assistance the following week.

500 Special Olympic athletes competing in Bocce Ball will have 12 all-new courts this year, thanks to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility teamwork! PLUS and Fatherhood program participants donated \$3,000 for materials used by the Wabash Maintenance crews to make the courts for this weekend's games in Terre Haute.



Minimum-security offenders helped put the much needed new courts together at Wolf Field on the Indiana State University campus. "This is teamwork and community spirit at its very best!" said Superintendent Richard Brown, who will be joining Wabash volunteers to help out at the Bocce competition. (see photo left)

The Indianapolis Parole District Office, represented by Parole Agent John Hosler, participated in an Offender Employment Specialist Training (OES) Workshop sponsored by AmeriCorps-Starting over Re-entry Program. This training was facilitated by former felons sharing their successful re-entry stories and identifying barriers to achieving gainful employment and elaborating on the

available resources in assisting them to overcome these barriers. The value of the training was defined in the agent's ability to identify, counsel, and instruct prospective employees as to their individual barriers to employment and refer them to community resources to assist them in securing and maintaining continued employment.

Indiana Horseman Benevolent Protection Association President Joe Davis and Executive Director Mike Brown presented Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and Equine Instructor Barbara Holcomb with a check for \$20,000 during a Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation open house held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The money was donated to the facility's Equine Management program in recognition of the outstanding care and training of retired thoroughbreds.

Angela Duncan, Military Outreach Coordinator for the Indiana Committee for Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR), presented the prestigious Department of Defense Patriot Award to Plainfield Correctional Facility Captain Harry Jackson in recognition of extraordinary support of military employees who serve in the Indiana National Guard, on behalf of SPC Kyle Bolton, 1-293rd Indiana Army National Guard. (see photo right)



Team DOC made another great showing at the Race Away From Domestic Violence, which was held over the weekend at Victory Field in Indianapolis. Participants included (see photo



below L to R) Kelsey Pagley, Tim Greathouse, Robin Pagley, David Reeves, Hope Greathouse, Tyler Pagley, Chris Dehart, Amanda Dehart, and Lane Coffin.

Offenders and staff in Miami Correctional Facility's Miami Accessible Media Project celebrated its 5-year anniversary Thursday with Party Subs from Subway and words of appreciation from officials with the Indiana School for the Blind & Visually Impaired and PEN Products. The program has far exceeded anyone's original expectations, according to Jim Durst, Indiana School for the Blind and Visually Impaired Superintendent. And even though it is one of the newest of the 47 programs nationwide, it is one of the best and most recognized. The program

has grown from offenders learning Braille and transcribing K-12 grade textbooks for Indiana visually impaired school children to producing large format textbooks, accessible/digital file books and tactile graphics.

The Correctional Industrial Facility has completed the renovation of the playroom in the visiting area after several months of hard work by Offenders Schmitt and Pratt. The duo painted different scenes on each section of the walls that include super heroes, an underwater ocean scene, and a medieval castle complete with dragon. Offender Aaron Meeks and his family were the first to enjoy the playroom and expressed how much easier this would make visits

with children. Coloring books, toys and a "seek and find" on the ocean scene give the children and opportunity to connect and play games in an environment that is kid friendly.

Early Memorial Day morning, American Legion INVET Post 311 members held an event at the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) to honor and remember fallen American soldiers. Open to the entire facility, the ceremony included the recounting of the history and origin of Decoration Day (the decoration of the graves of Civil War veterans with flowers), a prayer in remembrance of all U.S. soldiers who had made the ultimate sacrifice for America's freedom, a flag raising then lowering to half mast, and the playing of "Taps" by veteran and IREF INVET Resident Derek Lane. Several residents and staff attended the ceremony.



June 14, 2013

Weekly Views

Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility participated in the celebration of the City of Kendallville's Sesquicentennial Birthday by taking part in a public art project. Local artists were asked to decorate a 10 foot tall windmill that will be placed on display in downtown Kendallville June through September 14. Artists at Chain O' Lakes decorated two windmills from the Noble County Visitor's Bureau with the themes "Making a World of Differences" and "Birds of Nature". On November 9, the windmills will be moved to the Windmill Museum for the End of Summer Celebration and public auction. (see photo below)



The final figures are in, and this year the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) Golf Tournament cleared \$6,000 more than last year for a total of \$24,500! Thank you to all who participated in or volunteered at this fun event. Since the CPAFI began, it has issued 49 emergency grants helping 123 people who have been displaced due to fire, flood, or tornado, or have experienced other catastrophic events. In addition, \$46,000 has been distributed in educational scholarships to staff and their families.

The Hendricks County Humane Society was on hand to receive a donation from Plainfield Correctional Facility (IYC) for \$1000. The donation came from proceeds from the annual IYC Golf Tournament held on June 7, 2013, as well as a contribution from offenders in the facility's PLUS Program. On hand to receive the donation was Ms. Merrily Nilles along with other volunteer staff. Ms. Nilles was very appreciative of the donation, indicating that the money would be put into immediate use. (see photo right)



A graduation ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor the most recent GED and Vocational Horticulture graduates housed at the facility's minimum security Outside Dorm (OSD). Pastor Demetrius Warren of the Everlasting Dominion Fellowship Church located in Kokomo, IN served as guest speaker for the event.

Wabash Valley (WVCF) and Putnamville Correctional Facility staff were all smiles as Special Olympic athletes filled the Terre Haute Hulman Civic Center for the Opening Ceremonies of the Summer Games. Wabash Valley Superintendent Richard Brown, who also proudly carried the Olympic Torch during the morning torch run, said he was thrilled with staff help at the WVCF-built Bocce courts competition. "It was humbling, it was inspiring and we were proud to volunteer to work with these special athletes!" (see photo right, L to R: Superintendent Richard Brown, Putnamville Captain John Steckler, WVCF Utility Captain Vera Barnett, Sergeant Earl Brock, Kenneth Brock and Correctional Officer Barbie Brock)



Grace College held a commencement ceremony for honoring offenders earning their Associate and Bachelor Degrees at the Indiana State Prison. Fifteen students received an Associate Degree and five students earned their Bachelor's Degree. This was a very proud moment for the graduates, family members and staff. 2013 marks the 27th Year Grace College has been educating the men incarcerated at Indiana State Prison.

Thirty one individuals from an array of state agencies involved in the delivery of reentry services to offenders in Indiana graduated as certified Office of Workforce Development Specialist trainer after completing the intensive three week training course. This training will enable the certified individuals in helping offenders transition to the community by developing long term career plans and tools needed to compete in today's job market. Congratulations all!

The Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Recreation Department hosted its first Health Fair in which more than 150 residents and staff participated. Registered nurses and other healthcare professionals from the Marion County Health Department (MCHD) provided participants with free nutritional information, blood pressure checks, glucose, cholesterol, and other health screenings. MCHD Environmental Health Specialists were on hand to answer questions concerning neighborhood and housing health and provided information about food and consumer safety, mosquito control, water quality and hazardous materials management, housing codes, preventing and eradicating pest infestations, and how to maintain healthy living environments.

Camp Summit Boot Camp staff and students are participating in the LaPorte County Relay for Life to support The American Cancer Society. Students are not only helping with the set-up, clean-up, and maintenance at the event itself, but they are also helping to make paracord bracelets to raise money for the cause. The students are all extremely energized and interested in doing what they can to give back. Camp Summit staff have also put together a team to walk at the Relay event, to include family friends and a few staff from neighboring facilities.

Rockville Correctional Facility's Promoting Positive Correctional Culture Committee selected Correctional Officer Paul R. Johnson as Employee of the Month for May 2013. Officer Johnson was chosen for the award because he routinely and consistently displays a positive attitude while maintaining a professional approach to his daily duties.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a CLIFF graduation for eight students. This was the 59th group of students who have graduated from CLIFF, with a total of 315 graduates.

June 21, 2013

Weekly Views

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held community service events thanks to student assistance. Eleven students participated in preparing the Logansport High School Football field for the American Cancer Society Annual Relay for Life event. Students also worked the kitchen at the Salvation Army in preparing and serving food for the weekly soup kitchen conducted by the organization.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) raised \$2,425.74 for the American Cancer Society in its Mini Relay For Life and had more than 1,000 offenders contribute and walk in the event.

This was by far the largest Mini-Relay the facility has had since it began in 2007. In the six years MCF has held a Mini Relay For Life a total of \$9,279.60 has been donated to the American Cancer Society. (see photo right)



Offenders in the Rockville Correctional Facility PLUS program hand crocheted items for the Wabash Valley March of Dimes, including 50 preemie blankets, 14 baby blankets, 214 preemie hats, 60 baby hats, 19 booties and 44 child hats. The PLUS program also donated its first bountiful harvest of 210 radishes to the House of Hope in Brazil, IN. The offenders planted and have been tending the garden as a community service project.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) hosted its inaugural Law Enforcement Torch Run to benefit Special Olympics Indiana at Falls Park in Pendleton, IN. The event opened with a demonstration by the Anderson Police Department's K9 unit. This was followed by the Special Olympics Pledge and the singing of the national anthem.

The event drew over 45 participants from several local law enforcement agencies and IDOC correctional facilities. Over \$1500 was raised by the event. CIF's Operations Officer Megan McClain organized the event. (see photo left)



The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) presented "In The Line of Duty" honors to the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF), in honor of fallen Officer Timothy Betts. CPOF member Randolph Deneau from the Montgomery County Jail made the presentation to WVCF Superintendent Richard Brown. The CPOF bestowed the tribute during their annual meeting in Reno, Nevada. Officer Betts, a 15 year Department veteran, suffered a fatal heart attack this past August while escorting an unruly offender to segregation. Superintendent Brown said the plaque will join a facility display paying tribute to "a consummate professional and true role model."

Three staff members from U.S. Senator Dan Coats' office, Virginia Cain, Charlie Chamness and Noah Patten, toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility to learn more about the daily operations of an all-male adult maximum security facility. Isaac Randolph, IDOC Deputy Director of Transition and Re-Entry, accompanied the group on the tour. The group has previously toured the Indiana Women's Prison and plans to visit the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility as part of an effort to engage in the criminal justice system.

The Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) celebrated the graduation of 143 U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program completers. The offenders were graduating from PEN Products operations, Aramark kitchens and the MCF Apprenticeship program. Friends and family members were able to attend and congratulate the offenders after a short program. Many of the MCF DOL apprenticeship programs require more than 1,000 hours of classroom work as well as on-the-job training to complete. "The recipients of the U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Program are learning new job skills and are preparing for a successful, career focused re-entry," stated IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon. (see photo right)



The Venture Scouts at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a campout. Troop Leaders taught the students how to set up a tent. They also participated in the Rain Gutter Regatta and team building activities.

Staff at the Westville Correctional Facility celebrated their Correction's Week with a day of festivities. The morning began with a ceremonial flag raising and words of encouragement and appreciation from Superintendent Mark Levenhagen. The rest of the day was filled with friends and family who attended the facility's Annual Open House/Family Day. Guests could view the grounds, watch the Emergency Response units (E-Squad, SERT, K-9) in full gear, and enjoy lunch served by administrative staff. The highlight of the day was the youngsters who were overwhelmed with pride and excitement as they participate in special activities and walked the facility with their family members.

The weather was perfect in northern Indiana for the Indiana State Prison to celebrate Staff Appreciation Day. Staff and their family members were treated to a day of demonstrations by K-9, SERT, and E-Squad units. Everyone also enjoyed a free lunch, children's games and horse drawn carriage rides around the outside of the facility. Representatives from local health organizations hosted booths to promote awareness and education. The Michigan City Fire Department brought their traveling smoke house to the facility for the children to experience and enjoy. The Michigan City Police Department brought their new electric car for everyone to view. Superintendent Bill Wilson even took a turn in the Dunk Tank.

June 28, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) held a re-dedication ceremony for the newly refurbished facility chapel, which was renamed in honor of former Superintendent Pam Cline. Since 2010, IWP staff and offenders have worked extremely hard in collaboration with Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Construction Services staff to revitalize this beautiful chapel while teaching the offenders skills for successful re-entry into the community. Several current and former staff, along with Pam Cline's family, joined together for the celebration. Former Superintendent Dana Blank and current Superintendent Steve McCauley presented Pam's husband with honorary copies of the plaque that will be displayed at the Chapel for many years to come. (see photo below)

American Legion State Commander Dick Jewell attended a meeting of the Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Post #608. During the meeting, the offenders conducted their annual installation of officers and Commander Jewel served as the Installing Officer. Seven new offenders were initiated into the Legion raising the organization's membership to 32 offenders. At the conclusion of the meeting, the members of Post #608 presented Commander Jewel with a check in the amount of \$608 which he will utilize in connection with his annual project at the Indiana Veterans Home.



IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and Indiana State Police (ISP) Superintendent Doug Carter joined IDOC and ISP staff at the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) to recognize ISP Detective Bob May and thank him for his dedication to assisting the Department and serving CIF and the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Detective Hays has been an invaluable asset to the Internal Affairs Department at both facilities and has assisted in dozens of arrests as the result of trafficking attempts and offender assaults, sometimes on his day off. (see photo left, (L to R): Pendleton Superintendent Dushan Zatecky, IDOC Commissioner Lemmon, Detective May, CIF Superintendent Wendy Knight, ISP Superintendent Carter)



Camp Summit Boot Camp is pleased to announce that the facility received a perfect score of 100% on mandatory standards and 100% for non-mandatory standards during an American Correctional Association (ACA) reaccreditation and compliance audit. The visiting committee stated in their closing comments that "Camp Summit clearly is a highly effectively facility that truly cares about the students in their charge and would be a place that they would feel proud to serve at."

A volunteer appreciation dinner was held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Organized by program coordinator, Derek Smith, 24 volunteers were recognized for their services to the facility. A special presentation was made to Gene Woodcox, Director of New Hope Prison Ministry in Brazil, IN, for 40 years of service. (see photo right of Gene Woodcox)



Graduation 2013 at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility was a huge success! 150 offenders donned caps and gowns, earning GED, Vocational and Apprenticeship certificates. IDOC Chief of Staff Amanda Copeland, Executive Director Michael Osburn and Deputy Commissioner Jim Basinger were on hand for the special commencement along with District 45 State Representative Kreg Battles. Proud family members cheered the graduates, taking major steps on the road to re-entry.

IDOC and PEN Products were recognized in Washington D.C. for their cutting edge re-entry efforts including U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship programs, Career Development and the Offender Workforce Development Specialist training. PEN Products Operations and Re-entry Manager Doug Evans participated in a re-entry initiatives work group developing a new employer driven model for connecting offenders to the world of work, sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections (NIC). Mr. Evans was one of five workgroup members representing probation, law enforcement, workforce development and NIC program development. The new model "Connecting Offenders to Employment" under development will roll out spring 2014 at the National Correctional Industries Conference.

Miami Correctional Facility finished the planting of its facility garden. The garden is 1400 square feet and is located on the north end of the warehouse. The facility has planted 200 Blue Lake green bean plants, 100 tomato plants of different varieties, and close to 50 pepper plants. The produce grown in the garden will go to help feed the hungry at EMMAUS Mission Center in Logansport and the Hillsdale food pantry at the Kokomo Rescue Mission.

Staff from the Gary Parole District joined Lake County, Homeland Security, the Chicago Police Department, and various other local law enforcement agencies to participate in "Operation No Safe Harbor" in Lake County, IN. The goal of this operation is to target High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) with as many law enforcement agencies as possible to focus on serving outstanding warrants on confirmed gang members and conduct home visits with confirmed gang members that are on Parole Supervision.

Two Bloomington Parole District agents were recognized for their diligence in working with local law enforcement to apprehend a registered sex offender in violation of his parole and potentially saving two young victims from harm.

July 12, 2013

Weekly Views

Local playwright Andrew Black presented his new play, "Puppet Man," at the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF). The play is based on real-life events that took place in an Ohio prison where a group of inmates worked with a New York University professor and the puppet theater she started in a prison. Seven IREF residents participated in the developmental reading "Puppet Man" in different capacities. The "Puppet Man" reading was the premier for the IREF Center for the Performing Arts, which was started by residents with the goal of performing and bringing other forms of theater arts and entertainment artists to the facility. (see photo below)

Congratulations to Westville Correctional Facility's Therapeutic

Community (TC) Creative Writing class, an elective in the TC. The offender/students have completed their children's story and coloring book; "Lost Paws, A Puppy's Tale". The children's book will be available in the facility's Children's Library; and copies are being sent to the Life Center in Michigan City, for their young guests. The book includes fill in the blanks, where children can name their own puppy.



Students enrolled in Martin University at the Indiana Women's prison had the privilege to learn about Indiana House Bill 1006. Larry Landis, Executive Director at Indiana Public Defender Council taught a two hour class about the process of rewriting Indiana's Criminal Code which had not been revised and reviewed since the 1980's. At the end of class the students had the opportunity to ask questions related to the bill and a research project about the History of Indiana Women's Prison. Mr. Landis encouraged the students to write articles for the newsmagazine that will explain the changes in the code and possible unintended consequences of the sentencing changes that the legislature made. The legislature delayed enactment of the new law until 2014 to enable the legislature to consider the impact that the bill may have.

Agents and supervisors from the Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office rode over 300 miles on a 3.5 mile loop surrounding the campus of Butler University for "24 Hours of Booty", a bicycle ride to fight cancer sponsored by the Livestrong Foundation in its tenth year. A portion of the funds raised by each rider from its sponsors will directly benefit the Indiana University Simon Cancer Center. Each rider in the event raised individual funds towards their participation in the event and assisted with corporate and individual donors as well, in meeting the team goal that exceeded \$2,500. (see team photo left)



Miami Correctional Facility received visits from two writers from the AMC television show "The Killing". The writers came in to interview staff and tour the facility to get incite and do research on how a prison operates and about individuals who work there. They are preparing for a new series called "Prisontown" which centers on a prison warden and his connections in the prison and outside in the community near the prison. Laurence Fishburne has shown interest in playing the warden.

Father Bob Nemergut has retired from the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility after over 16 years of service. "Father Bob" provided spiritual guidance to offenders in segregation, the facility's mental health unit and minimum-security. Prior to becoming a facility chaplain he was a religious services volunteer, something Father Bob plans to revisit soon. Superintendent Richard Brown presented the longtime chaplain with a commemorative plaque and custom quilt from the PLUS Unit in appreciation for his service to population and staff. Father Bob said he has been asked to serve as chaplain for an upcoming excursion to Jerusalem and he plans to fine tune his hobby, playing in competitive ping pong tournaments. (see photo of Father Bob right with his PLUS quilt)



Fox 59 reporter Ann Keil visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview Correctional Police Officer and Internal Affairs Supervisor Tom Francum in connection with a story she is preparing relative to the issue of cell phones in prisons. During her visit, Ms. Keil was also provided the opportunity to observe a demonstration of a cell phone detection canine searching a cell. The air date for the story has not yet been determined.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) PLUS garden reaped its first harvest with ten pounds of went to the Read and Feed program in Pendleton, IN which is a combination of bookmobile and food pantry. This year looks to be a great year for gardens and the CIF garden is off to a great start with the help gardeners, Ann Bull and Kay Marcson who are working with the PLUS offenders. Ms. Bull stated, with how the offenders have taken ownership of the garden and the hard work they are putting into it".

Offenders from the Jewish Community purchased a Red Dogwood tree in honor and memory of Mr. Saul Berkowitz, a volunteer of 35 years at the Indiana State Prison. Three generations of Mr. Berkowitz's family were in attendance as Chaplain Terry Harman read the memorial and planted the tree on the grounds of the Indiana State Prison. (see photo left)



The Indiana Women's Prison had the honor of presenting the 2013 Indiana Canine Assistance Network graduation. The graduation was held after a two week long training for the dogs new placements. The new owners and "handlers" for the dogs spend two weeks in the facility learning to communicate their needs to the dogs and getting appropriate response. Each dog is paired with their new owners months before the team training so the dogs may be trained for specific needs of their owners. This graduation celebrated ICAN's 100th placement. Festus, a Red Fox Labrador Retriever was placed with a combat injured veteran. Also during the ceremony eight handlers were honored for their accomplishment of completed the U.S Department of Labor apprenticeship program of dog training.

Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) CLIFF Participant, Melissa Stinson recently had a poem published in Yard Out, a publication of Prisoners for Christ Outreach Ministry. The information in this literature is submitted by and distributed to incarcerated individuals throughout the United States. Ms. Stinson's experience in the CLIFF Unit at RCF brought her to an understanding of her situation through her children's eyes; which is the premise of her poem.



Offenders at the Pendleton Correctional Facility were treated to a special meal in recognition of the July 4th holiday. The meal included a hot dog, grilled barbecue chicken, ice cream, and a can of pop provided by PCF Offender American Legion Post #608. (see photo left)

Parole Agents from the Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office participated in a comprehensive community policing effort with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department-East District (IMPD), in response to the spike in criminal activity and multiple homicides recently in this area. Parole agents made positive contacts with many residing in the area of concentration and one paroled-offender was arrested for felony firearms violation and ammunition in his possession, while in other cases credible intelligence was realized concerning recent criminal activity to benefit our law enforcement partners.

Wabash Valley staffers responded in a big way to launch the 2013 IDOC Blood Drive Challenge! Sergeant Ron Powers and Stores Clerk Joan Jackman (pictured right) joined 57 other silent heroes in donating blood. The Indiana Blood Center noted this is the critical need time of year for donations. Each pint of blood donated can help up to three people! 25% of all blood products go to help people suffering from cancer or leukemia, or those who need bone marrow transplants. WVCF has been the large facility winner two years running but the real winners are the men, women and children who benefited from the gift of life!



Miami Correctional Facility held its IDOC Challenge Blood Drive, donating about 36 pints of blood to the American Red Cross. There was a steady stream of staff donating from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. (see photo left)

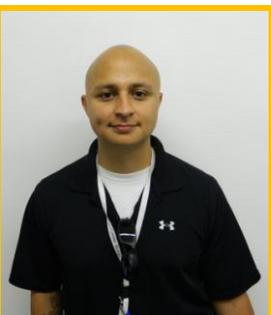
A Blood Drive was conducted by the Indiana Blood Center at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. The event resulted in the collection of 18 units of blood and donors received a \$5.00 Wal-Mart gift card for their participation.

Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) Superintendent Wendy Knight reports that thanks to the participation of staff, 37 units of blood were collected during the Red Cross visit to the facility on July 9 and 10. Superintendent Knight said, "The facility looks forward to this event each year and the yearly competition between facilities is a lot of fun." The

facility would like to thank all the employees who donated, covered posts so that others could participate and those that tried but could not donate.

A graduation ceremony was conducted at the Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility to recognize offenders who received their GED. The graduation also included offenders who completed the U.S. Department of Labor Housekeeping program. Family members of the graduates were invited to attend the ceremony. Superintendent Kathy Griffin expressed her appreciation to all those who worked so hard to make the programs a success, the family members who supported the graduates and to the graduates for their determination to succeed. (see photo right)

The Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted its first Oakland City University (OCU) education graduation. OCU site manager, Barbara Auman, and staff organized the ceremony in recognition of 130 offenders' successful completion of academic and vocational programs.



Miami Correctional Facility hosted two Straight Talk programs this week with about 35 students and adults. The first group came in from West Lafayette and the second group came in from Four County Counseling Center. The groups met with three offenders who tell them about the negatives of prison life and the importance of education and parental respect. The program has been in existence for 10 years.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility would like to welcome Internal Affairs Officer Bravlio Eloiza (pictured left) to the facility. Mr. Eloiza began his employment at Pendleton on Monday, July 8 as a transfer from the Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Mr. Eloiza will be a valuable addition to the PCF Internal Affairs Staff and we wish him well as he begins this new phase of his career.

July 19, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Women's Prison's Annual Children's Camp kicked off an Inaugural Big Wheel Race. The winner was awarded a Superman jersey as she drank her celebratory milk. The camp theme was Justice League. Both days involved a variety of events and competition for the mothers and children. Included were prizes, breakfast, lunch and a sack dinner to go for the children. There were a total of 52 mothers and 87 children who participated. (see photo right)



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility kicked off this year's donations of fresh produce to the Central Noble Food Pantry. Ten flats of vegetables along with fresh lettuce, pickles, cucumbers and sweet peppers were delivered to the food pantry.

These donations give the food pantry clients the opportunity to start their own gardens. Chain O'Lakes will continue to make weekly donations of fresh produce throughout the growing season. This is the third year Chain O' Lakes has been donating fresh produce to the Central Noble Food Pantry. (see photo left)



Offender's from the New Castle Correctional Facility PLUS unit entered three quilts in the Henry County 4-H Fair and received two First Place & one Second Place Ribbons. The next stop will be the Indiana State Fair with a special quilt just for that event.

An offender work crew from Westville Correctional Facility's Level 1 unit is helping to beautify the City of Gary. The off grounds work crew has been tasked with tearing down abandoned houses and cleaning up vacant lots in an effort to provide direct, positive benefits to the local community.

Volunteers and their positive impact on the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility PLUS program is the focus of a documentary. Crews with Ethics Daily plan to complete the program for airing in 2014. The Wabash PLUS quilting program will also be showcased in the show, emphasizing positive community service.

Two staff members from Plainfield Correctional Facility received a special visit from Governor Mike Pence. Governor Pence along with IDOC Commission Bruce Lemmon and State Personnel Director Anita Samuel recognized Physical Plant Stores Clerk Marva Wickware and PEN Products Plant Foreman Ed Spotts for their utilization of the Castlight Health website. Through a contest on the Castlight website, Marva won an iPad, and Ed won a FitBit. Castlight Health is a healthcare transparency tool being offender to state employees used to assist individuals in making smart choices in their health care costs. (see photo right)



Employees from the Indiana State Prison held a successful blood drive for the American Red Cross. Seventy-five potential lives were saved due to the continued support of the staff at the Indiana State Prison.

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) offenders were treated to a performance by Tanya Crevier and her two nephews Isaiah and Caleb Crevier, showing off their basketball and unicycle talents. Tanya is billed as the 'world's finest female basketball handler, performing her ball-handling routines at school assemblies, camps, churches and during halftime of many college and pro games. Crevier has also performed in more than 1,000 prisons in her 33-year career. Jack Brady, a MCF volunteer/mentor, presented Crevier with a plaque commemorating her 1,000th visit into a prison. Crevier has visited Miami at least two times in the past, but this is the first time she brought her nephews. Isaiah and Jacob Crevier perform with their family all over the world and were recently on "America's Got Talent".

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility 40 Assets Group held its first ever Gift Giving Community Service event. The students from the 40 Assets group organized a picnic for all students in the facility. During the picnic the 40 Assets students presented information on the group, prepared the picnic, demonstrated their public speaking skills and provided the gift giving. One student from the group was quoted as saying, "I liked how many positive aspects came out of the experience."

Members of the Pendleton Correctional Facility K-9 Unit provided a demonstration at Anderson University in conjunction with the Indiana State Police "Respect for Law Camp". The camp was for students entering the 5th and 6th grades. The camp provides these students with a close up look at law enforcement.

The Westville Correctional Facility Suicide Companion Training class was presented to 20 new PLUS unit trainees and as a required refresher course for 27 current Suicide Watch Companions. Soon they will be on the front lines, potentially making the difference between life and death. They certainly have our trust, admiration, and gratitude.

The Honor Guard from the Indiana State Prison presented the Colors at the Patriotic Program at Millennium Plaza in Michigan City. This was a wonderful time for our community to come together and celebrate those who serve and have fought for our county.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee conducted a "Back to School Fair" for the children and grandchildren of employees and contractual staff. One hundred twenty Pre-K through college-age children were provided with free backpacks and school supplies. Activities included a bounce house, balloon animals, a cookout, a variety of prizes, and games provided by the YMCA.

July 26, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Department of Homeland Security (IDHS) and the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) have collaborated to provide firefighting training to the Offender Fire Department at the Indiana State Prison (ISP). The training provides entry-level knowledge for participants to meet performance requirements and perform basic tasks. In the class, participants received classroom and hands-on lessons in topics such as fire behavior, forcible entry and ventilation. (photo below)

Jeanne Fox, who has been with IDOC Parole Services since 1984, was awarded a Fit-Bit by Commissioner Bruce

Lemmon at Central Office in recognition of utilizing State Personnel's new Castlight portal.

The 2013 Experienced and Emerging Leadership Program kicked off the third session at the beach in Michigan City, IN. Commissioner Lemmon, ISP Superintendent Bill Wilson, and Westville Superintendent Mark Levenhagen addressed the class at Washington Park. Groups presented team projects and cost saving ideas on the second day of the session at Red Mill Park in LaPorte, IN.



The Inside Out Dad Program at Pendleton Correctional Facility donated five baby blankets and five tote bags to the Alternatives Incorporated. The totes, made by the offenders from fruit drink pouches, were filled with an assortment of hygiene items that were donated by the facility's PLUS Program. The Alternatives organization is located in Anderson, IN and provides shelter and other services to victims of domestic violence. (photo left)



The Indiana Women's Prison Community Outreach Program hosted a Burger King fundraiser. The ladies enjoyed Whoppers, fish and chicken sandwiches, along with fresh salads and Heresy's pie. Food was brought in from two different stores. The ladies enjoyed the food

and raised \$728.91 that will be used to support homeless veterans, schools, nursing homes, hospitals, Susan B Komen Foundation, animal shelters, Indiana Canine Assistant Network and many other organizations.

On a breezy, sunny day in Michigan City, 40 IDOC employees, including the Commissioner, participated in the 1st Annual Healthy Lifestyle 5K Run/Walk. Volunteers cheered on runners and walkers for the three laps around Striebel Pond. It was a great morning for exercise and a promotion of healthy lifestyles. All participants received post-race snacks and a gift bag. Congrats to Katie Kinnaman for placing first and receiving a Fit Bit donated by State Personnel! (photo right)



The Red Cross Bloodmobile visited Camp Summit and was able to collect 15 units of blood from staff who donated. According to the American Red Cross, the drive potentially helped save 45 lives. The Bloodmobile visit, which was coordinated by Camp Summit staffer Mickey Ellch, was part of the IDOC's summer Blood Drive Challenge. (see photo left)

A huge "Congratulations" goes out to the staff at the Westville Correctional Facility for yet another successful Red Cross Blood Drive. The generous people at the facility donated 97 units, their largest to date. During the day and a half of the blood drive, the facility was filled with encouragement, camaraderie and the spirit of teamwork to help others in need of their donation.

Let the picking begin! It is harvest time at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. Approximately 20 pounds of produce was picked including green peppers, yellow squash, zucchini, green beans, cherry tomatoes and full size tomatoes. Of course Wabash garden supervisor Lt. Victor Linneweber notes this is just the beginning and the amounts will continue to grow, but it is a

great start! All items were turned over to WVCF Community Services for distribution to local food banks.

The Education Staff at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted Camp Cardinal. Students worked toward earning "Merit Badges" in a variety of fun and unusual topics. Classes included Traffic Safety, Scuba Diving, Journalism, Indian Lore and Archaeology.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held the facility's 27th PLUS graduation ceremony and celebration. As a group, the graduating students accumulated 250 hours of community service during the 12 week program. The program has maintained a vegetable garden and donates items to the Emmaus Mission and Salvation Army. The garden is just now producing and the unit has donated 50 pounds of produce so far.

The Correctional Industrial Facility hosted a tent revival aimed at broadening the spirituality of participating offenders. The revival lasted for three days with an attendance of over 200 offenders. Offenders were treated to prayer, sermons, singing and testimonies. The revival was conducted by Dale Brewer of Revival in Prison Ministries with the help of six volunteers.

Deputy Attorney Generals Carl Scharnburg and Dino Pollock, 15 law clerks and IDOC staff Tim Brown and Liz Johnson toured the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The guests observed facility and PEN operations, interacted with offenders, and were given an overview of facility green initiatives.



August 2, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Department of Correction Commissioner Bruce Lemmon made a surprise visit to the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor Correctional Officer and Acting Facility Accreditation Manager Laura Rene Bodkin. Commissioner Lemmon along with State Personnel Department (SPD) Chief of Staff Denny Darrow presented Laura with an iPad in conjunction with her registration and utilization of the new innovative healthcare transparency tool Castlight. Castlight Health is a searchable database that enables employers and their employees to take control of their health care costs and improve care. Congratulations Laura for this tremendous recognition and honor! (Photo below)



Miami Correctional Facility hosted its third quarterly meeting featuring guest speaker United States Army Master Sergeant Jeffrey Mittman. A native of Indianapolis, Mittman spoke about his experiences in the military and his adjustment to civilian life. Master Sergeant Mittman has served in Afghanistan and Iraq. In July 2005, he was severely injured by an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) and left without a nose, lips, most of his teeth and the majority of his vision. He has endured 40 operations and spent the last seven years recovering physically and emotionally. He has received multiple accommodations and awards including the Bronze Star and the Purple Heart. In civilian life, he continues to receive awards for his public service including American Foundation for the Blind's 2011 Gallagher Award and Osborne Day Award.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility has three new supervisors in the custody ranks. Bradley Hiatt, Anthony Kimmich and Kevin Ewers (pictured left) have all joined the Sergeant ranks at the maximum-security facility. Assistant Superintendent of Operations Frank Littlejohn said Ewers, 17 years of service, Kimmich and Hiatt, both six years on the job, have proven leadership abilities. "They have earned their stripes, the respect of their peers and will enhance the safety and security of the facility."



The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility hosted two fundraisers to benefit Special Olympics Indiana. The PLUS unit and 40 Assets Group pulled together to hold a Fire Truck pull fundraiser. 18 staff and 62 students teamed up to pull the fire truck for the fastest times, raising \$537. The students won with a time of 20.37 seconds. The facility also held a motorcycle ride for staff. 15 motorcycles took part in the 120 mile ride which garnered \$200 for the Special Olympics.

Madison Correctional Facility (MCF) offenders stuffed backpacks for the Salvation Army's Back to School giveaway. 264 back packs were given away to local children in need, and MCF Training and Volunteer Services Coordinator Joy Sedam handed out coupons for free haircuts through Madison's Cosmetology program.

Please join us in congratulating the 2014 Leadership Academy cohort for being part of the 7th IDOC Leadership Academy Class. Thirty staff from the Department and other state agencies graduated from the program. (see photo right)

Plainfield Correctional Facility is applauding the valiant actions of Lieutenant Greg Roach and Sergeant Bobby Paige. On their way to deliver a donation to Sheltering Wings, they pulled over when they saw two children walking along the side of the road. Within a short distance of a retention pond, two toddlers between the ages of 2-3 were walking down the side of a busy street with no shoes and no adult in sight. Lieutenant Roach pulled over the vehicle and both staff members began talking with the toddlers. After waiting some time to see if any adults would show up, the Plainfield Police Department was called and the children were taken to the Department of Child Services. A short time later, both children were reunited with their parents.



Two Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) residents joined youths enrolled in the Englewood Christian Church summer camp in cleaning up the area around the church's community garden and building a brick border to surround the garden. The campers participated in seven weeks of camp, learning about the different themes in society such as culture, education, community health, economics, and government, and how each area affects the society in which they live. Escorted by staff and participants of IREF's Straight Talk program, the residents spoke with the campers about the bad decisions they made when they were young and encouraged them to make positive decisions so that they can be helpful to their community. The residents also explained IREF's culture and society, then answered questions about their experiences with incarceration.

PLUS graduates, staff, and invited guests gathered at the Westville Correctional Center (WCC) to celebrate the successful completion of 47 offenders from the program. The PLUS core values were the topic of guest speaker, WCC Therapeutic Community Director, Emily Kirk and two graduates chosen to speak. Following a traditional graduation ceremony, cake and beverages were served, compliments of the facility's Culinary Arts class.

Correctional Industrial Facility Therapeutic Community Director Dale Flemming, Counselor Elnora Schaffer, Chaplain David Smith and Community Volunteer Coordinator Vicki Penny completed a week long PREP and Walking the Line training program. PREP teaches healthy relationships, and Walking the Line teaches communication and fatherhood skills. All of the participants expressed their thanks to IDOC for offering the training and felt the training provided some very valuable information.

August 9, 2013

Weekly Views

Please join the Plainfield Correctional Facility on Thursday, August 15 in honoring Assistant Superintendent Phil Slavens as he embarks on his retirement after 44 years of dedicated service to the Indiana Department of Correction. The retirement celebration will be held at the Plainfield Conference Center located at the Old Boys School (Superintendent's House) from 1:30 to 4:30pm.

Carol Kornas from the Castleton United Methodist Church donated more than 100 backpacks with school supplies to the Indiana Women's Prison. The backpacks were donated to the facility for the offenders participating in the Family Preservation Program to give to their children. "The offenders are very appreciative for the kindness displayed by Ms. Kornas and the Castleton United

Methodist Church", said Mr. Horan, Program Director. (photo right)

Commissioner Lemmon, Superintendent Stan Knight and various Putnamville Correctional Facility and Central Office staff met with representatives from Toyota, GMC, Community Corrections and Work One Western Indiana at Putnamville to discuss a work release, job placement program for offenders.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff took part in the Linton, IN National Night Out which drew thousands into Humphreys Park. Members of the WVCF Fire Department and Emergency Squad represented the facility at the hugely successful event. Sullivan City Park was the next stop for the Wabash crew as they joined area law enforcement, fire departments, social service agencies, organizations

and business for Sullivan County Night Out activities. "What a great way to interact with the public we serve, sharing our story with thousands of people in a relaxed, informal setting," said Superintendent Richard Brown. National Night Out promotes crime prevention and safety. (photo left)

The Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) would like to welcome Gerard Spears who has been hired as a Unit Manager at the facility. Mr. Spears was previously employed at the New Castle Correctional Facility. Everyone at PCF would like to express good luck to Mr. Spears who will be assigned as the Unit Manager for I-Complex and the Outside Dorm.

Bill Glass Champions for Life Ministry held a program at the Indiana State Prison.

Approximately 25 volunteers were in attendance for the program. The program was held in the recreation yard and consisted of motorcycles that were on display for the offenders to see. Singers Rebecca and Zachariah Alwin performed in the recreation yard, and Singer Tammy Chaney Comstock went to the lock-up units and x-row to perform for the offenders. The program was well received by the offender population.

Gary Hofmeister, entrepreneur and founder of Hofmeister Jewelers, visited the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) as the keynote speaker for IREF's Circle Discussion group. Circle Discussion is a pilot program geared towards setting up networking opportunities, and facilitating conversation between soon-to-be-released residents from the facility with business owners and employers in the community.

Correctional Industrial Facility Officer Steve Hatfield (pictured right) completed the Bloomington Bicycle Clubs' Ride Across Indiana "Rain Ride". The ride is 160 miles along US 40 from St. Mary's of the Woods College, located west of Terre Haute, to Earlham College in Richmond. Over 1,300 bikers started the ride and only 971 finished, including Officer Hatfield. Officer Hatfield collected donations from co-workers for the ride and presented a check for \$1060 to Homes for Wounded Warriors. Hatfield served in the U.S. Air Force and has a son who is currently serving in the Marines. "It means a lot to be able to help Homes for Wounded Warriors (HWWP) provide a safe place for our soldiers when they come home". HWWP is a non-profit organization designed and focused on providing specially designed homes to seriously wounded veterans of Iraqi and Enduring Freedom.

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Employee Action Planning Committee (EAPC) hosted the facility's first annual summer in the park picnic. Over 100 past and present WCC staff and their families gathered at a local park for a day of grilling, games and good times with friends away from work. The EAPC members volunteer their time and efforts to sponsor these extracurricular activities that help promote camaraderie among staff.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held an ice cream social for the students in connection with the Why Try program. Flora Lions Club volunteers Ronald Winger and Roger Beckner provided the ice cream for the students and after the event spoke to the students about how service organizations such as the Lions Club can assist students in "getting plugged in" to their communities in a positive role. The staff and students also took this time to remember long time Lions Club member and facility volunteer mentor Eric Johnson. (photo left)

Putnamville Correctional Facility Oakland City University (OCU) Horticulture Instructor Brenda Gullet and 20 offenders harvested 2845 pounds of various vegetables for donation to the Putnam County Emergency Food Pantry. The food was delivered by Assistant Superintendent Mike Rains and OCU Site Manager Barbara Auman.



August 16, 2013

Weekly Views

The Rockville Correctional Facility's first ever Purposeful Living Units Serve garden has harvested 1488.65 pounds of produce thus far in the season. The entire allotment of produce has been donated to the House of Hope in Brazil, IN. Pictured below is a single harvest of 158.5 pounds that included green beans, beets, cantaloupe, carrots, chili peppers, corn, cucumbers, egg plant, green peppers, gypsy peppers, squash, tomatoes and zucchini!

Indianapolis Star reporter John Tuohy and photographer Danese Kenon came to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility focusing on the facility Compassionate Care Program (CCP).



CCP provides end of life care for offenders by offenders. The story is part of the Star's read on a growing trend in corrections, aging populations. Tuohy interviewed a Wabash infirmary patient and a CCP offender caregiver for his report.

Staff bid farewell to Case Manager Gary Crabb, from Brazil, IN, during a recent retirement celebration held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. During his service of 33 years, 2 months and 28 days, Crabb promoted through the ranks of custody and case management making significant contributions to the facility at each level. (photo left)

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Therapeutic Community (TC) hosted a Saturday Family Reintegration Seminar for offenders and invited guests. Family Reintegration is an elective class within the TC that focuses on family values, forgiveness and support. Within this 28 week program,

offenders periodically meet with their support systems: significant other, parents, and children to share issues, ideas and hopes that lead to a successful re-entry. Since January, 35 family members have participated in WCC's Family Reintegration Day. TC Counselor John Krecek expressed his appreciation for the efforts of staff to assure the success of this important day.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) program received its first four dogs for training. The current plan is to acquire a total of ten dogs to be trained by offender handlers at the facility. The Pendleton ICAN program, with the assistance of the facility's American Legion Post #608, is sponsoring a fund raiser this month (fish platter sale) to raise money for the new program. (photo right)



Students of Indiana University Purdue University Indianapolis (IUPUI) School of Public and Environmental Affairs (SPEA) criminal justice students toured the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) in preparation for the career panel discussion with IREF and PEN Products staff. Over half of the group of 60 students arrived earlier that morning and participated in a symposium and workshop with IREF's resident-run Toastmaster's group, Urban Unity Gavel Club, in the chapel, before eating lunch at the facility and joining the tour. (photo left)

Commissioner Lemmon presented two Correctional Industrial Facility employees with their prizes for Castlight's registration promotion. By registering for Castlight, Michael Miller and Kylie Mabe were randomly selected as contest winners. They both won FitBit devices that are used for monitoring health indicators throughout the day.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility hosted interstate auditors for the facility's reaccreditation audit by the American Correctional Association (ACA). The audit process commenced three years prior, involved department internal auditing for interim years, and ended with the interstate visiting committee's review last week. Results of an overall score of 97.6% placed

Edinburgh in a top performance tier regarding operations and quality of life standards for offenders of adult correctional institutions nationwide.

Four students from Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility presented their finished artwork to Lisa Floyd, South Madison Foundation (photo right). Last year, Pendleton received the designation of a Main Street Community from the State of Indiana. The mission of Main Street is to encourage revitalization and restoration in downtown Pendleton resulting in positive sustainable change in the community. South Madison Foundation approached Pendleton Juvenile regarding artwork for the windows of currently vacant businesses. The students' artwork recreated the store front and store interior.



39 members of the Gospel Echoes Team held a Freedom Rally at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) in the facility chapel. Jack Duckworth, former ISP Superintendent, was in attendance and gave the opening prayer. The day consisted of gospel music, preaching, video testimonies and inspirational clips. The offenders were given the opportunity to have one on one sharing of the Gospel as well as receive Gospel Echoes Literature. The offenders were served a picnic lunch of hamburgers, hot dogs, potato salad, chips, Whoopie pies, and lemonade, prepared and served by the volunteers from Gospel Echoes. The program was well received by the 115 offenders who attended.

August 22, 2013

Weekly Views

More than 500 Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) staff members, representing 24 teams, participated in the 2013 FedEx Plane Pull Challenge at the former Indianapolis International Airport. All together, the teams raised over \$45,000 for Special Olympics Indiana! While every IDOC team 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 II (pictured below), had the fastest overall time for the second year in a row, pulling the plane 12 feet in just 5.116 seconds. Thank you to all IDOC staff, friends, and family for coming out to support this event and raise money for such a great cause!



IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and State Personnel Chief of Staff Denny Darrow awarded Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility Safety Manager Ben Zuckschwerdt an iPad for his enrollment in the Castlight Health program. The Castlight Health program allows individuals to make more informed decisions about health care. Mr. Zuckschwerdt decided to register for Castlight to more effectively keep his family's health care costs in check. He stated that he has already saved money on prescriptions for his family.



The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF) Choir has been very busy. The group entertained the Central Noble Food Pantry Volunteers at the pantry's annual volunteer carry-in picnic held on August 10. COLCF has a close working relationship with the pantry making weekly donations of fresh produce throughout the spring, summer and fall months. The Choir also preformed for the Green Center United Methodist Church during their Sunday service. The choir will finish out the month of August by performing for another local church. (photo left)

Five offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's (NCCF) L Dorm, along with Case Manager Huber, assisted Second Harvest Food Bank with the distribution of food to 702 families. NCCF was also able to donate 150 pounds of fruits and vegetables grown by the horticulture class and minimum housing to the cause.

Work crews from the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) were instrumental in the cleanup effort at the Indiana State Fair. IREF crews, which numbered between 20-50 men, helped set up and tear down displays, and rebuild other booths for featured exhibits each day, including animal stalls, farming sites, and other attractions. Impressed with the crews' work ethic and efficiency, State Fair officials expanded their partnership with IREF and enlisted the work crews to do the final cleanup after the fair ended. The workers picked up tons of trash, cleared thousands of pounds of hay feed, and broke down animal stalls and attractions from more than 1,000,000 square feet of space, saving the state hundreds of thousands of dollars. The Indiana State Fairgrounds has expressed interest in using IREF residents as a source of labor and sanitation efforts in future featured events, which may include concerts or major sporting events.

Mark Spratt, PEN Products Controller, competed in the 17.5 mile Ederle Swim from Manhattan, NY to Sandy Hook, NJ, finishing 3rd! Way to go, Mark! What an accomplishment! (photo right)



The Indiana State Prison, with the assistance of the Michigan City Police Department, held an annual drill simulating a disturbance at the facility's Minimum Security Unit. The Emergency Response Teams were activated, and eight staff members played the parts of offenders making demands on staff. During the exercise, offenders were treated for mock injuries that included a heart attack, broken bones and stab wounds. Superintendent William Wilson expressed his appreciation to Chief Swistek and the Michigan City Police Department for their assistance with the drill.

24-hour WFIU Radio, broadcasting from the Indiana University campus, focused on Vocational Education and the PLUS program during a visit to Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). Reporter Jimmy Jenkins and intern Rachel Morello, working on a sentencing reform story, took a firsthand look at Building Trades and PLUS unit at WVCF. They talked to staff and offenders about how the programs prepare participants to find meaningful employment and become community minded both during incarceration and after release.

A ceremony was conducted at the Pendleton Correctional Facility Outside Dorm (OSD) to recognize graduates of the OSD's Inside Out Dad Program. A reception was held following the program to allow staff and family members of the offenders an opportunity to express their congratulations and celebrate this accomplishment. (photo left)

IDOC staff and offenders donated over \$9800 to Prevent Child Abuse America. The money was collected through offender programs, staff luncheons, and other fundraising contests. Prevent Child Abuse America works to ensure the healthy development of children nationwide, free from abuse and neglect. (Photo right, students at Camp Summit participate in a golf pitching contest)

Miami Correctional Facility hosted its 10th annual picnic event with Gospel Echoes Teams. The team fed 3,600 offenders and staff hamburgers, hotdogs, potato salad, potato chips, Whoopie pies and lemonade during the 12-hour event. This year's estimated costs were \$10,000 to feed the facility. They utilize about 150 volunteers who cook, serve and pray with the offenders. The group also provided Gospel music while staff and offenders ate on the lawn.



August 30, 2013

Weekly Views

The Sagamore of the Wabash Award, the highest honor which can be bestowed by Governor Michael R. Pence, was awarded to Phil Slavens for his distinguished service to both the State of Indiana and his community. Mr. Slavens worked for the Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) for 44 years. Earlier this month, staff from around the Department gathered for a retirement party where he was presented an award for his years of service and a state flag accompanied by a certificate for meritorious service by Commissioner Bruce Lemmon.

Ken Osborne, Stores Clerk at the Indiana State Prison, was recognized by Governor Pence along with many other emergency workers who aided in the rescue of six-year-old Nathan Woessner at the Indiana Dunes. The ceremony honored the emergency responders who saved Nathan's life on July 12, 2013. Emergency responders moved 400 tons of sand, most of it by shovel, before finding Nathan beneath 11 feet of sand.

PEN Product's Lisa Williams and Doug Evans facilitated a three day job readiness workshop at Folsom Prison in California. Lisa and Doug were sent by the National Institute of Corrections as part of an ongoing initiative to train corrections professionals in the area of Workforce Development. These regional trainings are focused on incorporating re-entry training into the daily correctional industries operation.

The Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) held two blood drives for the Indiana Blood Center. Staff contributed 32 units of blood which will assist in the potential saving of 96 lives. RCF staff are always ready to raise their sleeves to save a life. The next RCF blood drive is scheduled for December 11, 2013.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility has donated 50 pounds of vegetables to the Hendricks County Community. Sergeant Bobby Paige delivered tomatoes, sweet peppers, squash, cucumbers, and watermelon to The Gathering Place. Since July, the facility has donated over 3300 pounds of vegetables from the garden to local charities.

A reception was held at the Pendleton Correctional Facility to honor Lieutenant Gary Burke who is retiring after 21 years of service to the Department. Congratulations Gary and have a great retirement!

Miami Correctional Facility's Christian Church members donated \$500 to Urban Outreach of Kokomo and \$500 Bethel Community Outreach Program in Indianapolis. This is the second time the church has gathered funds for a worthwhile cause. A few weeks ago, the church also donated \$1,900 to help the people of Mozambique obtain life-giving water through the building of a well in their village.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) opened their new Wheels for the World program. Steven Crooks, Program Manager for Wheels for the World visited the facility to help kick off the operation by advising and training offender workers. CIF's goal is to turn out 30 refurbished wheelchairs a month for this charitable program. Wheels for the World provide wheelchairs to people who need them around the world.

The need for blood is critical during the long Labor Day Holiday Weekend and staff at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) pulled up their sleeves to help. The Indiana Blood Center coordinated the blood draw with 26 staffers providing the gift of life. WVCF is part of the 2013 IDOC Blood Drive Challenge but PIO Rich Larsen said the real winners are those who benefit from the donations. He added accidents and medical emergencies don't take holidays. We need blood every minute, every day of the year.

Staff Development and Training (SD&T) participated in the State House Market Day. SD&T Staff set up an informational booth to inform other agencies of upcoming 2014 Leadership/Supervisory Programs available to attend. This was a great opportunity for the Department to offer support other state agencies and was very well received.

Staff at Westville Correctional Facility gathered for the facility's quarterly assembly to receive announcements and recognize fellow team members receiving awards. Superintendent Mark Levenhagen addressed the staff about recent accomplishments and shared anticipation for the upcoming ACA audit. Years of service certificates were presented to staff with five to 35 years. A special ovation was given to 44-year employee Ruth Grott, Records Room Specialist.

Aramark dining staff, along with resident kitchen staff, prepared a wonderful meal for residents at the Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility in observance of the Labor Day holiday. Residents were treated to a lunch of barbeque chicken leg quarters, hamburgers, baked beans, potato salad, soda, and chocolate covered brownies.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility (PNJCF) Superintendent Linda Commons announced the promotion of Youth Development Specialist Sergeants Terri Washington and William Lehman. Superintendent Commons remarked, "We are excited about these promotions and the impact these fine custody representatives will have on the culture of our facility. They represent the future of DYS."

Senior Parole Agent John Lorenz, of the Re-Entry Parole District #1 partnered with the Mooresville Police Department as well as the Morgan County Sheriff's Department to execute search warrants in Mooresville, IN. The operation resulted in the discovery of a marijuana growing operation, a methamphetamine operation, as well as an assortment of firearms and other dangerous weapons being removed from the streets. The execution of the search warrants also spawned several other investigations into other illegal operations in the area.

Offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's PLUS Unit donated 15 hand-made Bird Houses to Henry County Memorial Park. The park has requested more houses.

September 6, 2013

Weekly Views

Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility was selected to showcase the facility and its programs in the National Center for Youth in Custody (NC4YC) Webinar Finale. For the past year, NC4YC hosted a webinar series focused on improving conditions for youth placed in detention and correctional facilities. Logansport Juvenile was honored to participate in this webinar series which was viewed by juvenile justice professionals across the United States.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) welcomed new residents Purdue, Duke, Dakota and Brooks (pictured below with their handlers) to the Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) program. The Labrador puppies, who are four months old, instantly became the sweethearts of the facility. ICAN is an intensive two-year training program that uses 100% positive reinforcement in training dogs for people with special needs. The dogs will stay at CIF for approximately five to six months. Offender Roberts who has participated in the ICAN program for over a year said, "Training the dogs has helped me learn patience, to control my actions and to learn a lot about myself."



Federal Court Judge Tanya Walton Pratt and American Civil Liberties Union of Indiana Legal Director Ken Falk, along with members of their staff, toured the Pendleton Correctional Facility and met with facility and Central Office staff to discuss issues associated with the establishment of a new mental health unit at the facility. The meeting was extremely productive and both Judge Pratt and Mr. Falk expressed that they were impressed with the progress that has been made on this project.

Two groups of Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility residents spent the day out in the community spreading mulch at different locations around the city in participation with a Keep Indianapolis Beautiful project and landscaping the baseball field at Manual High School in preparation for game night. (see photo left)

Superintendent Stanley Knight is pleased to announce that the Putnamville Correctional Facility scored 100% on mandatory standards and 98.16 % on non-mandatory standards during an American Correctional Association reaccreditation audit conducted by a visiting committee of correction professionals from Michigan and Arkansas. During an exit assembly the auditors relayed how impressed they were with operations and sanitation of the facility, and professionalism of staff. Superintendent Knight also recognized staff for outstanding

service during a Facility Recall. Caseworker Ryan Mapes, Case Manager Karumathil Kumaran, Sergeant Joseph Barker and Officer Angela Sauro received Employee of the Quarter awards. Corizon employees Kathy Edrington and Theresa Straw were recognized for healthcare excellence, and Oakland City University teachers were recognized for their academic achievement of attaining an A+ for the quarter and academic year.

Six Madison Correctional Facility offenders successfully passed their state board exams to become licensed cosmetologists.

Special service for a holy baptism was held in the chapel at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) for an offender from X-row. This is the first time ever that an offender from this high security unit has come to the chapel for any reason. Present were ISP Superintendent Wilson, Lieutenant Wilson, Chaplain Harman, and Chaplain Diemer who officiated the service. At the end of the service, Superintendent Wilson offered words of encouragement and guidance to the newly baptized.

The Indiana Wesleyan University (IWU) Baseball team came to the Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) to play two games of softball with the MCF All-Star team, made up of the most valuable players from the facility's softball teams. The IWU team consisted of 30 players and coaches. "It was a positive experience for both teams. We try to do this once a year," Scott Kenworthy, MCF Recreation Coordinator, said. It gives them a chance to play against people on the outside." The MCF All-Stars won both games.

Gone Fishing Ministries and Clear Water Ministries teamed up with Stillwater Retreat to hold a three day re-entry seminar over Labor Day weekend for the offenders at Chain O'Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF). Presenters had the offenders focus on the first 180 days of freedom and recognize the old traps and hang outs that can lead to recidivism. They stressed the importance of finding a good church home and surrounding yourself with positive influences. Offenders were taught how to write a resume, obtain a credit report and create and follow a budget. On the last day testimonies were shared and the COLCF Choir was invited to perform. (see photo right)



Hunter Smith, "Hunter the Punter", a former player with the Indianapolis Colts, visited New Castle Correctional Facility and put on two Christian Rock shows. The shows were well received by the general population.

Ivy Tech Community College brought two Sociology classes to Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) for a tour. The facility allows students over age 18 to tour the facility and those under age can come in for a Straight Talk Program in the Visitation Room. During the school year, MCF will host between 20 and 30 school groups.

September 13, 2013

Weekly Views

The 2013 Statewide Trainer's Conference was conducted at the Correctional Training Institute (CTI). Congratulations to all the Training Award winners at this year's conference! Miami Correctional Facility for Facility of the Year, Stella Hoover (Logansport Juvenile) and Curtis Gillespie (Indiana State Prison) for Co-Adjunct Trainer of the Year, Dee McCorkle (CTI) Training Support Staff of the Year, Adam Daum (Branchville) and Ron Turner (Plainfield) Co-Correctional Trainer of the Year, Matt Andrick (CTI) and Teresa Turner (Central Office) Co-Focus Group Facilitator of the Year, and Jim Boldman (Pendleton) Training Supervisor of the Year.

Injured Iraq War Veteran Marine Sergeant Nick Bennett (pictured below)

visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to meet with offenders in the Indiana Canine Assistant Network Program (ICAN) along with members of the facility's offender American Legion Organization. Nick was seriously injured in combat in Iraq in 2004, and in June of this year he received a service dog from ICAN that was trained at the Indiana Women's Prison. Nick presented a powerful presentation relative to how his service dog Festus has dramatically changed his life by providing him balance and mobility assistance in addition to helping him cope with issues associated with Post Traumatic Stress.



Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) Superintendent Laurie Johnson updated staff about the direction of the facility under a new administration and forthcoming events during a quarterly staff assembly. Superintendent also recognized staff milestones and awarded certificates and pins for dedicated service. Special commendations were presented to Reentry Specialist Keisha Keedy, Corizon staff Robin Pagley, Reentry Coordinator Alonzo Eans, and Correctional Sergeant Robert Flaherty for Employee of the Year, Enabling Others to Act, Correctional Officer and Supervisor of the Quarter awards.

Misty Wallace and Keith Blackburn, two restorative justice guest speakers, visited Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility and spoke to students and staff. Ms. Wallace is a woman who was shot and left for dead in a parking lot. Keith Blackburn, ex-offender and current Chaplain at IREF, was the shooter. Through determination, Ms. Wallace was able to find and confront her assailant and now they are paying it forward by telling others of their miraculous story.

PLUS coordinator Karumathil Kumaran, Oakland City University Culinary Arts instructor Penny Clevenger and program offenders combined talents to host a sandwich sale for the offender population at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Culinary Arts students prepared 468 ham and turkey sandwiches and over 1001 cookies. Proceeds from the fundraiser will be used to purchase program supplies and for community donations.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) PLUS program held a Hardees food sale with proceeds going to help with the startup cost of the newly established facility band. The \$1,815 from the sale, along with instruments donated by Taylor University, will allow CIF to furnish instruments for the band that include woodwind, brass, guitar and percussion. A big thank-you goes to Hardees in Pendleton, IN who worked to fill orders that included 1,400 double thick burgers, 180 baskets of chicken tenders and 200 batter fried fish baskets.

Indiana State Prison Executive Staff hosted a meeting with legislators and staff from the State Budget Agency. The group was given a tour of the facility and was able to see some of recently completed and on-going projects, such as new lighting, paving in recreation, and the recreation runs created by PEN Products.

Madison Correctional Facility passed its reaccreditation audit by the American Correctional Association, scoring 100% on mandatory standards and 99.2% on non-mandatory standards. A big thank you goes out to all staff who helped make this possible!

Congratulations to staff from Westville Correctional Facility's Grace College and Therapeutic Community (TC). In a cooperative effort, 23 offenders graduated from the facility's first Grace College Life Skills certificate program. Offenders from the TC worked a 15 week college schedule along with their daily TC requirements. The second round of this successful program is now in session. This time, Grace and TC are doubling their efforts, with 46 participating offenders.

In observance of Patriot Day and National Day of Service and Remembrance, eight IREF Indiana Veteran Education and Transition (INVET) Unit residents, along with Reentry Specialist Babacar Diouf, spent the day working on a Habitat for Humanity of Greater Indianapolis house which will soon become home to a Hoosier family in need. The work crew is composed of graduates of the Building and Trades Vocation, which is facilitated by Oakland City University at IREF.

Education personnel at the Pendleton Correctional Facility announced that a project to reorganize and store offender educational records that began in 2010 has now come to fruition. According to Evelyn Pierce Hicks, Program Director for Grace Community Education Inc. at Pendleton and the Correctional Industrial Facility, offender education records were previously stored and organized in accordance with several numbering systems that have been used by the Department over the years. The records (which date back to the 1950's) have now been organized in alphabetical order to greatly enhance and facilitate identification and retrieval of records in a more efficient and cost effective manner.

September 20, 2013

Weekly Views

Family, friends and co-workers gathered overnight as the Indiana Fraternal Order of Police, joined by Governor Mike Pence, Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and law enforcement officers from across the state, honored two officers who died in the line of duty. Wabash Valley Correctional Facility Officer Timothy Betts and Fort Wayne Police Department Officer Kenneth Hayden's names were added to the memorial outside the Indiana Statehouse. The service helps remember those who gave the ultimate sacrifice. Officer Betts died of a massive heart attack last August after responding to a cell

house emergency, collapsing while escorting an offender to segregation. Governor Pence said, "We have no citizens who have earned more honor than those who have paid that last full measure of devotion." The memorial includes the names of more than 700 police officers and fire fighters, etched in granite and is a reminder of the dangers police officers and public safety workers face on the job every day. The WVCF Honor Guard led the ceremony's procession as Officer Betts was honored. Wabash Superintendent Richard Brown said, "It was a very moving tribute to one of our own, and we will never forget Tim's service." (see photos above and left)



The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility assisted Noble County Saddle Club in the annual town clean up for the Albion Harvest Festival. Offenders removed old banners and general trash from around the town of Albion. They finished the cleaning detail at the Saddle Club cleaning the grounds and horse barns in preparation for the upcoming festival. Offenders were treated to a light dinner cooked over an open wood fire.

Ivy Tech Community College Introduction to Criminology students and instructor Jaime Houston toured operations and programs at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The students cited one of the many highlights of the tour being the overview of the Internal Affairs and Security Threat Group (STG) area given by STG coordinators J.R. Smith and Darren Chaney. (see photo right)



Consular Clerk Gerardo Primo Ajuria of the Mexican consulate in Indianapolis visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to visit Mexican Nationals currently housed at the facility. This visit was conducted in conjunction with Article 36 of the Vienna Convention for Consular Relations and Article 6 of the U.S. and Mexico Consular Convention.

Westville Correctional Facility's (WCC) Eyeglass Recycling program has filled yet another huge order for the Lion's Club International Sight First project. 25 offenders have prepared 56,000 pair of eyeglasses to accompany the Lions on their October Mexico Mission. The eyeglass project, which originated at WCC in 1994, has been a dependable provider of recycled glasses. The program is an U.S. Department of Labor venture and continues to be one of the facility's most distinguished programs. The eyeglass project has proven to be a truly life-changing experience for the offender workers, the volunteers and especially for the vision impaired recipients of these glasses around the world.



A group of 77 residents at the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) stood proudly before an audience of their peers, family and friends on during the facility's first ever combined programs graduation ceremony. Dressed in caps and gowns, chefs jackets, suits and ties, the graduates marched in a procession leading to a tent pitched in the middle of the facility where IREF Superintendent Laurie Johnson presented them with diplomas and certificates for successfully completing GEDs, college technical and vocational classes from Oakland City University, work skills programs, United States Department of Labor, ARAMARK, and specialized programs such as the Reformative Residential Reentry Program. 28 graduates were honored for completing more than one program. In his keynote address, Commissioner Lemmon congratulated the residents' diligence in reaching this academic milestone, and urged them to continue in their perseverance towards setting and accomplishing their goals beyond incarceration. Graduates and guests visited with each other during a reception that followed the ceremony. (photos left and right)



Two Correctional Classes from Taylor University visited Miami Correctional Facility to tour the facility. The students were able to see the Offender Services Building as well as a Housing Unit. Community Involvement Coordinator Ann Hubbard led the students around the facility telling them about the life of the offender and the job of correctional employees.

The Plainfield Correctional Facility hosted a graduation ceremony for offenders in the PLUS Program. With family, staff, and administration on hand, thirty offenders were recognized for their achievements. Guest Josh Bliell from the Indianapolis Colts was on hand to speak about his life and accomplishments. In addressing the offenders about continuing on their

individual path, Mr. Bliell described his own fight from the loss of both of his legs during the Iraq War to his life working with the Indianapolis Colts and raising a family. (photo left)



A Blood Drive was conducted by the Indiana Blood Center at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Nineteen (19) units of blood were collected from staff donors. Donors received a coupon for the Golden Corral valued at \$6.99 as a demonstration of appreciation for their participation.

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) has completed an internal audit from the Indiana Department of Correction. The facility received 100% on Mandatory Standards. There are six standards which cannot be met due to state employment guidelines and the physical structure of the facility. ISP was

compliant with all non-mandatory standards that are and received a score of 98.67. This is the best possible score ISP can attain.

The Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) served as the host site for Oakland City University (OCU) Grace College recognition ceremony to recognize and honor the top ten teachers in Indiana Department of Correction facilities. Facility Superintendents and IDOC Executive Staff attended the luncheon in support and celebration of the recipients. OCU and IREF's very own Mr. Dennis Brady ranked second in the state for vocational completions in his Culinary Arts program. Mr. Brady, along with his current Culinary Arts students, prepared the delicious meal served at luncheon. Commissioner Bruce Lemmon and Director of Education Dr. John Nally presented commemorative coins to all of the instructors and honorees: Kathy Taylor – Branchville, Tom Hogan – Putnamville, Shawn Hughes – Putnamville, Katherine Wallace – Madison, Amanda Harden – Madison, Erica Ketner – Rockville, Bob Short – Miami, Kara Burgess – Rockville, and Jeffrey McNeely – Wabash Valley.



Staff Development and Training collaborated with Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility to certify six students to be facilitators of the Joint Understanding and Cooperative Program. This program emphasizes the importance of Role Modeling Appropriate Behavior, Redirecting Inappropriate Behavior, and Reinforcing Positive Behavior. The students also received a course on Presentation Skills to assist them with conducting future sessions.

A Staff Assembly was conducted at the Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) where Superintendent Wendy Knight was pleased to announce the promotion of Officer Michael Clark to the rank of Sergeant. The program concluded with Plaques being presented to Correctional Lieutenant Roberta Creamer for Supervisor of the Quarter, Maintenance Foreman Jeff Pyle for Employee of the Quarter, Dr. Beache for Contract employee of the quarter, Officer Josh Hunt for the Extra Mile Award and Officer James Boone for Officer of the Quarter. (see photos below)

The Putnamville Correctional hosted a three-day old fashioned tent revival for the offender population. 30 volunteers and 166 offenders joined prison minister Dave Brewer and his wife Debbie praising God through song, prayer and the Word.



September 27, 2013

Weekly Views

The Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) donated \$8,419 to the Kilo Memorial Fund. The donation will be used to support the Indiana State Police (ISP) K-9 program. The funds were raised by both staff and offenders through various prison programs and fundraising events. IDOC Deputy Commissioners, James Basinger and Amanda Copeland, presented Indiana State Police Superintendent Doug Carter with the check. (pictured below) Indiana State Police K-9 "Kilo" was killed in the line of duty on June 24, 2013 while searching for an armed suspect in Sellersburg, IN. The ISP Alliance set up a memorial fund in honor of the slain K-9 hero.



IDOC Director of Community-based Programs and Transitional Facilities Michael Lloyd and Indianapolis Re-entry Educational Facility (IREF) Assistant Superintendent Dalton Haney participated in an Indiana Access to Recovery sponsored panel discussion about how to serve ex-offenders and ways to prepare them for successful return to the community. Panel members included Senator Greg Taylor, coauthor of the Indiana Expungement Bill; Dr. Willie Jenkins, Reentry Administrator for the Office of Mayor Greg Ballard; Rhiannon Edwards, Executive Director for Public Advocates in Community Reentry (PACE); Jeff Yanis, Program Coordinator for the Marion County Alternative Court; Jerome Davis, ex-offender with X-tremely for Christ Ministry, and other reentry service providers.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) hosted a very successful Flu Shot Clinic sponsored by Kroger Pharmacy. 45 staff from IWP and local parole district offices PD 1 and PD 3 took advantage of getting their yearly flu shot free of charge along with a participation prize. Several staff commented that they were happy to see the facility taking a front line interest in the well being of its employees and thanked Superintendent Steve McCauley for allowing the Kroger Pharmacy to come to IWP. (see photo left)

The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility has donated over 1300 pounds of vegetables to the Noble County Food Bank. The offenders, who are Master Gardeners graduates, delivered pumpkins, potatoes, cantaloupe, tomatoes, peppers, cumpers, and squash to the local food bank since early July. Offenders also participated in a food sale from Pizza Hut with the proceeds going to the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) Wee Ones Nursery program.

Camp Summit Boot Camp staff and students took part in Salvation Army's (SA) "Stuff a Bus", assisting Salvation Army staff and volunteers in collecting food donations from the public. The "Stuff a Bus" program is an annual food drive conducted by SA to stock their food pantries for the upcoming holidays and to supply food to the Homeless Shelter the SA runs. All items collected will eventually end up feeding needy LaPorte County families and residents. (see photo right)

The Indiana State Prison (ISP) hosted a Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) graduation. State Representative Dr. Vernon Smith, volunteers, ISP administrators, and family and friends came to the facility to show support and encouragement for the 52 offenders who received their certificate for completing this program.

Testimonials were given by two of the graduates, Vaughn Reeves and Adam Rodgers. Both men spoke about how the program has changed their lives. The PLUS program gave them the tools to have a winning attitude and take strides toward rehabilitation.

In conjunction with the Otterbein United Methodist Church, the Rockville Correctional Facility PLUS Unit made 100 small stuffed animals to be included in shoeboxes that are given to children in third world countries. The shoeboxes packed by the church include additional items including: writing and coloring utensils, pads of paper, books, toys, jump ropes, harmonicas, hygiene items, clothing, flashlights, and extra batteries. The Otterbein United Methodist Church indicates that since 1993 over 100 million shoebox gifts have been distributed to needy children around the world. (see photo left)

Pendleton Correctional Facility Chaplain Matthew Peterson was ordained during a ceremony conducted at the Southport Christian Church (Disciples of Christ). Chaplain Peterson received his Master of Divinity Degree from the Christian Theological Seminary

on May 18, 2013. Chaplain Peterson came to PCF in August of 2011 to participate in an Internship Program and was appointed to a Chaplain's position on November 27, 2011. Congratulations Chaplain Peterson!

Auditors from the American Correctional Association (ACA) completed their audit of the New Castle Correctional Facility (NCCF), recommending the facility for reaccreditation. This is the third consecutive time NCCF has received a perfect rating on an ACA audit, receiving 100% compliance for both the mandatory and non-mandatory standards.





It was a bittersweet day at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) as staff said goodbye and good luck to Corizon Health Services Administrator Marla Gadberry. Marla has been part of the WVCF medical team on and off since 1994, as an LPN, RN, Infirmiry Charge Nurse and Health Service Administrator. Marla is taking her immense medical and administrative skills to Florida, serving as Corizon Regional Director of Nursing. Superintendent Brown noted Marla (pictured left) was featured in the 2000 Discovery Channel series, "Supermax".

Miami Correctional Facility's (MCF) Wellness Committee met for the first time to discuss ideas to help its employees live Healthier Lifestyles. In the works are an MCF

Goes PINK Day in October to support Breast Cancer Awareness Month and to support the fight against all cancers; and possibly a Heart Healthy lifestyle challenge next year.

The medical staff at the Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) would like to honor Ms. Julie Murphy, RN, IWP Health Service Administrator on being a 2013 Corizon Nursing Award & Recognition Program Nominee. Ms. Murphy received a certificate and small appreciation gift from the Corizon Nursing Leadership Council this August. The IWP medical staff celebrate Ms. Murphy's passion for the correctional nursing practice and thank her for her service!

Six residents from IREF's Straight Talk program made several visits to Ben Davis High School Ninth Grade Center (NGC) to speak with the school's 1,300 ninth graders about making positive choices. The residents discussed the hardships and drawbacks of incarceration, and how their negative choices affected their lives as well as the lives of their families and loved ones. The group also talked about the repercussion of using illegal drugs, gangs and violence, and negative choices. Students and teachers packed the gymnasium to hear the presentations and participate in a Q&A session. The IREF Straight Talk program was a part of Ben Davis' Students Against Violence Everywhere (SAVE) efforts to educate students, parents, and teachers about current violence and drug trends as well as signs and symptoms of violence and drug use among teens. (see photo right)



Staff Development and Training facilitated a two-day Management Retreat at IREF. Nine IREF Department Heads attended this program that included Managing a Multi-generational Workforce, Motivation, Coaching Subordinates, Building Trust, and Organizational Change interactive training program.



The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) had a visit from Mike Bryson, HIV Education Risk Coordinator, and William Tinsley, Community Liaison, from the Ryan White HIV Services Program. The duo spoke to 30 offenders attending the seminar on HIV, AIDS and Hepatitis C on how transmission happens, how to avoid becoming infected and where to go once released if they would like to be tested. The offenders asked numerous questions and the information given helped to straighten out many misconceptions.

Westville Correctional Facility welcomed guest speaker Professor James Hoffman, who shared his expertise in credit card traps and loan scams with offenders in the

facility's Financial Peace program. Mr. Hoffman, an economics instructor at Valparaiso University, showed the class the impact careless credit card decisions have on personal finances. He explained to the class that financial institutions prey on people with less than perfect or no credit and presented techniques on how to avoid such traps.

Superintendent Stan Knight and staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility congratulate Raymond Elmore, Angelo Sauro, Perry Ward, Kenneth Lowe and Gordon Bowling on their recent promotions to Correctional Sergeant.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a graduation for students of the PLUS unit. This is the unit's 28th graduation ceremony and celebration. Each graduating student completed over 100 hours of PLUS programming and as a group accumulated 150 hours of community service during the 12 week program. The program has maintained a vegetable garden with its end results producing a yield close to 260 lbs of produce that has been donated to the Emmaus Mission Center.

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 DOC intake process.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility held a successful Job Fair that attracted 38 applicants for the positions of Correctional Officer Trainee. Applicants were able to view a PowerPoint presentation about the facility and assistance was provided with the online application process. A job shadowing tour was conducted for qualified applicants.

The IWP Recreation Department has been conducting a very successful Extreme Workout program for offenders. Extreme Workout is a high intensity cardio workout program that meets for one hour and fifteen minutes, three days a week for 14 weeks. The workout out is aimed at those who are serious about exercise and utilizes the popular "Insanity" DVD work outs, as well as, other high impact/high intensity exercises. Each session consists of 60 offenders and five instructors. Offenders have reaped in the rewards, with much weight loss, toner physiques, more energy and higher self esteem.



October 4, 2013

Weekly Views

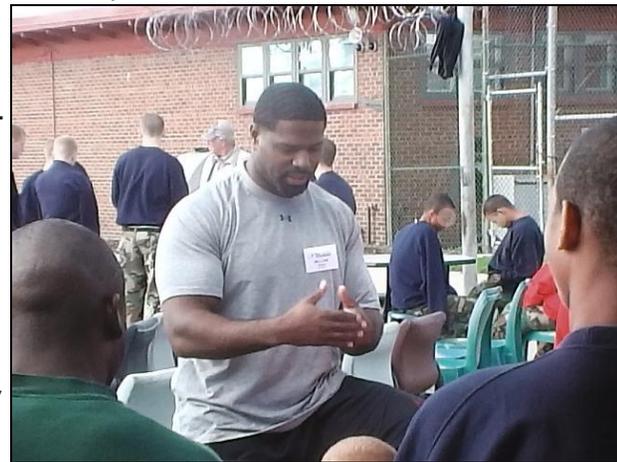
Have you ever wanted just five minutes of time with an Executive Staff member? Now, here is your chance to win 60 whole minutes with them! Bid to win lunch with the Exec Staff member of your choice. Available members include Commissioner Lemmon; Deputy Commissioners Amanda Copeland, James Basinger, and Randy Koester; Chief Counsel Bob Bugher; Chief Financial Officer Andy Pritchard; Chief Communications Officer Doug Garrison; and Executive Directors Michael Dempsey, Richard Curry, Aaron Garner, Julie Lanham, Michael Osburn, Jerry Vance, and John Bayse. To bid, contact Maranda Weliver (mweliver@idoc.IN.gov) and Alexis Dean (adean@idoc.IN.gov).

Staff at the Putnamville Correctional Facility hosted an SECC Bake Sale. Thanks to the delectable donations from staff and the sales abilities of Secretary Andrea Moore, Caseworker Josie Love, and many others, over \$141 was raised for donation to the Putnam County Humane Society (photo left).



American Legion Post 130 at Indiana State Prison hosted American Legion Post 363 from Lakeville, IN for their annual softball event, winning both games. Post 130 also hosted the American Legion 3rd District meeting in the Chapel. In attendance were 31 outside guests, which included Edward Trice, American Legion Department Commander, Kenneth Heckathorn, 3rd District Commander and Mike Miller, 3rd District Sal Commander. 108 offenders were in attendance for the meeting. Dinner from Kentucky Fried Chicken was served and door prizes were given to the guests.

Former Cleveland Browns running back William Green (photo right) was a very big hit at the Bill Glass Ministries Weekend of Champions at Camp Summit. He spoke of how his abuse of drugs and alcohol ruined his successful pro football career. He shared how he was eventually able to overcome his problems and make a difference. Throughout the event, students were treated to entertainment



and testimonials from entertainers and athletes about positive changes made in their lives and how they were able to overcome adversity. Students also enjoyed the Blud Brothers band. The members of the band also spoke to students while they were playing.

RTV 6 Reporter Stephen Dean visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility regarding a story he is preparing in connection with the issue of cell phones in correctional facilities. Interviews were conducted with IDOC Communications Chief Doug Garrison, Superintendent Dushan Zatecky, Assistant Superintendent of Operations Duane Alsip, PCF Correctional Police Officer Tom Francum, and PCF K-9 Field Commander Lieutenant Donald Mockler. Mr. Dean was provided with information relative to the various initiatives and strategies that are being utilized to address this issue. K-9 Handlers from PCF and the New Castle Correctional Facility provided cell search demonstrations by canines trained to detect cell phones.

Commissioner Lemmon accompanied the Governor's Chief of Staff, Bill Smith, on a tour of DNR forestry properties that DOC has helped remodel or build during recent years. DNR Commissioner Cameron Clark led the tour, and was accompanied by DNR Director of Forestry, John Seifert, and DOC Director of Construction Services, Kevin Orme.



Stanley Knight's "Team Beast" from the Putnamville Correctional Facility won its 4th consecutive first place title during the IDOC Softball championship on Saturday, September 28 at Hummel Park in Plainfield, IN. A triple play in the first inning led the champions to a 6-0 record defeating Westville, Plainfield, Madison Juvenile, Wabash Valley and Miami.

The Reception-Diagnostic Center recently hosted a group of students from Ivy Tech Community College. Twenty students from a criminal justice class toured the facility and learned about the DOC intake process.

J Pay Regional Account Manager Michele Paige visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to train staff and offenders in connection with the new J Pay Kiosk System that has been implemented at the facility. Kiosk services for offenders will include email, videograms, and video visitation.

Pet Supplies "Plus", at the Indiana Noblesville and Broad Ripple locations, will host a dog wash on Saturday, November 2 and Sunday, November 3, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Come one, come all. Bring your dogs, large or small, to the annual event sponsored by the Prison Greyhound program. For a donation of \$10 (wash) and \$6 (nail trim) volunteers from Northview Church in Carmel will bathe, dry, and trim your dog.

Join Team DOC at the Wine at the Line race in Bargersville to benefit the Johnson Memorial Hospital Foundation. Tomorrow's event begins at 4:00 p.m., but you may want to arrive early because it is always popular and a bit crowded. More information, including a course map, is available online at <http://mallowrun.com/wine-at-the-line/>.

October 11, 2013

Weekly Views

A special thanks is being given to both staff and inmates at Plainfield Correctional Facility. In an effort to increase recycling efforts, the facility has recycled over 1 million pounds of materials in 2013. This could not have been done without everyone's participation. Under the direction of Mrs. Tracey Ridge and direct line supervisor Officer Jeffery Bullington, the Department of Labor Offender Program has been instrumental in the recycling efforts. Also, offenders harvested 419 pounds of vegetables under the direction of Sergeant Bobby Paige for donation to Sheltering Wings in Danville,. Since July, Plainfield has donated over 7313 pounds of food to local charities in Hendricks County.

The PLUS unit at Pendleton Juvenile collected and donated over 100 pounds of pasta to Second Helpings, Inc located in Indianapolis. They feed 3,500 meals a day helping those in need. PLUS counselor Tyler Mason and a PLUS student delivered the donation to Second Helpings, Inc Director of Program Nora Spitznogel. The organization accepts donated perishable and overstocked food to prepare nutritious meals for thousands of hungry children and adults every day, and distributes them free of charge through local social service agencies in the Greater Indianapolis area. Second Helpings also trains unemployed and underemployed adults for careers in the culinary industry.



Superintendent Stanley Knight and staff at Putnamville extend their congratulations to Gary Goss, a 22-year veteran, on his promotion to Correctional Lieutenant.

CBS News 48 Hours Correspondent Richard Schlesinger, along with Producer Shoshanah Wolfson, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to interview offender Charles Boney connection with the ongoing murder trial of David Camm in Boone County.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility has donated \$300 in conjunction with the Department's fundraising efforts to support the Indiana Coalition Against Domestic Violence. Donations of \$100 each were made by the facility's PLUS Program, the offender American Legion Organization, and the facility's Community Involvement Fund.

A big thank you to all who bid on lunch with a member of Exec Staff. Through your amazing generosity, this FUNdraiser drew in over \$950 for the SECC campaign!

Family members and youngsters had tons of fun at Wabash Valley, taking part in the annual Inside Out Dads Fall Festival. Children spent quality bonding time with their dads, taking part in games, sharing good food, doing crafts, and then going home with a treat bag! (photo right) In addition, 250 quilts from WVCF are now warming homeless veterans. The much needed items were distributed by Purposeful Living Units Serve Caseworker Josh Collins during a recent "Veterans Stand Down" gathering in Indianapolis, sponsored by the Homeless Veterans Assistance Foundation.



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility Offenders are working in conjunction with the Fort Wayne Habitat for Humanity recycling program. The offenders are empty and recycle damaged cans donated by the local Coca Cola Company. The proceeds last year generated over \$40,000 to help several families in obtaining their goal to become homeowners. Superintendent Griffin hopes to continue this partnership for years to come.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility was pleased to provide a tour of the facility to State Representative Terry Goodin. He was particularly impressed with their suicide prevention efforts and dedication to serving children and providing a safe and nurturing environment.

Under the direction of Oakland City University Horticulture Instructor Brenda Gullett, offenders harvested over 1000 pumpkins at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Gullett, Asst. Superintendent Mike Rains, and various staff delivered 800 of the pumpkins to the Putnam County Food Pantry, to students at 4 local, elementary schools and to individuals at Putnam County Comprehensive Services, an organization that assists persons with disabilities. (photo below)

Westville Correctional Facility honored its volunteers at the annual Volunteer Luncheon. The delightful afternoon was made possible through teamwork from various departments: greeters and hosts were offenders from WCC SL 1 Unit, lunch was served by the Culinary Arts program, and decorations were hand crafted by the Therapeutic Community. Guests speakers Assistant Superintendent Pazera represented the facility and UTM Sharon Hawk spoke on behalf of the Re-Entry team and thanked the special volunteers who teach programming classes to the offenders.



The Correctional Industrial Facility would like to congratulate Officer Megan McClain and Sgt. Michael Clark for their recent completion of CISM academy. They are proud to be part of the most utilized ERO Team. Officer McClain is in her 4th year on the team and Sgt. Clark is entering his 2nd year. Great job Megan and Michael!

October 18, 2013

Weekly Views

Doctoral student Danielle Martines from the Chicago School of Professional Psychology visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) in connection with research she is conducting within Indiana Department of Correction facilities. The title of the research project is "Understanding Violence: Personality Traits and Characteristics of Violent Offenders."

The Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) participants delivered the final garden harvest to the House of Hope in Brazil, IN. Scott Summers from the House of Hope visited the facility to express his gratitude to the PLUS participants and the facility for the

hard work and dedication needed to prepare and maintain the PLUS garden. The efforts of the RCF PLUS unit garnered over 3,000 pounds of fresh produce. (photo right)



The Indiana Women's Prison held its first baby shower in the facility's recently renovated chapel. The baby shower included approximately 30 mothers and 12 volunteers. The baby shower is a quarterly event. Presently the oldest baby is Gabriella who was born March 15, 2013. The babies don't attend the shower; they stay in the Wee One's Nursery with the nannies. IWP presently has five babies and their mothers are very thankful to have this opportunity to be parents.

The Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Employee Appreciation Committee (EAC) made a big impression on Superintendent Richard Brown and executive staff during the first ever WVCF Fall Festival. The fun-filled fundraising event included a pie throwing contest. Superintendent Brown also took a turn in the dunking booth, making a big splash to raise funds for the EAC. Committee Chairperson Katie Fischer said over \$400 was raised to support staff appreciation activities. "We had great carnival food and lots of fun contests. Many thanks to our Administrative team and Custody Supervisors for being such good sports!" (see photo left)



Putnamville Correctional Facility (ISF) and Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) staff, along with Indiana Veterans Education and Transition (INVET) Unit residents, coordinated their efforts to brighten the day of a local child stricken with cancer. ISF Program Coordinator Kelli Searing met four-year-old Parker this summer. Parker is currently fighting a cancerous tumor on her kidney, and this battle against renal cancer is not her first fight. Due to a rare disorder, one of Parker's legs

was amputated after her birth. After meeting such a brave little girl, Searing, familiar with the IREF INVET dollhouse program, contacted the facility and related Parker's story to Program Coordinator Jacinda Estle-Cronau. Upon hearing about Parker, the residents decided they would build a dollhouse worthy of a beautiful princess. Resident David Snyder (pictured right) went to work on the project, combining three partial houses to make a large Princess Parker Mansion. When Parker's parents reported she was not feeling well, Resident Snyder spent several sleepless nights working on the house to fast-forward the project. Once complete, Ms. Searing picked up the dollhouse and delivered it to the Parker's home where her father helped load it into the garage. Because Parker was not feeling well that day and could not receive visitors, Searing did not get the opportunity to witness the excitement, but her parents reported that Princess Parker LOVES the dollhouse. She said, "I love it so much! What a great surprise!"



Westville Correctional Facility hosted its second annual Catholic Retreat. 134 volunteers gathered for a day of worship that included large and small group activities, then ended the day with mass. This mass held a special meaning for the participants, as the offenders were allowed to accept communion. The day of worship was made possible because various departments worked together to provide goods and services. The volunteers lunched with the offenders in the facility dining hall, desserts were furnished by the facility's Culinary Arts program and music was provided by the facility's spiritual ensemble.

A "Blessing of the Dogs" ceremony was conducted by Deacon John Etter at the Pendleton Correctional Facility Chapel to bless the Indiana Canine Assistant Network (ICAN) service dogs that are being trained by offender handlers at the facility. The ceremony is conducted in remembrance of St. Francis of Assisi's love for all creatures. (photo left)



The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held a Christian concert at the facility. Warriors for Christ Ministries along with Pastor Trent Obrien and Christian Rapper David Long performed for 111 students who volunteered to attend the program. The students actively participated in the concert by singing and giving praise. The event also included a cookout that the treatment department prepared.

An appreciation luncheon was held for the volunteers of the Indiana State Prison. Without the volunteers, many of the religious programming would not be available to the offender population. Speakers at the program stated that volunteers show the offenders they can have a better life and their life has value. IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon thanked the volunteers for their service.

October 25, 2013

Weekly Views

The Pbs Learning Institute announced the winners of the 2013 Pbs Barbara Allen-Hagen Award. Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility was selected as the correction facility winner for increasing family involvement and visits. "The 2013 winners created reforms that resulted in culture changes and implementation of research-based practices," said Pbs Learning Institute Executive Director Kim Godfrey. According to IDOC Division of Youth Services Executive Director Mike Dempsey, "Pbs has provided Pendleton with the tools to target specific areas of improvement, which has ultimately led to better long-term outcomes for youths and their families." (photo below)

The excitement of daytime television came to the Reception Diagnostic Center (RDC). A film crew for "The Dr. Phil Show" was at RDC to tape a segment on "The Elkhart Four." Three of the four offenders were interviewed at RDC by Dr. Phil via satellite feed and will appear on national TV.

Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Community Advisory Board members, including State Representative Kreg Battles, got a firsthand look at the facility's new DVD Recycle Shop, which created 50 new offender jobs. The group also took a tour of the newly renovated Laundry building nearly 18 months after it was destroyed by fire. Superintendent Richard Brown also told the board the first ever Wabash garden yielded over 750 pounds of food for area food banks. The board was enlightened by a security lighting update. Wabash is brighter thanks to newly installed prototype LED lights, providing twice the security lighting for half the cost of the old system. The spotlight also shined on another pilot program, Adult Based Standards (ABS) and how it can help reduce prison issues with input from staff, offenders and their families.



Putnamville Correctional Facility staff gave the gift of life by donating blood to the Indiana Blood Center during a blood drive sponsored by the facility's Promoting Positive Corrections Culture committee. (photo left of blood mobile)

Miami Correctional Facility's American Legion Post 555 was honored with the second visit in just a few weeks from a national commander. Daniel Dellinger, who was recently elected as National Commander, made a trip to Indiana to visit with members of Post 555. Dellinger was the second National Commander to visit with the post. In



August, outgoing National Commander James Koutz visited MCF to accept a \$1,000 check for Operation Comfort Warriors. It was one of his last post visits before leaving office. Both were treated to a banquet meal. (photo right of Superintendent Mark Sevier with National Commander Daniel Dillinger)

Indianapolis Parole District#3 and Reentry Parole District#1, in conjunction with the Marion County Sheriff's Department Sex and Violent Offender Unit (INSORCE), kicked off Operation Safe Halloween 2013 in Marion County, conducting unannounced home visits during non-traditional hours to confirm compliance with sex offender registration responsibilities and special sex offender parole stipulations. This week-long activity was a preemptive measure in reviewing expectations for parolees with a responsibility to also register as a sex offender prior to their annual meeting on October 31. Results included many positive contacts finding 87% of offenders checked in compliance will all expectations and also resulted in six parolee arrests, five investigations for non-compliance with registration, and others intermediate sanctions for lesser offenses.



The basketball team from Ancilla College located outside of Plymouth, Indiana came to the Indiana State Prison to play against the offender basketball team. Both teams showed their speed and athleticism scoring from everywhere on the court. The offender team won the game with a score of 109-87.

The Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) held their Annual Breast Cancer Walk. The event was supported by 257 participants and 40 volunteers. IWP offenders raised \$1044 that was donated to the Indianapolis Pink Ribbon Connection where Dora Sparks was the guest speaker. Additionally, the Community Outreach program donated several quilts, hat and scarves sets to be auctioned off to both Pink Ribbon Connection and the Susan G. Komen Foundation. The participants enjoyed a lunch provided by Victory Group and The National Council of Negro Women.

Huntington University Assistant Professor of English Herbert Jack Heller visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) to initiate a new program. Dr. Heller has established a program that will focus on the study and analysis of the works of English poet and playwright William Shakespeare. Approximately 15 PCF offenders have signed up to participate in the program. (photo left)



The first frost has officially ended the garden season at the Westville Correctional Facility and what a productive season it has been. The facility's team effort created five gardens on WCC grounds, each garden concentrating on specific vegetables. The gardens which included potatoes, peppers, cucumbers, zucchini, cabbage and melons produced over 6000 lbs of fresh vegetables. The vegetables were distributed to various food banks and shelters around Northwest Indiana.



The Putnamville Correctional Facility is ending the harvest season with impressive numbers. 15,807 lbs. of vegetables and pumpkin have been gathered with an additional 200-300 lbs. expected from the winter garden. Horticulture Instructor Brenda Gullett and crew expanded the garden establishing new standards for garden yields at the facility. The produce is donated to community organizations. Superintendent Stanley Knight thanks all involved for their efforts. (photo left)

a salsa garden, where there were 48 tomato plants, 48 pepper plants, onions, and cilantro. The students were able to enjoy some of the fruits of their hard work, and the rest was donated to the local Salvation Army Lord's Kitchen (pictured below with Sergeant Deveyary). Students were able to learn about garden design and the different kinds of vegetables. Besides providing produce for the community the garden is a rehabilitative instrument for the students. It helps the students to de-stress and make them feel better by helping those in need. Sergeant Deveyary has already developed a plan to expand the garden next year.

A group of students of Manchester College criminal justice class toured the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF). IREF was just one of three visits the group made to varying security level Indiana Department of Correction facilities. The goal of the tours was to provide for students an overview of the different types of communities found among the offender populations throughout IDOC prisons.

The Correctional Industrial Facility has taken off at a brisk walk with the Healthy Lifestyles initiative. Chairperson Bruce Helming has instituted facility programs such as healthy snack day and facility walk about. Healthy Snack day provides an opportunity to sample healthy delicious dishes prepared by coworkers. Participants at the facility have walked a total of almost 200 miles collectively and that equates to almost 32000 calories burned. Great job guys!



Special Olympics Indiana presented New Castle Correctional Facility with the traveling trophy (pictured left) for winning the IDOC Commissioner's Cup. During Torch Run season, IDOC facilities competed in the Fed Ex Plane Pull Challenge, each team vying to win the first-ever IDOC Commissioner's Cup. Facility teams were awarded points based on the team's Plane Pull time and the amount of money they raised for Special Olympics Indiana. Coming in a close second was the Madison Dream Team from Madison Correctional Facility and Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility. As a whole, the Department raised over \$44,000 for Special Olympics.

The Indiana State Prison had the privilege of giving a tour to the members of a Chinese delegation. The members of the delegation are in the United States for one year and affiliated with Purdue University. The tour was interesting due to the language barriers but was a complete success.

The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a staff assembly. During the program, Correctional Officer Randal Stamper was recognized as Employee of the Quarter and Unit Manager John Safford was recognized as the facility's Supervisor of the Quarter. Correctional Officer Troy Ashby was recognized for receiving a letter of commendation in regard to an incident that occurred on October 12 when he administered CPR on a PCF offender which resulted in saving the offender's life. IDOC Director of Mental Health Craig Hanks spoke at the event and gave an informative presentation about the status of the new Mental Health Unit being established at the facility.

Miami Correctional Facility handed out several awards at its quarterly Staff Recall Meeting. Named Employee of the Quarter was Joyce Brantley, Caseworker; Supervisor of the Quarter was Sgt. Quentin Coppernoll; and Officer of the Quarter was Officer Denver Nettifee. Several other staff were given leadership awards. Those included Officer Danny Waller, Inspire a Shared Vision; Officer Shaun Dwyer, Model the Way; Sgt. Zachary Whann, Enabling Others to Act; Sean Moore, Challenge the Process; and Joyce Holland, Encourages the Heart.

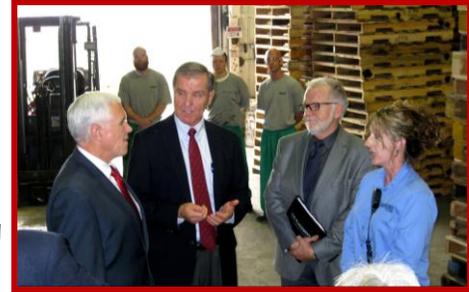
Indiana Women's Prison (IWP) staff has organized a facility Wellness Committee that meets biweekly. The committee is currently hosting a Biggest Loser contest and "Purge the Soda" club. The wellness committee offers a monthly Grief/Loss and Stress Management group, employee fitness wellness rivalry in the gymnasium with some Extreme Workout participation and daily motivational e-mails. They are currently planning a "Steps for Staff" pedometer (Bracket Buster) competition. They also are creating a wellness bulletin board to include weekly email tips and other helpful wellness information. What a wonderful way to combat weight gain through the upcoming holiday season!

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) held its Community Advisory Board with 11 members from the community. Superintendent Mark Sevier informed the group that MCF has given nearly \$50,000 back to the community in the past few years. Those programs that are generating the funds for this charity include the American Legion, which has donated more than \$18,000 to local charities; the PLUS Unit that has donated nearly \$25,000 and the Community Involvement Fund, which has given nearly \$15,000 away. The facility has also given away produce to local food pantries.

November 1, 2013

Weekly Views

Indiana Governor Michael R. Pence visited the Branchville Correctional Facility to tour the grounds and learn more about the programming and activities going on throughout the facility. Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, staff from Branchville, Central Office and PEN Products joined the Governor and his staff on the tour, where the main focus was job training programs at Branchville and throughout the Department. The group was able to see the pallet shop, Career Development Training Center, and the recycling joint venture (pictured below).



Logansport Juvenile Correctional

Facility held an open house for its newly created Youth Transition Reentry Independent unit. The housing unit, which is set up like a college dormitory, allows for more freedom of movement within the unit, and students take responsibility for making their wake up times by utilizing alarm clocks. These students also assist with New Student Orientation by presenting during the orientation process that allows the new students to ask questions about how they can successfully complete the program and what pitfalls they need to avoid. In the near future, this unit will also be involved with New Employee Orientation to help new staff become familiar with student views and assist in fostering a more positive working relationship between staff and students.

With the full support of staff and offenders at the Indiana Women's Prison, an Indiana Canine Assistance Network (ICAN) client came into the facility for full access to Sally, her ICAN dog in-training. A "mini" team training session was held for the client with the purpose of having the client and dog bond as the client learned the cues and training techniques to enable the dog to assist her new partner to the fullest. Sally's assistance has given the client new found independence and freedom. Because of the ICAN program, IWP offenders are able to restore their purpose and value while making a positive impact on someone's life. (photo left)



Representatives from the Hamilton Center, Quest, AFLAC, United Way, Family Readiness Group, St Vincent/Clay County Hospital, All State, State Farm, PNC Bank and Hoosier S.T.A.R.T. handed out informational pamphlets, answered questions and gave away grab bag items during a Health Fair held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. In conjunction with the health fair, staff donned

orange t-shirts for a Fitness Walk, sponsored by the Promoting Positive Corrections Culture committee, to promote healthier life styles. Money from the t-shirt sales was donated to the Family Readiness Group, an organization that provides food to military families.

Edinburgh Correctional Facility had the honor of receiving a visit from Governor Pence's Chief of Staff Bill Smith, Indiana National Guard Adjunct General Major General Martin Umbarger and Commissioner Bruce Lemmon. Lunch was provided by Aramark, while Superintendent Frances Osburn gave a brief overview of the facility and its mission to support Camp Atterbury, surrounding communities and other state agencies by providing offender work crews. The visit ended with a tour of the facility and a brief explanation of facility programs, including substance abuse, Inside Out Dad and U.S. Department of Labor Apprenticeship Programs. (photo right)



Deputy Commissioner of Operations James Basinger is pleased to report the success of a new step down program for offenders housed in segregation. STAND (Striving Toward a New Direction) consists of two 256 bed units at the New Castle Correctional Facility that houses segregation offenders in a general population environment. Offenders in both units are evaluated based on their programming and behavior needs and are assigned a variety of programs that include group activity, self study, and education. Each offender is reviewed once a month and is awarded additional privileges and recognition based on their success and remaining conduct free. Once the offender completes their programming and has maintained good conduct a graduation celebration honors the offender's success and they are transfer to an appropriate IDOC facility in the general population.

Internationally known speaker David Parnell visited Miami Correctional Facility to speak to offenders about his life of drug use, specifically methamphetamine. Parnell is a husband and father of seven from Tennessee as well as a methamphetamine and suicide survivor, recovering addict and alcoholic, former drug dealer and convicted felon. After spending 23 years addicted to drugs, he attempted suicide by shooting himself in the face with an SKS assault rifle. Since then he has devoted his life to educating others about the dangers of meth. The after affects of the attempted suicide are evident on Parnell's face. The rifle that he used to try and kill himself, destroyed most of his face, requiring more than 30 surgeries to repair. He has titanium plates and screws holding his cheekbones in place.





More than 60 children of residents incarcerated at the Indianapolis Re-Entry Educational Facility (IREF) enjoyed a Halloween Carnival sponsored by the facility's Family Education Department (FED) Inside Outside Dads Program and Children's Visitation Center (CVC). The 30 fathers and their children were treated to a fun time in a carnival-like atmosphere that included clowns, face painting, pumpkin painting, crafts, lots of games, prizes, and plenty of laughter. Oakland City University Culinary Arts students prepared the meal and themed cupcakes for the carnival. The Art and Recreation Department clerks transformed the Education and Recreation Building into Haunted Hallways, which included a live Dracula, a classroom with a Zombie teacher and students, a headless scarecrow, and other ghosts, ghouls, and goblins to spook the children. A bounce house provided plenty of fun for the little children. At the end of the carnival, each child walked away with a gold fish, a pumpkin, and a bag full of candy and treats. (photo left)

The Indiana Criminal Justice Association hosted its fall conference in Merrillville, Indiana where the annual ICJA Awards and IDOC Commissioner's Awards were announced. Among

ICJA Award winners were: Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, Distinguished Service Award; Wabash Valley Correctional Facility, Program of the Year; Kathleen Sullivan, Judge of the Year; Steven Gray, Probation Officer of the Year; Preston Dry, Volunteer of the Year; Jackie Kolbert, Counselor of the Year; Ariene Gilbert, Parole Officer of the Year; Leslie Alexander, Support Services Staff of the Year; Judy Willis, Correctional Educator of the Year (pictured right); Dave Leonard and Erik Kruper, Correctional Managers of the Year; Paul Wilk, Community Corrections Line Staff; Walter "Tony" Wawok, Community Correctional Officer of the Year. The Commissioner's Award winners were Heather Blasingame, Reentry Employee of the Year; Jerome Thompson, Correctional Professional of the Year; Sharon Hawk, Correctional Supervisor of the Year; Dushan Zatecky, Distinguished Service Award; Matt Andrick, Employee of the Year; David Barr, Administrative Support Employee of the Year; Richard Hayes, Chaplain of the Year; Christopher Tanis, Parole Agent of the Year; Amber Hughes, Human Resources Employee of the Year; Carolyn Short, Industries Professional of the Year; Kevin Braun, Physical Plant Employee of the Year; Chuck Whallon, Rising Star Award.



The Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COLCF) held a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner with over 45 volunteers attending this year's event. Several Offenders gave personal testimonies to the group about the positive affect that volunteers have had on their lives. The Chain O' Lakes Choir provided live entertainment throughout the evening for all to enjoy. One Choir member performed a moving inspirational rap song that he had written just for this occasion. As a show of appreciation each volunteer received a lunch bag and salad shaker combo featuring Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility's name. At each dinner table a hand drawn picture of Governor Mike Pence on a wood plaque was placed as the centerpiece. The centerpiece was given as a door prize to selected guest. The plaques were made by COLCF offender artists. The meal was prepared and service by the facility's Aramark foodservice Department of Labor program participants.



Kevin Hunter (pictured left) has been promoted to Unit Team Manager at Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). Hunter brings 18 years of experience to the job. He began his career at Wabash as an Officer, advancing to Counselor before a stint with Evansville Parole, returning to WVCF as a Caseworker in 2012. His new assignment involves working closely with Unit Team Caseworkers, Casework Managers and Custody on the four housing unit 788 bed capacity WVCF North campus.

The Education Department at the Westville Correctional Facility hosted their first offender graduation ceremony as Grace College. Recognized were 380 graduates from GED, five career technical classes and Grace's college certificate program. Guest speaker Grace College Director of Correctional Education Dennis Duncan spoke of making the seemingly

impossible, possible through education. Proud smiles and nodding heads could be seen from the audience of offenders and their invited guests. The ceremony ended with refreshments provided the facility's Culinary Arts program.

"MCF goes PINK" was the theme at Miami Correctional Facility (MCF). The Wellness Committee decided to recognize and support the fight against Breast Cancer and all cancers by going PINK for two days. October has been named Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Non-custody staff were encouraged to dress in PINK and ribbons were available to custody staff to pin on their uniforms. (photo left)

CBS News 48 Hours correspondent Richard Schlesinger, Producer Shoshanah Wolfson, and a 48 Hours film crew visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to conduct an on-camera interview with offender Charles Boney #918815 in connection with the recent murder trial of former State Trooper David Camm. An air date for the interview has not yet been determined.



Logansport Juvenile held a family day where parents and guardians of the students were invited into the facility and welcomed by Superintendent Harshbarger. Everyone was given a facility overview and introduced to staff from treatment, education and recreation. A family council meeting was conducted and a tour was given of the school. The parents and students were able to interact with staff to get a clear picture of the facility and what programming opportunities are offered to the students. After the tour a questions and answers session was followed by a visitation period.

November 8, 2013

Weekly Views

Team DOC made a big splash for the Prison Greyhounds program, helping wash 244 dogs and raising about \$4000 during the annual fundraiser at Pet Supplies Plus. There were 91 total volunteers, including nine from Team DOC, three of whom were students from Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. Prison Greyhounds reports the DOC volunteers were the hardest workers, which comes as no surprise to us. Thank you to all who helped make this a great success! (see photo below)

Reentry Parole District #1, in collaboration with the Department of Workforce Development, held a workshop at the

Hancock County Community Corrections for parolees in the Greenfield area. The I-HIRE program was established to help clients with criminal histories connect with sustainable employment opposed to minimum wage paying jobs.

The Correctional Industrial Facility Wiccan Coven, Hearth Stone, celebrated Samhain the "spiritual new year" at the facility. This is the holiest of days in the pre-Christian Celtic tradition. It is a time of reflection and honoring of ancestors. During Samhain, thanks are given for past bounty, accomplishments of the past year are recognized and thought is given to the New Year and how improvement can be made. It is also a natural time to honor those that are no longer with us. The fourteen men of the Coven wrote and performed a special play on this evening and enjoyed a special feast.



Offenders from New Castle Correctional Facility's Veterans Unit & Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) Unit donated \$1400 and \$600 respectively to the "Homes for Heroes".

A WTHI TV news crew (Terre Haute) took to the roof of Wabash Valley Correctional Facility for a first-hand look at solar power! Physical Plant Director Roger Dagley was sky high with enthusiasm over the PLUS Unit solar coil system. It uses ultraviolet light to help heat water used for offender showers, giving natural gas boilers a break. The PLUS unit is using half as much natural gas as before! Dagley told reporter Jaclyn Bevis the green initiative could also help heat the building, saving even more taxpayer dollars! (photo left)



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility offenders participated in the Larwill volunteer fire department fundraiser. For over five years, offenders from Chain O' Lakes have assisted the Larwill Volunteer Fire

Department in preparing for this bi-annual occasion. The offenders set up tables, chairs and prepare over 700 pounds of fish and 200 pounds of onion rings for this fundraising event. Offender volunteers returned to the fire house the following day for the cleanup detail. Money raised from this event is used by the fire department to update training and equipment.



Parole agents and staff from all ten Parole Districts participated in the tenth 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, Reentry Parole District #1 and Indianapolis Parole District #3 collaborated with Marion County Sheriff's Department, Sex and Violent Offender Unit (INSORCE), and Marion County Superior Court Probation Department. Parole results included many positive contacts with registered sex offenders, finding 94% attending as directed and in compliance with all facets of their registration responsibilities. During the community meeting, up-to-date information on programs to assist with employment and support services was provided along with current information relative to registration obligations for the state of Indiana. Three parolees were arrested on outstanding parole warrants and an additional parole violation warrant resulted when an offender reported and was arrested for technical violations.



Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) played host to several legislators who came in to tour different areas in the facility. They were also treated to a lunch of Fresh Favorites pizza. The legislators visited the facility's CLIFF and PLUS programs, as well as MCF's Miami Accessible Media Project shop, medical area, recreation and master control areas. The lawmakers expressed how much they were impressed with operations, the level of dedication of staff and overall professionalism.

Putnamville Correctional Facility conducted their annual disaster drill, in cooperation with the Greencastle Fire Department. The scenario was a fire in the prison industry Pallet Shop. A mock emergency evacuation and accountability of offenders and staff was immediately initiated and facility's Fire Emergency Procedures were activated.

In honor of Veteran's Day, the Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) held its 7th Annual Field of Flags ceremony. The ceremony, held in front of the RCF Administration Building, honors those



servicemen and women who have served, are currently serving or deployed or gave their lives for their country with the United States Armed Forces. Community members and facility staff sponsored flags in honor of their loved ones. Proceeds from the program will be sent to the Indiana Department of Veteran Affairs Military Family Relief Fund. Thanks to the generosity of Rockville staff and surrounding community, this year's donation totals \$475. The included the presentation and folding of the flag and retiring of the colors by the IDOC Honor Guard, represented by staff from both Putnamville Correctional Facility and Rockville. RCF Correctional Officer and veteran, Max Ditto (pictured left) emceed the ceremony and Correctional Officer Rex Thomas, also a veteran, performed two songs. After the reading of the names in loving memory, with pride and honor and of staff currently serving, the ceremony closed with a 21 gun salute the playing of Taps.

The Logansport juvenile Correctional Facility participated in a Fundraising event for Warriors for Christ Ministries. Students from the facilities PLUS, CLIFF and Youth Transition

Reentry Independent Living units who have participated in the program were invited to speak at the fundraising event. Along with art work that the students donated to the ministries silent auction the PLUS unit donated \$500. The ministries which began by the founders volunteering their time as mentors on the PLUS unit has now become the Warriors for Christ Ministries who provide a program called "Out for Good" is specifically for juveniles in correctional and detention facilities. (photo right)



Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) staff participated in two Job Fairs conducted by Ivy Tech Community College. PCF Operations Assistant Lola McGregor and PCF Community Services Director Wayne Scaife participated in a job fair on the New Castle Ivy Tech Campus and Officer McGregor and Caseworker Joshua Shaver participated in a job fair conducted by Ivy Tech at the Muncie Campus. The job fairs were offered by Ivy Tech to provide their graduates and current students the opportunity to network with employers from the local community. During the job fairs, PCF Staff distributed information relative to positions available, information regarding benefits, and instructions on how to apply on-line. (photo left)



Fort Wayne Parole District #2 Parolees Welcome Smith, Greg Shipe, Todd Currie, Jr., Daniel Dieringer, Rodney Perry and Sylvester Schoch successfully completed a six week "boot camp" style Small Business Development Training Program designed to provide self-employment training for parolees. In honor of the participants, a graduation and reception was held at the Fort Wayne Urban League. District Supervisor Mia Kelsaw of the Fort Wayne Parole District will be one of the keynote speakers for the graduation.

The Indiana Women's Prison held a Pumpkin Carving Contest for the Halloween Holiday. The contest was held in the gym and consisted of each unit providing 4 offender representatives to carve 2 pumpkins. The pumpkins were then placed in their respective units for Halloween. IWP staff went around to each unit and voted on the best pumpkin. Unit 13 was the winner, with units 4 and 6 tying for second place. The winning dorm will receive a popcorn/movie party for their entire unit. All units should be congratulated for their participation. (photo right)



Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility conducted a staff assembly, graduation ceremony and Open House. Superintendent Commons recognized the following staff awards: Specialist of the Quarter, YDS K. Eads; A. DeHart, Non-custody Employee of the Quarter; and Sgt. B. Speights, Supervisor of the Quarter. A graduation ceremony was conducting after the staff assembly. There were 19 students recognized during the graduation ceremony. Over 30 families participated in the school Open House. During the Open House, Mrs. DeHart hosted a chili supper as a fundraiser for her English 9 classes. Families were able to purchase a chili dinner and eat with their student. The supper was quite successful. The proceeds will go toward the Victorian Christmas dinner, which is the culminating event for the English classes December novel unit over Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*.

The Covenant Choir from Northern Indiana visited Miami Correctional Facility (MCF), singing for about 200 offenders. The group is made up of 40 individuals of various ages, vocations, and churches who share a vision of sharing God's love in Prisons, Juvenile Centers, Rescue Missions and Retirement Centers. The choir makes an annual appearance at MCF.

Seventeen students from the Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility have earned their GED through the facility's Vantage Pointe Learning Center, with one of those earning honors diplomas. The school also has 20 student awaiting results of the GED test. The facility's school is accredited through the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement Advance Education and offers regular high school credit classes as well as GED education and testing. So far in 2013, the Vantage Pointe Learning Center had 102 students obtain their GED, issued 1012 high school credits.

Weekly Views

November 15, 2013

Staff Development and Training piloted the Joint Understanding and Cooperation Program at Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility. This training program is intended to improve the level of mutual respect and communication between staff and offender/student population. This is a very unique program that is training for both staff and students. This training also brings both staff and offenders/students together on the third day of the training. Positive feedback was received from both the staff and students regarding this training. (photo below)

Staff rolled up their sleeves for Flu shots administered by Kroger Pharmacists

during a Flu Shot Clinic held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. The facility took a proactive stance by hosting the two-day clinic in an attempt to prevent the disease and spread of the virus thereby reducing staff call-ins and staff shortages during the Flu season.

The Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office participated in a multi-jurisdictional community-policing, saturation sweep in conjunction with the Indianapolis Metropolitan Police Department that resulted in total of 54 arrests on outstanding warrants or new criminal charges, 28 summons/arrests and 128 Uniform Traffic Tickets with more arrests possible that remain under investigation with multiple agencies. Thirty-three parolees received unscheduled visits during this 24-hour sweep of an identified 'hot spot' area of recent criminal activity, resulting in two arrests for Possession and Dealing of Marijuana.



Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) held a fundraising event for the State Employees Community Campaign (SECC) to benefit the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI). Miami held its 1st MCF SECC CPAFI Fall Ride and Raffle. It turned out to be a beautiful day and the facility raised \$505. Members of the Blue Knights International Law Enforcement Motorcycle Club (pictured left) came out in support of the CPAFI cause.



Veterans from the Indiana Veteran Education and Transition (INVET) unit at the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility celebrated Veterans Day through community service work. Thirteen resident veterans traveled to Hoosier Veterans Assistance Foundation homes in Indianapolis for an outside workday, raking leaves and removing limbs on the

properties, which house homeless and at-risk veterans. Meanwhile, eighteen residents signed over 225 Christmas cards bound for the "Holiday Mail for Heroes" program, sponsored by the American Red Cross. Every Christmas, the Red Cross hands out thousands of Christmas cards to active-duty service men and women overseas, including hospitalized service men and women. Other residents worked on the IREF grounds, improving the waterfall and pond in the recreation area.

American Legion dignitaries from around the state visited Wabash Valley Correctional Facility with a special mission, to visit the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) unit. The group, including Past National Commander Jim Koutz, spoke to offender Kevin Henry about the PLUS Memorial Quilts Program. Henry, himself a veteran, helped conceive the idea to create Memorial Quilts, presented to families of Indiana soldiers who lost their lives in Afghanistan and Iraq. The Legionaries also talked about American Legion Post 398, set to open soon at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility. (photo right)



The Rockville Correctional Facility (RCF) held its inaugural PLUS graduation for 44 offenders. The graduation ceremony brought many honored guests to RCF including Senator Phil Boots, a member of the RCF Community Advisory Board, and IDOC Commissioner Bruce Lemmon, both of whom spoke to the graduates and attendees about the benefits of completing re-entry programming and the facts behind how this correlates to reducing recidivism. The ceremony included speeches by two PLUS graduates and musical performances by the RCF PLUS Choir.

Pendleton Correctional Facility American Legion Post 608 conducted a celebration in recognition of Veterans Day. Guests included American Legion State Commander Ed Trice, Past State Commander Dick Thomas, and several other Legion Representatives from the community. Offender member of Post 608 took part in recognizing our veterans and fallen soldiers. Family members of the offender legionnaires were permitted to attend the event and a delicious meal was prepared by Aramark. Commander Trice spoke to those in attendance and expressed his appreciation to the members of Post 608 for their continued donations to local charities and organizations. Commander Trice remarked that Indiana leads the nation with the most American Legion Posts located within correctional facilities.

Susan Eichhorn from the East Central Indiana Solid Waste District (ECISWD) visited the Correctional Industrial Facility to meet with staff and offenders in the garden and recycling programs. Ms. Eichhorn provided some shocking statistics such as 100 acres is needed for each landfill in Indiana and that landfills do not allow natural composting therefore the waste in a landfill will remain much longer than if recycled or composted. All of the information and other statistics helped everyone to see way recycling is so important. Ms. Eichhorn also brought in a baggie of worms and a baggie of soil to show that allowing the worms to recycle the food waste not only keeps the waste out of the landfills but also provides great soil for plants. Ms. Eichhorn can be reached at the ECISWD website www.eciswd.org for more information.

Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) hosted the 2014 Experienced and Emerging Leadership Program graduation at the Correctional Training Institute. This is the seventh year

this program has been offered for IDOC Staff. Congratulations to the graduates of the 2013 EEL Cohort. Graduates include: Shelly Adams-Brown, Hilary Alderete, Jeffrey Bellaire, Michael Boone, Deborah Braun, Jason Brooks, Ryan Chandler, Roger Chapman, Andrew Cole, Lynette Collins, Michele David-Masley, Amy Eickmeier, Bravlio Eloiza, Elizabeth Fiato, Glenn Handzlik, Tiwanna House, Katherine Kinnaman, Casie Klepinger, Nathan Lagenour, Amy Kent, Frankie Littlejohn, Tracey McCabe, Terrill McNeal, John Poer, Jessica Rain, Isaac Randolph, Danielle Saunders, Lora Schmalfeldt, Kelli Searing, Noah Shelton, Christopher Tanis, Larita Thomas, Corey Webb, William Welch, Maranda Weliver, Charles Williams, and Matthew Worthman.



Indiana Women's Prison Assistant Superintendent LaShelle Turner and State Parole Agent Denise Jackson, a specialized agent supervising a gender-specific, female-only, caseload for the Indianapolis Parole District#3 Office, were invited to be presenters at the 2013 Indiana National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) State Conference themed "Women Partnering with Women." The prevailing theme of the entire conference was "The Battle is Not Over," presented by NAACP Women in partnership with Women of Excellence. Both also received a certificate of appreciation for their dedication and work in Indiana with Corrections and a standing ovation after the workshop presentations.

The Department hosted an IDOC reunion and luncheon at the Correctional Training Institute. Over 40 retired DOC staff members attended the reunion, which included a tour of the IDOC Reflections of Pride Museum. (photo right)

Offenders at the Westville Correctional Facility were invited to attend a special music presentation performed by the members of the Covenant Choir singing group from Goshen, IN. The Mennonite gospel singers gave two performances around the facility, shared their message of faith and hope and distributed reading material so offenders would experience their fellowship long after the group had departed. This is the group's 9th year coming to Westville. In total about 150 offenders elected to attend the concert.



The Grace College Theological Seminary held a graduation ceremony at the Indiana State Prison in the facility chapel. Fifty-four offenders were presented with their GED Certificates and 46 offenders received Career Technical Certificates in Culinary Arts. Dr. John Teevan, Executive Directive of the Weber School, Grace College, opened the ceremony with the students by stating the school has been working with the Indiana State Prison since 1986. This has been a record setting year assisting the offender population with completing their GED.



Superintendent Dushan Zatecky is pleased to report that PCF Case Manager Rick Shannon (pictured left) has been promoted to the position of Unit Manager. Mr. Shannon's promotion is effective November 24. Everyone at the facility would like to express congratulations to Rick and wish him well in his new position.

Several area high school and college students have been touring Miami Correctional Facility and attending Straight Talk Programs this month and last. More than 200 students have visited the correctional facility this fall, learning more about corrections and the negatives of prison life from the offenders. Students are coming in from as far away as South Bend and Monon, Indiana. Just this week alone, there were three groups of students, 66 students total, entering the facility from Kokomo and Wabash.

The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) PLUS programs recent Papa John's fundraiser raised an amazing \$2047. Programs inside the facility that will be helped by this fundraiser include several sewing projects in the PLUS Unit including material for wheelchair cushions and funding to help proceed with establishing an American Legion post at the facility. Due to the recent typhoon disaster in the Philippines, a donation will also be made to the Samaritan's Purse - Typhoon Haiyan Relief Fund. Samaritan's Purse is a non-denominational evangelical Christian International Relief organization based in Boone, North Carolina. More information on the relief effort and donations can be made at www.samaritanspurse.org.

The Kairos Prison Ministry Organization concluded a four day program at the Pendleton Correctional Facility. Forty-one offenders participated in the event that included involvement by forty-five Kairos volunteers. The recent event marked the 13th time the four day program has been conducted at PCF.

Weekly Views

November 22, 2013

Indiana Department of Correction (IDOC) Commissioner Bruce Lemmon addressed more than 350 community corrections staff attending the Indiana Association of Community Corrections Act Counties' statewide conference. Commissioner Lemmon spoke about HB1006 and the value of community corrections agencies to divert offenders from IDOC.

Did you know that you can help raise money for the Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana (CPAFI) just by searching on the Internet? Whether at work or at home, choose www.goodsearch.com as your search engine, and you could help raise money for your favorite charity. To support the CPAFI, simply submit "Correctional Professionals Assistance Fund of Indiana" when you "choose your cause" during registration.

The offenders in the Purposeful Living Units Serve (PLUS) program at the Indiana State Prison (ISP) made donations to two organizations. At the PLUS unit's monthly meeting, checks were presentation to the YWCA of North Central Indiana for \$250 and Caps for Kids c/o Northwest Indiana Catholic Gary Diocese for \$250. The PLUS unit also donated hand-crocheted hats and scarves to both organizations. (photo right)



Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility's Clean Lifestyle Is Freedom Forever (CLIFF) unit conducted a graduation ceremony for five CLIFF participants. Since 2005, the facility has graduated 350 students from the program. In addition to maintaining a full time treatment schedule, the students are also required to complete a full time academic and GED schedule. In this group, four of the students also earned their GED while enrolled in the CLIFF program.

Westville Correctional Facility (WCC) Superintendent Mark Levenhagen announced George Payne as the facility's new Custody Supervisor. Major Payne, who previously served as captain in the Westville Control Unit, will lead the custody team at the 3300 offender facility. Major Payne began his DOC career in 1991 and has worked his way up the custody ladder at WCC and ISP. (photo left)



The National Headquarters of the American Legion sent magazine staff to Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) for an upcoming article that will feature MCF American Legion Post 555. The American Legion representatives attended Post 555's monthly meeting. When National Commander Daniel Dellinger attended a Post 555 meeting in October, he was so impressed by their meeting and their color guard that he is promoting the creation of American Legion prison posts in his home state of Virginia. The

state had previously been opposed to the idea.

Virginia "Ginny" Cain, Indianapolis Regional Director for U.S. Senator Dan Coats, toured the Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) to learn about the daily operations at the male level-one security facility. Isaac Randolph, IDOC Deputy Director of Transition and Reentry, accompanied Ms. Cain on the tour. Throughout the tour, they spoke with many residents about their incarceration experiences thus far and how IREF has impacted their thinking and reentry processes in a positive manner. IREF was the last of several IDOC facilities visited by staff members from Senator Coats' office. (photo right)



The Pendleton Correctional Facility Employee Appreciation Committee conducted a project to benefit the Madison County Animal Protection League (APL). Thanks to the generous donations of staff, \$402 was donated to APL. The facility also provided a significant number of supplies to the APL including dog food, cat food, litter boxes, cat litter, cat litter scoops, bleach, detergents, paper towels, and a variety of treats and toys.

A promise was kept at the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF). Public Information Officer Rich Larsen challenged staff to reach their State Employee Community Campaign (SECC) goal by offering to have his head shaved if they did. Wabash went over the top by nearly \$300, and Rich had it all taken off the top during the staff re-call meeting. Larsen said WVCF staff really came through for their favorite charities this year especially the CPAFI. WVCF donations went up more than 20% over last year! (photo left)

The Correctional Industrial Facility donated \$750 out of their PLUS fund to the Samaritans Purse International relief fund. Samaritans Purse is an international relief organization helping those in need across the world since 1970. Currently, the organization is focusing heavily on the aftermath of a typhoon in the Philippines.



PLUS offenders sponsored a Church's Chicken fundraiser for the offender population at Putnamville Correctional Facility. 1,010 orders were placed, raising over \$2,000 for the PLUS program. Program Coordinators Karumathil Kumaran and Lynn Kortum will use the proceeds to purchase supplies for the program and for donations to community organizations.

December 6, 2013

Weekly Views

PEN Products partners from the U.S. Department of Labor John Delgado, Steve Steed and David Gray, were asked to meet with representatives of U.S. Senator Donnelly's staff. The Senator had been briefed that Indiana is a national leader in apprenticeship and was interested in learning more about all apprenticeship activities in Indiana, including those within the Indiana Department of Correction.

Staff Development and Training (SD&T) personnel provided their Presentation Skills program yesterday to seven Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) offender mentors who are currently participating in a Mental Health Mentor Training pilot program that was developed by staff at PCF

and SD&T. The Mental Health Mentor Training was developed from the Certified Treatment Specialist Training Curriculum currently being held at the Correctional Training Institute. There are 30 PCF offenders that have been identified as Mental Health Mentors who are being trained by instructors and staff from SD&T, PCF Mental Health Staff and PCF Unit Team Staff. (photo right)



IDOC Construction Services staff and offenders from Miami Correctional Facility have been assisting in the cleanup efforts in Kokomo, IN from a tornado that badly damaged parts of the city on November 17. Crews that include more than 20 offenders and staff spent days in Kokomo clearing piles of debris and fallen trees and brush. (photo left)



The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) food drive for the Pendleton Read & Feed program collected approximately 175 pounds of food and a total of \$40. The Read & Feed program is a unique program of the Pendleton Library which combines a bookmobile with a food pantry. The bookmobile/food pantry makes numerous stops in the south Madison County area, serving between 90-110 individuals each week and 60 percent of those being children. Clients are permitted to take up to 10 food items and books, CD's and other library material.

The offender organizations at the Indiana State Prison, the Northwestern Jaycees and American Legion Post 130, donated \$1000 for the purchase of toys to be given away to area children in the community. The toys were purchased at a local store by

staff. Offenders from both organizations wrapped approximately 105 toys for boys and girls, ages newborn to teenager. The toys were donated to the local Salvation Army. (photo right)

The fourth Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) training class completed their final requirements and was honored in a ceremony at the Correctional Training Institute. This number of certified OWDS specialist in Indiana has now grown from one in 2009 to 135 with the completion of this class. The 180 hour accredited training equips graduates with new tools and resources designed to assist ex offenders in finding and maintaining meaningful employment. Represented in this class were IDOC, Parole, PEN, Department of Workforce Development, Community Corrections, Work One and Community faith-based and nonprofit agencies, including three participants from Texas.



Representatives of the Kentucky DOC Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program toured the composting operation at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Laura Wesley, Tammy Lou Wright, Zach Schadler and Eric Sizemore gathered information and photos for inclusion in their team project presentation on composting. The visitors were very complimentary of the receptiveness of staff, Putnamville's commitment to composting and generating compost revenue, and extended their gratitude to Superintendent Stanley Knight for allowing them the opportunity to visit the facility.

Pendleton Juvenile Correction Facility teacher Amanda DeHart organized an off-grounds field trip for five students. Staff and students went to Indiana Repertory

Theatre to see Charles Dickens' *A Christmas Carol*. Mrs. DeHart's students will be studying the book during the month of December.

Employees at the Pendleton Correctional Facility (PCF) participated in a project to express holiday greetings to members of the military and their families. In connection with the American Red Cross "Holiday Cards for Heroes Campaign" PCF staff sent 244 Christmas Cards that will be forwarded to veterans, military families, and active duty service members at hospitals and installations around the world.



Wabash Valley has three new Correctional Sergeants! Shawn Coakley, Greg Sullivan and Steve Donaldson bring a combined total of 40 years of experience to their new supervisory roles. Assistant Superintendent of Operations Frank Littlejohn notes the trio has served on Emergency Squad, in segregation units and general population posts during their careers. "They are well prepared to lead and help prepare our offender population for release based on their corrections expertise."



The Reception Diagnostic Center held a two-day chili cook-off and raised over \$300! Proceeds will go towards the RDC holiday party, to help RDC staff in need and to local elementary school children. Congratulations to the winners of the cook-off Officers Antoine Stewart and Michelle Stith!

Congratulations and appreciation goes out to the staff at the Westville Correctional Facility who donated 52 pints of blood during the facility's recent Red Cross Blood drive. The Red Cross day is always a busy day at the facility, with schedules being rearranged and staff covering for others donating blood.

The Correctional Training Institute was pleased to have a visiting committee from the American Correctional Association auditing the facility for a standards compliance re-accreditation. Staff Development and Training (SD&T) received

100% compliance with mandatory standards and 98.8% on the non-mandatory standards. The auditors praised SD&T Staff on their enthusiasm for training and on the quality of training programs that are conducted for the Department.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility students in Ms. Amanda DeHart's English nine classes participated in the annual Santa Letter project. Students will respond to the letters from the point of view of Santa Claus, as they answer the children's questions about the North Pole, reindeer, elves and Mrs. Claus. This collaborative project is always a success for both the students of Providence Junior Senior High and the students who receive the letters.

Children in the North and South Putnam County School districts will have a brighter Christmas thanks to the efforts of offenders assigned to the Shifting Gears program at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Thirty bikes were repaired, spruced-up and delivered to Cloverdale High School for the annual Christmas Toy Drive, sponsored by the school's student council members. (photo left)



The 2013 Offender Workforce Development Specialists (OWDS) Symposium was hosted by Putnamville Correctional Facility. Thirty-seven Offender Workforce Development Specialists certified through Indiana's Partnership with National Institute of Corrections were in attendance from the Department of Workforce Development, Community Non-profits, Community Corrections, and IDOC Facilities, Parole & Central Office. Commissioner Lemmon addressed the group discussing IDOC's progress, providing current IDOC statistical information pertaining offenders being released from IDOC and providing encouragement in the post-release employment movement taking place within Indiana.



The Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Post #608 donated \$608 to the Toys for Tots Program that is sponsored by the White River Club and the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve. The money will be used by the charity to purchase two bicycles and toys.

Christmas Behind Bars founder Lemuel Vega along with approximately 26 of the organization's volunteers visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to fellowship with offenders. The organization provided gift bags to offenders and a variety of snack items were also provided to staff. (photo left)

Miami Correctional Facility hosted the annual PEN Products Board of Directors meeting. The PEN Board consists of nine members, six from state government and three from the private sector. The meeting included a tour of the industries operations at Miami

Correctional Facility, including the Miami Accessible Media Project, which provides nearly 500 offender jobs. Discussions included the mission and benefits of the Re-Entry Career Development Training, new products and engineering as well as the progress and updates on PEN's joint venture partnerships. PEN also discussed its goals and challenges for the future. Retiring PEN Board member Gerry Fankhauser from Purdue University was presented with a special gift by Commissioner Lemmon (pictured right). Members were also treated to lunch and a few gifts manufactured at PEN.



The Pendleton Correctional Facility conducted a job fair at the facility's Training Center that attracted 30 job applicants. On-site job interviews were conducted and qualified applicants were provided a job shadowing tour of the facility.

December 13, 2013

Weekly Views

Miami Correctional Facility (MCF) was honored by the Miami County Chamber of Commerce during their 2013 Annual Awards. The chamber gave the facility its "Community Involvement Award 2013" for all the work it's done in the past year in the Miami County area. At the award presentation, Chamber Director Sandy Chittum expressed her appreciation for the facility's contribution in maintaining the Nickel Plate Trail and the cleanup efforts after the" tornado hit in Peru. The facility was also instrumental in providing labor to paint the Broadway Underpass. The award is given



annually to chamber members who go above and beyond by volunteering and community involvement and demonstrate effectiveness in improving the environment and quality of life for Miami County and its citizens. Assistant Superintendent Daryl Walls accepted the plaque on behalf of MCF. (pictured right)

New Castle Correctional Facility contributed \$10,000 to purchase toys and clothes for the "Shop for a Tot" program for the Westminster Community Center. This donation will allow 83 children who would not have had a Christmas to enjoy the Holiday Season with presents from Santa.



Chain O' Lakes Correctional Facility (COL) staff demonstrated the spirit of Christmas by donating money to help make a holiday dream come true for some local children. Superintendent Kathy Griffin and five staff member went with three children, one boy and two girls, at the Wal-Mart store in Fort Wayne, IN to take them on a shopping spree. The children were allowed to pick out their own gifts and left the store with a bike, touch screen tablet, coats, clothes, and various toys and gifts. The parents of the children were very appreciative for the gifts and the generosity of COL staff. One parent cried, stating that this show of caring meant a lot to her family. The children were selected by the Wayne Township trustee's office. Superintendent Griffin expressed how proud she was of the staff of the Chain O' Lakes for the contributions they made to make this happen. (photo left)

Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) Superintendent Wendy Knight is pleased to announce that American Legion Andrew J Cummins Post 503 has received its temporary charter from the American Legion National Headquarters in Indianapolis. Rob Burkhart, Paul Jones and Beverly Murray from the regional American Legion area joined the men at the initial meeting to instruct them on the rules and regulations on being a Post and what was expected from them. After the swearing-in ceremony of the 19 charter members, elections for Post officers were held. All of the officers then participated in another swearing-in ceremony performed by Mr. Burkhart.

Corrections and city government officials from Shelby County and the Memphis, TN Mayor's Office joined Tommy Norris, CEO of Greenprisons.org, for a tour at Plainfield and Pendleton Correctional Facilities to observe the facilities' recycling operations. Both facilities were excited to show the progress made by both staff and offenders. By hard work and behavioral changes, Plainfield Correctional Complex has recycled over 1,000,000 pounds this year. Executive Assistant Jack Binion showed off Pendleton's Bio-Mass Boiler, Aquaponics Program, and Recycling Center. (photo right)



A crew from Indigo Films that produces the TV show "I (Almost) Got Away With It" spent a long day at Westville Correctional Facility interviewing two inmates about two unrelated escapes. The crew repeatedly commented on how accommodating and friendly Indiana's DOC treated them compared to most other places they have filmed. The episodes are still in production and will be aired several months from now.

Using all the tools at his disposal to find unauthorized cell phones trafficked into the Putnamville Correctional Facility, Superintendent Stanley Knight enlisted the services of WVCF K-9 member Jarod Collenbaugh and his cell phone



detection dog Dixie (pictured left). Collenbaugh issued commands while Dixie sniffed offender bed areas and property. The team proved to be an invaluable resource when Dixie indicated a "hit" and a cell phone was recovered. Collenbaugh and Dixie completed an eight week class for certification in cell phone detection.

Mike Herron and Doug Evans of PEN Products were invited to Springfield, IL where they gave a detailed overview of the IDOC/PEN reentry initiatives. Illinois staff in attendance included their Deputy Commissioner, Parole Supervisor, Program Directors, Education, Industries Director and Industries Field Supervisors. Starting with Apprenticeship and Offender Workforce Development Specialist training, Illinois hopes to replicate many of the successful programs that are providing positive results in Indiana.

The New Castle Correctional Facility PLUS program began working on a quilt project in May 2013 and have since put over 4000 hours into making 200 quilts that were given to the Life Stream project. Life Stream coordinates a gift bag for 200 nursing home residents with non-perishable foods, toiletries, reading materials and this year a quilt. (photo below)



The Correctional Industrial Facility (CIF) was pleased to be able to help the South Madison School Corporation with their Holiday Helping Hands (HHH) Program. A \$250 donation was made to the program in time to help them finish Christmas shopping for needy children in the South Madison School District. Holiday Helping Hands is a community outreach project and special opportunity for needy families in the school district to receive additional assistance during the holidays. The HHH program will be spending up to \$50 on gifts for each child, so the CIF donation will allow them to help at least five children!

Let it Snow! Let it Snow! Nothing could stop the Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) Fatherhood Program from hosting its Winter Carnival. Offenders, guests and the kids enjoyed good food, crafts, and games. Each of the 59 children went home with a stocking full of goodies and

a quilt from the Purposeful Living Units Serve Unit. But the best present of all was quality time spent with dad during this most special time of the year! (photo right)



Miami Correctional Facility's offender choir hosted its annual Christmas concerts in the recreation buildings. The group performed on the Phase I side of the facility last week and completed their "tour" by hosting a performance on Phase II of the facility. Offenders sang a beautiful a Capella rendition of "Emmanuel" and gave the audience a chuckle during their singing of "Twelve Days of Christmas".

Indianapolis Reentry Educational Facility (IREF) hosted a meeting of the IREF Community Advisory Board. The Advisory Board represents a broad range of community interest including members from local law enforcement, veteran affairs, neighborhood associations, business leaders, local and state government officials, and other stakeholders. Assistant Superintendent Dalton Haney and IREF department heads updated the group on significant events that recently occurred at the facility. Members of the board discussed and provided feedback on proposed new and current projects occurring at IREF and IREF's continued integration into and its impact on the surrounding communities.



The third annual IDOC Apprenticeship Symposium was held at Plainfield Correctional Facility where over 60 IDOC Apprenticeship Coordinators and Supervisors attended. Staff learned about the work release process and a variety of apprenticeship specific topics. This program assists offenders in learning valuable job skills and earning a U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) certificate. Commissioner Lemmon addressed the group, commending the continuing work that staff have done to improve the USDOL certification programming offered to offenders. (pictured left)

The 30th Class of LaPorte County Leadership visited the Indiana State Prison. The class appreciates the continued partnership and we thank you for your outstanding work in corrections. Monica L. Komaskinski, Executive Director Leadership LaPorte County stated, "The passion and commitment of the prison staff is commendable".

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility held its quarterly Community Advisory Board. Topics discussed were Special Olympics Fire Truck Pull, the newly opened Youth Transition Reentry Independent unit, Facility Open House, IDOC Blood Drive Challenge medium facility winner, Warriors For Christ Fundraiser, Correctional Educator of the Year Ms. Judy Willis and Kairos ministries. In addition to several staff member in attendance were Senator William Friend, Logansport Mayor Ted Franklin and Acting Logansport State Hospital Superintendant Daryl Hall.

Offenders and family members attended a Family Reunification class at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. Addiction Recovery Specialists Lauren Orme and David English instructed a module addressing Relapse Prevention and Reentry and awarded certificates for successful completion of the 20 week program.

Glendon Bender and approximately 70 volunteers with his Gospel Echoes Prison Ministry Organization visited the Putnamville and Pendleton Correctional Facilities to distribute delicious homemade cookies to offenders and staff. Volunteers visited the offender housing units to pass out the cookies, sing Christmas songs and offer prayers and spiritual counsel for the offenders and their families. (pictured left: Retired Superintendent Jack Duckworth, Pendleton Superintendent Dushan Zatecky and Glendon Bender).



The Pendleton Correctional Complex conducted the first annual 3 on 3 Basketball Tournament at the Staff Fitness Center. Correctional employees and their families attended and participated in the event which was organized by the Health and Wellness Committees at PCF, Pendleton Juvenile, and CIF. The Pendleton Complex Fitness Center continues to provide employees and their families the opportunity to exercise and pursue healthy lifestyles.

December 20, 2013

Weekly Views

Commissioner Bruce Lemmon addressed graduates of the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) Apprenticeship program and visitors, during the first USDOL graduation ceremony held at the Putnamville Correctional Facility. "This program has been taken to unprecedented heights. But, the true value of the program will be when you obtain employment as a result of this accomplishment," stated Commissioner Lemmon. PEN Director of Apprenticeship Doug Evans, Aramark IN2WORK State Manager Melissa Hess and various central office program staff were also in attendance. The ceremony was organized by Putnamville's USDOL coordinator David Mikles, who was recognized for his contribution to the success of the program. (photo right)



The Correctional Industrial Facility's new American Legion Post 503 is pleased to announce that their first fundraiser was a huge success. The Great Donut Sale raised over \$1,200 by selling 693 dozen donuts to offenders. The facility and Post would like to give a special thank you to Kroger Payless in Anderson who said this was the biggest donut order they had ever tried to make and started working on them at 6:00PM the night before distribution. The funds raised will give the Post the opportunity to purchase a few things needed for the new Post and to start a community fund for donations to not-for-profits in the area.

A very special plaque from the Indiana Criminal Justice Association (ICJA) brought Wabash Valley Correctional Facility (WVCF) staff together to remember Carrie Lambert-Fort. Carrie, the facility release coordinator, was a 16 year employee who passed away unexpectedly in September. The plaque, displayed in the WVCF award case reads in part, "A strong leader who devoted her career toward creating a better way of life for others and dedicated service to the field of corrections and the ICJA." Her husband, John, (pictured left) a long time volunteer at WVCF was on hand for the presentation.

Bethel College played the Miami Correctional Facility Offender All-Star basketball team on Phase 2 of the facility. Bethel lost 80 to 86. It was a positive experience for everyone, and the offenders were very appreciative for Bethel coming to MCF to compete against them, according to Scott Kenworthy, Recreation Coordinator.

The Employee Appreciation Planning Committee at the Indiana State Prison sponsored a staff food drive of non-perishable foods. Staff donated a total amount of 561 non-perishable food items which were donated to the local Salvation Army in Michigan City, IN. The Salvation Army will help approximately 800 families in the community a month.

Staff at Edinburgh Correctional Facility were honored to be joined by Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center Commander Colonel Shatto and his staff for the facility's annual holiday meal. The facility donated a turkey and ham for the dinner out of the employee appreciation fund while staff brought covered dishes to make for a wonderful meal. The ceremony was enjoyed by all and the staff at Edinburgh Correctional Facility would like to wish all a happy and safe holiday season. (photo right)



Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility is very pleased to announce that they have achieved level 4 from Performance-based Standards (PbS), a program for juvenile justice agencies and facilities to identify, monitor and improve conditions and services to youths using national standards and outcome measures. Currently 187 participants throughout the country participated in October's data collection. Twenty-eight facilities obtained level 4, 22 of these 28 have participated for five years or longer. It is a great testament to the staff to have achieved this status in short period of time.

The Logansport Juvenile Correctional Facility PLUS Unit designed and sold Christmas cards to staff and students. The students also donated 100 cards to the Red Cross, Holidays for Hero's program for our soldiers currently stationed in foreign countries. The students donated 20 cards to a specific unit of Marines stationed in Afghanistan. The sales earned \$80 and the money was donated to the Emmaus Mission Center for use in their food pantry and homeless shelter.

The Greyhounds are here! Staff and offenders at the Putnamville Correctional offenders welcome Flying Williston, G's Jazzy, Jane Mead and Where's Ranger, the newest arrival's to the facility's Prison Greyhound Program.





Pendleton Correctional Facility Offender American Legion Post 608 donated \$608 to the Toys for Tots Project sponsored by the United States Marine Reserves and the White River Fitness Club of Anderson. The money will be used to purchase two bicycles and toys for the annual project. Darrell Baylor Judge Advocate for Marine Corp League, Mounds Detachment, visited the facility to accept the check and express appreciation to Post 608 members for the donation. (photo left)

Christmas came early for the offenders and staff at Miami Correctional Facility. More than 90 volunteers from the Gospel

Echoes team visited the facility, singing Christmas carols and delivering a bag of cookies to all staff and offenders. The group has made this an annual project for the last several years. They hand deliver the bags to each offender in their cell and sing to them afterwards in the dayroom of the housing units.

Madison Juvenile Correctional Facility (MJCF) completed their re-accreditation audit by the American Correctional Association. MJCF attained a score of 100% on 39 mandatory standards and 98.1% on 331 non-mandatory standards.

Pendleton Juvenile Correctional Facility students have been busy preparing cookies, decorating sun catchers and making Christmas cards. Students and program staff delivered the cookies and cards to a veteran's hospital in Indianapolis. The sun catchers and cards were also delivered to a local nursing home. (photo right)



Fifty Gospel Echoes volunteers visited the Putnamville Correctional Facility for their annual Christmas cookie distribution. In addition to cookies, Glendon Bender and the volunteers sang Christmas carols, participated in a meet and greet with the offenders and gave individual spiritual counsel.

John Sage, Founder and Executive Director of the "Bridges to Life" organization, visited the Pendleton Correctional Facility to speak to offenders involved in the program. The organization was founded by Mr. Sage in 1998 after he experienced the murder of his sister. The mission of Mr. Sage's ministry is "to connect communities to prisons in an effort to reduce the recidivism rate (particularly that resulting from violent crimes), reduce the number of crime victims, and enhance public safety. The program's emphasis is on facilitating the healing process for victims and offenders.



Miami Correctional Facility held a Holiday Blood Drive with the American Red Cross. Nearly 30 employees donated blood with an unofficial total of 28 good units given. (photo left)

Madison Correctional Facility held its Celebration of Achievement for over 150 offenders who graduated from various programs. Assistant Superintendent Rodger McKinley gave the commencement address telling a story of the struggles a butterfly must go through to become a beautiful creature. He stated, "Today's graduates have encountered struggles in life, done something about them, and will soon be ready to fly."

The Logansport juvenile Correctional Facility CLIFF and Youth Transition Reentry Independent (YTRI) unit students assisted the Salvation Army and the Angel Tree Project in its annual food basket distribution. There were a total of eight students from the CLIFF and YTRI units who assisted the Salvation Army in preparing the food baskets and delivering those baskets to those in need. Along with Food baskets there were also gifts for the children in the program. There were 221 families impacted by the program.

Putnamville Correctional Facility Superintendent Stanley Knight and Assistant Superintendent Michael Rains extended season's greetings to Jennifer Edwards, Executive Director of the United Way of Putnam County, (pictured right) in the form of a \$500 donation to the organization. The Putnam County United Way performs a variety of services to enhance the quality of life for Putnam County residents.

Miami Correctional Facility Correctional Employee Appreciation Committee sold Candy Grams again this year to staff. Each hand-colored sheet was delivered to staff with a candy cane attached. The candy grams were sent by co-workers showing their appreciation to each other. This year the facility sold more than 550 candy grams netting nearly \$300. The committee also held its annual Holiday Bake Sale. Several staff members baked goodies to sell to staff for \$1. The committee made more than \$100 on the two-day sale.

