MDOCSHINESASKEYPARTNERINTORCHRUNFORSPECIALOLYMPICS

The 2011 Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) Law Enforcement Torch Run Team raised nearly $8,000 for Special Olympics Michigan this year. The MDOC run team is one of three teams that run a non-stop 750-mile torch run relay, which began in Copper Harbor at noon on September 12, 2011 and concluded on September 16 at 6 p.m. in Sterling Heights. The Michigan State Police and the Fraternal Order of Police also ran many legs of the torch run relay during the four-day event.

Each year, the Department chooses a torch run team to participate in this event. The MDOC team included Team Captains: Asst. Deputy Warden Shawn Young of Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility and Lieutenant Jim Dennis of Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility, as well as fellow team members Ionia County Field Agent Jason Perry, Sergeant Matt Mates of Special Alternative Incarceration, Kent County Field Agent Eric Cottrell, Lake County Field Agent Stephen Salladay and Resident Unit Officer Luke Blaszak of Pugsley Correctional Facility.

"This event is an example of how one person can make a difference. Every dollar raised changes lives." said Lois Arnold, chief executive officer of Special Olympics Michigan.

The Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics is the largest grassroots fundraiser and public awareness vehicle for Special Olympics in the world. It began in 1981 when Wichita, Kansas, Police Chief Richard L. Munyon saw an urgent need to raise funds for and increase awareness of Special Olympics.

TORCH RUN (Continued on page 2)
Since its inception, the Law Enforcement Torch Run has raised nearly $200 million for Special Olympic athletes across the world. More than 85,000 law enforcement officers in all 50 U.S. states, all Canadian provinces and 35 countries carry the Special Olympics "Flame of Hope" through the streets for their local, state or national Special Olympics Games.

The team would like to thank all those who supported their effort in raising awareness and money for this great cause. Donations go toward the cost of athletes’ uniforms, sports equipment, facility rentals, housing fees and training costs for Special Olympians throughout Michigan. If you would still like to donate to this worthy cause or find out more information about the Law Enforcement Torch Run, please go to the following link: www.firstgiving.com/somicivic/Event/centralroute or check out the team Facebook page at LETRMDOC.

Special Olympics Michigan is a non-profit organization supported entirely by private funding. All activities are available at no cost to Michigan athletes and their families.

TORCH RUN (Continued from page 1)

PRISONERS WALK TO SUPPORT CURE

On Saturday, October 22, 2011, 32 prisoners along with eight American Cancer Society guests participated in a 5K/three-mile “Making Strides Against Breast Cancer” walk at the G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility in Jackson. Prisoners from each of the prison’s four security levels participated in the walk.

Prisoners donated $317 to the cause while the Michigan Braille Transcribing Unit matched the donation with another $317. The total donation to the American Cancer Society was $634. Prisoners did a great job supporting this worthwhile cause and they are worthy of recognition for their efforts. Special thanks also go to the American Cancer Society for supporting this event.

HONOR GUARD FUND-RAISER IS DECEMBER 2

The Honor Guard is holding its annual fund-raising holiday celebration on Friday, December 2, 2011 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing, MI. The dinner banquet and silent auction support unit operations with all proceeds going to the MDOC Honor Guard Fund. Please join the Honor Guard in celebrating their accomplishments over the past year and support the Honor Guard fund too! Cost is $30 per person and all proceeds go to the MDOC Honor Guard Fund and are tax deductible. To RSVP and ensure a seat, contact Kathy Keiffer at keifferk@michigan.gov or 517-335-1385. Don’t forget to “like” the Honor Guard’s Facebook page too:

https://www.facebook.com/#!/pages/MDOC-Honor-Guard/131127784042
The Michigan Department of Corrections is experiencing plenty of change in the first 120 days of Dan Heyns’ tenure as Director of the agency. Director Heyns wants to foster change and reorganize the Department to improve productivity, safety, and our self-image. Part of improving that self-image includes changing how we see each other and how others see us. It also includes improving our working environment. Director Heyns wants employees to feel valued in a working environment that empowers innovation and inspires ideas that improve the Department.

Since June 1, the Department has done some impressive things, and has made some difficult decisions that will create a better future. They include:

- Pharmaceutical contract improvements;
- Completion of the DNA profile collection of nearly 5,000 prisoners in 11 weeks - nearly three months ahead of schedule;
- Implementation of a prosecutor notification system for parole decisions that will ultimately reduce prosecutorial challenges;
- Reorganization of the Correctional Facility Administration, eliminating the assistant deputy warden classification and reducing resident unit managers, while adding deputy warden positions. This action flattens the administrative bureaucracy and gives deputy wardens and wardens more “hands-on” control of their facilities;
- Announcing the intent to competitively bid health care and mental health care services;
- Announcing the closure of Mound Correctional Facility in mid-January 2012;
- Announcing the intent to competitively bid Woodland Center Correctional Facility;
- Implementing measures to control overtime costs;
- Adoption of an electronic prisoner law library system;
- Negotiating lower Medicaid rates at key health systems that serve Michigan prisoners;
- Enhanced monitoring of worker’s compensation and FMLA use;
- Introduction of Tasers into correctional facilities; and
- Introducing the COST system to improve supply chain management.

These actions will ultimately strengthen the Michigan Department of Corrections and help our agency focus on its core mission - safely and cost efficiently incarcerating convicted felons while providing resources for their success upon release.

Change is often difficult and Director Heyns fully understands some of these decisions will significantly impact employees - some of whom have been with the Department for many years. Heyns also realizes that these changes are necessary for the Department to meet its mission. One thing is very clear, change in life and in corrections, is constant.

The next issue of F.Y.I. will publish the final part of the series. Director Heyns discusses where he sees the Department in the future.
DNA PROFILE COLLECTION REAPS IMMEDIATE RESULTS

In July 2011, the Michigan Legislature passed, and Governor Rick Snyder signed into law, an amendment to Michigan Compiled Laws (MCL) section 791.233d of the Corrections Code of 1953, titled “Samples for DNA Identification Profiling.” The amendment gives prison officials the ability to take DNA samples from prisoners currently housed in state correctional facilities without delay. Specifically, the law states:

“(a) For a prisoner serving a sentence in a state correctional facility or a probationer in a special alternative incarceration program on June 1, 2011, the samples shall be obtained not later than January 1, 2012. However, if the prisoner or probationer is released on parole, placed in a community placement facility of any kind, including a community corrections center or a community residential home, or discharged upon completion of his or her maximum sentence before January 1, 2012, the samples shall be obtained before the date of release, placement, or discharge.

“(b) For a prisoner serving a sentence in a state correctional facility or a probationer in a special alternative incarceration program whose sentence begins after June 1, 2011, the samples shall be obtained not later than 90 days after the date on which the prisoner or probationer is committed to the jurisdiction of the department.”

Prior to this amendment, the Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC) could only take samples of prisoners near release from prison who had not yet provided one. That meant there were nearly 5,000 prisoners still in the system who, through use of DNA profiling, could not be identified or ruled out as suspects in unsolved crimes here in Michigan and throughout the United States. The passage of this amendment ensured all prisoners currently in the prison system had their DNA profile submitted to the Michigan State Police (MSP).

The MDOC is a “can do” agency. Upon passage of the bill, facility administrators, supervisors, health care workers and line staff at facilities throughout the state immediately went to work collecting DNA samples from those 5,000 prisoners. In just three months, the Department has collected and submitted to MSP samples from all prisoners currently in MDOC custody (HYTA prisoners excluded).

Director Dan Heyns said of the effort, “I had no doubt our staff would get this done in the time provided. These are highly capable people who want to see justice served in unsolved cases as much as their law enforcement counterparts in the field. Getting DNA profiles of those 6,000 prisoners into the system will provide immediate results in some of those cases, helping law enforcement agencies get answers and giving victims some closure.”

Tuesday November 8, is Election Day. Please participate in our democracy by voting. Your vote is your voice. Be heard on Tuesday, Nov. 8.

Daylight Savings Time ends at 2 a.m. on Sunday, November 6, 2011. Don’t forget to turn your clocks back from 2 a.m. to 1 a.m. a week from this Sunday.
The "can do" spirit of our employees make them well-suited to assist in medical emergencies both inside the prison and in the community. Here are some recent lifesaving acts:

- On September 6, 2011, while driving home from work, Officer Doug Ray and Officer Ronda Frazier came upon a head-on collision. There was a 2008 Ford Fusion that hit head-on with a Dairy Food Service delivery truck. The car was driving north on Moscow Road crossed over the double yellow line, hitting the delivery truck head on. Officer Ray took quick action and climbed through the rear window of the car. He then stabilized the injured driver by holding her head and neck in an upright position. When the ambulance arrived he then held the oxygen mask while the firefighters used the extraction equipment to cut the roof off of the vehicle. Officer Frazier attended to the truck driver to make sure he was okay and if he had any injuries. The woman driver was flown to the University of Michigan Hospital with life-threatening injuries where she was expected to recover.

- On September 9, 2011 Ryan Correctional Facility Foodservice Officer D. Minx observed a prisoner in the Chow Hall choking on a piece of his lunch. Officer Minx approached the prisoner and performed one abdominal thrust that dislodged the piece of food. The prisoner was transported to Detroit Receiving Hospital by ambulance for a physical assessment. The prisoner returned from the hospital with no further complications. Officer D. Minx’s quick response saved the prisoner’s life.

- On October 8, 2011, a prisoner collapsed in F-Unit at Cooper Street Correctional Facility. Resident Unit Officer Amy Robertson was the first officer on scene and called for additional custody assistance, health care assistance and an ambulance. Officers Julie Bridgewater and Gary Baxter were the next on the scene. The three of them assessed the situation and started CPR. Sgt. Michael Marsh arrived and set up the AED. Officer Jason Carter took over rescue breaths while Baxter continued CPR. Shock was advised and given. There still was no pulse or breathing so CPR was continued. Shock was once again advised. CPR continued. Health care arrived and asked if anyone needed a break from CPR; nobody did. Staff still detected no pulse or breathing. CPR was continued until the prisoner gasped for air and a pulse was detected. The prisoner was not breathing on his own so rescue breaths were performed until an advanced life support unit arrived on-scene. The prisoner would not have survived if not for the heroic behavior of all staff involved.

- On October 13, 2011, St. Louis Correctional Facility Resident Unit Officer Brian Nicholson was awarded the Department’s Lifesaving Award by Warden Steve Rivard (Pictured Below). Nicholson was attending a high school basketball game when one of the coaches suffered a seizure. Nicholson observed the life-threatening health condition and responded to the scene. He was instrumental in providing first aid, helping to control bleeding and preventing the man from choking during the seizure. Nicholson demonstrated a strong, sincere devotion to helping the man during this emergency situation. He is an excellent example of the character of our employees in the Michigan Department of Corrections.
August 2011

Adams, Steven J. ......................................................................................... Alger Correctional Facility
Akhtab, Mikal S.................................................................Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Alfaro, Rollie ......................................................................................... Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Allison, Sally A........................................................................... Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Amos, Anthony ................................................................. Ryan Correctional Facility
Bailey, James P......................................................................... Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Barnes, Harold E. ................................................................................. Ionia Correctional Facility
Boyle, Patrick E. ..................................................................................... St. Louis Correctional Facility
Brownell, Charles ................................................................. Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Burrows, John A. ................................................................. Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Charbonneau, Wanda ....................................................................... Chippewa Correctional Facility
Dent, Phillip D.............................................................................. Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Easley, Dennis ...................................................................................... Central Office
Fishtorn, Aurilla R....................................................................................Saginaw Correctional Facility
Gallagher, Paul......................................................................... Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Gravelle, Jeffrey A......................................................................................Michigan Reformatory
Greene, Beverly G........................................................................ Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Gursky, Robert F. ..................................................................................Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Hammond, James L. .................................................. Correctional Facilities Administration - Southern Region
Hoffman, Wade M..................................................................................Pugsley Correctional Facility
Horn, Carl ......................................................................................Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Houtz, Bryon G........................................................................ Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Jackson, Drake D. .....................................................................................Ryan Correctional Facility
Jackson, Harold B. ................................................................ Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Johns, Robert A........................................................................ Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Kelley, Darrell D.....................................................................................Ionia Correctional Facility
Lemons, Edward D..................................................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Martin, Robert P.................................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
McIntyre, Michael F..................................................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Morrell, Beverly J....................................................................................Parnall Correctional Facility
Pemberton, David T. ........................................................................ Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Posuniak, Michael ........................................................................ Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Qawwee, Muhammad A. ...............................................................Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Reed, Samuel J........................................................................ Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Riddle, James J......................................................................................Lakeland Correctional Facility
Sage, Milford B.....................................................................................Oaks Correctional Facility

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Sahl, Kenneth .................................................................Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Schnotala, Timothy M....................................................Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Sharrard, Clayton J..........................................................Macomb Correctional Facility
Somers, Gerard J.............................................................. Mound Correctional Facility
Westover, Theodore R. .................................................Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Wilkins-Norment, Jacqueline M......................................Gus Harrison Correctional Facility

September 2011

Agruda, Andre ...............................................................Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Apelgren, Kendall L............................................................Alger Correctional Facility
Belcher, John .................................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Berg, Nancy P.................................................................Field Operations Metro Region
Bigelow, Jan E...............................................................Saginaw Correctional Facility
Bloom, Michael J............................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Bozung, Karen A............................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Bryant, William E.............................................................Lakeland Correctional Facility
Bryner, Richard F............................................................Lakeland Correctional Facility
Budris, John E.................................................................Ojibway Correctional Facility
Christiansen, Dawn ......................................................Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Currin, Kim A.................................................................Parnall Correctional Facility
Dacheff, Michael............................................................Ojibway Correctional Facility
De-Los-Santos, Juan .......................................................Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Dillay, Lawrence J..........................................................Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Downing, Donald D............................................................Alger Correctional Facility
Dust, Wayne R.................................................................Alger Correctional Facility
Ely, John A.................................................................Alger Correctional Facility
Eveleth, Mark T.................................................................Lakeland Correctional Facility
George, Steven A..............................................................Saginaw Correctional Facility
Green, Willie B.................................................................Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Griebenow, Garrett .........................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Hagenbuch, Douglas A.....................................................Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Hawes, Charles C.............................................................Marquette Branch Prison
Heinlein, Dennis W..........................................................Saginaw Correctional Facility
Izzard, Brent.................................................................Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Jones, Thomas L............................................................Kinross Correctional Facility
Karvel, Roy B.................................................................Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Kelley, Marsha A............................................................G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Kristensen, Susan K.........................................................Macomb Correctional Facility

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Lafave, Garry R. .......................................................... Newberry Correctional Facility
Little, Daniel E. .......................................................... Carson City Correctional Facility
Malloy, Terry L. ......................................................... Central Office
McDaniels, William E. .................................................. Pugsley Correctional Facility
McLellan, Carl T. ......................................................... Saginaw Correctional Facility
McLellan, Gary J. ........................................................ Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
McMath, Reginald F. ..................................................... Mound Correctional Facility
McVey, Brad M. .......................................................... Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Mobarak, Kenneth J. .................................................... Parnall Correctional Facility
Nash, Robin K. .............................................................. Michigan Reformatory
Perni, Jaya R. ............................................................... Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Petersen, Saudia ............................................................ Ionia Maximum Correctional Facility
Petterle, Kenneth L. ...................................................... Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Pollack, Billie L. .......................................................... Lakeland Correctional Facility
Price, John N. .............................................................. Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Quinlan, Donna A. ....................................................... Newberry Correctional Facility
Rogers, Eric D. ............................................................ Parnall Correctional Facility
Rolinski, Robert R. ....................................................... Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Romanow, Philip ........................................................ Saginaw Correctional Facility
Roznick, Roy G. .......................................................... Marquette Branch Prison
Schroeder, Ricky D. ..................................................... Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Schultz, Gregory J. ....................................................... Newberry Correctional Facility
Shepherd, Maurice D. ................................................. Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Sims, Ritchie W. ........................................................ Kinross Correctional Facility
Smith, Morgan P. ......................................................... G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Strain, William S. ....................................................... Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Straseske, Clayton A. ................................................ Charles Egeler Correctional Facility
Sulski, Michael ........................................................... Parnall Correctional Facility
Sumner, Dale F. ........................................................... Michigan State Industries
Thomas, Annamma .................................................... Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Thompson, Billy R. ...................................................... Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Tweedale, Donald G. ................................................... Alger Correctional Facility
Vanepps, Clyde L. ....................................................... Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Welty, Michael H. ........................................................ Newberry Correctional Facility
Weslock, Mark S. ......................................................... Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Williams, Christine A. ................................................ G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Wozniak, Daniel M. ..................................................... G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Zeigler, Randall L. .................................................... Parnall Correctional Facility
Zimmerman, William ................................................ Women’s Huron Valley Correctional Facility