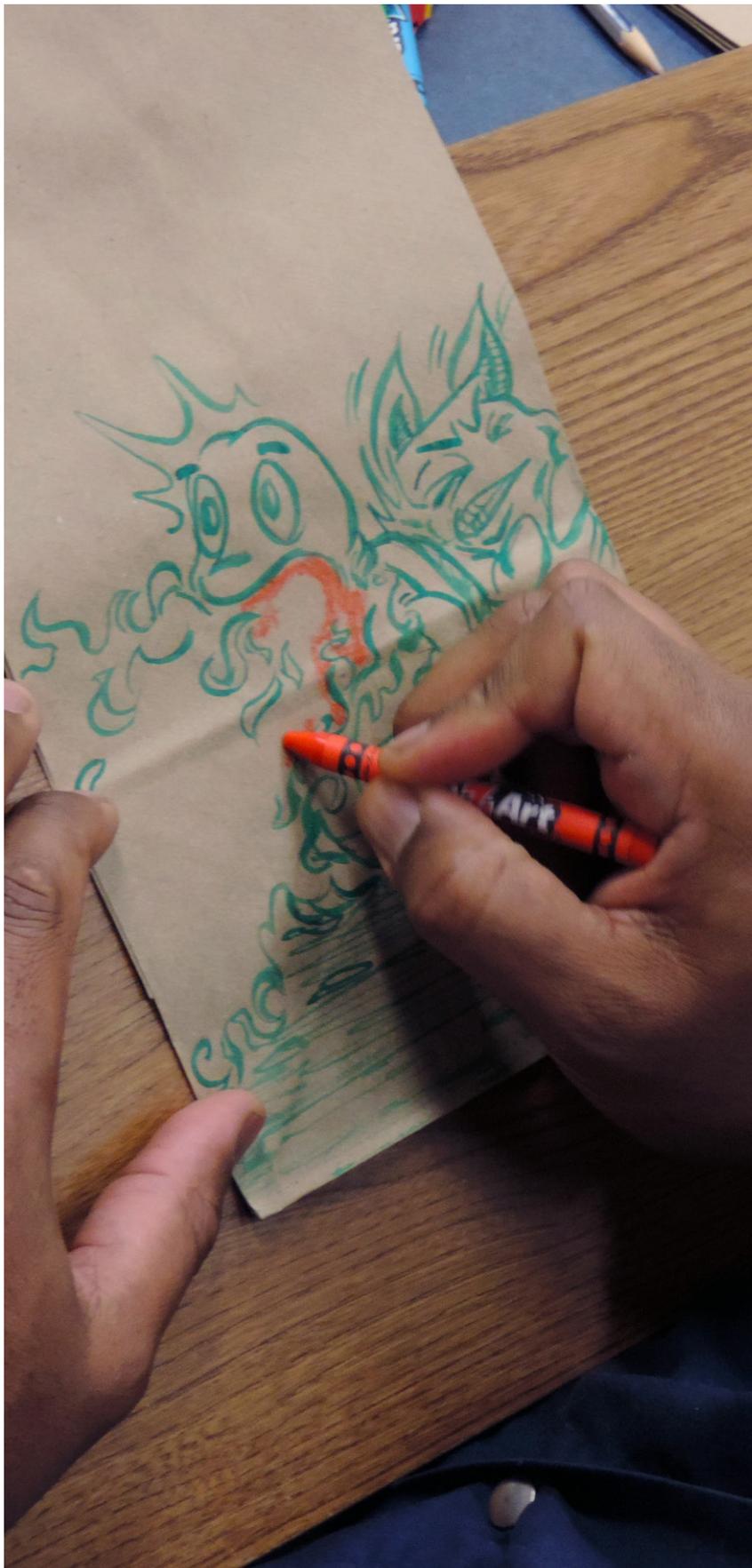


Corrections Connection



Volume 28, Issue 4

April 2016



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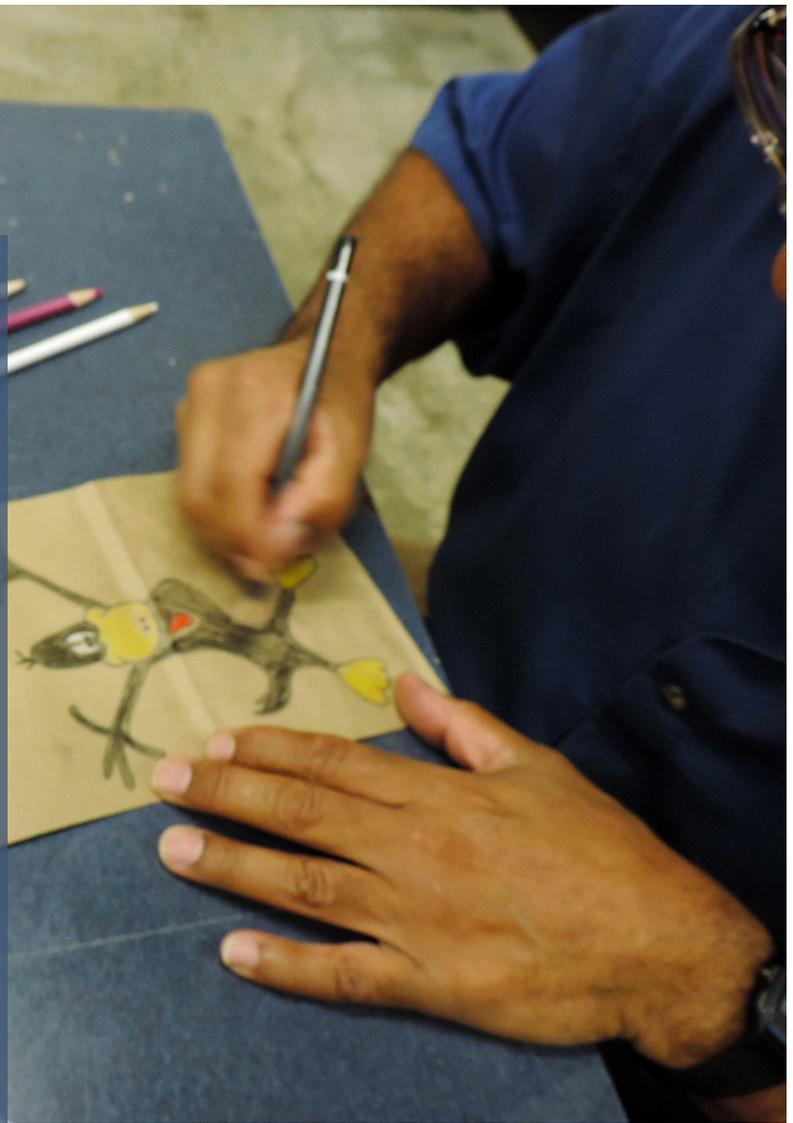
Corrections Connection is a publication of the Office of Public Information and Communications. Story ideas and comments can be submitted to Holly Kramer at KramerH@michigan.gov.

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The image on the cover was taken on East Lake by **Anne Johnson**, a registered dental assistant at Newberry Correctional Facility. For the chance to have your photo featured on the cover of the newsletter, email a high-resolution version of the image and a description of where it was taken to Holly Kramer at KramerH@michigan.gov.

Feeding A Need

Muskegon Correctional Facility partnership with the Kids' Food Basket helps keep meals on the table for local children in need



On a recent afternoon, a group of prisoners at Muskegon Correctional Facility sat bent over stacks of paper bags.

Beside them were piles of crayons and colored pencils, and completed works of art that would soon hold meals for hungry Muskegon-area children in need.

Prisoners said the work to decorate the bags was never a chore, but rather a privilege and an activity they looked forward to and took pride in. Their work is part of a recent partnership between Muskegon Correctional Facility and the Kids' Food Basket, a west Michigan nonprofit that aims to tackle childhood hunger by providing evening meals to local children in need.

A Muskegon Community College board member approached the facility in 2015 about the Kids' Food Basket and mentioned it would be a good cause for the prison to support, said Leeanne Vanslooten, prison counselor at Muskegon Correctional Facility.

Prison staff jumped at the chance to help. In

October 2015, Warden Sherry Burt named the Kids' Food Basket the facility's community project and encouraged everyone to help support it.

Since then, staff and prisoners alike

have become passionate about eliminating hunger among the community's children.

Muskegon employees have donated thousands of paper bags, as well as coloring materials to help prisoners decorate them.

Together, staff and prisoners have raised almost \$3,000 for the project.

Each weekday, six prisoners meet to draw cartoon or comic book characters, seasonal scenes or other small pictures on the paper bags.

They complete about 900

Continued on [Page 4](#)

For more information about Kids' Food Basket, or to donate, [click here.](#)



Muskegon Correctional Facility Prison Counselor Leeanne Vanslooten and Corrections Program Coordinator Sharon Haner stand with snack items to be donated to the Kids' Food Basket.

to 1,000 bags per week, said Muskegon Corrections Program Coordinator Sharon Haner. Other prisoner groups have also stepped up to help by occasionally decorating bags, or donating money to help the Kids' Food Basket purchase meal items to fill the bags.

"The prisoners have really taken on this project," Vanslooten said. "They want to help feed the kids. We don't seem to have a problem at all with prisoners digging into their pockets to help kids."

In December, staff and prisoners donated \$1,306 to help the Kids' Food Basket provide holiday meals to children. The donation purchased more than 1,000 packages of crackers, microwave popcorn, fruit cups, fruit snacks and boxes of cereal and 600 juice boxes. Staff also donated 1,000 beef sticks and 180 pudding cups for the holiday meals, and in March, kicked in an additional

1,000 pudding cups and 1,000 bags of popcorn.

Some facility employees and prisoners also have a personal connection to the cause and may have experienced hunger as a child, or know families who are struggling.

"It's a good cause," Vanslooten said. "Staff feel like they can give back to the community with this, and prisoners feel the same way." Earlier this year, representatives from Kids' Food Basket visited the facility to discuss the

partnership and thank staff and prisoners for their work and donations. They told prisoners how much the decorated bags mean to the children who receive them and they get excited to see their favorite cartoon characters sketched out on the bags.

The positive feedback filled the prisoners with pride and motivated them to decorate even more bags, Haner said.

Facility staff members have also received hand-written notes from children expressing gratitude for the donations.

The partnership is the first of its kind for Kids' Food Basket, said Danielle Alexander, for the organization, which serves 7,500 children every weeknight in Grand Rapids, Holland and Muskegon.

All of the donations from the facility stay in Muskegon, and help serve about 900 hungry children at three local schools, Alexander said.

"This is something we are very proud of at MCF," Warden Sherry Burt said. "It's a great partnership and way to give back to our community. No kid should be hungry."



Muskegon Correctional Facility employees "go orange" to raise awareness for childhood hunger in March.

Record-Breaking Hunt

Corrections Officer qualifies for rare Michigan Grand Slam

Hunting has been a nearly lifelong passion for Pugsley Corrections Officer Bryan Friend. It's also a hobby that landed him in the record books.

Friend achieved what only eight other sportsmen in Michigan have managed to accomplish when he qualified for a Commemorative



Officer Bryan Friend

Bucks of Michigan Grand Slam late last year. The designation is given to hunters who take record-sized whitetail deer, bear, elk and turkey – animals Commemorative Bucks of Michigan keeps records on – and Friend's success was highlighted in [Michigan Woods-N-Water magazine](#).

It is particularly challenging to achieve because of the limited number of hunting tags available for bear and elk, and the slim possibility of shooting a record animal once a tag is awarded.

According to Commemorative Bucks of Michigan, which is considered the official keeper of state big game records, the accomplishment was considered so rare that it remained an informal honor until the organization made it official in 2010.

Friend shot his first qualifying animal in 2001 with a 10-point whitetail buck. But it wasn't until he shot a record 8x8 bull elk in 2005 that he set his sights on the Grand Slam. He bagged a record turkey in the spring of 2014 and just needed a bear to earn the Grand Slam title.

Typically, one of the hardest

parts of qualifying for a Grand Slam is getting a record-breaking elk, but Friend said the bear hunt was his biggest challenge.

He had drawn six bear tags, but during his earlier hunts he didn't encounter any qualifying animals. "Bears are so smart and they learn," said Friend, who has worked for the department for nearly 20 years. "Big bears are very intelligent, that's why a lot of people don't see them." Gus Harrison Corrections Officer Brad Wellman joined Friend for his 2015 hunt in hopes of bagging a record bear and the pair hired a guide to help.

Friend and Wellman were miles apart on the fourth night of the hunt, and after setting bait and watching bears come and go, each had shot record bears.

"I was shocked," said Wellman, who shot a male black bear with a dressed weight of about 385 pounds. "You just don't see bears like that in Michigan."

Friend's bear, with a dressed weight of 325 pounds, landed him the Grand Slam.

"Both of us accomplished a goal that night," Friend said of the hunt with Wellman that landed each of them record bears.

Friend has passed on his passion for hunting to his son, who now wants to achieve a Grand Slam just like his father. Friend said his next hunting goal will be to help him do just that.



Officers Bryan Friend and Brad Wellman.

Brandt appointed to Parole Board

Melissa Brandt, a 21-year veteran of the department, has joined the Parole Board as its newest member, following the retirement of Nancy Martin in March.



Melissa Brandt

She began her career as a parole agent in Detroit and later moved on to the Special Alternative In-carceration Facility in

January 2000. There, she was in charge of all SAI programming, eligibility and enrollment of SAI trainees.

In addition, she went on to serve as an Oakland County probation agent, and supervisor in the Pontiac Probation, Waterford Parole and Flint Parole offices. Brandt has had the opportunity to provide training to agents in Detroit regarding home calls and field safety, participated in multiple committees including CCM, PREA, New Supervisor Training, local PR Advisory Councils, and Operation Fresh Start. She continues to lead and participate in Nighthawk and compliance checks.

In addition to her supervisory duties, Brandt had the opportunity to serve as a backup to the PV Specialists and Region Manager.

Brandt has also worked as an adjunct instructor for Oakland Community College in Auburn Hills since 2009, teaching Introduction to Corrections and the Correctional Client.

Presentation helps educate teens about criminal sexual conduct

Michigan teens are learning about criminal sexual conduct laws and what actions could land them in trouble through a presentation created by a Lapeer County parole and probation agent. Agent Meegan Lange said she decided to put the presentation together for local groups and schools after she began seeing a number of young men in her caseload who were first-time offenders and didn't realize their actions were illegal. Many teens and their parents aren't aware of all facets of criminal sexual conduct laws and Lange said she wanted to help educate them. The presentation aims to impress upon teens that they should be careful of their actions with their dates, and even consensual sexual behavior could lead to criminal sexual conduct charges in some cases. Lange said she has also showed the presentation to parents, teachers associations and other local groups, and many are surprised by what they hear. "There is a lot of ignorance about the law," Lange said. "That's all I wanted

was for people to be educated. At least now they've had the opportunity to get the knowledge." Lange partnered with the Child Advocacy Center of Lapeer County to provide the presentation to area schools and the county prosecutor helped secure funding to record interviews with offenders and their parents. Lange said some of the most common misconceptions surround the age of consent and what actions could constitute an offense. In one case, a mother was held criminally responsible for allowing sexual behavior to occur in her home because she allowed her daughter's boyfriend to spend the night. "Most of us don't know what the law says," said Lange, who has worked for the MDOC for 20 years. "It's technical and there are a lot of nuances. It's important to educate yourself." The presentation is available to any group or school that requests it through the Child Advocacy Center, Lange said.

Gus Harrison Correctional Facility staff help out Habitat for Humanity

Gus Harrison Correctional Facility staff members are helping give one local family a home of their own.

Employees have partnered with Habitat for Humanity's Neighborhood Revitalization Initiative to remodel a home on Frank Street in Adrian. About 12 to 15 volunteers from the facility assisted with work on the home in March. Another day of work on the home is scheduled for May. The family who will be living in the home was very appreciative of the help from MDOC staff.



Lt. Dave Siler, Warden Paul Klee and Inspector Ken Salisbury working on the house in March.

Remembering Officer Keith Jones

Keith Jones, a corrections officer at Cooper Street Correctional Facility, passed away March 13 surrounded by his family. Jones was a graduate of Ohio's Central State University and began working for the MDOC as a corrections officer in 1995. He was remembered as kind and compassionate, and had a love for music and writing. Funeral services were held March 20 at the Church of God in Jackson.



Officer Keith Jones

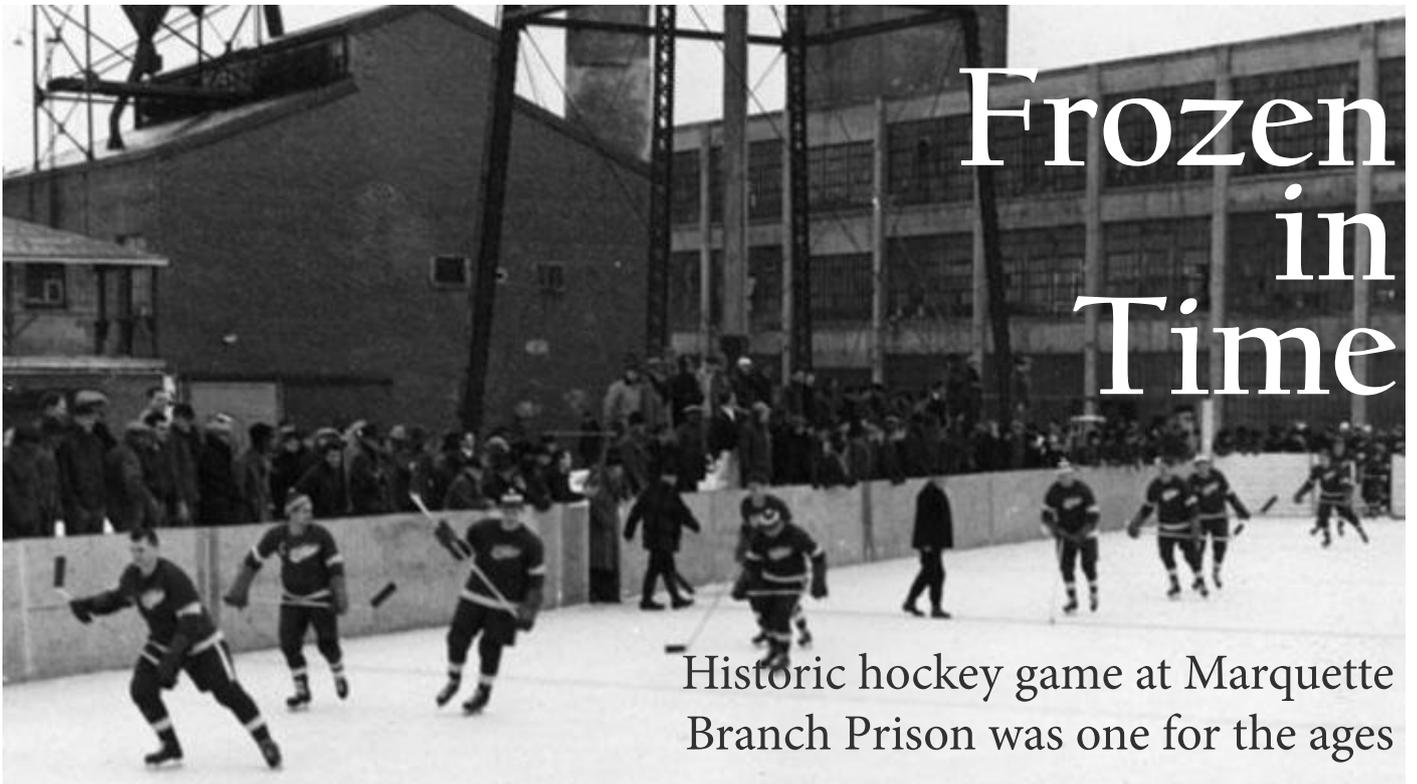
Remembering Officer Jeremy Smith

Jeremy Smith, a corrections officer at Ionia Correctional Facility, passed away March 8. Smith was a veteran of the U.S. Army and served a tour of duty in Iraq. He was a graduate of Saginaw Valley State University and joined the MDOC in 2006. He was remembered by his colleagues for his sense of humor and ability to make others laugh. Private memorial services were to be planned for a later date.



Officer Jeremy Smith

Frozen in Time



Historic hockey game at Marquette Branch Prison was one for the ages

They said it was the best ice they'd ever skated on. On Feb. 2, 1954 the Detroit Red Wings, on the verge of their sixth Stanley Cup win, skated onto a specially-made rink inside Marquette Branch Prison. Their historic visit had been in the works for more than a year, and corrections staff and prisoners were excited to see the world-class team, which included Red Wings greats and future hall of famers Gordie Howe, Ted Lindsay, Terry Sawchuck, Alex Delvecchio, Red Kelly and Earl Reibel.

It was the result of a comment Red Wings General Manager Jack Adams had made during a visit to the prison in 1953, Leonard "Oakie" Brumm, the prison's first athletic director, wrote in his book "We Only Played Home Games."

Adams was approached by a pair of inmates who suggested he bring the team up to Marquette for a scrimmage against prisoners. Adams replied "Sure, no problem," and the warden vowed to be ready when the team arrived, Brumm wrote.

From that moment on, the prison began preparing for the game.

A regulation-sized rink was constructed within prison walls and a team of prisoners was assembled and trained for the game against the Wings.

When February arrived, the team was welcomed by a



warm reception from employees and prisoners. They dressed for the game in the carpenter's shed on facility grounds before heading to the well-manicured ice. The puck dropped at 1:30 p.m. and almost the entire prisoner population came out to watch the game, according to

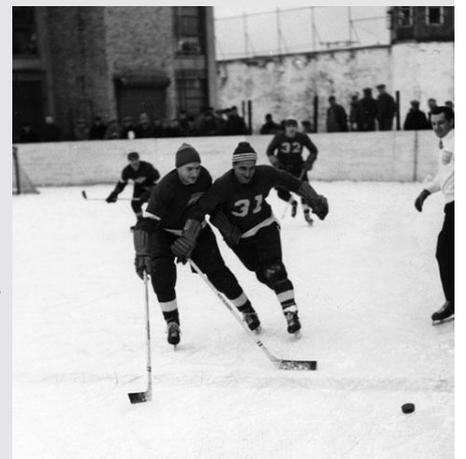
Brumm's account. The Wings had a 15-0 lead in the first 15 minutes. After an 18-0 lead, the teams stopped keeping score and some of the Wings players pulled on Marquette Prison Pirates jerseys to help even up the sides.

At the conclusion of the game, the Wings were presented with a commemorative "honey bucket" — a refuse pail used by prisoners.

Each of the Red Wings was also given a handmade wallet with their name and the Wings logo on it.

The Wings ate dinner with the prisoner team, facility staff and local officials before heading out to an exhibition game against the Marquette Sentinels. In addition to playing the game at the prison, the Wings had also donated twenty Omaha Knights hockey uniforms, several pairs of used skates and gloves and shin pads to the prison.

The area of the prison where the game was played now makes up Marquette's Level V general population yard area.



Specialized training academy graduates 34 officers for WHV

The Michigan Department of Corrections' newest class of corrections officers will support Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility. The department held a specialized academy to train new female officers to work at the state's only women's facility. In March, 34 women graduated from the Millicent Warren Officer Recruit Training Class.

During the graduation ceremony, the class namesake, Millicent Warren, spoke about her 37-year career with the department and her time as warden of the facility. Director Heidi Washington also addressed graduates and discussed the importance of being a positive role model and the unique nature of working with female prisoners. Graduates also received awards for academic achievement and personal conduct.



Award recipients included:
 Corrections Officer Whitney Gonzales — Jack L. Budd Award
 Corrections Officer Victoria Neal — Josephine B. McCallum Award and Academic Excellence Award

Operational Excellence aims to improve performance, efficiency

Are we the best we can be? That's a question the department is considering through a new Operational Excellence initiative that aims to enhance services, achieve strategic objectives, fix ineffective processes and establish more efficient work methods.

The initiative, based on an organizational excellence model established by author Patrick J. McDonnell, focuses on staff inclusion, the fundamentals of change, removing road blocks to success and re-examining long-standing practices that might have been overlooked.

The initiative was driven by the Governor's vision of excellence in government, and Director Heidi Washington identified areas and objectives to focus on.

Operational Excellence teams began meeting March 4th and were created to focus on areas that could be made more efficient and study processes to help improve performance.

Teams include: Transportation, Programs, Probation, Time Comp/Records, Prisoner Intake and Investigations/Discipline.

The department is the seventh state agency to explore this model for change and will continue to focus on it going forward.

Other agencies that have worked with McDonnell to implement the organizational excellence model include the Department of Agriculture & Rural Development, Department of Military & Veterans Affairs, Department of Treasury, Department of Technology, Management & Budget and the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs.

Corrections employees continue to donate water, lend aid to Flint residents

The MDOC has continued to support the citizens of Flint by donating water, assisting with

distribution and managing warehouse operations.

Pugsley and Oaks correctional facilities collected almost 30,000 bottles of water for students served by the Genesee Intermediate School District. Prisoners at the facilities donated money to contribute to the drive.

Department staff have also continued to help deliver water test kits to state laboratories.



Reentry Week activities promote offender success

Reentry programs and services that help put offenders on a path to more productive and successful lives will be spotlighted as part of National Reentry Week that runs April 24-30. The Department of Justice established Reentry Week in an effort to draw greater attention to the importance of reentry programs on improving the lives of those returning to the community from correctional facilities. Events are planned to be held across the country and around the state to commemorate Reentry Week. Businesses and local officials will receive a tour of the new Vocational Village at Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility on April 25.

The Vocational Village includes six specialized vocational education programs including welding, plumbing, electrical trades,

building trades, automotive repair and CNC machining. Participating prisoners must meet measurable goals and will receive a certification in their trade upon successfully completing the program. The Detroit Reentry Center will also host a Wayne County Community Resource Fair from 9 a.m.-2 p.m. April 28. At least 14 community agencies are expected to attend and provide information on local resources to parolees and probationers in custody at DRC.



Department tapped to train military police on correctional practices

Custody staff at the Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center hosted a training in April on correctional practices for the 303rd Military Police Company out of Jackson.

The company is deploying to Guantánamo Bay later this year and will be serving in a similar capacity to corrections officers.

MDOC staff members leading

the training used current training material to put together a course that included restraint familiarization, searches and forced cell moves.

Four platoons, with about 30 soldiers in each, participated in the training spread over four days. The training was well-received and it was met with a lot of positive feedback.

Trainers who volunteered to

facilitate the course included ITO Steven Fejes, ITO Christopher Schweikert, Captain James Malloy, Sgt. Martin McCallum, Sgt. Matthew Stephenson, Officer Tori Vandermoere, Officer Eric Morgan and Officer Scott Kulinski.



Tickets available now for Employee Awards Banquet

Tickets are available now for the Michigan Department of Corrections' annual Employee Appreciation Banquet.

The event will be held May 3 at the Michigan State University Kellogg Center, 219 S. Harrison Road in East Lansing.

The reception will begin at 5:30 p.m., followed by dinner and award presentations at 6:30 p.m. The cost to attend is \$25 per person and payment and registration must be received by April 22.

The MDOC is excited to be joined by the Michigan Corrections Organization for this year's event, which has been reorganized to streamline award categories and ensure employees across the department have a chance to be honored.

The ceremony will recognize the department's Corrections Officer of the Year and nominees, Parole or Probation Agent of the Year, and Director's Award and Professional Excellence Award recipients.

Those with questions, or who are interested in attending, can contact Christine Navarro at navarro@michigan.gov or (517) 373-3184.



Earth Day 2016

MDOC aids efforts to help the planet through site clean-up, tree planting and recycling projects

The MDOC is making strides to help save tax dollars and protect the environment, in addition to protecting Michigan's citizens by holding offenders accountable.



10,000

Trees are expected to be grown at nine correctional facilities to replace those lost to the emerald ash borer in state parks.



1,600

Road signs have been recycled by the Michigan State Industries Sign Shop for MDOT and local governments. That amounts to about 12,000 square feet of aluminum and about \$80,000 saved.



370+

Acres that were once the sites of prison camps have been cleaned and returned to their natural state as fields and forests. Another 147 acres is expected to be completed this spring.

Awareness week honors crime victims, vigil held at Capitol

The importance of early intervention and victim services in establishing trust with those impacted by crime was the focus of this year's National Crime Victims' Rights Week. The annual observance was held from April 10-16 with the theme "Serving Victims, Building Trust and Restoring Hope."

It included several events around the state to raise awareness about the challenges faced by crime victims and promote programs to help them.

A balloon release was held April 10 at the Heilmann Recreation Center in Detroit and a public candlelight vigil was held at the state Capitol building on April 13.

For information on services available to crime victims, visit the [Victim Services page](#) on the MDOC web site.



Earth Day is April 22. For more information on what you can do to protect the environment, or events near you, click [here](#).

MSI charity golf scramble scheduled for June 10

Michigan State Industries will hold its annual charity golf scramble to benefit 4 Paws for Ability on June 10 at Wolf Creek Golf Club, 6363 Burton Road in Adrian.

The scramble will start at 8 a.m. and will include four-person teams. Two-person teams will be paired with other two-person teams.

The cost to participate is \$45 and includes 18 holes with a golf cart followed by dinner at Frickers.

Name _____
 Address _____
 Phone _____
 Partner _____
 Preferred Tee Time: 8-9am 9-10am

SEND CHECK TO:
 Will Rondeau
 5727 Plank Rd,
 Adrian, MI 49221

*** ALL ENTRANTS MUST BE IN BY MAY 26th, 2016 ***

MDOC raises \$38,000+ for Special Olympics through Polar Plunge events

Michigan Department of Corrections employees weren't deterred by icy water as they raised more than \$38,000 to benefit Special Olympics athletes.

Employees participated in Polar Plunge events across the state to help Special Olympics Michigan provide year-round sports training and athletic competition.

Alger Correctional Facility raised about \$3,200 during the Marquette Polar Plunge and earned an award for most money raised by a team. Alger

Corrections Program Coordinator Carla White raised the most money as an individual for the fourth year in a row, with \$2,805.

Chippewa Correctional Facility raised \$2,164 for the Sault Ste. Marie Polar Plunge and earned an award for most money raised by a team and best costumes for a team.

Michael Millette, a physician's assistant at Newberry Correctional Facility, also raised \$965 for the Chippewa Lake-Mecosta/Osceola Counties Polar Plunge.



Pictured far left: Michael Millette, a physician's assistant at Newberry Correctional Facility raised \$965 for the Chippewa Lake-Mecosta/Osceola Counties Polar Plunge. Left: Chippewa Correctional Facility employees Levi Bender and Adam Pancheri won best costume for the Sault Ste. Marie Polar Plunge. The Facility raised \$2,164 for the event.

Around the MDOC

Donations sought for Stiggy's Dogs program at TCF

The [Stiggy's Dogs](#) program at Thumb Correctional Facility is seeking help obtaining toys and training materials for the program through an Amazon wish list. Those who would like to donate items to the program can view the wish list [here](#), or can search for the list using the term "stiggystcf." Stiggy's Dogs is a nonprofit organization that rescues and trains shelter dogs to be service dogs for military veterans living with post-traumatic stress disorder or a traumatic brain injury. The dogs are trained and provided to veterans at no cost.

Dogs in the program are trained by inmates at Thumb Correctional Facility for 12 weeks before being paired with a veteran.

Prisoners donate to human trafficking task force

Several inmates at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility pledged to help victims of human trafficking by supporting the Michigan Human Trafficking Task Force.

The prisoners donated \$635 to the task force, which is made up of more than 90 member agencies, including the Michigan Department of Corrections.

The task force is funded by donations and facilitates efforts to prevent human trafficking, pursue prosecution of perpetrators and protect and rehabilitate victims.

Prisoner art projects assist those in need

Level II inmates at Alger Correctional Facility are giving back to help the community.

Prisoners recently raised more than \$100 for a local animal shelter and crafted more than 25 sets of hats, gloves and scarves for a women's shelter and homeless shelter.

Tech Corner

MDOC Upgrading to Windows 10 and Microsoft Office 2016

A new DTMB-led project has been launched to upgrade the Michigan Department of Corrections to the Windows 10 operating system and Microsoft Office 2016.

The first phase will be to upgrade all MDOC machines to Office 2016 by this summer. Testing of the application is already underway and will be expanding to include other areas as well. This is to ensure that what we currently have is compatible with the new Office Suite.

The upgrade to Windows 10 will be spread out over a longer period of time and done by attrition. As older machines are replaced with newer machines, or need to be reimaged they will be upgraded to Windows 10.



Questions should be directed to your site contacts or;

CFA staff - Contact OMNI & OMS Support Staff through CFA-OMNI-Support@michigan.gov

FOA staff - Contact OMNI & OMS Support Staff through CORR-OMNI@michigan.gov

Central Office Staff - Contact Budget and Operations Administration through MDOC-BOA-Support@michigan.gov.

The Extra Mile

MDOC staff go beyond the call of duty to help others



While completing rounds in a Saginaw Correctional Facility housing unit on Aug. 3, 2015, Corrections Officer **Pablo Olvera** discovered a prisoner with a bedsheet and belt tied around his neck hanging from the top bunk. Olvera called for assistance and Corrections Officer **Edward Paine** responded to help. Olvera lifted the prisoner up to relieve pressure on his neck while Paine loosened the belt.

After being lowered to the floor, the prisoner appeared to have a seizure and Olvera lifted him in an attempt to get him to breathe and the prisoner began to cough and gasp for air. Olvera and Paine stayed with the prisoner until health care staff arrived, then assisted him into a wheelchair so he could be escorted to health care for treatment.

Their dedication to their duties and compassion for the prisoner earned Olvera and Paine the department's Lifesaving Award.

Corrections Officer **Vernon Pratt** was making rounds at Saginaw Correctional Facility on Sept. 1, 2015 when he noticed the window of a cell was covered. He ordered the prisoner to take down the cover and when he received no response, he opened the door and found the prisoner hanging from a ladder that leads to the top bunk with a bedsheet tied around his neck.

Pratt requested additional assistance and lifted the prisoner to relieve pressure on his neck, then stepped on the lower bunk to remove the sheet from the ladder. He then lowered the prisoner to the floor and untied the bedsheet from his neck. The prisoner was unconscious and stopped breathing, so Pratt administered chest compressions until he began breathing again. The prisoner was taken to the hospital, where he recovered.

Pratt's quick actions and training prevented the prisoner from taking his life and earned him the department's Lifesaving award.

While working in the food service area of Saginaw Correctional Facility on Sept. 13, 2015, Corrections Officer **James Kyllonen** saw a prisoner begin choking on a piece of food. When the prisoner motioned that he was in distress, Kyllonen immediately went over to him and performed abdominal thrusts until the food was dislodged and the prisoner could breathe freely again.

Kyllonen's decisive response and actions earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.

Corrections Officer **Joseph Crawley** was making medication rounds with Registered Nurse **Cheri Bordeau** on Sept. 21, 2015 when they noticed a towel covering the window of a cell in the segregation unit at Saginaw Correctional Facility.

Crawley knocked on the cell door and when he did not receive a response, he immediately called Corrections Officer **Anthony Collier** for assistance and opened the cell door to find the prisoner with a bed sheet tied around his neck hanging from a ceiling vent. Collier radioed for additional assistance and grabbed the prisoner around the waist and lifted him up to relieve pressure on his neck.

Nurse Cheri Bordeau pulled the sheet from the vent and Crawley cut the sheet from the prisoner's neck, allowing him to breathe freely again.

The prisoner was moved to the hallway and registered nurses **Lindsay Sanford** and **Kathleen Leffingwell** responded to help monitor the prisoner until he was transported to the hospital for further evaluation and treatment.

Their quick response and attentive care for the prisoner earned Crawley, Bordeau, Collier, Sanford and Leffingwell the department's Lifesaving Award.

The Extra Mile continued...

Corrections Officer **Darrell Holden** was monitoring the 500 Unit yard at Saginaw Correctional Facility on October 9, 2015 when he saw a prisoner with a bed sheet tied around his neck with the other end attached to a pull-up bar.

Holden immediately went to the prisoner's aid and removed the sheet from his neck. Holden called for assistance and staff responded to help escort the prisoner from the area to be seen by health care staff. His quick response and observation skills prevented the prisoner from taking his life and earned Holden the department's Lifesaving Award.



On April 20, 2015, Allegan County Probation Agent **Lindsey Meyer** received a call from a probationer who was threatening suicide.

Meyer spoke with the probationer at length, however, she refused to give her location. Acting on a hunch, Meyer called central dispatch and gave them information on the probationer's last reported address and asked police to perform a wellness check. An Allegan deputy responded to the address and found the probationer had taken a bottle of pills. The probationer was immediately transported to the hospital.

Meyer's concern for the probationer and actions to go above and beyond to locate her, earned her the department's Lifesaving Award.

On July 22, 2015, Lawton Parole Agent **Nizar Malouf** was making a home call when he saw a Wyandotte police officer making a traffic stop and heard the officer instruct the driver to exit the vehicle. The driver refused to comply and became loud and combative.

The officer advised the driver that she was being placed under arrest and was to exit the car, however the driver again failed to comply with the officer's order.

As the officer attempted to make the arrest, the driver became physically combative with the officer.

At that time, Malouf identified himself and offered assistance.

As the passenger of the vehicle exited the car and began to approach the scene, Malouf instructed her to remain where she was and avoid getting involved. He continued to talk to the passenger to ensure the officer was able to restrain the driver without interference.

Both the driver and the passenger were arrested and taken from the scene.

Malouf's professionalism and decisive response earned him the department's Meritorious Service Award.



Ken Dimoff, statistician specialist in the Office of Research and Planning, was presented with an Office of Good Government Symbol of Excellence Coin for his efforts to develop systems that made information more easily accessible to those who need it in the department.

Dimoff created a "MegaFile" which contains virtually all information commonly requested about MDOC offenders and can be easily used. He also created a file to track program backlogs to help ensure timely delivery of treatment for offenders.

The Extra Mile continued...

Lisa Gettys, supervisor of the Sex Offender Management Unit in the Office of Parole and Probation Services, received an Office of Good Government Symbol of Leadership Coin for her outstanding work with sex offender management.



Lawton Parole Office staff members received Office of Good Government Customer Service Coins for their efforts to collect and donate water to the city of Flint. A number of employees also helped deliver water door-to-door to families in Flint in January.

Corrections Quiz

February Quiz Recap

What kind of fish is reared on correctional facility grounds in Jackson?

Question: Which professional sports team played a game against prisoners in 1954?

Send your answer to Holly Kramer at KramerH@michigan.gov. The first person to answer correctly will receive a congratulatory shout out on MDOC social media, and the answer and winner will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

Answer: The Detroit Red Wings (also featured on [Page 7](#))

Congratulations to **Brenda Hurless**, prison population projection specialist in the Office of Research and Planning, **Kimberly Johnson**, human resources assistant at Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility, and **Chad Williams**, ARUS at Carson City Correctional Facility, for being the first to answer the March Corrections Quiz. All three sent the correct answer at the same time. Great job!

Snapshots

A look at life around the MDOC



Ojibway Correctional Facility Lt. Dan Pombier received a Green Bay Packers haircut for a good cause. The new 'do was part of a fundraiser that brought in \$300 to help a local mother purchase a vehicle lift for her wheelchair-bound son.



The Leader Dogs for the Blind training program at Chippewa Correctional Facility recently added some new trainees. Star and Genno joined the program, which has been in place since 2013 and currently includes 10 dogs. To commemorate the occasion, decorative plates were made with their names at the license plate factory at Gus Harrison Correctional Facility.



The Berrien County Parole Office collected bags of Easter treats to donate to the Safe Shelter for Domestic Violence in Benton Harbor. The shelter provides a secure environment for survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault, along with their dependent children. The program relies on grants and donations from the community.

Corrections in the News

[Sault Ste. Marie Polar Plunge](#) — WWUP TV 9 & 10 News

[2 prisons hold water drive for Flint and collect 29,000 bottles](#) — Huffington Post

[Ironwood's Wilson named Ojibway Officer of the Year](#) — Daily Globe

[Prisoners find gift for art behind iron bars](#) — Toledo Blade

[Inmates and U-M students come together in unique photo project](#) — Michigan Radio

Spread the word about some of the great things happening at the MDOC and share these stories with friends, family and coworkers.

Meanwhile, on facebook



n cast of 'Batman v Superman' has a Michigan cast of

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