DOC Talk

NOVEMBER ~ DECEMBER 2013 EMPLOYEE NEWSLETTER

DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

2013 The Year In Review Issue

DOCTalk is the employee newsletter for the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC).

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Please send submissions and changes to the contributor list to Cheryl Miller in Central Office at Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov

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From the Commissioner

Commissioner Joseph Ponte

The Department has four major initiatives for 2014: the Intensive Mental Health Unit at Maine State Prison, the Young Adult Offender Program at Mountain View Youth Development Center, the opening of one additional unit at Charleston Correctional Facility, and the Feasibility Study for a new Maine Correctional Center. By the time you read this two of the four will be complete.

There will be a lot of dialog about a new Maine Correctional Center. Much has been said about how the State should spend its money, and many feel it should not be for building a new prison. This project makes sense as a business decision more than a decision to improve services to inmates. The cost of any prison construction is not in the building, but in the cost to staff these facilities. Approximately 75 percent of our budget is personnel cost. It does not take long to show efficiencies with a better design and those savings are forever. The choice for this State will be to pay now for efficiencies that will reduce the cost of Corrections in Maine for years to come. I believe we can pay for the new construction with the efficiencies we achieve through a better facility design.

The Intensive Mental Health Unit at the Maine State Prison (MSP) will be opening on February 15, 2014. It is the result of many hours of dedication, hard work, and collaboration at every level of this organization including the Warden and staff at MSP. We believe this will allow the Department to deliver a higher level of care for offenders who suffer with mental illness.

The Young Adult Offender Program at Mountain View Youth Development Center will be opening on April 2, 2014. The program will consist of minimum and medium custody residents between the ages of 18-26. There will be a system of phases and levels along with graduated privileges for residents—the higher the phase and level attained by the resident, the more privileges he earns. In addition, there will be individualized instructional plans to earn a High School Diploma, participate in Work Ready Training, as well as, vocational and distance learning opportunities. At the completion of the program, residents will either be released, transitioned to a minimum custody facility, or leave on the Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP).

On February 17, 2014 Charleston Correctional Facility will be opening an additional unit consisting of 55 beds. It will be a separate unit/dorm as continuation of the general population. The ultimate goal is to help free up beds in other facilities.

As we move forward into 2014, these four key initiatives will aid the Department in increasing efficiencies and meeting the needs of our prisoner population. Based on the progress and momentum achieved in 2013, I'm confident the Department is up to the challenge! Thank you for all your dedication and hard work—stay safe.

ON THE FRONT COVER *Sharelyn Parker seasonally decorates a small tree located near the entrance to the Central Office Service Center. Share one of your photos and it might appear in a future issue of* DOCTalk. *(Email your photos to Cheryl.Miller@maine.gov)*

What a Year! 2013 in Review

Well, we've made it through another year here at the Maine Department of Corrections! As we reflect upon the year that was, it's important to take a few moments to appreciate all the impressive accomplishments and improvements that took place in 2013. With all of us working so hard to advance the Department's mission each day, it is easy to lose sight of all the progress we are making. This issue is a testament to that work and a chance for each of us to pause and pat each other on the back.

This is the Department's second edition of the "Year In Review Issue of DOCTalk." The entries appear in Facility/Region/Division alphabetical order and some items may appear more than once (under different headings) demonstrating the phenomenal collaboration throughout the Department.

You should all be proud of the depth and breadth of the accomplishments detailed in this issue of DOCTalk. It is one of our largest issues yet, demonstrating all we have done in the past year. Thanks for helping us put this together and here's to an even better 2014!

The mission of the Department of Corrections is to reduce the likelihood that juvenile and adult offenders will re-offend, by providing practices, programs and services which are evidence-based and which hold the offenders accountable.

Maine Department of Corrections 2013 Accomplishments

- Revamp of Inmate Education/Programming (ongoing)
- Implemented 2nd In Command Positions All Minimum Facilities
- Recruitment Video/Media Division
- Hospice Conference
- AJFOC - Women's Conference in Maine
- Revamped Staff Training
- Implemented the Electronic Medical Records Application (ERMA)
- Revision and updates of all Health Care Policies 100%
- Hired New Training Director and Revamped Basic Training
- Installed the Secure Pass
- Implementation of Ergometrics Statewide
- Discipline Module
- Assisted Riverview's Security Needs
- Installed Body Scanners for the Maximum Facilities
- Installed Iris Scanner at the Maximum Facilities
- Assisted Aroostook County with Overcrowding Needs (ongoing)
- Opened Maine Correctional Center Store
- Put forward the Budget Language
- Implemented Central Office Safety Protocols (on going)
- Implemented the Classification Tool
- Special Operations Group (SOG) Training
- Implementation of Inner Perimeter Security (IPS)
- Implementation of Incident Command System (ICS)
- Started the implementation of Effective Communication (on going)
- Expanded K-9 Program
- Renovation of Williams Pavilions at Central Office
- Implemented Performance Base Measurement Statistics (PBMS)
- Created a New Research Unit
- Revamping Juvenile Interstate Compact Processing
- Expanded Work Release at Minimum Facilities

Year in Review ~ 2013

Adult Community Corrections

Region 1

A look in the rearview mirror….

The year of 2013 has come to a close and now a brand new year unfolds before us. The question always is what kind of changes will the new year bring and what new challenges will we all face.

Corrections Commissioner Joseph Ponte congratulating a graduate from Maine's first centralized Basic Corrections Training class on March 12, 2013. The class and graduation ceremony took place at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

This past year has presented more than its fair share of changes throughout our region that has culminated in a number of staff reassignments and caseload changes. In September we said farewell to PPO Wayne Sturdivant and wished him well on his retirement. We also said goodbye to Stephanie Seavey, and Deanna Fernandez who both chose a different direction for their life and to Jason Taylor and Danielle Pekins who transferred from Region 1 to Region 2.

Changes effective in the New Year will include Dave Edwards moving from the Naples/Bridgton area to the Oxford Office and Chris Libby leaving the Portland office to take the reins of the Naples/Bridgton area caseload. We also welcomed a new member to our DOC family this past year with the birth of a bouncing baby boy on December 2nd to proud parent POA Michelle Thompson of our Biddeford Office.

Whatever the new year brings with all its many ups and downs, one thing is for sure, the professional and dedicated staff will be up to the new challenges and take them all in stride.

Region 2

So where did it go???

I mean 2013. My goodness, that was quick! It was really busy with a lot of new faces, a lot of training, a lot of changes, and some real accomplishments.

January came in with interviews for Probation and Parole Officers (PPO) and Probation Officer Assistants (POA). Little did we know that "interviews" were going to be a constant theme throughout the year. The administration has worked hard to get us to full manning. Training has worked hard to give us a solid core. However, most importantly the staff has pulled together to make sure the mission is job one.

February we received some much needed assistance from Region 1 with the temporary assignment of PPO Mike Lyon to our Sagadahoc office. Down to PPO Buckmore and POA Dumas (now a PPO) to cover four positions, the three of them made sure that it worked, and just did a remarkable job. I should also point out that this was not an isolated occurrence during 2013. At various times throughout the year every office in Region 2 found itself covering for openings, and not once did the work ethic or professionalism suffer.

April saw a PPO/POA Academy at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA).

May began with a Leadership Development Program, followed by the Mandatory Statewide Training. There was also a first look at our risk reduction model prior to it being rolled out, but more on that later.

As has been the case for a number of years now, June saw PPO Buckmore represent the Region, Probation, and the MDOC at Camp Postcard. We also had a number of officers participate in "Operation Hot Spot" with the Lewiston PD, and other state and federal agencies. Fifty contacts and checks were made in one eve-

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ning as part of this on-going crime reduction program in Lewiston.

July ended and August started with a major transition in Region 2. RCA Landry departed for an assignment as Superintendent at the Maine Correctional Center and Susan Gagnon took over the RCA position. I wish you all such a smooth transition in everything you do—they didn't miss a beat. Four of our officer's completed the "Methods of Instruction" training which allowed us to add a Field Training Officer (FTO) and provided the opportunity for additional Professional Development. It was a really fun day at Range Pond.

October brought the Adult and Juvenile Female Offender Conference. RCA Susan Gagnon assisted in the planning, it was a huge success and a wonderful opportunity to show Maine to other agencies from all over the country.

October was also the one year mark with utilization of the Sanction Grid and Violation Review Forms. Has it worked? Well, that certainly seems to be the case. The goal of reducing returns to MDOC facilities through the managed use of graduated sanctions was surpassed. This was done even though we worked most of the year without ever reaching our "fully staffed goal." Everyone, to some degree is uncomfortable with change, but the staff embraced the process. Everyone did a great job with this—not only in Region 2—but throughout all of Community Corrections. Maine Integrated Risk Reduction Model (MIRRM) was introduced to a core group, representing the field and the facilities, to our new risk reduction model.

There was more MIRRM in November with "Train the Trainer."

In December the MIRRM was finally presented in training for administrators, FTO's and caseworkers. Just great! That is all I will say as the first half of 2014 will see the officers in this Region, the State, and the institutions trained. It is our risk reduction model which interacts with and drives every other aspect of our client contacts. It will take the institutions and the field staff in the same direction. It is exciting and a real step forward for the Department.

So that is a quick review of the year from Region 2-Adult Community Corrections. Some say that the five hours Mental Health/Stress Management Program at the end of the year was just scheduled there by chance. A coincidence? You decide.

Thank you all for a great year and the work that you do. As you jump into 2014 "Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let the new year find you a better person." (Ben Franklin)

Region 3

Region 3 Community Corrections was pleased to add several new staff during 2013 and grateful to have them on board. Additionally POA Amy Richard and PO Amanda Sermersheim were hired in the fall and are ready to fulfill their duties in the respective assigned areas. Enough appreciation cannot be expressed to the all of the Region 3 Community Corrections staff for their assistance in covering extra duties and caseloads through this entire year.

In October, the Maine Department of Corrections, along with the University of Southern Maine Muskie School of Public Service hosted the 15th National Conference on Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders in Portland, ME.

This past year saw three retirements from the Region as Bill Love, Betsy Jaegerman and Ron Sagner all departed. This was a significant pool of years of experience and they are each missed.

The offices in Bangor and Ellsworth both relocated and the Calais office is in the process for 2014. The new spaces are nice and hopefully we can settle for an extended period.

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Several staff attended the Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders Conference in Portland in October and PO Magnusson represented Region 3 in Baltimore, MD at the National Conference for Community Corrections.

PO Eric Legassie completed training as an armorer and is now assisting regionally in that role.

Maine Integrated Risk Reduction Model (MIRRM) training will kick off in 2014 with PO Magnusson and PO Burnham representing Region 3 and contributing their skills as trainers.

One of two Belted Galloway calves born in September at Bolduc Correctional Facility.

Bolduc Correctional Facility (BCF)

- Transitional Recovery Academy (TRA) is now housed at BCF.
- Ben Beal who had been acting Deputy Warden for a year is now Director of BCF.
- Work release at BCF reached an all time high of 120 this summer. In December, 2013, seven men graduated from the Bolduc Correctional Facility's WorkReady program and were awarded certificates from the Maine Department of Education's Office of Adult Education. WorkReady is a statewide sixty-hour credential soft skills-based training program that is offered in our correctional facilities and in community adult education centers. The curriculum was developed by select Maine adult education staff and local adult education directors in collaboration with the Maine Department of Labor and key business partners. It provides participants opportunities to build resumes, practice interview skills during mock interviews with local employer partners, and develop portfolios showcasing their work. The next WorkReady class is scheduled to begin in January, 2014.
- Prisoner working in community logged 22,766.47 hours.
- Work Ready Manager Leida Dardis graduated her first class consisting of nine prisoners.
- BCF added two new Belted Galloway cows who subsequently gave birth to two calves. We also added two Hereford crosses.

Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF)

Another successful year in the books for Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF). We had a number of changes take place with staff coming and going, as well as new plans for our future and how we do business. It's not until you sit back and reflect on the months gone by that you realize how much has been accomplished and how many little things have changed.

In December we had a breakfast for staff to celebrate the holidays and spend some time with those we don't get to see very often. Steve Conner came in, we suspect for the free food. He was presented with a replica logging truck that was made for him in the wood shop. He was quite impressed with the craftsmanship of the two foot long truck complete with logs.

Staff that has been here for years and years left to begin new chapters in their life; new staff has been hired and thus begins new traditions and personalities to enjoy.

Retired in 2013

- Teacher/Librarian Paul Robbins retired in May after 16 years at CCF.

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- Warehouse Superintendent Dave Richards retired in June after so many years we can't count them all!

- CO/CTI Ken Kimball also retired in June. He wasn't here for very long but was a great asset and we were sad to see him leave.

- Vocational Trades Instructor (VTI)/Wood Harvesting Steve Connor retired in September after more than 30 years at CCF.

- CO/CTI Neil Pinkerton retired in December after more than 10 years at CCF.

New Staff & Promotions

- Correction Officers: Dave Hession, Christopher Pearl, John Houghton, Brittany Tata, Ethan Amero and Jeff Marry.

- CO/CTI: Adam Caldwell

All are great to have on the team and we look forward to working with them for many years to come.

- Steve Conner's retirement created the opportunity for Joel Burdin to be promoted to VTI for Wood Harvesting, Congrats again Joel!

- We also welcomed our new Director Larry Austin who came to us from Mountain View Youth Development Center. With Larry coming over to CCF that opened the door for Chad Curtis to be promoted to Deputy Director. Chad and Larry make a great team and together are making significant strides in improving the facility for everyone here.

PbS

We have now done two full data collection periods for Performance-based Standards (PbS). We are the first adult facility in the country to embark on this endeavor. Indiana is now participating and we are working together to make it a valuable and effective tool for adult facilities across the country. Although, at the time of this writing, the final results are not in preliminary reports indicate that we have made improvements in the areas of prisoner-staff interaction, overall prisoner climate, and release planning. We now have a much better idea of where we need to focus our attention and hope to see more improvements in the next round.

Work Release

This being a working facility in a rural part of the state work release opportunities requires constant effort to bring in. We continue to support some of the local farms during planting and harvest times. Recently we have partnered with WorkReady in Bangor. Prisoners have been going out to work sometimes at 2:30 in the morning to clear snow or whatever is needed. All reports coming in say CCF inmates are some of the best workers and that they could not be more pleased with the courtesy and hard work these men have displayed. The WorkReady employers are already making plans to keep crews busy this summer.

Charleston Correctional Facility became the first adult facility in the country to participate in PbS (Performance based Standards).

New Dorm

Our new dorm will be ready for occupancy in February. Crews have been working hard to get the building ready. They had to completely demolish the inside, call in asbestos abatement, and then rebuild everything. It looks great. Staff is gearing up for the population increase and we will be ready for them when they arrive.

Classification

The most noteworthy accomplishment for the Classification Department this year has been the progress made after the implementation of the new Classification Instrument in 2012. This replaced the Classification Grid scoring tool that was used

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for the past 25 years. The new tool is much more subjective and reviews past behaviors while incarcerated or community supervision.

This December, users of the Classification Instrument came together to openly discuss its effectiveness, establish concerns, and offer feedback for adjustments and improvement. This discussion was facilitated by Dr. Patricia Hardyman who will be conducting a validation study to gauge for accuracy on the scoring and effectiveness on the entire system. Results of this study are expected back during May 2014.

New hires to the Department of Corrections are currently receiving

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Communications & Media Relations

In March 2013, Scott K Fish was hired as MDOC's Director of Special Projects/Communication Specialist. This year the Department had a significant media presence as evident by:

The MDOC Facebook page (initially started by Lt. Chris W. Coffin at MCC) has grown to reflect the many amazing people and programs throughout the Department. We are up to 1,085 Friends!

A MDOC Twitter account was established.

Initiated video and podcasts to highlight MDOC events. Examples include:

- Podcast interview with Commissioner Ponte in which the Commissioner answers questions regarding the need for a new, safe, facility in Windham.

- JJAG's Kathryn McGloin was the subject of the first one-on-one video interview with MDOC staff (posted on the MDCO Facebook page). More interviews are planned.

Both interviews can be heard/watched on the MDOC Facebook page.

Reporters/media were given greater access to facilities and administrators to learn more about MDOC programs and the issues around corrections. Examples include:

- PBS Frontline embedded for several weeks at Maine State Prison's (MSP) Segregation Unit to include Maine in their multi-state documentary on segregation reform.

Maine Public Broadcasting reporter Susan Sharon (left) interviewing Associate Commissioner Jody L. Breton at the Maine State Prison.

- Maine Public Broadcasting's Susan Sharon produced a three-part radio segment on the MSP Hospice Program.

- *Lewiston Sun Journal* reporter Dan Hartill toured Maine Correctional Center (MCC) with Commissioner Ponte and Superintendent Scott Landry and wrote a balanced piece on the need to build a new facility in Windham.

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2 ½ hour training on Classification, with specific emphasis on the Classification Instrument. New hires are given an opportunity to review the tool and classify a prisoner with it. This training has allowed for our new staff to have a better understanding of each custody level and what behaviors or offenses may warrant a higher level of supervision. The discussions in these trainings have been lively, with many thoughtful questions.

Maine Correctional Center continues to serve as the reception facility for all offenders sentenced to the Department of Corrections for less than five years. The caseworkers in the Multi-Purpose Unit (MPU) have

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Communications & Media continued

- The 150,000 watt radio station WVOM teamed with Maine Prison Industries Director Bob Walden to promote a Thomaston Prison Showroom sale by giving away a wooden chest of drawers.

The Department's first Corrections Officer recruitment video was produced. A second recruitment video is in the works, as well as, a video profile of the Maine Woods Products Industry.

Broad media coverage at Maine State Prison of the 14 prisoner college graduation funded by Doris Buffett's The Sunshine Lady Foundation. (See: http://www.pressherald.com/news/14_Maine_State_Prison_inmates_earn_degrees_.html)

Commissioner Ponte and Warden Bouffard gave the "green light" for the Maine State Prison Hospice volunteers band, *Sounds of Comfort*, to record at MSP, a CD of their songs. An official launch of the CD to take place on February 19th along with a concert at MSP (open to the public) is currently in the works.

Began experimenting with written profiles of MDOC personnel. The first being a profile of Superintendent Jeff Morin and the Mountain View Youth Development Center (which appears in this issue of *DOCTalk* on page 50). Future interviews for profiles to include Director Scott Jones and the Downeast Correctional Facility and Regional Correctional Administrator David Barrett on Maine's Juvenile Corrections System.

In 2013, Scott visited all the MDOC facilities, with the exception of the Long Creek Youth Development Center (LCYDC) and Southern Maine Re-Entry Center (SMRC). Scott has set a goal for 2014 to work with at least one person in each facility to learn of the events deserving of wider public promotion. He is looking forward to visiting LCYDC and SMRC this year and says, "I've just scratched the surface in 2013 and am looking forward to 2014. I am always open for suggestions on promoting the people working within MDOC and the Department itself, so please send me your ideas! (Scott.Fish@maine.gov)"

The MSP "Sounds of Comfort" Hospice volunteer band. Shown are band members, guest musicians, and friends: Back Row (L-R) Nathan Roy, Karen Flynn, Jaime Eller, Bob Colwell (recording engineer), Chris Shumway. Front Row (L-R) Steve Carpentier, Kandyce Powell (ME Hospice Council's Executive Director), Kevin Knight, and Robert Payzant.

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been diligent in completing initial intakes with prisoners within 48 hours. Classification at MCC and MSP continues to classify prisoners in a 10 business day time frame. This efficiency has allowed for minimum custody prisoners to transfer to a minimum facility more quickly.

Correctional Programing

- A review of correctional programming was completed and recommendations were presented to the Executive Team. Three program priorities were agreed upon: Sex Offender Treatment, Substance Abuse Treatment and Education.

- An Education Steering Committee was established to begin discussions around how to improve and increase education within the MDOC. This group has worked to break down the silos between facilities and now works as one team to deliver educational opportunities to the prisoner population through the development of one strategic plan that will expand the number of classes offered in education as well as expanding the number of prisoners served.

- Additionally, a Program Manager's meeting was established to include Deputy Wardens of Programs and Assistant Directors, all tasked to oversee the programs, assessments and case-management services within their facilities. This group will meet quarterly to bring continuity and cohesiveness to the delivery of programs throughout the Department.

Downeast Correctional Facility (DCF)

- The "DCF elves" worked extra hard producing a variety of wooden toys for the children in the community. These toys were donated as part of the annual tree raising ceremony in the Town of Machias. Holiday events included an appearance by Santa Claus who passed out these toys to the children. DCF would like to thank the local businesses involved for their various donations which made this all possible. DCF appreciates the time and effort Chris Sprague, Vocational Trades Instructor, and his prisoner carpentry crew put in to making the wooden toys for this event!

- Our Garments program made and donated children's jeans, jean jackets, and girls' aprons to the Community Christmas Giving Tree, a non-profit organization that helps families in need.

- Our 2013 seasonal partnership with local business Whitney Wreath making table top Christmas trees for L.L. Bean was quite productive! The 12-prisoner work crew on site here at DCF made a

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The "DCF elves" made a variety of wooden toys for distribution to children in the local community.

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total of 685 Christmas trees this season. We look forward to next season with hopes that this will be an ongoing seasonal opportunity.

- DCF's Public Restitution work crews performed a total of 30,270 hours of community service in 2013 for local schools, non-profits, state, county, and municipal agencies. We applaud our crews' "Git-R-Done" attitude! Even with the ice and snow, our crews are out there giving their Downeast best!

The Downeast Correctional Facility shop where blue jeans garments are made.

The DCF Garments Program made and donated children's jeans and jean jackets to the Community Christmas Giving Tree, a non-profit organization that helps families in need.

- Some of the capital improvement projects approved or completed in 2013 include:

  -Clarifier at the treatment plant design work and contractor is lined up to do the work. Waiting for optimal flow rates before proceeding with this project.

  -Professional Services Agreement were approved to start design work on the underground heating pipes from the Recreation Building to Dorm III.

  -Offices renovated: Community Programs Coordinator, Correctional Care and Treatment Workers, and Classification Officer.

- In 2013, the Work Release Program was implemented here at DCF with several employers coming on board to provide employment to prisoners. Along with DCF prisoners who are based at Mid-Coast Regional Re-Entry Center (MCRRC), there was an average of 19 employed prisoners per month for 2013. Employers who worked with DCF to provide employment to prisoners for 2013: BBS Lobster Trap, Cherry Point Products, Ellsworth Building Supplies, M. A. Whitney and Son, Inc., Maine Wild Blueberry Co., Inc., Project Flagging, Inc., and Whitney Originals, Inc.

- Technological additions: iris scanner which provides a more accurate identification of prisoners and new computers have been installed for the Correctional Officers to access CORIS in order to enter necessary prisoner reports directly into CORIS.

- Three positions at DCF were reclassified and one position created; the Chief of Security position is now Assistant Director and the two Correctional Caseworker positions are now Correctional Care and Treatment Workers. The Community Programs Coordinator position was created to coordinate prisoner employment opportunities with local employers as well as facilitate transportation to and from employers as needed.

- Cheryl Rackliff was hired as the facility's new Classification Officer and Maggie Devericks as the new Secretary; both graduated from the Maine Criminal Justice Academy the first week of October 2013.

- Congratulations to Gary Ellis and Vincent Emery who were recently hired to fill the two Correctional Care and Treatment Worker positions at DCF. Gary was DCF's Correctional Cook Supervisor and

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Vincent was a Corrections Officer on the night shift here. We wish them the best of luck in their new positions!

- Congratulations to Unit Manager Carol Geel and Community Programs Coordinator Rosa Tucker who received awards for outstanding achievement for their efforts with the Work Release Program.

Healthcare Division

The year 2013 proved to be the one that ushered MDOC medical services into the Electronic/Digital age! The first exciting event was the implementation of an electronic medical record at all the MDOC facilities. Affectionately referred to as E.R.M.A., the Electronic Records Management Application went "live" this past spring. Recently, an interfacing electronic "bridge" was developed for necessary data sharing with CORIS.

A new, digital PANAX dental X-Ray machine arrived during the summer and is now taking and storing dental films digitally, at the Maine Correctional Center.

Late summer, the medical department initiated a fully electronic Medication Administration Record system. Yet another "technologic step forward."

Maine's own Long Creek Youth Development Center was awarded the title of "Correct Care Solutions Facility of the Year!" This prestigious, national honor was celebrated by both CCS and MDOC staff alike. A beautiful crystal trophy was presented to Longcreek staff and is on display at LCYDC, stop by and take a look.

MDOC Health Services Coordinator Kim Robbins became credentialed as a Certified Corrections Nurse /Manager, CCN/M in October 2013.

Several medical staff members were invited to participate alongside MDOC staff in a team building experience; which included a challenging rope course. Word from the medical staff is that there were many sore muscles on the day following the event.

All eyes in the Health Services Division are focused upon 2014, in anticipation of continued progress towards electronic efficiencies still to come.

Industries

- Memorial weekend of 2013 marked the opening of our new Correctional Industries Showroom in the business community of Windham and we expect growing retail sales that will expand our program and prisoner workforce as we move forward.

- The Prison Showroom made its first vending booth appearance at the Windsor Fair with a great response from the public and a "Best of Show" award for our commercial booth display received from Fair Judges.

- Our second Fryeburg Fair appearance was marked for success not

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On Memorial weekend Correctional Industries opened a new showroom in Windham.

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only with a 46 percent sales increase, but also by being honored as the recipient of the 2013, "Fryeburg Fair Exhibition Hall Judges Favorite Display" award!

- Correctional Industries had a successful vending booth presence at the Maine hosted National Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders Conference in Portland.

- The Prison Industries Program expanded their collaborative Poultry Program with the Bolduc Correctional Facility's Farm Program to include raising 24,000 chickens this past year.

- The State Prison's "Fine Furniture Craftsmanship Program" established with the New Hampshire Institute of Furniture Makers celebrated its 1st anniversary and is continuing to run strong.

The Fine Furniture Craftsman Program at Maine State Prison is going strong.

- Our statewide program special project work included many State of Maine agencies such as the Governor's Office, Department of Transportation, CDC, Department of Education, Bureau of Motor Vehicles, and the Maine State Police.

- The Maine State Prison program reached an agreement with Avalon & Tahoe Manufacturing Inc. out of Lewiston, ME and Alma, MI to handcraft a series of model Pontoon Boats with various detailing for display at nationwide boat shows and corporate gifts.

Juvenile Community Corrections

Region 1

- New clerical worker Janet Fonegmie, once hired, organized and archived over 12 years of old files in our two offices.

- Annie E. Casey's Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) team developed a "Graduated Response Grid."

- In April, Matt Nee and Mike Mack attended the Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) Conference in Atlanta, Georgia.

- THRIVE staff person Dawn Johnson (not of "Miami Vice" fame) started taking referrals for services.

- New Management of Aggressive Behavior (MOAB) instructors certified: Sean O'Keefe, Warren Brown, Steve Labonte and Cheryl McKenney.

- Two-day training at Maine Criminal Justice Academy (MCJA) in May.

- One year anniversary of the Southern Maine Youth Court.

- Dave Clock sets up shop at the Seeds of Independence Center at the old Brunswick Naval Air Station.

- July 27-31, Joe Hansen, Jay Pennell and Roxanne Austin attend the American Probation and Parole Association Conference in Baltimore, Maryland along with three adult Probation Officers.

- York County Office Welcomes new RCM John Coyne.

Region 2

- RCA Susan Gagnon accepted the position as the Region 2, Adult Regional Correctional Administrator.

- RCM Sue Carr was promoted to the position of Deputy Super-

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intendent of Program/Services, Maine Correctional Center.

- JCCO Chris Raymond was promoted to the position of Regional Correctional Manager.

- Region 3 RCM Galan Williamson was promoted to the position of Region 2-J Regional Correctional Administrator.

- Scott Boyington was hired to cover one of the juvenile caseloads in the Rockland area.

Maine Department of Corrections Honor Guard. Veterans Day Parade. Portland, Maine.

- RCM Susan Smith was able to attend the National Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) conference in Atlanta, Georgia along with representatives from other State agencies involved with juvenile justice. JDAI is a leading national consulting organization to assist States in reducing the use of juvenile detention using eight interconnected strategies to effectively improve policy and practices statewide. The Atlanta conference provided RCM Smith and the Maine delegation an opportunity to learn about best practices being effectively implemented from model sites across the country.

- The Restorative Justice Project (RJP) is a victim offender conferencing/mentorship program that serves youth charged with a juvenile offense in the midcoast region. In 2013, RJP proposed expanding their service into Sagadahoc and Lincoln County, increasing their catchment area and reaching more juveniles involved with DJS. From a DOC perspective, RJP offers a meaningful restorative approach that provides a venue to repair harm done to victims of juvenile crimes and hold juveniles charged with juvenile crimes more accountable to his community and increase empathy for the victim.

Region 3

2013 brought some big changes to Region 3-J. In July, we welcomed JCCOs Mark Sellinger, Roy Curtis, Russ McMahon and Dan Delahanty when Somerset and Waldo Counties were added to the region. Due to the increase, Region 3-J was allotted a second Regional Correctional Manager slot, which was filled by Josh Ash in October. Josh had been a JCCO in the Lincoln/Millinocket area for several years, and had worked in Region 1-J prior to that. Josh's tenure as junior RCM was short-lived when Galan Williamson was promoted to Regional Correctional Administrator for Region 2-J. Galan started as a JCCO in Washington County in 1997, moved up to Resource Coordinator a few years later, and became the RCM in 2008. We will miss Galan and appreciate the guidance and support he provided over the years. We congratulate Galan and Josh on much deserved promotions. We also recently welcomed Crystal McLellan, who will be providing part-time clerical support in Washington County for both juvenile and adult services.

There were many accomplishments within the region in 2013, most notably the day-to-day work being done to provide clients with needed services and reducing incarceration, as evidenced by the data collected by the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative. A couple of accomplishments that stand out include work that was done by JCCOs Gary Sanfacon and Kelly Chartier in Aroostook County. In October they met with local stakeholders to address the disproportionate detention rates of Native American youths. Their initiative to reach out to the agencies resulted in the formation of ACTT (Aroostook County Tribal Triage). Their goal is to identify youths in need as early as possible and streamline the process of getting them re-

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ferred for services. In July we began making referrals to Lynn Boulier, Community Outreach Specialist through the THRIVE Initiative. Lynn works with clients and families who have experienced trauma and helps them connect with community and natural supports. In just six months, Lynn received 43 referrals throughout the region.

Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG)

- More than 3,000 children were served with in-school and after-school prevention programs in 32 Maine communities.
- After 13 years as Chair, Paul Vestal stepped down and Barry Stoodley stepped in.
- Technical assistance from the OJJDP guided reorganization of the JJAG .
- Supported conferences: Positive Youth Development Institute, Third Annual International Summit on Non-Punitive, Non-Adversarial Interventions for At-Risk Kids; Adult and Juvenile Female Offenders.
- Supported the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative and the Juvenile Justice Implementation Council.
- Member Dalene Dutton was voted as Vice-Chair of the Federal Advisory Committee on Juvenile Justice.
- Four youth members were appointed for a total of six.
- JJAG staff attended federal trainings.
- Worked nationally and in the State to decrease disparities in our system.
- Provided input on legislative documents.
- OJJDP awards were reduced by $39,521. (In 2012 the awards were reduced by $359,065.)
- Performed federally mandated classification and compliance checks at 115 law enforcement, correctional, and judicial facilities.
- Developed an MOU with the Judicial Marshals Office to ensure federally mandated monitoring will be conducted in all District Courts statewide.
- Worked with Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Officials to eliminate the unlawful

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State of Maine Compliance Monitoring for the Federal Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act achieved the following benchmarks during 2013:

- Performed federally mandated classification and compliance checks at 115 law enforcement, correctional, and judicial facilities.
- Agreed to terms on an MOU with the State of Maine Judicial Marshals Office (Director Mike Coty) that will ensure that federally mandated monitoring to be conducted in all District Courts statewide.
- Through discussion with Immigration and Customs Enforcement Officials (ICE), the unlawful use of secure detention for Federal Ward (undocumented immigrant) juveniles was eliminated in 2013. These offenses represented all of Maine's violations against the regulations of the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act in 2012.
- Coordinated the training of 61 law enforcement officers in the "Effective Police Interactions with Youth" curriculum. Participating officers represented agencies stretching from the Rangeley PD, to Mount Desert PD and State Police (Alfred Troop) to name a few.

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use of secure detention for Federal ward juveniles. This practice was eliminated in 2013.

- Coordinated the training of 61 law enforcement officers in the "Effective Police Interactions with Youth" curriculum. Participating officers represented agencies stretching from the Rangeley PD, to Mount Desert PD and State Police (Alfred Troop) to name a few.

Legislation

Reflections on the 2013 Legislative Sessions

Submitted by Jody Breton, Associate Commissioner

When asked to reflect on the past year's Legislative Session, two pieces really float to the top for us here at the MDOC. In last year's budget bill, we were able to get language to perform an independent Maine Correctional Center (MCC) feasibility study to look towards replacement, renovation or re-use of MCC. Pulitzer, Bogard & Associates and SMRT Architects were the selected vendors to do the feasibility study. Their report is due to the Criminal Justice & Public Safety Committee on February 1, 2014.

The other bill impacting the Department was LD 1515 which originally was intended to take some pressure off Riverview Psychiatric Center (RPC). When the bill finally passed in the special session, the two largest populations (Not Criminally Responsible and Incompetent to Stand Trial) were removed, leaving us with an Intensive Mental Health Unit (IMHU) that will really benefit our mentally ill inmates and those waiting in the county jails who have significant mental illness and are too aggressive to be housed there. Those county inmates would need to make the "Blue Paper" requirements as if they were going to RPC. This new IMHU is scheduled to open on February 15, 2014 and be located in C pod in the Old Supermax at MSP.

Long Creek Youth Development Center (LCYDC)

Long Creek Youth Development Center is proud of the accomplishments made in 2013. Changes and improvements to the larger systemic process have enhanced the individual needs of the residents within the facility. Partnering with Correctional Care Services (CCS), the medical service delivery system has been improved and streamlined, resulting in improvements to follow-up care pertaining to youth at risk for self -harming behaviors, and "special needs." Communication improvements between medical, psychiatry and clinical services, have enhanced the coordination of residential care, and due to these efforts, CCS awarded the Long Creek Medical Department "Facility of the Year."

Programming services has continued to focus on groups aimed at reducing risk through programs such as Risk Reduction, Aggression Replacement Treatment (ART), Healthy Relationships, and Target. Under the guidance of LCYDC staff from different disciplines, treatment is reinforced in all areas of the residents' program. The "Aftercare Violator's Group" within the Healthy Curriculum program was revamped by Day One to focus on thinking distortions, and attitudes and beliefs which are risk factors identified in most of our returning residents.

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Commissioner Joseph Ponte and Associate Commissioner Jody L. Breton at the State House.

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A new contract with Goodwill of Northern New England provides employment assistance to the residents at Long Creek. Currently a resident work assessment program has been established to determine the work/career interests, education levels, barriers to employment, and job development locations. Worksite Safety Assessment and Work Site Agreements have also been established to ensure resident and community safety and define clear lines of communication between job site and the facility. To date, 38 youth have received assessment, job readiness skill training or have been supported in jobs.

Volunteers throughout the facility provided approximately 700 hours of service a month for the resident needs, which include donations, and staff support at the annual holiday dinners. The services provided by the LCYDC chaplain have brought in numerous bands and guests to support the youths' spiritual development and continues to search out leaders from the Muslim community to support residents of this faith.

The A.R. Gould School has fully implemented the Common Core teaching standards, new scheduling using blue and white days, and a separate school for the girls programs. New programs are also offered in literacy, the humanities, certification for computer repair (Metrix), after school activities, and healthy sexuality and life skills for student enrichment and academic achievement. Residents at Long Creek continue to participate in MPA sports such as soccer and basketball, experience teambuilding and trust through an experiential ropes course and have the opportunity to participate in a workout fitness class.

The implementation of 1:1 technology; allows every student to have a computer in their classroom, and each teacher to have a Mac Air computer and an iPad mini. In 2013 the school received two grants from the Maine Humanities Council to work with at risk students, and this year the students have gained an average of two grade levels in reading and 1.5 grade levels in Math. Thus in 2013, 33 students graduated from the A.R. Gould school, of which 13 received a high school diploma, 20 received a GED, seven students have currently completed two college classes and eight students are currently in college.

Long Creek Youth Development Center Librarian Lisa Wojcik and Supertintendent Jeff Merrill.

Maine Correctional Center (MCC)

2013 was a busy year for the Maine Correctional Center. Between June and September there were several administrative changes that resulted in a new Superintendent, Scott Landry; a new Deputy Superintendent, Susan Carr; and a new acting Deputy Superintendent, Gary Laplante. We also had a new Corrections Unit Manager, Valarie Norman, come on board for our Women's Center program.

Work Crews

The Community Restitution Work Crews were also busy. They provided 15672.5 hours of labor to local nonprofits and municipal governments valued at $213,630. Work ranged from repair and painting of a church

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in Casco to the repair and renovation of the Probation and Parole Office in South Portland.

Inner Perimeter Security Team
MCC also established an Inner Perimeter Security (IPS) Team that works in conjunction with the Correctional Investigators and IPS Teams from other facilities. The purpose of the team is helping to maintain a safe living environment for prisoners and a safe working environment for staff. They use a various means of collecting information and acting on that information when appropriate to do so. Team members at MCC consists of Lt. Chris Coffin, Corporal Ray Blossom, Corporal Kevin Curtis and K-9 Corporals Joe Salisbury and Brian Donahue. All team members are required to be certified as Correctional Officers and Reserve Law Enforcement Officers.

Special Operations Group
MCC staff from the CERT Team received advanced training and were integrated into the new Department Special Operations Group. Training provided by Senior Team Leader Garcia from U.S. C-SOG included instruction in Less Lethal Combat Operations, Correctional Hostage Rescue Operations and High Risk Inmate Transport Operations.

New Industries Outlet Store
After a number of years in a poorly lit, cold concrete block building that once served as a cow barn in the 1950's and 60's, MCC has a new Industries Outlet Store on Route 302 in Windham. Located in "the heart of the lakes region tourist area," the new store has ample parking, well lit display areas for correctional industries products manufactured at MCC and MSP, storage area for products, and facilities for the staff and prisoners working on site.

Maine DOC officially said goodbye to the old school tactics and technology of yesterday. The new Special Operations Group (SOG) Team (formerly the CERT team) includes members from the Maine Correctional Center, Maine State Prison, and Mountain View Youth Development Center.

Some Numbers
- Intake and Reception Center had 938 admissions for the year
- 36 employees, left MCC employment, transferred or retired
- 42 new employees were hired, including 33 officers

Capital Improvements
Several capital projects were completed:
- Parking lots were repaved
- A new entrance facility was placed under construction
- Live Body Scanner was placed into service for prisoners entering the facility
- Two dormitories were reroofed
- And many smaller projects

Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC)

In March, Deputy Superintendent Boyd Kronholm participated in a Juvenile Detention Alternatives Initiative (JDAI) site visit in Portland, Oregon. The JDAI is designed to address the efficiency and effectiveness of juvenile detention. Mr. Kronholm and a select team of evaluators will be trained to audit the juvenile detention facilities' practices with the JDAI training.

In honor of National Crime Victims' Rights Week, residents and staff

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made friendship bracelets, crocheted hats, and cut out bookmarkers to donate to Womancare for distribution.

In April, new ceiling reconstruction of all resident pods with permanent materials was completed, replacing the dangerous false ceilings that permitted unauthorized access to ceiling areas. This renovation provides a safer living and working environment for residents and staff.

To increase safety practices, new personal alert devices (PDAs) were purchased for all staff and volunteers working within the secure area providing them with immediate assistance when needed.

Also to increase safety practices, Juvenile Facility Operations Supervisors (JFOS) hold at least one table top

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Commissioner Ponte recognized and gave certificates of appreciation to Human Resources staff members (left to right) Brenda Hernandez, Charlene Gamage, Cynthia Shuman, Jeanne Fales, and Laurie Hayden. HR staff has gone above and beyond to recruit new hires at the Maine State Prison.

Maine State Prison

2013 What a Year!

There were many featured articles in *DOCTalk* during 2013 and the changes in staffing created by staff transfers, terminations or retirements and the many promotions or appointments is probably the most noticeable. Staff retiring included: Gene Goss, Plant Maintenance Engineer; Walter Foster, Chaplain; Captain Millard "Rip" Rackliffe; Captain Donald Black; Sergeant Steven Markwith and several others. Their dedication and leadership will be missed.

A number of employees were promoted or appointed to their current position during 2013, including: Troy Ross, Deputy Warden of Operations; Michael Tausek, Deputy Warden of Programs and Services; Robert Walden, Deputy Warden of Administrative Services; Anthony Cartlidge, Unit Manager; John Howlett, Captain; Ken Vigue, Captain; Lidia Burnham, Lieutenant; Jason Benefield, Criminal Investigator; Kevan Fortier, Chaplain; Robert Boynton, Plant Maintenance Engineer and several other individuals.

I want to thank Cindy Brann, Angie Newhouse, Laurie Hayden, Jeanne Fales, Cindy Shuman, Rodney Robert and others for the tremendous effort in the recruitment, hiring, and training of more than 90 new correctional officers and numerous support positions during 2013. Completing the entry level and in-service training of staff requires great attention to detail and commitment to the Maine Department of Corrections. A very special thanks to Rene Smith and Brittany Payson for scheduling, coordinating, and documenting the many hours of in-service training provided to staff during 2013.

The prison is implementing many new approaches in the supervision and management of the prisoner population. We will continue to increase risk reduction programs and improve risk management controls. Much progress is being made and we will continue doing more towards accomplishing our goals. I am extremely grateful to all our staff for their support, commitment, professionalism and for the work they have done. Thank you.

Rodney Bouffard, Warden

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exercise per week and hold at least one emergency drill each month.

April's Performance-based Standards (PbS) data draw scored MVYDC at Level 3 for "Detention" and Level 4 for "Committed." October's data draw scored MVYDC at Level 4 for both criteria!

In June, Associate Commissioner Joe Fitzpatrick announced Jeff Morin was selected as the Superintendent for Mountain View.

Mountain View K-9 Officer Troy Hood Gunner.

As an initiative to improve communication with new hires, MVYDC and CCF held their first *New Employee Orientation Night* in July for newly hired employees and their families. Attendees were provided with a tour to familiarize themselves with the facility and staff reviewed insurance and personnel information.

Emergency response to critical incidents was improve through the creation of a new Tactical Response System—we hired our first K-9 Officer and selected staff to participate in the Special Operations Group (SOG) Team.

A new program, "Catch You Being Good" was implemented. Through weekly drawings and publicly recognizing winners, residents' pro-social behavior was encouraged. This program, based on recommendations from Paula Smith, PhD (University of Cincinnati), is intended/has been shown to increase resident pro-social behaviors, as well as the staff ratio of positive to critical feedback.

MVYDC is developing a partnership with Youth Move Maine (YMM) to explore opportunities for peer mentoring in the facility. Possible collaborations include offering more support to the detention population, as well as teaching residents who are further along in their phases to be role models and mentors.

Management and staff attended a "Youth Substance Abuse Treatment and Recovery" conference which offered skilled training on the ways agencies, professionals, and families work together to increase the youth and family access to treatment and recovery services.

Young Adult Offender Program

On February 27, 2013, the Commissioner and other DOC staff, representatives of JJAG and the ACLU, presented testimony before the Joint Standing Committee on Criminal Justice and Public Safety on LD 353 "An Act to Allow Young Adult Offenders To Be Confined in Juvenile Correctional Facilities and Comply With Federal Requirements." The significant provisions of this bill added the ability of the Department of Corrections to house select young adult offenders at the State's juvenile facilities in compliance with existing Federal Requirements of the Office of Juvenile Justice and Prevention Standards relating to sight and sound separation from any juvenile offenders that are also being housed at the facility. On March 26, 2013, LD 353 was passed to be enacted by the House and then on March 27th LD 353 was passed to be enacted by the Senate.

Mountain View was identified as the primary facility to provide services for Young Adult Offenders coming into the adult system who are between the ages of 18-26 years, with an LSI score of moderate, high or maximum risk. The Assessment Unit at Mountain View was closed on February 28, 2013 and the Unit Manager and Social Worker began to research and work on developing a program to meet the needs of this population. There are a small number of programs across the country that provide specialized services to this age group but there is no known program currently operating that provides services to both adults and

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juveniles within the same physical structure requiring sight and sound separation.

Over the past year, Mountain View has worked hard to prepare for the opening of the Young Adult Offender Program (YAOP) in April 2014. Physical plant ensure separate space for juveniles and adults. Staffing patterns were identified and all staff have been trained in both juvenile and adult polices. A perimeter road was built in November 2013. The treatment program and related services were identified and approved. Schedules for adults and juveniles were developed to accommodate the sight and sound restrictions and the facility staff has been practicing the schedules for several months now in an attempt to identify and address as many challenges as possible. The Education Department has worked diligently to prepare for adult education and work ready training. The technology infrastructure had to be expanded to accommodate the increased population and expected use. Policies, post orders, critical incident manuals, prisoner handbook and a brochure have been drafted. Facility staff are working closely with Central Office staff to identify internal evaluations and tracking measures for the program.

We will definitely be ready for this exciting program and look forward to our new challenges in April 2014.

Mental Health Program

2013 saw several staff changes in the Mountain View's Mental Health Department:

- Dr. Agnieszka (Asia) Serwik was hired as Deputy Superintendent of Treatment. Previously Dr. Serwik served as a DOC staff psychologist and later as a Correct Care Solutions (CCS) Mental Health Director.

- Day One's Suzan Ackerman, LADC (Licensed Alcohol and Drug Counselor), CCS, was promoted to the position of Program Coordinator for Correction Services.

- Astrid Redmond, LADC, transferred to Long Creek but we're grateful that she was willing to come up a few times a month to finish treatment with residents near the end of their programs.

- Chaz Gokas, LADC, also joined the Day One team as the new substance abuse counselor on D Unit.

- Jessica Johnson, LCSW joined the CCS staff, coming to Maine with many years of correctional experience with juveniles.

- Most recently, we were excited to welcome Dr. Holly Zack, who became our new Mental Health Director, with particular expertise in children with trauma exposure.

Clinicians and other treatment providers participated in trainings that enhanced their skills with the juveniles as well as helped them prepare for the upcoming Young Adult Offender Program:

- In September, four staff (along with staff from Long Creek) participated in an intensive, week-long Aggression Replacement Training (ART) to become new certified facilitators. Staff included a mix of treatment, security, and other support positions who took the opportunity to exchange ideas and learn from each other in additional areas of programming. The program will be used for both adults and juveniles at the facility.

Firefighter /JPW Garrett Strout helps supervise residents in the Helping Hands Program wash the parking lot at MVYDC.

- Asia Serwik, Deputy Superintendent of Treatment and Suzan Ackerman, Day One Program Coordinator were among several facility staff who participated in LSI-R training to better serve the incom-

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ing adult population by linking needs with treatment services to reduce risk of recidivism.

- The THRIVE grant to improve trauma informed services provided several trainings to facility staff. These included an overview to help staff understand what the grant could offer residents at the facility, as well as providing self-care strategies for staff working with a difficult correctional population.

- Thinking for a Change, an evidence-based cognitive risk reduction program has been adopted for use with adults and juveniles. Staff will become familiarized with the format, with formal training to occur in the near future.

- Several treatment programs initially started in late 2012 have become a core part of services in 2013. These include Day One's use of the evidence-based Seven Challenges curriculum for youth with substance problems, as well as the Healthy Relationships Group which helps youth identify positive ways to develop and maintain friendships and romantic relationships. Both programs have received positive feedback from staff and residents.

DAY ONE Substance Abuse

- In November, Mountain View's Deputy Superintendent Boyd Kronholm and Long Creek's Superintendent Jeff Merrill attended Day One's 40th Annual Celebration and Dinner. The keynote speaker was Butch Hobson, Jr. who played third base for the Boston Red Sox from 1975-1980 and then managed the team from 1992-1994. A right-handed hitter, Butch set team season records for a third baseman with 30 home runs and 112 RBIs in 1977. Butch shared his insight on his years with the Red Sox and talk about his struggle with substance abuse.

- At a Day One's event, where residents from Long Creek and Mountain View were in attendance, a female resident from Long Creek spoke about how her life. She talked about her involvement with criminal behaviors and substance abuse, and how being committed to Long Creek, she has been able to see what impact this has had on her life. Also one of Mountain View's talented musicians performed for a small group, and was able to sing a song about his struggles, which brought tears to many of us in the audience.

- Day One, headquartered in South Portland, is Maine's leading agency dedicated to addressing substance abuse and mental health issues among kids and young adults in Maine. Day One has been working with Maine youth and families, schools, and communities for 40 years to dramatically reduce substance abuse among Maine youth to help them live productive, healthy and rewarding lives. Day One provides substance abuse treatment to the residents of Long Creek and Mountain View. For more information: day-one.org.

Duchess the Therapy Dog visits Mountain View Youth Development Center to bring a smile to everyone's face.

Education Professional Development

- MV's Education staff was involved in professional development and training in March. Staff analyzed the NWEA–MAP 2012 (Measures of Academic Progress) pre and post test data for 2012. Overall progress by content area and by student was scrutinized to determine future instructional needs. The majority of students improved more than one grade level in all content areas for 2012.

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- Annual Assessment Review occurred on March 15th of the NWEA-MAP 2012 Assessment Analysis and Instruction.

- Vocational teachers met with their counterparts at the United Technological Center (UTC) in May to examine assessment of skills. Vocational teachers (Scott Demoranville, John Simmons and Mark Spahr) along with the Jobs for Maine Graduates (JMG) Manager Pat Gillis attended three days of NCCER Instructor's training during April school vacation and received certifications.

- Annual facility training occurred the second week of June.

- During the Adult Education Conference in June, teachers and administrators attended a day of professional development workshops in Waterville. This opportunity was the first step in preparing our 7-12 trained educational staff for the transition to providing an Adult Education program for the Young Adult Offenders Program.

- MDOE's instructors' training was provided for the new HiSET testing program which will replace the General Education Diploma (GED) test.

- READ 180 training was provided in March and follow-up Read 180 training was provided in June to those teaching reading or subbing for reading.

- Chef Mark Spahr attended ServSafe training in July.

- Three teachers attended the ACTEM Conference in September.

- Michael Cushman, Doris Darling and Cheryl Quinn attended MaineStars training in August. MaineStars is the DOE Adult Education data collection system. It is required that Work Ready information be placed in MaineStars.

- MLTI training was attended in August by Michael Cushman.

- Lori Prestridge attended CASAS assessment training in August. This adult assessment program is used by Maine Adult Education programs.

- Eight students took the PSATs in October. Five students took their SATs in June. Four took the Accuplacer.

- Teachers participated in training in November for Working with Adult Learners provided by Allen Lampert, Director of Sanford's Adult Education program in preparation for the Young Adult Offenders Program.

- Teacher Joe Combs attended Using Technology to help Struggling Learners in November.

Education Statistics

- Mountain View held two graduations for the 2012-2013 school year. Nine students earned their GED diplomas and three completed the requirements for their High School diplomas. Since the opening of the facility in February 2002, 306 students have earned their GED and 23 earned their High School diplomas.

- NWEA Mean Grade level Change by subject for school year 2012-13: Math 1.6, Reading 2.5, Language Usage 3.0, Science (General) 2.7, Science (C&P) 1.1.

- Comparison of spring to late fall 2013 test scores will be ready in February 2014.

- Five students successfully completed the first ever National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) 68-hour Core Curriculum training conducted at the facility in March. Ten out of 16 (68%) students completed and earned certificates in NCCER Construction and OSHA. The course was taught by instructors from Women Unlimited and paid for with Carl Perkins grant money.

- Mountain View had four students participating in college coursework. One of these students attended Eastern Maine Community College off campus.

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Education Activities

- In February, Jobs for Maine's Graduates Manager Pat Gillis organized a College and Career Fair for the residents of Mountain View and adult inmates of Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF). It was a huge success with eleven vendors representing colleges, employers, and career centers. Separate opportunities provided juveniles and adults to speak directly with organizations to assist them with reentry jobs and college plans. This event was the first for Maine corrections facilities and was covered by local news media.

Residents attend Job and Career Fair held at Mountain View Youth Development Center. Among the vendors participating was the Maine Career Center.

- Planning for the Young Adult Offender Program transition was a priority and Education developed a detailed action plan. By the end of December, most of the goals have been accomplished.

- Principal Cheryl Quinn and Special Education Director Lori Prestridge became members of the DOC Education Steering Committee.

- Special Education and Volunteer Services teamed up again this year to provide the Equine Program for residents. Funding in support of this transition program was provided by the No Child Left Behind Grant. In September, residents completed their final day of the six-week Equestrian Program. They demonstrated their new abilities and hopefully learned how the decisions they make after their release are connected with what they have learned by participating in the program. (For more about the program see page 47.)

Education Personnel Changes

- Education personnel turnover was down from 2012; as we had no retirements.

- Jobs for Maine's Graduates JMG made the decision to officially end their services with the juvenile facilities.

- GED Prep teacher Gary Gray left MVYDC in August for a similar position at Charleston Correctional Facility.

- William MacDonald was hired as the GED (now High School Equivalency Test -HiSET) preparation teacher position in October.

- Carlotta Thompson was hired for the Title One Reading position; and candidates have been interviewed for the Employment Skills Teacher position substitute teacher position.

Volunteer Services Program

Residents were chaperoned to several special events this year:

- Eight attended the Dover "Woopie Pie Festival."

- Ten residents along with staff participated in the Annual End Domestic Violence Walk/Run held in Dexter. Residents provided community service for this event by doing the clean-up.

- Seven students were taken Christmas caroling to two local nursing homes.

- For the 12th year, staff took six students to the Bangor Symphony Orchestra & Robinson Ballet's presentation of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker at the Collins Center in Orono.

Mountain View's Religious Program brought "The Shining Light" group of young singers to the facility for two presentations—one for MVYDC residents and another for CCF inmates.

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Volunteer Coordinator Marsha Higgins, along with MVYDC's Board of Visitor members Brian Welsh and Jim Davitt, met with Tiffany Sun of the new Cross Insurance Center in Bangor to inform and provide assistance to expand MVYDC resident community service hours.

Ms. Higgins and Recreation Director Ryan Dearborn have collaborated with Beal College to provide outdoor related activities for our residents. Director Allen Stehle will be presenting "Fly Fishing Basics in Fresh and Salt Water" to our interested students. This activity will be the first of several coordinated by faculty and students from Beal College.

Operations

2013 was a busy year for MDOC Operations. We have taken on numerous construction-related projects here at Central Office (CO), as well as building and security upgrades at some of the facilities. Here at CO, we hired a construction firm to renovate the third floor of the Williams building which has been vacant for many years. Construction began in late August and was completed in mid-December which served as a timely "gift" for many CO staff around the Christmas break. If you have not visited this shiny new space, we invite you to do so at your earliest convenience.

If you have visited Tyson recently, you have likely noticed renovations to the new Tyson wing are well underway where the same firm is building a large state-of-the-art conference room for use by the MDOC and its partner agencies. The conference room will feature high tech interactive white boards, built in projectors, wireless capability and enhanced audio. Once complete (anticipated late February), our friends from Finance will occupy the "new and improved" office space at the far end of the Tyson wing.

Major accomplishments in the field include the relocation of Central Maine Pre-Release Center back in April. In May, a consultant was hired to evaluate the security/control needs at MCC and MSP. The findings have been documented in the form of drawings and specifications for the suggested upgrades. The RFP to install the upgrades is in development and, providing the solicitation process goes according to plan, a security electronics firm will be hired to begin this work sometime in March of this year. Finally, this fall we obtained professional services to conduct a Feasibility Study to determine the reuse and possible new construction of the aging MCC facilities. MDOC will report out key findings and recommendations when this study is complete, anticipated in February.

A conference room in the newly renovated third floor of the Williams building (Central Office).

Division of Quality Assurance & Professional Practices

During the last year the Division of Quality Assurance & Professional Practices (QA) has been very busy! We have worked collaboratively with all of DOC including Research, Central Office, Programming, as well as, Adult and Juvenile Facilities/Community staff. Whether developing a new policy or modifying an existing one, creating a method to track and monitor a program or process or establishing a better way to conduct business, QA has been at the table covering a number of aspects throughout the Department.

QA has also worked closely with sister State agencies such as the Departments of Education and Health and Human Services to write contracts, develop MOU's and to ensure effective use of State resources.

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DJS Contracts/Programming
QA has assisted the Division of Juvenile Services (DJS) by managing all of their community service contracts and handling all Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for newly identified service needs. Some of the RFPs developed were for Home and Community Treatment services, Cognitive Behavioral Treatment, restorative justice programs, and alternative education services.

QA was instrumental in adding an additional Multi-Systemic Therapy (MST) site to the State's array of evidenced-based practices (EBP) and list of valued contracts for DJS by issuing the RFP for this service. The new program and fourth MST site throughout the State is located in Aroostook County and operated by Aroostook Mental Health Center (AMHC). They are off to a great start as they have provided services to about a dozen DJS involved youth since starting this past summer. QA continues to monitor the overall performance of this program to ensure the youth under DJS' supervision are receiving the highest quality treatment possible.

QA recently spearheaded an effort to provide DJS youth with no MaineCare or who have not met DHHS' medical necessity requirement and who meet the eligibility criteria of Multi-Dimensional Treatment Foster Care (MT) an opportunity to participate in this Blueprint EBP. The initial plan is to provide enough funding to support treatment and room and board for two youth under DJS' supervision. If the effort proves to be successful, it will become part of future MT contracts.

Community Reintegration Specialist (CRS)
QA created a database to compile and analyzed data on DJS' Community Reintegration Specialist program. This database, scheduled to be released to the facilities and field in the coming months, will allow for a more streamlined approach to collecting, tracking and monitoring data than the process currently being used. Subsequently, it will give QA more time to analyze the data and provide a quicker turnaround on needed reports to DJS and senior management that more accurate and reliable.

Young Adult Offender Program (YAOP)
QA has been facilitating the YAOP Evaluation Group which is responsible for developing an evaluation plan for the Young Adult Offender Program, targeted to begin April 2, 2014. Members of this group include Mountain View administrators, Director of Correctional Programs, Director of Quality Assurance, and Research Director.

Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative (JDAI)
QA continues its work with JDAI. QA Director and Research Director are on the JDAI Executive Committee which meets quarterly. Work previously handled by University of Southern Maine on meeting reporting requirements of JDAI continues in a joint effort of QA, IT and Research. Much of the work under JDAI has resulted in QA, Research, IT and DJS looking closely at various detention related definitions and data collecting strategies in order to make our data as reliable as possible. The other major component that has come out of our work with JDAI is we are now working closely with the courts to ensure all necessary data beyond CORIS, the Department's information system, is being captured.

Performance Based Measurement System (PBMS)
Quality Assurance has made great progress in the Performance Based Measurement System data collection throughout the Department. In the last year, DOC has gone from a "green" State to an "aqua" State. The transition from green to aqua depicts Maine's participation level in PBMS going from partial to almost full participation with most standards being reported. The highest level, blue, is one away. This status enables Maine to run comparative reports to see how we are doing in relation to other individual facilities or States as a whole in specific standards. In the coming months, QA will be meeting with each facility to show how their specific standards measure up to other "like facilities" throughout the country. Also, QA is in the midst of creating a user friendly manual to

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PBMS, the "Blue Book", which will soon be available to guide administrators through creating reports on the PBMS web-based tool.

Substance Abuse & Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) Grant /THRIVE

The Department and THRIVE successfully applied for and was awarded the Systems Transformation Grant. The grant assists MDOC (and other agencies) in becoming trauma informed in practice, environment, and approach. QA continues to manage this grant which benefits both Juvenile and Adult Services through the services of THRIVE and Hornby Zeller Associates who manage the grant with QA oversight.

Performance-based Standards (PbS) Maine

QA's Director established the Performance-based Standards (PbS) Maine Team comprised of DJS facility leads, Quality Assurance, THRIVE, Hornby Zeller and the PbS coach from PbS Learning Institute. The team meets monthly to discuss uniform practices between facilities, analyze each facilities' PbS data, compare strengths/challenges between facilities and to further embed the PbS culture throughout the Department. This is an ongoing monthly meeting moving forward.

Mountain View Youth Development Center was awarded PbS level 4 for 2012. Pictured are Jeff Vance, Maine PbS Coach David Crowley, Tammy Cooper, and Acting Superintendent (at that time) Jeff Morin. Long Creek Youth Development Center also attained a level 4.

QA's Director and Jeff Morin, former director of Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF), took the lead on discussions with PbS to see if they would be willing to work with CCF, an adult facility. PbS has strictly been for juvenile facilities. PbS welcomed this request and CCF has since then participated in two data draws, making it the first adult facility in the nation to participate in PbS. In April, Young Adult Offender Program (under the direction of Jeff Morin) will be the second adult facility in Maine to join and there is a great deal of energy currently in place to implement this model at MSP. Because of this work with PbS other states have followed suit and have begun using PbS in their adult facilities.

QA is taking the lead in working with PbS Learning Institute to determine the best and most effective approaches in working with adult facilities. There are currently a lot of ideas on the table that are being discussed, including formal collaborations with PBMS.

New Standardized Contract Process

The collaborative electronic contract processing system initiated by Quality Assurance and in cooperation with Division of Purchases is successfully in place and after a few minor adjustments is a standard operating procedure for all of Department of Corrections. Now, when you view a contract from facility to facility, field services or Central Office, they all follow a standard template process which includes two levels of review to assure the accuracy and accountability for each contract. All DOC contracts can now be viewed in a central location on CorrNet at the Quality Assurance tab. The address is http://inet.state.me.us/corrections/quality-assurance/Contracts.html.

Correctional Educational Programing

QA staff is on the newly formed "Correctional Education Steering Committee" (CESC) chaired by Judy Plummer-Beale, Director of Correctional Programs and made up of correctional educators, QA, and the Adult Education Division of the Maine Department of Education (MDOE).

Some of the accomplishments of this group include:

- Identifying commonalities and differences when comparing the Correctional Education Programs

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between the juvenile and adult education systems.

- Establishing collaboration with the MDOE to collect and report correctional education data using the new MDOE data base "Maine Stars."

- Determined what correctional education programs were being currently operated and project future needs in the area of programs and staffing.

- Beginning the process of aligning the MDOC Adult Education Programs with the MDOE model of educational and career advancement called "Career Pathways."

- Beginning the transformation of the MDOC Vocational Education Programs from the long on-going existing programs to programs that will align more closely the Maine Department of Labor's "Job Market Forecast". This will better prepare our inmates with skills that will be needed in the upcoming job market.

- Implementing the WorkReady Program into all of the juvenile and adult correctional facilities. The WorkReady Program is a 60 hour program that prepares the participant for employment and success in the workplace. This program awards a "Certificate of Completion" that guarantees the person has learned and demonstrated the skills necessary to be a success in the workforce.

Classification

In conjunction with the Directors of Correctional Programming and Classification, the QA Director conducted several meetings with Dr. Patricia Hardyman to discuss the need for a validity study on DOC's classification system. QA finalized negotiations and a contract with Dr. Hardyman who is analyzing our methods of classification which will include feedback, recommendations and a final presentation to the Commissioner and his Executive Team. This will be used to determine the current status and future direction of the Department's overall classification system.

Statistical Analysis Center (SAC) Grant

QA staff took on the responsibility of handling the Statistical Analysis Center grant previously managed by University of Southern Maine. QA had to issue an RFP to select an appropriate vendor to manage the State's SAC grant. The successful vendor selected was University of Southern Maine, as in previous years, and QA has assumed the responsibility of submitting all required Federal reporting as well as monitoring and guiding the vendor in the needs of the DOC regarding this grant. Some of the projects include the Maine Justice Data Book and the Maine Crime Victimization Brief Series, which required a great deal of coordination between DOC and OIT staff to provide raw data for the SAC to analyze and report out on.

Batterer's Intervention Programs/ Domestic Violence

QA staff provides monitoring of all community Batterer's Intervention Programs, statewide. This past year, QA staff monitored all community Batterer's programs twice to assure all minimum standards were being met in the groups by facilitators and participants. A year end summary was provided to DOC Victim Services and is available by reaching out to the Director of Victim Services Tessa Mosher @ Tessa.Mosher@Maine.gov. QA monitoring and feedback was provided to Victim Services Director and DOC Policy Director to assist in rewriting of Departmental Victim Services policy.

State Criminal Alien Assistance Program Grant (SCAAP)

QA submitted and was awarded current year's SCAAP grant. QA staff and DOC OIT staff continued reporting and data gathering exercises for the online grant application to make this a success for 2013.

InsideOut Dads Program for All Adult Facilities

QA Director and Director Correctional Programming met with Greg Austen from the National Fatherhood Initiative (NFI), the creators of the InsideOut Dads program. InsideOut Dads, recently recognized

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as an EBP by the National Registry of Evidence-based Programs, is focused on enhancing parenting skills for adult male inmates who will be returning home to their children and one that the Department has initiated as a standardized program across all its facilities. QA worked with NFI on establishing a contract to provide a web-based training to all identified facilitators in the Department which is scheduled to take place at the end of February.

Maine State Prison (MSP)
QA has been at the table with MSP aiding in ongoing work around the Segregation and Mental Health Units. There has also been a great deal of work with the Prison on their programming, particularly with data tracking and reporting processes and overall evaluation. With the implementation of Ray Fern's Effective Communication it was highly recommended the Prison have a way to capture and track the climate of staff and inmates. QA has taken the lead on working with the Prison and PbS in bringing PbS' standardized survey tools (Staff, Client and Family) into use there to establish baseline data we will be able to compare against future survey results and ultimately allow the Prison to establish improvement plans on identified areas of need. The immediate plan moving forward is to implement the initial surveys (staff and client) mid-February with a second round occurring during PbS' fall data draw.

DJS Detention Data
In collaboration with Research and IT, QA reported to DJS management team on potential detention concerns of increased numbers of youth in detention. This work created the opportunity for further discussion and data mining to narrow down the driving factors in the rising numbers (numbers still considerably lower than two and three years ago), i.e. youth on conditions of release and those given shock sentences. Since isolating these two challenge areas the group as worked tirelessly on refining definitions; exploring ways to best capture this data; identifying challenges within these areas that will impact the reliability of future data draws; and brainstorming quality assurance processes to keep on top of this data. Much progress has been made.

In summation, QA has been very active in most areas throughout the DOC and we look forward to our continued internal and external collaborations in the coming year. Please remember you can request the services of QA by submitting an online request form on CorrNet, Quality Assurance tab. The address is http://inet.state.me.us/corrections/quality-assurance/index.html

Research Unit

Submitted by Michael Rocque, PhD, Director of Research

We at the Research Unit hope you and your families had a wonderful year in 2013. We would like to take the time to review the year (well, 8 months) that was in research at the Department's new Research Unit.

As most of you know, in May of 2013, the MDOC opened a Research Unit, housed within the Division of Quality Assurance and Professional Practices. The idea was to continue the trend of conducting more data analysis and program evaluations in-house, rather than contracting with outside entities. This is consistent with the practices of other, data driven DOCs around the nation, such as those located in Minnesota and Pennsylvania.

Working with our long-time partner at the Muskie School of Public Policy (with whom we continue to collaborate), we began the year assisting with projects that were already in the works. These included the Juvenile Detention Alternative Initiative data analysis and reports, the juvenile recidivism reports, and the Community Reintegration Specialist data tracking project.

We have also begun the work of building a research infrastructure within the MDOC. An external research request policy was rewritten and put into effect this fall (available on Corrnet). We have developed a data sharing agreement with the University of Southern Maine (USM), which allows us to securely transfer approved data electronically,

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thereby cutting down costs associated with unnecessary travel. Most recently, a Memorandum of Understanding has been signed that will allow us to use the USM Institutional Review Board at a much reduced cost in exchange for providing a prisoner representative on the board. Institutional Review Boards (IRBs) are important because they provide external, objective assessments of proposed research to ensure that the proper protections are in place for vulnerable human subjects. This is a standard requirement in research. We are very pleased to have USM as a partner.

In addition, we are continuing plans to further build the Research Unit by creating an internship program in which advanced students from area schools work with us for the summer months on dedicated projects. Other infrastructure building plans include expanding the unit by developing new positions, and exploring new, annually produced reports.

The new year is bringing two of our most anticipated projects to date: first, as many are aware, we are in the process of developing a study to test the reliability and validity of the LSI-R and YLS/CMI. Our plans will bring the involvement of the entire Department, from facility to community staff, both adult and juvenile. In brief, what we are planning is to draw a list of inmates at random, video tape LSI-R or YLS/CMI interviews, then show those videos to a group of community and facility raters (those who do LSI assessments) to examine how consistently they are done. It is important to note that this is not meant as an assessment of individual rater competence (names of raters won't even be reported), but rather is meant to give us a view of how the Department is doing. To examine validity of the risk assessment tools, we will look at whether the scores are predictive of behavioral infractions and recidivism.

The second project we are excited about is the evaluation of the new and innovative Young Adult Offender Program that is being launched later this spring. This program stems for the Department's recognition that individuals are still developing, in a cognitive sense, through their mid-20s. It therefore seems reasonable that this group could benefit from the more developmentally-based programming available in the juvenile system. Thus the program will operate in a dedicated wing of Mountain View. Several important services will be offered to inmates, including cognitive behavioral therapy, education, and substance abuse programs. The Research Unit is in the process of developing the evaluation of the program to determine whether it has a beneficial effect on the young adult offenders. Both of these projects will be submitted to USM's IRB.

Needless to say we are very excited about these projects. Building a new division is a daunting task but one made enjoyable by my fantastic colleagues in Quality Assurance and throughout the Department who have been incredibly helpful and engaging.

We'd love to work with you, too! If you have research projects that you'd like to pursue, or just need general advice, please don't hesitate to contact us! (Michael.Rocque@maine.gov or 207-215-2017)

Training Division

- Five new hire classes graduated 110 Corrections Officers/Juvenile Program Workers.
- Probation Officer Academy graduated 9 Probation Officers and 12 Probation Officer Assistants.
- 76 staff completed Motivational Interviewing.

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New DOC hires learning Unarmed Self-Defense in the Gymnasium at Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

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- 14 staff completed the Maine Integrated Risk Reduction Model (MIRRM) Train the Trainer.

- 38 staff completed Leadership Training.

- 72 staff completed Managing in Maine State Corrections.

- 26 staff attending the Effective Communication Phase I with Ray Ferns training.

The Training Division now has a state-wide calendar of all training that is happening throughout the facilities/regions. To access to the calendar:

- Click on your calendar
- Click on Folders list
- Click Public folders
- Click Corrections
- Click Corrections-Training Calendar

Victim Services

The Office of Victim Services at the Maine Department of Corrections otherwise known as OVS and MDOC began the year with the Director and one advocate. Commissioner Ponte is a strong supporter of victim services, therefore, the OVS has been expanded to the Director, Tessa Mosher, Victims Advocate Debbie McAllian, and Office Associate Georgette Chalou.

One of the duties the OVS at the MDOC is charged with is Notification of a defendant's release according to the Maine criminal statutes. The statute requires victims to file a request for notification of the defendant's release with the office of the attorney for the State, the attorney for the State shall forward this request to the Department of Corrections. Once Notification of a defendant's release is filed a victim must receive notice of the defendant's unconditional release and discharge from institutional confinement upon the expiration of the sentence or upon release from commitment under Title 15, section 101-D or upon discharge under Title 15, section 104-A and must receive notice of any conditional release of the defendant from institutional confinement, including probation, supervised release for sex offenders, parole, furlough, work release, supervised community confinement, home release monitoring or similar program, administrative release or release under Title 15, section 1-4-A.

In 2013, the MDOC OVS attempted to make contact with 962 victims on over 2,700 occasions throughout the year in attempts to ensure rights are met regarding victim notification of a defendant's release according to statute, providing resources and information.

The OVS assists victims who are being harassed by persons in the care or custody of the MDOC with obtaining protection from that harassment. The office assisted 13 victims in 2013.

The OVS contacted 4 victims regarding "duty to warn."

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The Victim Services Team: Georgette Chalou, Tessa Mosher, and Deborah McAllian.

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The OVS attempted contact with victims on over 190 furlough cases. This included over 256 letters sent to victims whose offenders were applying for furloughs, multiple phone contacts in order to provide additional information to the victim pertaining to the furlough requests in hopes to obtain victim input into the furlough process.

The OVS attempted to contact victims in over 122 Supervised Community Confinement applications. Over 172 letters were sent to victims whose offenders were applying for SCCP resulting in 82 responses from the victims providing input into the supervised community confinement process.

The OVS tracked over 124 sex offender releases and 127 victims were contacted regarding the sex offender releases. Of those victims notified the OVS organized and facilitated 24 safety plan meetings for victims of sexual assault requesting the safety plan meeting.

The OVS also offers immediate notification to victims who have filed a notification request in cases where an offender has applied for a funeral or death bed visit, has escaped death, or has a media request.

The OVS assisted victims with restitution in which they are to receive per Court order for losses they have incurred. OVC provided information and resources related to these restitution cases in which the MDOC is responsible for the collection of such restitution either through Probation, at the facilities or through the Maine Revenue Service. OVS assisted victims on over 6,000 occasions. OVS research assisted the department to release over $134,000 to victims that otherwise could not have been disbursed prior to the research for multiple reasons. The MDOC disbursed $1,237,643.54 in restitution. The OVS acts as a liaison between the victim and Probation and Parole, District Attorney's Office and the Courts in order to provide resources, information and options for the victim to obtain their restitution and are aware of their rights. The OVS also provides guidance as needed to Probation and facilities regarding restitution issues that arise. Assistance is also provided to the Courts and District Attorney's Office in order to coordinate regarding Orders to Enforce filed on inactive MDOC dockets.

The OVS sends out a yearly victim satisfaction survey in order to measure the effectiveness and efficiency of the notification of a defendant's release. This tool assists in ensuring victims are being assisted with dignity and respect while honoring victim's rights by complying with victim notification of an offenders' release as outlined by Statute.

This year two victim satisfaction surveys were sent to victims who have received notice from the office of victim services, one for FY 12 and one for FY 13. The survey states:
The mission of the MDOC is to reduce the likelihood that juvenile and adult offenders will re-offend by providing practices, programs and services which are evidence based and which hold the offenders accountable. A person who is the victim of a crime is entitled to certain basic rights: to be treated with dignity and respect, to be free from intimidation, to be assisted by criminal justice agencies and to be informed about the criminal justice system. The MDOC strives to ensure that victims who request notification are notified of a prisoner's release, victims receive the restitution to which they are entitled and victims are free from harassment from offenders in the custody of or under the supervision of the department. The MDOC provides a toll free number 800-968-6909 for victims to receive information regarding an offender's status. The MDOC encourages the participation of crime victims on the MDOC Advisory Group. The MDOC is committed to the premise that crime victims are the real customers of the department, and will receive the rights and respect to which they are entitled.

The MDOC has a Victim Advisory Board otherwise known as VAB comprised of multi-agency victim service providers and professionals. The VAB met quarterly throughout 2013. New members were invited

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in order to have additional voices on the VAB . These new members included Margo Batsie, Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence, Donna Strickler, Sexual Assault Crisis and Support, and Susan Gagnon, Maine Department of Corrections.

The OVS is responsible for the certification of the Batterer Intervention Programs in the State of Maine. In 2013 the Batterer Intervention Program Annual report and statistics was provided to the Legislature containing information regarding the 2012 monitoring, certification, and the number of offenders required to attend the Certified Batterer Intervention Programs in the Communities as a condition of Probation. The OVS worked in collaboration with MDOC Quality Assurance, Ellis King, monitored all of the Batterer Intervention Programs across the State to ensure compliance with the standards.

The OVS worked with Assistant Attorney General Diane Sleek in order to finalize the Batterer Intervention Program Certification Rules and receive approval from the Governor's Office for filing with the Secretary of State and implementation of the rule. The rule took effect on August 12, 2013. The Office of Victim Services worked towards certifying female Batterer Intervention Programs across the State in order to have gender neutral programs.

The OVS assisted in the revision and implementation of the MDOC Victim Services policy to include notifying victims that have filed a victim notification of release when the offender is attending a funeral or death bed visit. This policy change was implemented in order to reduce the potential re-victimization of the victim, the victim's family, and the community.

The OVS assisted in the revision and implementation of the MDOC media policy. The revisions include contacting victims who have filed a victim notification of release form of the media request and allows for the MDOC to take the potential impact the media request may have into consideration prior to the approval of the media request approval.

The OVS assisted in the revision and implementation of the MDOC facility mail, visit and phone policy offering guidance and support to the facility staff. The Office of Victim Services continued to assist MDOC staff at MDOC facilities providing ongoing support regarding the phone, mail, and visit policies in order to ensure compliance with the policy relating to crime victims.

The OVS researched and reviewed 82 waiver requests from domestic violence and sex offenders who are incarcerated at the MDOC requesting a waiver request to allow contact with their victim. All of these files are reviewed with AAG Diane Sleek and a decision is made. Decisions are reported to the offender and the Commissioner along with Chief Executive Officers.

OVS assisted in obtaining a contract with New Hope for Women to offer the first 8 week introductory Batterer Intervention Program at the Maine State Prison.

The OVS assisted in bringing in trainers to train MDOC staff along with Community members from Statewide Domestic Violence Resource Centers and Community Certified Batterer Intervention Program facilitators in the Duluth Model of Batterer Intervention Programs and the Domestic Violence Turning Points for women who use violence. The MDOC will implement the non-certified Batterer Intervention Programs in the MDOC facilities in order to increase victims and community safety.

MDOC administration and victim services met with Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence Executive Director, Julie Colpitts. The presentation included information on best practices for High Risk Response Teams. MCEDV also discussed the recommendations made by MCEDV in collaboration with the Domestic Violence Resource Centers and Maine Coalition of Batterer Intervention Programs regarding the MDOC facility Batterer Intervention Programs in order to enhance the Coordinated Community Response to increase victim's

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safety. MDOC and MCEDV will continue to collaborate in hopes to reduce domestic violence.

The Director of OVS also attended a training "Women's use of violence in intimate relationships" presented by Melissa Scaia, MPA, Executive Director Domestic Violence Turning Points Advocates for Family Peace in Minnesota hosted by Family Crisis Services in order to further understand the issue of women's use of violence.

The Director of Victim Services attended the Abusers 201 training in Minneapolis Minnesota along with Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence (MCEDV) staff and others. Participants were provided enhanced training about abusers and abuser intervention programs to help better respond to violence against women. Travel expenses reimbursed through the MCEDV grant supported by Grant No. 2006-WR-AX-0003 awarded by the Office on Violence Against Women, U.S. Department of Justice.

The OVS at MDOC attended the Governor's event at the State House to mark the beginning of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. "Ending domestic violence in Maine is a responsibility that all of us share, and Domestic Violence Awareness Month is a chance to reach out and educate Mainers about stopping the violence" as stated by Governor LePage in his invitation to the event. Art Jette, Maine Chapter leader of Parents of Murdered Children, Women Care advocate, and MDOC victim advisory board member, was recognized for his advocacy working towards ending Domestic Abuse.

OVS attended a training offered by the Maine Coalition to End Domestic Violence on the ODARA risk assessment in order to identify victim's, that may be at a higher risk of re-victimization by their offender in domestic violence cases. This training provided an overall awareness of the ODARA, what the scoring entails, what the scores mean in order to do additional collaboration and safety planning with other agencies and MDOC in hopes to increase the victim's safety.

The Governor's Proclamation of National Crime Victims' Rights Week was April 21-27, 2013, and the Office of Victim Services, Quality Assurance and Associate Commissioner Breton attended the Parents of Murdered Children Kickoff event. During the week the Director of Victim Services Tessa Mosher had several media interviews to celebrate National Crimes Victims' Rights Week and inform the public of victims' rights and services available through the OVS at the DOC in order to increase the number of victim notifications we have on file.

The MDOC signed an interagency agreement with the Kennebec and Somerset Child Advocacy Center. This agreement will confirm the collaboration between the MDOC, Law Enforcement and other agencies with the Child Advocacy Center in order to increase victim's safety and reduce trauma to a child sexual assault victim sometimes caused by the investigation and interview process. The Director of Victim Services serves on the Child Advocacy Center Advisory Board.

The Director of Victim Services completed the informational presentations around the MDOC by attending all of the adult and juvenile probation and parole staff meetings across the State in order to increase awareness concerning victims' rights and services offered at the MDOC OVS. The OVS attended the Maine Prosecutors Association annual training conference and trained victim witness advocates regarding victim notification of an offenders release in order to increase the number of victim notifications filed at the MDOC. The hope is to increase victim's safety upon an offenders release from MDOC.

OVS Attended the Intensive Restorative Justice Think Tank conference to discuss ways Maine can become a more Restorative Justice State.

Director of OVS was appointed by Governor Paul R. LePage to the Juvenile Justice Advisory Group in April 2013, is the MDOC Commissioners designee on the Domestic

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Violence and Sexual Assault Commission, and the Child Death and Serious Injury task force.

The OVS is committed to assisting crime victims and assuring their rights are met, information and resources are provided as appropriate. For further information please don't hesitate to contact us at 800-968-6909.

Women's Services

Maine Correctional Center

Submitted by Amanda Woolford, Director of Women's Services

- At the beginning of the year, the women worked with the State Police to begin training puppies who would eventually become K-9 partners for the Department of Corrections and State Police. This program was moved to Bolduc later in the year due to suitability purposes.

- Val Norman was hired as Unit Manager in September. Val comes to us with a history of working in secure and community settings along with several years working specifically with the female population. Val has been a great addition to The Women's Center team.

- Women's Center Sergeant Michelle McLaughlin was the Governor's choice for "MDOC Employee of the Year." Sergeant McLaughlin was chosen because of her dedication to the programming and population of the Women's Center, as well as, her willingness to go the extra mile for the good of the mission. (See article on the back page.)

Southern Maine Reentry Center

Submitted by Krista Okerholm, Culinary Arts Instructor, SMRC

- 2013 Accomplishment: 26 Supervised Community Confinement Program (SCCP) participants and 39 Furloughs.

- The women at the Southern Maine Reentry Center (SMRC) have been very busy. We must first talk about the devastating fire that took place last March. Unfortunately one of our dryers caught on fire and we were forced to evacuate to the York County Jail. They were gracious hosts and we were housed there for a little over a month. The women were great while we were there, but could not wait to come back to our space. Once we were back we all worked that much harder to make the building comfortable and give it a home like feel. This change included a welcoming bright yellow coat of paint in the front office area and a soothing cool blue for the day room.

- The women participated in a variety of programs throughout the year:

  -Buttons for Babes: residents crafted cute little bracelets for purchased with proceeds going to a homeless children's shelter in Rumford.
  -Volunteering at the local food pantry, sorting food, unloading trucks and doing whatever was needed.
  -Animal Welfare Society: we helped take care of animals and with other needed chores.
  -We are actively involved with Waban and assisted by cleaning up, painting, and doing construction on some of their properties. This year, we also assisted with Waban Day, an ice fishing derby. We had fun and the event was a huge success.
  -The women participated in the United Way Day of Caring, donated hats to Halos for Hope (children with terminal illness), donated blankets to the Barbara Bush Children's Hospital, and made helmet liners for our troops overseas.
  -Right before Thanksgiving we were busy crafting hats, scarves, ornaments, socks, redneck wine glasses and spiced pecans, all to sell in retail locations in Windham and Thomaston. This was a new venture for us and we had a lot of fun coming up with different ideas of things to sell.

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- Many of SMRC women courageously spoke at conferences about their own personal struggle to inform and help the community.

- SMRC is actively involved with our community here in Alfred. We are in charge of cleaning the government building weekly and recently freshened up the paint on the fences in the front of the building.

- Mark Welch-Thompson (Horticulture CTI and celebrity to all things with roots) and his crew are frequently up at the Brothers of Christian Instruction. They had a breathtaking garden this summer. Old ladders no longer in use were placed around the garden to make tall structures for the bean and squash plants to climb. At the top of the structures they installed birdhouses they made themselves. The women spent a lot of time at Brothers and it showed. It was magnificent! The women also worked with Mark on clearing away all the overgrown brush, preparing the pumpkin patch, the apple orchard, and the blueberry bushes. Then once the season hit, they assisted in harvesting the blueberries and the apples, so much so that we were invited to help the brothers work the Apple Festival. The Festival was a huge success and the Brothers had one of the most successful festivals ever. The women painted the barn beside the garden. It was a tricky job and some of them had to wear harnesses but they were up to the challenge.

- When Mark's crew was not out and about helping in town they always had projects going on at the facility. Mark and his crew turned our small grounds into lovely gardens complete with cozy seating and calming statues. We had fresh herbs and in the colder months the women made 110 wreaths to give to their families, volunteers, and other supporters in their community. (See article on page 40.)

Lunch prepared by the woman at the Southern Maine Re-Entry Center.

- Speaking of fresh produce, that just leaves me with my crew. It was a fun and exciting year for us as well! As my program continues to evolve so do all the palates here at SMRC. I think all the women that come through our doors hopefully leave having tried new cuisines with different tastes, textures and are prepared or plated in a way they have never seen before. I give them creative flexibility within reason to craft the menu with the food pyramid guide always present. I challenge them to think outside the box and always strive for more. That said, we utilized the fresh herbs grown by Mark's crew to created fresh lavender lemon and white chocolate truffle along with a fresh wild mint and chocolate truffle as a favor for the Adult and Juvenile Female Offender (AJFO) conference held in October. We made 450 boxes of truffles and the women worked as a well-oiled machine. It seemed like once we hit late summer things just took off for us with our catering. By the fall we were averaging two to three catering events a week along with our daily task of feeding three times a day the 68 women who live here. All the events were special in their own way; we partnered with whomever the event was for and created a menu. We were honored to cater the AJFO conference sunset cruise in Portland, The National Adoption Day Celebration at the court house, various trainings at the government building, the Parole Board in Windham, and the 110th Birthday Celebration at the library right here in Alfred. We thank everyone for their continued support.

In summation we are here, we are doing big things, and we are moving forward toward an even bigger and better 2014.

Thanks for all the contributions. To be continued in 2014...

New Assistant Director of Treatment

New Assistant Director of Treatment Colin O'Neill.

In December 2013, Colin O'Neill was promoted to the position of Assistant Director of Treatment. Colin holds a Bachelor of Science in Psychology from St. Lawrence University, a Master in Social Work from the University of New England and is a LCSW. He began his career with the Department of Corrections in 2005 as the Deputy Superintendent of Treatment Programs at Long Creek Youth Development Center. Colin currently is on the Board of Directors for Restorative Justice Institute and Opportunity Farm for Boys and Girls. He is also an active member in numerous state and local juvenile programs.

For the last eight years Colin has held leadership roles within the Department of Corrections. Most recently he served as a Regional Correctional Administrator Region I - Juvenile. These years of experience will serve him well in his new role.

PowerDMS to be Implemented in 2014

DOC will be implementing a new Document Management System, called PowerDMS. PowerDMS is an online document management system for storing and distribution of all non-confidential DOC policies.
The benefits are:

- Fast, paperless distribution of policies
- Easy access to policies
- Historical archiving of old policies
- Side by side comparison of revised policy to see changes
- Search by keywords
- Automated alerts are sent to employees about policy changes
- Accessible off site
- Employees sign-off electronically
- Other uses: other documents such as post orders, handbooks, surveys, online training, standards & assessments

PowerDMS will become operational in early 2014 and further instruction will be provided prior to its implementation.

REFLECT: Convicts' Letters to Their Younger Selves

"REFLECT: Convict's Letters to Their Younger Selves" is an artistic documentation of choices, consequences, and reflection. A photo project that merges large-scale portraits of inmates in the Maine prison system with handwritten letters the convicts composed as though writing to their younger selves. Trent Bell's portraits—along with video documentation by Joe Carter and additional prison guard portraits by Corey Desrochers—will be on exhibit at Engine (265 Main Street, Biddeford, Maine from January 10 to February 22. For more information, visit feedtheengine.org

"REFLECT: Convict's Letters to Their Younger Selves" is an artistic documentation of choices, consequences, and reflection.

Acceptance, Commitment, Therapy: Breaking Fresh Trail at Maine's Corrections Department

Story & Photos by Scott K Fish, Director of Special Projects MDOC

January 3rd, it is snowing to beat the band. The wind twists the snow up, around, sideways, down. Driving is slow and treacherous on back roads to Maine State Prison (MSP) in Warren, Maine where, deep inside MSP's maximum security building, five prisoners are graduating a 12-week ACT program. This ACT is adapted for prisoners from a program to help military veterans handle post-traumatic stress disorder. The MSP graduates, Care and Treatment Workers, MSP and administrators here are all breaking fresh trail.

Front Row kneeling L-R: Maine State Prison Warden Rodney Bouffard, MSP Care and Treatment Worker Eric Bueno holding plaque. Back Row standing far right: MSP Deputy Warden Michael J. Tausek. ACT prisoner graduates wearing blue shirts and holding diplomas: Brad, Patrick, Scott, Leonard, Carl.

Martha Boynton is one of four MSP Care and Treatment Worker who spent "two full days" at Togus Veterans Hospital in Augusta, Maine, training to teach ACT, an acronym for Acceptance, Commitment, Therapy. The four case workers then adapted what they learned about military veterans to prisoners.

Mrs. Boynton says, "A lot of these [prisoners] have their own post-traumatic stress from their childhood or maybe their crime. The idea with ACT is: How do you bring your history into your future? Rather than fighting it, drowning it, trying to quiet the noise—how do you bring that past, that history, into your future? By making it your friend."

Deputy Warden Michael J. Tausek, tells the graduates. "There's one mantra I try to live by with you guys. You will all transition. You will move on. Moving on with change so you don't come back here ever again? That's a choice you guys have to make. Everyone wants you to succeed. Everyone sees that value each and every one you hold," says Deputy Warden Tausek.

One graduate, on behalf of them all, presents Eric Bueno, the Care and Treatment Worker who led them through the ACT program, a plaque. The graduate reads aloud the inscription:

"In recognition of your valuable contributions and willingness to show that there's a true person inside you who cares about personal growth.., we as a community have grown to appreciate your opinion and we have also come to learn to respect and value your direction."

MSP Warden Rodney Bouffard invites Corrections Commissioner Joseph Ponte to speak to the graduates. Commissioner Ponte reminds them that when he was first Commissioner, about three years ago, prisoners told him they wanted more opportunities and case workers to help them prepare for productive lives in the free world. The ACT program, says Commissioner Ponte, is one answer to that request.

Ponte says, "This is the first step in a process. This program is really a commitment about change for those guys who want to change. The program teaches you a different way to think. And what you see in the role of these case workers today is a role I can see for all of our caseworkers over the next couple of years.

"You're trying to move on and change in a positive way," Ponte continues. "It's a constant fight for you guys. When you're in a cell block with 60 or 70 inmates it's a challenge every day. I congratulate you guys on being the first ones to step up and say, 'Hey, I want to participate.'"

What's New at Bolduc Correctional Facility

In December 2013, Mr. Ben Beal was appointed to the position of Director of the Bolduc Correctional Facility (BCF). Ben has 13 years of experience in Corrections. He's held the positions of Correctional Officer, Sergeant, Director of Central Maine Pre-Release and Acting Deputy Warden, BCF. Ben brings excellent managerial skills in community programs development, collaboration, finance and staffing. Ben attended Maine Maritime Academy for Engineering and has recently begun the process of enrolling in a new degree program to fulfill his goal of continuing his education.

Russell Worcester, BCF Acting Assistant Director, recently celebrated 30 years in corrections.

The Bolduc Correctional Facility K-9 Corrections Dog Program recently received two new puppies, Harro and Doyle (pictured above with Director Beal) from the Maine State Police. The dogs currently live and train with inmates Todd Trask and Justin Cram (below). When the puppies are six months old, they will return to the State Police for more intensive training.

Snowflakes, Wreaths, and Change

By CTI Mark Welch, Southern Maine Reentry Center

Amazingly, snowflakes always have six sides and similar to the human fingerprint, it is thought that no two snowflakes are exactly the same. Both the form and shape of a snowflake depend on the temperature and moisture content of the cloud. To me it's kind of like where we come from—the cloud represents "Family."

For example, temperature represents our upbringing and surrounding, moisture content represents the trials and tribulations we experience growing up. Few of us have had an easy life, but as I look around the wreath making table in an old barn in Alfred I see so many promising ones.

I cannot help but wonder if the temperature and moisture content of their cloud had been different, would these women from the Southern Maine Reentry Center (SMRC) even be here with me right now? Like snowflakes, each woman is different and unique, caught in a storm that has brought them all together. As they transform a wire circle into a beautiful wreath for their family, it shows me that change isn't easy but it is achievable. In life, as in wreath making, we must ensure we do not break the circle and add good things to make it beautiful. Our mistakes of the past do follow us, but they don't have to define us. When the last wreath is finally made, I hope as a crew they have instilled love, kindness, and understanding among each other to create a positive cloud of life changing proportions.

My Christmas wish for them is to know if the temperature and content of their life has changed, every snowflake that falls will be prettier than the last one because they have embraced that change.

My thanks to all the SMRC residents—you're incredible!

Wreathing making is a sharing and bonding experience for the women at the Southern Maine Reentry Center. The women made wreathes to give to their family and donate to a local charity.

Industries Program Business

By Bob Walden, Industries Director

Prison Industries "Black Friday" weekend sales at our Thomaston and Windham Showrooms were outstanding with Friday 11/29 and Saturday 11/30 combined sales of $51,971—an impressive +50% over 2012 numbers. The successful weekend results were highlighted by the Windham Showroom being assisted by a group of business students from the University of Southern Maine that pitched in waiting on customers and conducting a shopper demographics survey as part of a class project. With all of the extra business their help was greatly appreciated and we look forward to continuing this relationship with future USM business classes.

Our Holiday Sale continued through December 24th yielding fine retail sales totals for the month of over $68,000 that represent a 19% increase over 2012 figures. A heart felt "Well Done" goes out to Ron Secord and the staff at the Maine State Prison Showroom as well as to Judy Thurston and help at the Maine Correctional Showroom for their successful December efforts.

Program retail sales revenues for the month of November 2013 were a strong $115,000, representing a strong 25% increase over 2012 numbers allowing the Industries Program to finish the year up on a very good note.

"Black Friday" sales at the Prison Industry showrooms surpassed last year's sales.

Maine Correctional Center Staff Updates

Welcome

- Correctional Officers: Peter Armstrong, Stephen Allen and Francisco Powell.
- Office Associate II: Leigh Adams and Michelle Senence
- Correctional Maintenance Mechanic: Glenn Jalbert
- Teacher: Scott Rush-Donahue

Farewell and Best Wishes

- Bert Jalbert our Correctional Industries Manager who has finally retired
- Lisa Levesque a Correctional Officer
- Christopher Brandt who has accepted employment with the Federal Bureau of Prisons
- Doug Petersen our Plant Maintenance Engineer I
- Dean Rathier, Correctional Maintenance Mechanic

Thank You!

Brad Fogg wants to take this opportunity to thank all of those employees at MCC, Long Creek Youth Development Center, and Central Office who kept things running in the HR department while he was on medical leave. Those people that stood up to do interviews, administer tests, answer payroll questions and make sure evaluations were done and so much more. It was nice to have the team come together! Thanks everyone, I can't say it enough.

Maine State Prison Staff Updates

Welcome

Maine State Prison welcomes the latest graduating class to our team:

- William K. Lummus
- Jessica Johnson
- Patrick Connor
- Alexander Hall
- Deborah Roche
- Richard Patterson
- Jill Verile
- Robert Musinski
- Joshua Porter

Farewell and Best Wishes

The following employees have either transferred or retired. Your service to the Maine State Prison was greatly appreciated. We wish you the best.

- Rodney Roberts transferred to DEP
- Charles Deguisto transferred to DOT
- Chester Fleger transferred to DOT
- Heidi Anderson retired 11/30/13
- Mike Lokuta retired 12/31/13

Congratulations to Lieutenant Lidia Burnham (left) who received a certificate of appreciation from the Maine Drug Enforcement Agency (MDEA). Shown with Lt. Burnham is MDEA Supervisor James Peace.

Volunteers Spread Holiday Cheer at Long Creek

Volunteers at Long Creek Youth Development Center prepare Christmas gift bags for the residents.

This year the Volunteers at Long Creek Youth Development Center, focusing on the theme "Christmas Around the World," sponsored a gift drive which brought in donations from area non-profits, businesses, and churches. Donations of hygiene supplies, slippers, weekly planners, games, and underclothes were used to fill gift bags given to the residents on Christmas morning.

Holiday dinners were also served to the residents and their families. Food was donated by Sysco, prepared by the Aramark Kitchen staff at Unum, and then served to the residents and their families by Unum volunteers. Wonderful guitar music by Chaplin Doug Spearman and a Long Creek resident enhanced the festive meal. In addition to holiday dinners, a special Christmas Eve dinner was prepared by the Long Creek kitchen staff and served by Emmy Brown and her band of merry volunteers.

Long Creek Pullers

By Nate Gagnon, JPW

Arm wrestling by tradition has always had a bar room/cafeteria lunch table stigma to it and in February of 2012, my eyes were opened to a different side of the sport of arm wrestling. I first found this sport after traveling to Winthrop Maine with fellow JPW Justin Madore to support him as he entered the 2012 Maine State Tournament. After attending the 2012 Maine State Tournament, I was disappointed that this was what they called a "state championship." It was in a dingy bar in the middle of nowhere and had roughly 25 entries. I then decided that I wanted to do something bigger and better for the sport of arm wrestling and formed 207armsports. I set up my first tournament sanctioned by the International Armwrestling Federation (IAF) in June of 2012, the First Annual "Call to Arms." It was an instant success with 70 entries, with pullers coming from as far away as Pennsylvania, and I have had great success in setting up tournaments over the last year and a half. A follow up event on December 7th, "Maine Winter Warm Up," was a Food Drive for the Good Shepherd Food Bank.

The 2014 Maine State Championships will be held on Saturday, March 1, 2014. For more information on events or to find other local armwrestlers to train with, please visit www.facebook.com/207armsports.

Long Creek has its own team of pullers that get together and train on a weekly basis and travel to tournaments to compete; here is a list of some accomplishments from our team:

JPW Eric Guevin

1st 2012 Call to Arms 243+lb Left and Right
3rd 2012 USAA National Championships 243+lb Left and Right
1st 2012 MA State Championship 243+lb Left and Right
3rd 2011 AAA National Championships 243+ Left
2nd 2011 AAA National Championships 243+Right
4th 2003 Unified National Championships 243+ Right
1st 2003 IAF Can-Ams 243+ Right

JPW Justin Madore

3rd 2012 ME State Tournament 243+lb Right
2nd 2012 NH Championships 221+ Novice Right
2nd 2012 NH Championships 221+ Left
2nd 2013 ME State Championship 200+ Novice Left
1st 2013 BDN Maine Man Expo 200+ Novice Left and Right

JPS Chad Sturgis

2nd BDN Maine Man Expo 0-199lb Left and Right

JPS Devon Jewett

1st 2012 Lewiston Tournament Womens Right
2nd 2013 BDN Maine Man Expo Womens Right

JPW Nate Gagnon

3rd 2012 NH Championship 199-221 Novice Right
1st 2013 NH Championship 221+ Novice Right
3rd 2013 NH Championship 221+ Pro Left

Congratulations to Long Creek Youth Development Center Juvenile Program Workers Eric Baker and Susan Delapena who were recently promoted to Juvenile Program Specialists. Also in photos is LCYDC Superintendent Jeff Merrill (on right).

Special Education and Evidence-Based Programming at MVYDC

By Lori Prestridge, MVYCD Special Education Director

Many of our students at Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC) enter our program in need of special education services. In order to accommodate many diverse needs and unique learning styles the Special Education Department which includes Title I and 504 services has supplemented individualized instruction with a variety of evidence-based programs. These programs have not only helped our learners make great gains in achievement but have helped to individualize instruction, facilitate progress monitoring (scientifically based practice used to assess academic performance and evaluate the effectiveness of instruction), uphold universal design (by developing flexible learning environments that can accommodate individual learning differences) through the use of technology, while targeting standards-based instruction.

Our goal with the ALEKS program (A*ssessment and* LE*arning in* K*nowledge* S*paces*) is to turn a student's history of academic failure in mathematics into success via frequent progress measurement and individualized research-based instruction. This research-based, on-line math program supports the Response To Intervention (RTI) (prevent academic failure through early intervention, frequent progress measurement and increasingly intensive research-based instructional interventions) initiative. The ALEKS program facilitates universal design, data collection and differentiated instruction while providing a common core standards-aligned mathematics curriculum for ability levels/grades 3-12. With the help of an artificial intelligence engine and adaptive questioning, our special education teacher can assess a student's knowledge in whole numbers, fractions and decimals, geometry, measurement and graphs and algebra. Individualized assessment results inform and deliver instruction on the exact topics a student is most ready to learn. Gaps in skills are quickly identified and targeted for instruction. Individualized student progress monitoring and progress reporting capabilities facilitate differentiated instruction and target future instructional or remedial needs. This supplemental program is appropriate and can be individualized for students of any ability level. These last few years we have expanded the use of the ALEKS tool by making it available to the mainstream math class.

READ 180 is a research-based intensive reading intervention program that has increased the reading achievement of struggling students with special needs as well as stu-

Continued next page.

Special Education continued

dents identified for services through our Title I program. Students qualifying for special services in reading as well as Title I services receive intensive instruction in reading, spelling, writing, grammar, and test-taking skills. Literature selections included in the program integrate all content area curricula.

The READ 180 program includes individualized instructional software, provides data to inform instruction, and provides an independent reading library of high interest and leveled books as well as grade-level audio-books. The program accommodates students with disabilities via built-in universal access supports such as closed captioning for video segments, customizable options for students with visual and/or auditory difficulties. This program also facilitates the integration of technology into curricula and instruction. Through the use of data, the READ 180 program individualizes reading instruction and provides continuous assessment regarding progress. Computer-generated reports provide detailed and immediate feedback to identify student needs to inform small-group instruction. Students struggling in phonemic awareness, phonics and syllabication, vocabulary development, fluency, comprehension, spelling, writing, grammar usage, and mechanics show improvement based on reading program assessment/report results.

The Special Education team's latest addition to evidence-based programming is the Write To Learn. This is an online literacy tool that accurately assesses writing and gives immediate targeted instruction and grammar feedback. This program facilitates learning through written expression and targets summary and essay writing activities that span the curriculum. Built-in language support is available for English Language Learners. Our Special Education teacher and eventually, our new Title I teacher, will be using the Write To Learn program with our struggling writers however, the program is suitable for students in grades 4-12 including students who are on track with their writing skills.

Our Special Education Department is responsible for our Assessment/Orientation program. Involvement in A/O allows us to meet our special education "Child Find" (where children in need of special education services are located, evaluated and identified at public expense) requirements. Over the years we have developed a comprehensive education assessment that is instrumental in measuring and sharing student academic baselines, highlights from record reviews, life and leisure skills baselines, multiple intelligence strengths/needs surveys, vocational interests, vision and hearing levels, special education or 504 needs and accommodations, etc. One of the assessments that has helped us measure and monitor growth in common core and standards-based curriculum is the NWEA-MAP (Measures of Academic Progress). This standards-aligned assessment provides detailed actionable data about each student's instructional level in the areas of math, reading, language usage and science. The MAP test items are designed to capture student interest while honing in on what they know and are ready to learn. The data that MAP provides is information teachers can use in the classroom to inform instruction. MAP pre and post-testing data is used to facilitate class placement, GED/HISET readiness, Individual Education Plan present level of performance data, distance learning readiness, ACA, PBS and NCLB grant performance reporting.

I would like to recognize and thank the following Special Educators for their role in utilizing evidence-based programming that proves to be effective for the students they work with. Also, I would like to recognize them not only for their teaching duties but for all their other roles and responsibilities to include case management of students with special needs, administration of assessments, provision of consultations services representing students with special needs, 504 case management, and assessment/orientation responsibilities. Thank you, Traci Fowler, Joe Capehart, Tannya Morris and Bruce Palmer; also our tech coordinator Michael Cushman. Mike's expertise with technology helped make the above programs possible.

Also, I would like to welcome Carlotta Thompson as our new Title I Teacher. Our Special Education staff look forward to providing our new youthful offender students with the same or similar level of services.

A Mountain View Annual Tradition—The Nutcracker

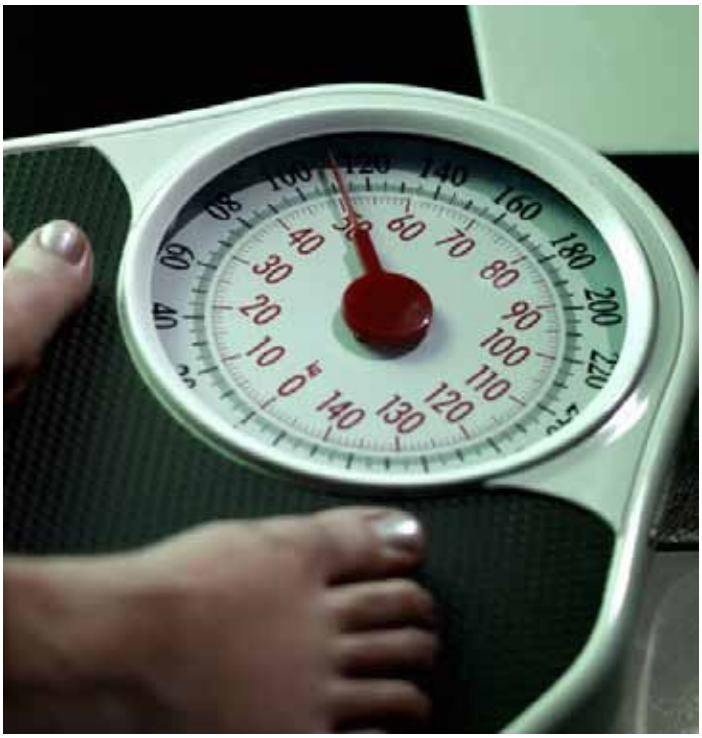
By Michael Cushman, MVYDC Teacher

A few days before Christmas, seven students and three staff (Principal Cheryl Quinn, JPW Tim Harmon, and Teacher Michael Cushman) from Mountain View Youth Development Center attended the Bangor Symphony Orchestra & Robinson Ballet's presentation of Tchaikovsky's Nutcracker at the Collins Center in Orono. Mr. Cushman has been playing Celeste for the performance since 1999 and began his 14th year with the symphony with this performance. The

group arrived early for a tour of the stage, catwalks, orchestra pit, and lighting/sound booths. Scott Stitham, Lighting Director for the Collins Center, provides our students a tour each year, stressing the various occupations used to work on a stage (i.e. carpentry, artist, musicians, dancers, electricians, lighting and audio management, etc.). This was our 12th year attending, and the students thoroughly enjoyed the tour and performance.

Who Will Be Mountain View's Biggest Loser?

Some of the staff at Mountain View Youth Development Center are participating in a motivational contest to get in better shape and be healthier in the new year. Beginning January 1st, each contestant (28 currently) will weigh in and draw a number. No names will be posted only the progress each has made. Each contestant pays an entry fee of $50. The winner will be the person with the highest percentage of weight loss. Contestants will supporting each other for each other's individual goal. The group has set a goal to lose at least 500 pounds collectively. We'll keep you posted in future issues of *DOCTalk*!

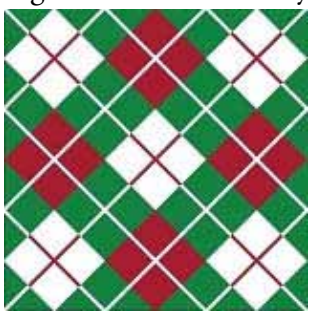


Welcome Carlotta!

Carlotta Thompson joined the Mountain View team as our Title 1-Special Education Teacher on November 12, 2013.

Ugly Sweater Contest

Mountain View's staff benefit fund committee has came up with several fun activities for the holidays. For the month of December, drawings were held each day through Christmas Eve, with the winners receiving $50 and $30 gift certificates for several stores/restaurants. Then, came the Ugly Sweater Contest! It was great! Judges had a wide selection of really loud and colorful (even bad) Christmas decorated sweaters and sweatshirts to choose from. Tiz Beaulieau, congratulations to you for sporting the worst one of all! Thanks to the committee for their wonderful ideas.



Equine-Assisted Community Reintegration

By Lori Prestridge, MVYDC Special Education Director, NCLB Grant Writer and Equine Program Coordinator Preparation

What role can horses play in the community reintegration process? How do our youth benefit from working with such highly sensitive yet powerful creatures?

Four youth committed to MVYDC completed the equine program at Northern Maine Riding Adventures in Garland last fall. This unique program is funded by the No Child Left Behind education grant for at-risk youth. The youth are selected for the program once they successfully complete the majority of their treatment program at MVYDC and demonstrate their desire to gain employment experience prior to community reintegration.

The program's aim is to give youth real world experiences that cultivate employment skills, community service and by the very nature of the program therapeutic benefit.

The benefits of this program are apparent when you observe the youth effectively and confidently communicating with the horses even when their horse is being "difficult" or when you listen to their plans to explore related employment opportunities and under unique circumstances hear how they will re-establish a relationship with their mom by helping her with her horse once they return home. Halfway through these sessions you can overhear youth identifying and expressing their emotions appropriately to the horse they are working with by admitting such things as, "I'm having an off day so be patient with me."

Continued next page.

Mountain View Youth learn life skills by caring for horses.

Equine-Assisted Community Reintegration

Not only are the youth learning animal care and handling for employment purposes but they are receiving instruction in life skills as well. At the onset, they learned how to "observe the herd" and look for signs as to how horses communicate with one another as well as patterns of horse behavior. They also learned the following: how to introduce themselves to and communicate successfully with an unfamiliar animal; how to build trust by remaining positive and calm when interacting with a horse; what safety measures to take in order to manage a horse effectively; daily grooming and how it's a very important part of a horse's health; the importance of a clean pasture and stall; and using all their senses to understand the language of the horse. Our youth have a lot of emotions which in part are expressed through their body language. When they're around these sensitive animals their emotions can easily impact the horses' behavior. The horses give our youth the feedback needed to adjust their own behavior. Remaining calm and identifying the problem that caused the animal's uneasiness is one of the skills they learn to cultivate.

With each visit you can witness the smiles of our youth growing wider, their confidence becomes more apparent and their expressions of appreciation of having something to look forward to are followed by inquiries of "When are we going out again?"

A special thank you to the following staff for making this program possible: Judy Cross (Program Instructor),Marsha Higgins (Chief of Volunteer Services), Pam Jelley (Teacher), and Amy Gilbert (Community Reintegration Specialist).

Thank You to Our Community Partners

By Lori Prestridge, MVYCD Special Education Director

The Special Education Department at Mountain View Youth Development Center would like to recognize their community partners for the services they provide our youth with special needs. Their flexibility with scheduling service delivery as well as their willingness to work on an "as needed basis" has been much appreciated. I would like to thank the following individuals:

- Kim Davis (Husson College Professor and Occupational Therapist) provides occupational therapy assessment and consultation services as well as an on-site occupational therapy intern program.
- Judy Cross (Equine Instructor) not only provides employment-related opportunities for our youth, but also runs therapeutic specialty clinics and includes our youth as appropriate.
- Dr. April O'Grady (UME Psychological Services Center, together with Dr. Asia Serwick) provides special education-related assessments through a supervised on-site psychology student intern program.
- Elizabeth Saucier (Vocational Rehabilitation Counselor) provides qualified youth with employment/training assistance by providing screenings, assessments, interest inventories, and vocational guidance/counseling.
- Judy Sternal (Speech and Language Therapist) provides speech or language assessments and consultation services as needed.

We appreciate and look forward to their continued services as our program expands and develops!

Region 1 • Juvenile Community Corrections

By Michael K. Mack

Welcome Beth Fawcett

Region 1 would like to officially welcome Beth Fawcett to the ranks of southern Maine's JCCOs. Region 1 JCCOs are all actively taking part

Instructor Dave Clock, JCCO Beth Fawcett, and JCCO Stephonne Young.

in training Beth in the field and the classroom on the duties and responsibilities of a Juvenile Community Corrections Officer. Andrew Moore has been demonstrating reporting procedures and Maura Douglass has been guiding Beth through several intakes. Matt Nee has been teaching "Courtroom Demeanor and Social Etiquette." Sean O'Keefe is instructing Beth on de-escalation techniques and how to "open a can of MOAB (Management of Aggressive Behaviors) " when necessary. Joe Hansen completed ethics training and JCCO responsibilities with her.

Originally from Massachusetts, Beth moved to Maine in 2005 and graduated from the University Of New England (UNE) with a Masters Degree in social work in 2012. Prior to being a JCCO, she held positions as a Functional Family Therapist, Alternatives to Detention Supervisor, Child Protective Caseworker, and Mental Health Case Manager. In addition to being a JCCO, she is a conditionally licensed clinical social worker and works part time as a Home and Community Treatment Clinician for young children. When Beth has spare time, she enjoys working out, playing sports, and engaging in outdoor activities.

Holiday Celebration

Our annual holiday party this year was held at Seeds of Independence in Brunswick. Seeds of Independence is a mentor and volunteer-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization committed to helping at-risk youth in Maine reach their full potential as independent, productive members of society. The organization combats juvenile delinquency and positively affects the school dropout rate in our state by operating numerous programs aimed at mentoring at-risk youth.

Seeds of Independence was built on three effective and previously independent programs: Rebound, Jump Start, and a Service Learning trip in the Dominican Republic. Additional programs have been added over the last three years including, Beyond Long Creek Youth Center, Teen Parenting Group, and School Peer Mentors.

During our holiday party, JCCO Stephonne Young was sworn in by Kelene Barrows from Central Office. Colin O'Neil presented flowers to our administrative support professionals Kelly Carr, Theresa Hall, and Janet Fonegmie to thank them for making our offices run smoothly.

Continued next page.

Colin O'Neil, Kelene Barrows, Stephonne Young and John Coyne.

Region 1 continued

Janet Fonegmie was also recognized by Colin for doing the archiving—which dates back many years—for Region 1-J. Joe Hansen was also recognized by Colin for his work as a JCCO in York County.

Farewell Colin O'Neil

Colin left his position as Region 1-J RCA to take on the position of Assistant Director of Treatment Programming. His leadership, knowledge, and compassion for the job will be deeply missed. We are fortunate to still have him working within the Department for guidance in treatment and the mental health components the come with it.

New RCA for Region 1-J

Sue Smith has been promoted to the position of Regional Correctional Administrator for Region 1-Juvenile. Sue earned her degree in Early Childhood Education and started her career at the Maine Youth Center in 1999. She has been with MDOC for 14 years and has held the positions of JCCO, Field Training Officer, and most recently, Regional Correctional Manager of Region 2 - Juvenile. Sue has always taken a leadership role in every position she has held. These varied duties and years of experience will serve her well in her new role.

MDOC Profile: Jeff Morin, Superintendent Mountain View Youth Development Center

Story & Photos by Scott K Fish Director of Special Projects MDOC

Mountain View Youth Development Center (MVYDC) in Charleston, Maine is near the top of Bull Hill, 837-feet above sea level. The U.S. Air Force opened a radar station here in 1952 and closed it in 1980. The bones of the old concrete radar facilities are still atop Bull Hill.

Heading north out of Bangor on Route 15, MVYDC is a left turn into the parking lot. Were it not for the small section of chain link fence visible from the entryway, MVYDC looks like a typical red brick one-story public high school. To a large extent, MVYDC is a high school. But the locked doors and surveillance cameras at the front building entrance make plain this is a youth detention facility.

MVYDC's mission, seen on its web site, "is to provide treatment and services within a safe, secure environment that enables youth to develop pro-social skills and competencies promoting public safety by reducing the likelihood of re-offending."

Mountain View Youth Development Center Superintendent Jeff Morin is taking me on a facility tour this day. We walk through a "sally port"—a secure, controlled entryway—into a brightly lit long hallway with a shiny linoleum floor. Again, we could be standing inside a high school.

"Where are we?" I ask Superintendent Morin.

Continued next page.

Superintendent of Mountain View Youth Development Center Jeff Morin

Morin continued

"This is our main spine," Morin answers. "It's 780 feet from one end to the other. Just one stretch. On this side of the hall is all our housing space. On the other side is all of our program space."

The Superintendent and I stand across the hall from the cafeteria where young men—known officially as "residents"—move about. Morin, in our conversation, most often refers to residents as "kids." Some wear gray short-sleeve shirts, long tan pants. A few are in hunter orange jumpsuits.

Morin explains "the ones in orange are detention kids." Those in gray and tan clothes "are committed kids. "Committed kids wear different uniforms so when we see them. In a classroom or a hallway they're easily identifiable. We do use some color coding," Morin says.

The gray and tan residents leave the cafeteria single file. Most of them look at us. The Superintendent says hello to them, calling several by name. They return his hellos. Then the gray and tan residents walk away from us, down the main spine, hands behind their backs to prevent pushing and horseplay.

Mountain View Youth Correctional Facility has one dining hall. Nearby Charleston Correctional Facility—an adult minimum security facility—and MVYDC share the same cook manager and supervisor.

"In the dining hall they can sit no more than three kids at a table," Morin says. "Staff are expected to sit down and eat with the kids. It's a good time for staff to have casual interactions with the kids."

In Corrections, facility occupancy is measured by beds. MVYDC, for example, has 133 beds; room for 133 residents. There are no females here other than those being held for a short period of time. The majority of residents are ages 16 to 19. These kids are here for different reasons.

MVYDC's 780-Foot "Main Spine." Living Areas are on the right side, classrooms are on the left side.

There are, explains the Superintendent, "detained kids, some waiting for a court appearance, who were picked up within the last 24-48 hours. State law says that when a kid gets arrested and detained they have to be in front of a judge pretty quickly, within 48 hours. A judge can then decide whether or not this kid stays in secure placement or is released to a parent, relative, the Maine Department of Health and Human Services—someplace outside of here," Morin says.

He continues, "We want this to be the last resort. We don't want secure detention to be the first place kids go. The Juvenile Community Corrections Officers do a great job of keeping kids out of secure placement, diverting kids , finding them community programs and other things. You can see in our detention numbers. There are probably six or seven kids here, which is high for us," Morin says.

He continues, "We recognize we can do as much harm here as good. If we bring low risk kids into a secure facility they don't turn the rest of the kids into low risk. The rest of the kids turn the low risk kids into high risk. Research has shaken that out," says Morin. "So this is a last resort."

Some MVYDC "kids" are here "waiting to go to court." Others are "waiting placement in a group home or a mental health facility. "Unfortunately," says Superintendent Morin, "we've seen our mental health beds

Continued next page.

Morin continued

and dollars drying up. So we're starting to see, more and more, mental health kids who probably don't belong in this type of facility. Unfortunately there's no other good place for them. They're getting help while they're here. Then we try to move them to a better place to meet their needs differently," Morin explains.

K9 Handler Troy Hood with his dog, Gunner, and Mountain View Youth Development Center's Superintendent Jeff Morin.

Some current residents are back here on probation violations. Others are serving "shock sentences."

"That's where kids get up to a 30-day sentence," Morin explains. "The judge will say, 'You're going to Mountain View' for thirty days, or two days." The Superintendent does not know off the top of his head if any residents are serving shock sentences this day. Morin says, "These kids do their shock sentence in the Detention Unit. They're technically committed here, but we don't want them mixing with the long term residents."

A typical day in the life of most Mountain View residents is a day spent in school. We continue to walk the hallways while the Superintendent gives details.

Residents, he says, "get up at six, clean their Pod areas, their rooms; they take care of their hygiene, go to breakfast, to medications. Everything is done between 6 a.m. and 8 a.m." The Pod, also called the Housing Unit, is a large separate, supervised area within MVYDC where residents have their own rooms, a general open area and access to secure outdoor areas.

The Superintendent continues, "School starts at 8 a.m., goes until a little before 11 a.m. when all the kids go back to the Housing Unit. We do a formal count to make sure we have everybody.

"Lunch is from about 11 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. When the kids aren't at lunch there are substance abuse groups going on, some mental health groups going on, and counselors can use this time to meet with kids," he says.

"Then at 12:30 we have afternoon school classes," Morin says. "A lot of our vocational programs meet in the afternoon. Kids are in culinary arts, wood shop, music, art, small engines. We have a pretty robust, fully State accredited educational program. We have a librarian, a media specialist. We have kids taking online college classes.

"We have one kid—new ground for us—between us and his family we're getting him back-and-forth to Maine Community College in Bangor three days a week. He's taking a full course load. We're hoping to expand those types of opportunities," Morin says.

We step through another locked forest green door into a classrooms area. We stop at the music classroom. The lights are off. I peek through the classroom door window and see, in the dim light, several desktop computers, guitars, keyboards, and a drum set.

Morin says, "We actually haven't been having music classes recently because our tech person, who is also the music teacher, is trying to upgrade all our servers and switch over to the iPad system. But the kids will come down outside of classroom hours. They can play the drums, electric guitars, acoustic guitars."

Are there MVYDC bands?

Morin says, "We've got a group right now. They get together pretty regularly and they do a nice job. We've got one kid who's very musically inclined. Writes his own music. Very sharp kid. Very passionate."

Continued next page.

Morin continued

We walk next into a bright, large kitchen with the smell of fresh baked bread, meatballs, and pulled pork — all in preparation for the high school/GED graduation ceremony this day. The Superintendent introduces me to Chef Mark Spahr. I tell Chef Spahr I love cooking and admire his kitchen.

This kitchen is also where MVYDC residents take culinary arts classes. The Chef tells me, " I started this program almost 12 years ago in a room 70-percent smaller than this, without any ovens, and with only electric hot plates to cook on." He worked that way three years. Now he looks forward to an impending upgrade to gas stoves and gas ovens.

Chef Spahr has eleven residents in his culinary arts class. This class is elective, not mandatory. I ask if Chef Spahr knows why these kids picked his class. "Some of them want to go on and pursue careers. Some of them come here because they know they're going to get extra food to eat," he smiles. Superintendent Morin laughs.

The Chef says "at this level of culinary arts" he appreciates residents who are "open to listening and learning. Just give me somebody who's open, ready to work, ready to listen, and do the things I ask," he says.

Spahr sometimes hears from former residents working in culinary arts. "It's nice to hear from them," he says. "But, I think what gets lost with this place is, there are kids you see in the newspaper, but usually a lot more kids you never hear anything about again. I take that as a good thing. If I don't hear about them again," Chef Spahr says, "I assume they've made a change and things are going better."

Residents take culinary arts classes in Mountain View's kitchen.

The Superintendent and I walk on. He shows me areas and rooms set aside for mental health workers, teacher offices, and substance abuse work.

The wood shop is closed, but I again peek through a window at several woodworking machines, a well-equipped shop open to "any kid," says Morin. "In our 12 years we've never had any major issues out of these vocational programs. The kids really like these programs. They don't want to jeopardize them," he says.

Continuing our tour, Morin points out room after room set aside for classes in writing, art, mountaineering, science, agriculture, computer access. We walk by the library. The graduating residents' purple caps-and-gowns are in there draped with care on table tops and over low book cases.

The small engine repair classroom is a converted garage. Several small engines in various stages of assembly are set out on work benches. "Staff will bring in equipment and the kids will do the work. Staff pay for all parts and things like that through the business office. It gives the kids the opportunity to work on

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The small engine repair classroom is a converted garage. Several small engines in various stages of assembly are set out on work benches. "Staff will bring in equipment and the kids will do the work. Staff pay for all parts and things like that through the business office. It gives the kids the opportunity to work on different pieces of equipment: 4-wheelers, snowmobiles, boat engines, chainsaws. They take care of all the mowing equipment we use around the facility," says the Superintendent.

From MVYDC classrooms we move through hallways until we come to resident housing areas.

"This is what a typical Housing Unit looks like," Morin says as two thick metal doors unlock, slide open, and allow us to walk between them.

We step into a large open area with a high ceiling. The walls are white with forest green trim. The far wall is glass. Beyond that glass wall is another open space. Along the walls in there are forest green metal doors to resident rooms, spaced much like hotel room doors along hotel corridors.

Mountain View Youth Development Center Graduation on November 8, 2013.

Several residents dressed in gray shirts and tan pants move around the Unit. One stops and asks the Superintendent a question. While Morin answers the question I exchange names and shake hands with another resident. I later learn this young man is a graduate at today's ceremony.

"The residents do their own laundry," Morin says, pointing to a white clothes washer and dryer within the Housing Unit open area. He continues, "The Unit Manager's office is right off the Unit. Each Unit has a little outdoor courtyard so kids can go right off the Unit, shoot hoops, go outdoors, get some fresh air. We also have the full fields out back: football, soccer, baseball field."

Our next stop, the Superintendent says, is another Pod: the High Risk Unit. It is physically a mirror image of the Housing Unit. I ask, "What makes a kid High Risk?"

Morin answers, "They might be older kids, more assaultive, aggressive. We try to keep our kids with mental illness out of that Unit. We've created kind of a Mental Health Unit," and we walk along the hallway past that Unit. "We have five kids there right now who really needed a low-stimulation environment. It has made quite a bit of difference. They get that closer attention from mental health and Unit staff."

Mountain View Youth Development Center has nurses available 24/7. Doctors visit weekly. Dental hygienists, ophthalmologists, and optometrists are also regular visitors. "Quite a few of the medical services

Continued next page.

Morin continued

can be done right on site. For specialty services we take the kids off site," says Morin.

Throughout my tour of MVYDC, I several times wonder how, at age 16 to 19, I would have handled life here as a resident. "Is there ever a time when kids here can be in a totally quiet environment?" I ask Superintendent Morin. He says, "There's some opportunity for that in some of the smaller rooms here. They can go to their rooms when they want. And those are single cell."

"Can kids decorate their rooms?" I ask. I'm thinking of my room at that age, posters of musician and writer heroes on the walls, shelves full of books and music. I'm thinking also of the art classroom here with wonderful gifted resident sketches, drawings and paintings wall-to-wall.

"They can have a few things hanging on the wall, but not much," Morin says. "Fire Marshall's don't want a lot of paper and stuff in the rooms."

Our tour is almost over. We return to the front lobby area through the same sally ports we used to enter MVYDC's classroom and living areas.

Superintendent Jeff Morin began his career in Corrections working with adult prisoners. I ask him if the essence of working with adults differs from working with juveniles.

The key difference for him, the Superintendent tells me, is these kids are on his mind even when he's not at Mountain View. "I never worried about adult prisoners. I worry about these kids," Morin admits. "Some of these kids come from very bad backgrounds. They had some challenges in life. But they all have qualities that are enjoyable.

"That's what we try to build on," Morin says.

Employees' Services Anniversaries

Facility Key:
CC-Community Corrections
CO-Central Office
CCF-Charleston Correctional Facility
DCF-Downeast Correctional Facility
LCYDC-Long Creek Youth Development Center
MCC-Maine Correctional Center
MSP-Maine State Prison
MVYDC-Mountain View Youth Development Center
SMRC-Southern Maine Re-Entry Center

This list represents an employee's anniversary date with the State of Maine hired in the months of September and October.

5 Years

Robert Daigle....MSP
Jared Eaton....CC
Jason J Gilbert....MSP
Matthew P LeClair....MSP
Timothy S Malcolm....MSP
Victoria M Mathiau....MSP
Robert L Mathieu....MCC
Frankie G Provencal....MCC
Merrell Reeves....MCC

10 Years

Andrew A Ames....MSP
David B Banney....MSP
David M Miller....MSP
Christopher P Spear....MSP

15 Years

Roger G Bonsant....BCF
David L Gallant....MCC
Michael J Niles....MVYDC

20 Years

David M Blanchard....MSP

25 Years

Jody L Breton....CO
David R Lavoie....BCF
Mark S McCarthy....CO

More than 25 Years

Wendell R Atkinson (1973)....MSP/BCF
Harvey E Bailey (1987)....MCC
Willard R Blanchard (1984)....MCC
Rodney E Bouffard (1976)....MSP/BCF
Dwayne A Chase (1986)....MVYDC/CCF
George W Curran Jr (1984)....MCC
Ralph F Colfer (1984)....MCC
Susan L Colson (1986)....CC
David E Cyr (1983)....CC
David M Daniels (1985)....DCF
Scott F Farrell (1976)....LCYDC
Michael K Mack (1984)....CC
Priscilla G McLellan (1985)MVYDC/CCF
Kevin G Millay (1985)....DCF
Paul F Whittaker (1985)....MSP

Governor LePage Honors State Employees for Exceptional Service at Blaine House Ceremony

Governor Paul R. LePage honored more than three dozen State employees whose commitment and attitude are improving the service State government is providing to Mainers.

At the annual William Twarog Employee Recognition Ceremony at the Blaine House, the Governor honored 38 employees with either a Manager or Employee of the Year Award and thanked each of them personally for their dedication to serving the people of Maine.

All were cited by their nominating agencies for their commitment to customer service, strong work ethic and willingness to take on new challenges, all characteristics that Governor LePage says are important to strengthening the culture of cooperation between State government and those it serves.

"I want to thank these outstanding employees for their hard work for the people of Maine and for serving as exemplary leaders within their respective departments," the Governor said. "One of my priorities as Governor is to improve the quality of the service the State provides to Maine people. I am honored to serve our State and I know you are too. You are recognized today for your excellent service to the people of Maine."

The annual William Twarog Awards were created to honor William "Bill" Twarog and his work by recognizing State employees who promote quality services, listen to consumer voices and provide a role model for excellence in management. As part of his own lifelong commitment to people with disabilities, Twarog worked for nearly a decade as a Regional Administration in Lewiston for what was the Bureau of Mental Retardation.

Regional Correctional Manager Galan Williamson, MDOC's Manger of the Year, shakes hand with Governor LePage during the Twarog Employee Recognition Ceremony.

MCC Sergeant Michelle Mclauchlan is recognized as MDOC's Employee of the Year by Governor LePage during the Twarog Employee Recognition Ceremony.