

# MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

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**HELP  
MAKE  
THINGS  
RIGHT**

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**F.Y.I.** is a publication of the Michigan Department of Corrections, Office of Public Information and Communications. Please submit articles through your supervisor to Edna Plath at [plathe@michigan.gov](mailto:plathe@michigan.gov).

## METRO PAROLE/PROBATION OFFICE 2ND ANNUAL BLOOD DRIVE

Every day, the Red Cross must collect almost 17,000 pints of blood for patients at nearly 3,000 hospitals and transfusion centers across the country. Every two seconds, someone in the U.S. needs a blood transfusion.

The summer is one of the most challenging times of year for blood donations. Donations drop to 80 percent, causing about 80,000 fewer donations than anticipated. Parole/Probation Agent Jason A. Hall, Sr. organized the 2nd annual "Answering the Call... Give blood in honor of everyday heroes" at Metro Parole/Probation Office on Friday, August 15, 2014.

Over 30 parole/probation agents, field service assistants, and Regional Management team members volunteered to give blood to the worthy cause. In addition, a monetary donation of \$180 was given to the Blood Services Division of the American Red Cross to further assist those in need.

The American Red Cross plays a critical role in our nation's health care system. It's the largest single supplier of blood and blood products in the United States, collecting and processing more than 40 percent of the blood supply and serving nearly 3,000 hospitals and transfusion centers.

With 80 percent of blood coming from blood drives held at local businesses and organizations, the Red Cross relies particularly on event coordinators like Jason. The Metro Parole/Probation Office would like to partner with other State of Michigan agencies in the future.



**Pictured Left to Right:** Beth Frahm, Red Cross and Agent Jason Hall, Sr.



## OJIBWAY CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AND WAKEFIELD FIRE DEPARTMENT EDUCATE CHILDREN

On October 8, 2014, the Wakefield Fire Department and Ojibway Correctional Facility staff teamed together to educate 139 local children on fire safety. The children were able to see the fire trucks and equipment and learn what the process is to put out a fire. The volunteers also spoke with the children about what to do in case of a fire.

*Picture includes: Head Start children and classroom aids, Wakefield Volunteer Fire Department and Ojibway Correctional Facility staff.*



## CROCHET PROJECT AT GUS HARRISON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

The Gus Harrison Correctional Facility has a "Crochet Project" program where the prisoners crochet blankets. On October 10, 2014, the Gus Harrison Correctional Facility staff took approximately 36 blankets to the Magnum Care Facility (adult foster care home) in Adrian and donated them to their

patients as lap blankets. As a thank you, the Magnum Care Facility donated yarn to assist in the making of additional blankets.



*Picture includes front row: Assistant and residents of Magnum Care Facility.*

*Back row: CPC Special Activities Timothy Buis, Warden Paul Klee, Corrections Officer Connie Nicholson, and Acting CPC Special Activities Taylor Skelton*



## LAKELAND CORRECTIONAL FACILITY PARTICIPATES IN OUT OF THE DARKNESS WALK



Staff from the Lakeland Correctional Facility volunteered their time to staff a booth at the Branch County Out of the Darkness Walk for Suicide Prevention held in Coldwater. The LCF Employee Club was a bronze sponsor of the event. The walk had 357 participants and raised close to \$30,000 for suicide awareness, prevention, and education.

*Pictured Left to Right: Chad Poynter, Christina Tagett, Christianna Borst, Perry Billman*

## GUS HARRISON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY AWARDS

Corrections Resident Representative James Eaton was awarded a Meritorious Service Award for his actions on May 4, 2014. While driving down the road, James witnessed a Monroe County Sheriff's Deputy taking an individual into custody. James pulled off the road to observe the situation as something looked suspicious to him, and just in time as the individual began struggling and pulling away. An off-duty officer and James were able to chase down the individual allowing the police to take him into custody. Later it was discovered that the individual had a warrant for murder and was wanted in Tennessee for violating parole.

Corrections Officer James Taylor received a Citizenship Award for his actions on July 4, 2014. While driving home from work, James noticed a fire on the front porch of a home that was starting to climb up the side of the house. James immediately ran to the door and alerted the man and three children inside the residence, who were unaware of the fire. The owner of the home ran back in the house and grabbed a fire extinguisher that was used to control and eventually extinguish the fire.



*Pictured Left to Right: Director Dan Heyns, Corrections Officer James Taylor, Grievance Coordinator James Eaton, and Warden Paul Klee*

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## HELP MAKE THINGS RIGHT

**Honor All Veterans  
Proudly Fly MSI American  
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Michigan State Industries Flags are made in Michigan by offenders who gain work experience, training, and valuable soft skills as they produce high quality and competitively priced products while preparing for a successful reentry into society.

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- Sales & Marketing Inbox - [msisales@michigan.gov](mailto:msisales@michigan.gov)
- Order Entry Inbox - [MSI\\_Order\\_Entry@michigan.gov](mailto:MSI_Order_Entry@michigan.gov)



## LAWTON PAROLE OFFICE ASSISTS IN COMMUNITY CLEAN-UP

The MDOC partnered with the Cody Rouge Community in their efforts to remodel the neighborhood. On August 15, 2014, members from the Lawton Parole office and 20 parolees donated their time and energy painting over graffiti riddled buildings that had long become an eye-sore in the community. The day provided much improvement to the appearance of the neighborhood and was appreciated greatly by the community.



## 30<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TORCH RUN

During the month of September, three teams consisting of the Michigan State Police, Fraternal Order of Police, and Michigan Department of Corrections drove separate motor homes to the Upper Peninsula to kick off the 30<sup>th</sup> Annual Law Enforcement Torch Run. The Law Enforcement Torch Run raises awareness for Special Olympics throughout the state by running a 750-mile relay from Copper Harbor to Sterling Heights. Under the guidance of co-captains Karen Solgot, Psychologist at Macomb Correctional Facility and Steven Salladay, Parole/Probation Agent at Osceola County, the Michigan Department of Corrections team raised approximately \$9,700. Not only were funds raised prior to the event, but each member trained during the summer for the twice-a-day, 4-5 mile distances. RJ Drabek, Sergeant at Ionia Correctional Facility was selected to run the Mackinaw Bridge and Donnie Whitley, Probation Officer at Macomb County ran the last leg carrying the Torch to its final destiny. Other members of the team included Eric Cottrell, Parole Agent at Kent County;

Jason Perry, Probation Officer at Ionia County, and James Tomlinson, School Teacher at Macomb Correctional.



***Pictured Left to Right:***

*Jason Perry, RJ Drabek, Eric Cottrell, Steven Salladay, Karen Solgot, Donnie Whitley, and James Tomlinson*

# F.Y.I.



# HELP MAKE THINGS RIGHT

## GARDEN PROJECT AT COOPER STREET CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

Cooper Street Correctional Facility began their garden project in 2009 and each year it has produced more astounding results than the year before. This year, Cooper Street donated 11,300 pounds of produce to the Jackson Community nearly doubling last year's donation of 6,000 pounds. The produce was donated to the Salvation Army, the Jackson Interfaith Shelter, and the AWARE Shelter.

The garden includes a community section and 150 individual plots which are assigned to and maintained by prisoners. The produce from the individual plots can be kept or donated to the community. The unspoken rule is to donate as much as you keep and 2,231 pounds of donated produce came from individual plots. Officer Heise offers instruction on plants and pest elimination and Officer Manolakoudis manages plot assignments, callouts and prisoner management in the garden.

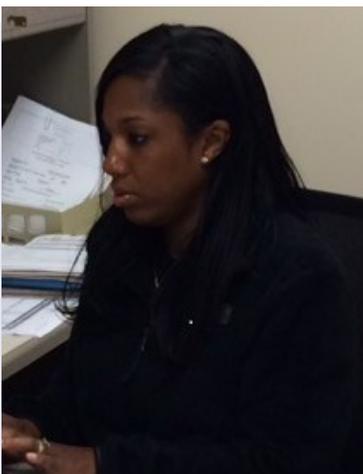


*Pictured: Officer Heise*

## INGHAM COUNTY PROBATION AGENT ASSISTING FEMALES

An Ingham County Probation Agent has been making connections for females caught in the talons of the sex industry in Lansing. Agent Crissa Blankenburg has played an integral role in leading Anny Donewald, founder of Eve's Angels, to spread her outreach to the Lansing area. Eve's Angels is a Christian not-for-profit organization that assists women in the sex industry to find hope through the love of God.

Agent Blankenburg first crossed paths with Ms. Donewald several years ago when they shared a mutual client. Ms. Donewald was able to offer Agent Blankenburg's probationer support and guidance that she would have otherwise likely never found by herself. The support and resources, including emergency housing, offered by Ms. Donewald and Eve's Angels made it possible for the young lady to leave the sex industry entirely.



Through Crissa's involvement in Eve's Angels and EMMA (Empowering Mentoring Minority Adolescents), young ladies have been able to find freedom from this lifestyle. With the assistance of Senator Judy Emmons, 22 new bills have been brought to the Governor's desk that address the epidemic of human trafficking in the state of Michigan.

For more information about Eve's Angels ministry and support group locations, visit [evesangels.org](http://evesangels.org)

*Pictured: Probation Agent Crissa Blankenburg*



## LIFESAVING AND MERITORIOUS SERVICE AWARDS

Officers Matthew Garton-Borowicz and Jason Jones of West Shoreline Correctional Facility were presented lifesaving awards for their actions on March 19, 2014. While at work, both officers noticed a prisoner that was unresponsive and grey in color and his lips were turning blue. A request was made to the control center for assistance and officer Jones began rescue breathing while officer Garton-Borowicz performed chest compressions until additional assistance arrived.

Sergeant Daniel Miller and Officer James Hargrave of West Shoreline Correctional Facility and Sergeant James Pilarski of Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility were presented the Meritorious Service Award for their actions involving a coworker who collapsed. While attending Search and Recovery training at Camp Grayling Training Center, one of their teammates collapsed. While emergency services was contacted, the men immediately started removing his outer gear, and assisted in moving him to a vehicle to be transported off the range. The men stayed with him and provided cardiopulmonary resuscitation until the ambulance arrived.



*Pictured Left to Right: Officer Matthew Garton-Borowicz, Director Dan Heyns, Officer Jason Jones, Warden Mary Berghuis, Sergeant Daniel Miller, Officer James Hargrave, and Sergeant James Pilarski*



**Tuesday November 4, is Election Day.**

Please participate in our democracy by voting.

Take a moment and educate yourself on the candidates running by visiting the [2014 Official Michigan General Candidate Listing](#)



Be heard on Tuesday



## Eighth Annual Honor Guard Holiday Celebration



You are cordially invited to the Eighth Annual Honor Guard Holiday Fund-Raising Celebration. All proceeds support Honor Guard operations and our commitment to honor fallen correctional and law enforcement staff at the state and national level. The unit was formed in 1987 after the tragic death of corrections officer Josephine McCallum. Since then, over 80 proud and distinguished members have served the Department and the people of the State of Michigan at funeral details, special ceremonies, and parades throughout the United States and Canada.

**What:** Dinner, dessert, awards presentation, entertainment and a silent auction to support the Honor Guard Fund.

**Where:** Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center  
Michigan State University  
55 South Harrison Road  
East Lansing, MI 48824

**When:** December 5, 2014  
6:00 p.m.-12:00 a.m.

**Who:** Anyone who supports the Honor Guard

.....  
Invitation RSVP: (Please remove and return with payment):

Name of Attendee(s) \_\_\_\_\_

# of Attendees x \$30 per Attendee: \_\_\_\_\_

Additional Donation (Optional): \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ Total Donation

Cash OR  Check payable to "MDOC Honor Guard Fund" OR  Credit/Debit Card

**Dinner Choice**     Chicken - Rosemary Grilled Chicken with Garlic Whipped Potatoes | Roasted Tomato Sherry Sauce | Sautéed Zucchini and Yellow Peppers  
                           Beef - Slow Braised Short Ribs with Caramelized Onion Pan Jus | Creamy Corn and Cheddar Polenta | Chef's Selection of Vegetable  
                           Vegetarian

- Rooms are available at the Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center at (517) 432-4000  
The state rate is available.
- Please RSVP by November 28, 2014

Please RSVP to: Melissa Hetherington, Honor Guard Secretary  
Michigan Department of Corrections, CFA  
Grandview Plaza Building, 4<sup>th</sup> Floor  
206 E. Michigan Avenue  
Lansing, MI 48933  
[hetheringtonm@michigan.gov](mailto:hetheringtonm@michigan.gov)  
(517) 335-1385



**AUGUST 2014 RETIREMENTS**

Andrews, Portia .....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Austin, Dennis .....	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Beasley, Christine.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Bracey, Richard .....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Burns, Nancy .....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Butler, Sue.....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Campeau, Constance .....	Detroit Reentry Center
Christian, Bonnie .....	Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Clark, John .....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Coleman, Ronald.....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Cook, Gregory .....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Cook, Kimberly .....	St. Louis Correctional Facility
Crouch, Larry.....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Curtis, Kelly .....	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Eschenwick, Sherryn .....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Evans, Roger.....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Fauble, Timothy.....	Oaks Correctional Facility
Funston, Frederick.....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Gay, Brian.....	Michigan Reformatory
Griffes, Gregory .....	Parnall Correctional Facility
Grove, Paul.....	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Haynie, Paul .....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Hester, Michael.....	Detroit Reentry Center
Jackson, Leenort .....	Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Lockwood, Frederic .....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Male, Sandra .....	Grandview Plaza
Mather, Gayann.....	Kinross Correctional Facility
McClellan, Randy .....	Baraga Correctional Facility
McCluskey, Ronda .....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center



**August Retirements cont'd.**

McConeghy, Beverly .....	Parnall Correctional Facility
Merten, Gail .....	Lake County Parole and Probation
Meyer, Michael .....	Oaks Correctional Facility
Miller, John .....	Muskegon Correctional Facility
Moye, Michael .....	Detroit Reentry Center
Murray, Michael .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Neubecker, Fred .....	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Opanasenko, Michael .....	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Parker, James .....	Michigan Reformatory
Parks, Rockney .....	Charles Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Parr, Roger .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Perkins, Michael .....	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Peters, Johnny .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Peters, Karen .....	Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Pickett, Jack .....	Oaks Correctional Facility
Rankin, John .....	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Riggle, Lonnie .....	Carson City Correctional Facility
Rockafellow, Mark .....	Ionia Correctional Facility
Rodgers, Elvis .....	Parnall Correctional Facility
Ronquist, Shelley .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Rozell, James .....	Macomb Correctional Facility
Seigneur, Debra .....	Marquette Branch Prison
Sherman, Carl .....	Ionia Correctional Facility
Strouth, Roxanne .....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Vernetti, William .....	Ojibway Correctional Facility
Walters, Richard .....	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Watson, Thomas .....	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Wilson, Gayle .....	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Wollan, Joseph .....	Kinross Correctional Facility
Zissimos, Peter .....	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility