



F.Y.I.



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NEW OFFICERS GRADUATE, BEGIN ON-THE-JOB TRAINING

Officers from the latest Officer Recruit Training class graduated on May 24. One hundred and forty-six new officers, members of the Tom Phillips Class, have been assigned to fill vacancies at facilities throughout the Michigan Department of Corrections. The new officers still have two months of on-the-job training to complete before they are done with their training phase.



From Left: Officers Traore, VanderWagen, and Walthorn take the oath of office.

Once training is complete, they will begin eight months of supervised probation where they must either work a multi-officer assignment or a single-officer assignment that has no prisoner contact. These restrictions help keep the new officers safer as they continue learning various aspects of the job. After their first year, the officers will qualify for training that allows them to work any officer assignment within the facility.

Tom Phillips, the class namesake, started his career with the Department in 1974 as a corrections officer. He worked in several positions during his career including resident unit manager, administrative assistant, deputy warden, and warden. Phillips served as warden at three facilities, retiring from Pugsley Correctional Facility in March 2009.

Class award recipients include:

- Robert Hart who was recognized with the Josephine B. McCallum Award for excellence and leadership,
- John Monville who was recognized with the Jack L. Budd Award for determination and effort, and

PHILLIPS CLASS (Continued on page 2)



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PHILLIPS CLASS (Continued from page 1)

- David Westhaus who was recognized with the Academic Achievement Award for outstanding academic performance among all officer recruits.



*McCallum Award
Officer Robert Hart*



*Budd Award
Officer John Monville*



*Academic Achievement Award
Officer David Westhaus*

Please join the Department on congratulating these new officers on their accomplishment. May each of them have a long, rewarding and safe career with the Michigan Department of Corrections.

BUDGET ONLY NEEDS GOVERNOR'S SIGNATURE

The Legislature has passed the Department of Corrections budget after being reported out of a conference committee. The \$2.056 billion budget now goes to Governor Snyder to be signed into law.

The budget includes:

- \$6 million in savings from competitively bidding the food service contract;
- \$33.9 million for reentry programming including \$4.5 million for the public safety initiative, \$1 million for the H.I.R.E. job training pilot, and \$250,000 for second chance employment;
- \$8.1 million in local revenue to fund the operation of the Detroit Detention Center;
- \$8.9 million for training new custody staff;
- \$15 million for the County Jail Reimbursement Program;
- \$25 million for IT services and projects;
- \$48.87 million in economic adjustments which include changing employee benefit costs, utilities, fuel and associated expenses; and
- \$6 million for security improvements.

The budget includes boilerplate language requiring working with colleges to train new employees, evaluations of mentally ill in segregation and competitively bidding of prisoner clothing, prisoner stores and up to 1,750 custody beds. The Governor is expected to sign the budget later this month.



MDOC STAFF PLAY DODGEBALL FOR SPECIAL OLYMPICS

Registered Nurse (RN) Rebecca Cook from Oaks Correctional Facility played on a dodgeball team that took first place in a tournament in Manistee, MI on Saturday, May 4. The Manistee Dodgeball Tournament raised over \$5,000 for Michigan's Law Enforcement Torch Run (LETR). LETR is the largest grassroots fund-raiser for Special Olympics – Michigan, raising funds in support of over 19,000 athletes with intellectual disabilities who compete in Special Olympics - Michigan. Oaks Correctional Facility received recognition as the largest single donor to the event!



L to R (Back Row): MSP Trooper James Luttrull, Lake County Prosecuting Attorney Craig Cooper, RN Rebecca Cook, Trooper David Skorka, MSP Sergeant Charles Hockanson, Trooper Justin Canan. **(Front Row):** MSP Sergeant Andrew Ambrose and Kendall Ramsden from the Department of Human Services.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE

AGENTS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR EFFORTS

On May 14, 2013, Calhoun County Parole Agents Deloof and Dutton were invited to the Police Memorial/Awards Ceremony hosted by the Battle Creek Police Department. Agents Deloof and Dutton each received a Letter of Commendation for their assistance in the apprehension of a bank robber.



L to R: Battle Creek Detective Scott Eager, Battle Creek Officer Tyler Sutherland, Agent Cathie Dutton and Agent Erin Deloof.

On May 22, 2012, a convicted felon with two prior bank robbery convictions robbed the Bank of America on Columbia Avenue in Battle Creek. He fled the area; however, witnesses were able to give a description of the suspect. Following some "old school police work," Agents Deloof and Dutton provided investigating officers with information they obtained from prior home calls and interactions with parolee Calvin Gibson (now discharged from supervision). They then accompanied officers to Gibson's home where the suspect was located and taken into custody. Officers located evidence of the robbery and recovered the majority of the money which was taken during the robbery. Gibson did not have any involvement in the robbery. Thanks to Agents Deloof's and Dutton's attention to detail and memory of facts, a serious felony was resolved within hours of its occurrence, removing a dangerous felon from the streets.





EMPLOYEES RECEIVE PROFESSIONAL EXCELLENT AWARDS

On May 28, 2013 two Field Operations Administration (FOA) employees, Keith Koger and Walter Wysopal, received the Department's Professional Excellence Award for their outstanding work. FOA Field Agent Jennifer Howell also received the Good Government Symbol of Excellence.

LEADING TRRP

When FOA Supervisor Keith Koger was asked to fill in as the supervisor at the Tuscola Residential Reentry Program (TRRP), he didn't hesitate to take on the challenge. He embraced the challenges, learning about the BRIDGES program, improving teamwork, focusing on the tenets of reentry policy and enhancing the physical plant. Koger focused on organizational an individual performance, discussing and refocusing the role of each person at TRRP. He also worked with the maintenance team to take pride in and a sense of ownership in the physical plant.

When the closure of TRRP was announced, Koger didn't become discouraged. Instead, he mentored staff and coached them to do their best through the closure process. Koger remained positive and encouraging, asking staff to take their energy, cohesiveness and ambition to their new worksite.

Koger's efforts exemplify what the Professional Excellence Award is about. He went above and beyond all expectations, creating a dynamic, energetic and positive work environment despite the obstacles. His professionalism, dedication, and integrity prove that he is an asset to the Department.

EMBEDDED AGENT

Field Agent Walter Wysopal is part of a new partnership between the Michigan Department of Corrections and local police agencies. As an embedded agent working with the Saginaw Police Department, Wysopal is the information conduit between the two agencies. Wysopal is a pioneer of sorts. Without any formal training and only necessary direction, he jumped into the new role.

In the first six months in the position, he worked on 16 homicides in Saginaw and compiled a list of over 150 offenders who were known gang members which proved extremely helpful to the Saginaw police. Wysopal coordinated a number of Operation Nighthawk and Morning Dove events which resulted in numerous arrests and weapons confiscations. His efforts, in coordination with the Saginaw police, other MDOC agents, and institutional inspectors has helped reduce crime in and around the Saginaw area. Wysopal is a dedicated professional and a driven member of the Department whose recognition is well-deserved.



From Left: Director Dan Heyns, Saginaw Embedded Agent Walt Wysopal, Saginaw Parole Agent Jennifer Howell, FOA Supervisor Keith Koger and FOA Deputy Director Charles Sinclair.

HELPING HAND

Field Agent Jennifer Howell was also recognized for the tremendous work she does with her caseload of mentally ill and special needs offenders. As a member of the Saginaw County Forensic Transition Team, Howell motivates her offenders, pushing them to be their best and succeed in the community, in spite of their challenges. Howell was recognized as a Special Hero during a Saginaw Community Mental Health Authority banquet in May.

PEOPLE MAKE THE DIFFERENCE





PERSONAL PORTRAIT: ACHIEVEMENTS AND OUTSTANDING ACTS BEYOND THE BUSINESS



The men and women of the Michigan Department of Corrections do some outstanding things in their professional and personal lives. Personal Portrait reflects on their accomplishments outside the workplace.

In the Spotlight

Long Distance Runner

Corporal Abigail Brown likes running...a lot. She not only likes running, but she likes running REALLY far. Brown was in Key West, FL on May 18 to compete in a 50-mile ultra marathon. She finished in just over 14 hours. Brown is pictured here (*on the right*) with a friend who completed the 100-mile course the same day.



Employee of the Month

It's not often that a warden is nominated by their staff for employee of the month. Generally, it's a member of the line staff making a difference in some way, or a supervisor or manager that implemented some program that helped change the facility for the better. But the staff at Ionia Correctional Facility felt that their new warden made such a difference, that they named her Employee of the Month at the facility.

A/Warden Cathy Stoddard was nominated by Captain Hogle as the Employee of the Month for June. Captain Hogle states, "A/Warden Stoddard has been assigned the difficult task of managing both Ionia Correctional Facility (ICF) and Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility (MTU). ICF recently underwent a self policy audit in which the staff really banded together to make sure ICF looked their best. Warden Stoddard was patient, kind and really showed her appreciation of the job that all the staff performed. In addition, she has been a great help in revitalizing the



morale at ICF. A/Warden Stoddard has participated in events and assisted in the Employee of the Month presentations and personally presented the awards.

Deputy Norwood also nominated her warden and stated, "Warden Stoddard has set high expectations for her staff and gave staff the ability and confidence to meet those goals. She has continuously demonstrated a fair attitudes to staff and prisoners. Staff especially appreciate the new break room with windows. She has devoted a lot of her own personal time to ensure ICF is a well-functioning team, the recent audit proved it."

Warden Stoddard received three nominations, the third nomination was from ARUS Barber, who stated, "Warden Stoddard has been vital in leading our facility in a new direction. Staff at ICF now feel included and cared about. We feel our opinion matters and our work is noticed. Not only does she recognize those working hard, but also those not meeting expectations and holds those individuals accountable. Cathy takes a vested interest in her people and her people want to work hard for her because they believe in her. She also assists with the Employees Club and is always willing to donate her time and energy to ensuring a successful event."

Colorful Team

"Team Hampster" participated in what's billed as "The Happiest 5K on the Planet." Karen Keiffer, Julie Hamp, Tiffany Hazard and Summer Laughhunn (*pictured L to R after the run*) took part in the 2013 Ann Arbor Color Run on May 11, 2013. The run featured more than 15,000 runners who are covered head-to-toe with colored powder by the end of the run.





8TH ANNUAL LETR RIDE AND POKER RUN

The eighth annual Law Enforcement Torch Ride and Poker Run to benefit Special Olympics is July 27, 2013. Registration is at 10 a.m. at Planet Powersports in Coldwater. All riders and autos are welcome!

Cost is \$25 each rider or \$35 a couple per bike or auto. Extra hands are \$5 each with no limit. There are also cash and merchandise prizes. Each registrant receives a t-shirt and breakfast with a reduced price dinner available after the ride at your own expense. Those who register by July 7 will receive an early bird special price of \$20/\$30 and are guaranteed a t-shirt on the day of the ride. For more information or to register, contact Carl White by phone: (517) 398-3420 or by email: whitec12@michigan.gov or white.carl62@gmail.com.

The ride begins at 11:00 a.m. with registration closing at 2:00 p.m. and the last bike on the road by 2:30 p.m. All bikes must be at the Hampton Inn in Sturgis by 5:00 p.m.

Limited lodging is available at the Hampton Inn by calling (269) 651-4210 and tell reservations that you are part of the Victory Motorcycle Club for their discounted rate.



MSI ANNOUNCES NEW ORDER CHECKING OPTIONS

In order to better serve our customers we are announcing three new ways to check the status of your products. Now your order status can be checked by...

- calling an MSI customer service representative at (517) 636-7482,
- by emailing MSICustomerService@michigan.gov, or
- by accessing an Order Status Inquiry Form in the Quick Links section of our website www.michigan.gov/msi.

We are constantly looking at ways to improve our processes with the ultimate goal of providing a high level of service to our customers.



SHARE YOUR POSITIVE PERSONAL STORIES

Personal Portrait is a new addition to F.Y.I. that shares the personal accomplishments and actions of our employees. If you know about something an employee has done that deserves some praise or credit, let us know! Email the information, with pictures if you can get them, to me at cordellj@michigan.gov. We will share their story with the rest of the MDOC family.





REENTRY ROUNDTABLE

Reentry Roundtable is a continuing column that provides news, facts, and program successes within the prisoner reentry program.

CFA Quality Assurance

Correctional Facility Administration (CFA) Quality Assurance (QA) was developed to provide a comprehensive Quality Assurance System for CFA and is used to promote program integrity and uniformity. CFA utilizes a Quality Assurance team made up of departmental analysts representing both the Northern and Southern regions. The Quality Assurance team is responsible for promoting adherence to the MDOC Prisoner Reentry model and CFA operational designs with regards to prisoner assessments, prisoner programs and intervention referrals, data management, program facilitation, case planning, release planning, and InReach services. The goals of the Quality Assurance System are to have all CFA facilities facilitating evidence-based programs according to their developed curriculum, to have continuous quality improvement while utilizing risk assessments, and to have staff incorporating Collaborative Case Management in daily practices. The

system will assist in ensuring consistency and promoting offender success as they transition from prison to the community.

The Quality Assurance System works to foster constructive communication, provide feedback to promote fidelity, discuss alternative solutions, provide support, and gain insight into all CFA programs and procedures. The system also recognizes proficiencies and acknowledges quality performers.

Prisoner Reentry



Quality control measurement activities are documented on a monthly basis in a written format. A quarterly audit process consists of random sampling from each correctional facility by a Quality Assurance team member. Deficiencies will be corrected and tracked to identify trends and patterns.

The CFA QA process and system has been developed to ensure continued adherence to the Prisoner Reentry model and to promote success within all correctional facilities.