



Corrections Connection

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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 by Parnall Correctional Facility Corrections Officer **Ray Closson**. 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.



Keeping Record

Matthew Parker, a general office assistant, files offender records at the MDOC's Central Office.

The Michigan Department of Corrections Central Records Section has a culture that strives for perfection.

Accuracy isn't just a goal – it is lived and breathed.

“We don't have an error rate we allow ourselves,” said Records Administrator Diana Judge. “Our job is not to keep people incarcerated, it's to make sure people are incarcerated based on the terms the court imposed. Everything has to be 100 percent accurate.”

If custody and supervision is at the heart of corrections, records is its central nervous system.

It retains more than a million offender files, stacked nearly floor to ceiling in offices in Lansing and Jackson and maintained at facilities across the state. And it works hard to ensure those files aren't marked by mistakes.

But the MDOC's Central Records Section staff do more than serve as the caretakers of critical department information. They are also coordinators, trainers and experts in analysis.

They study sentencing, help arrange court hearings, calculate release dates, audit prisoner files and help ensure inmates have vital documentation such as birth certificates and state ID cards prior to release. They respond to prisoner kites and communicate regularly with Michigan courts and law enforcement.

“This is the hub of the facility,” said Angela Leffler, records office supervisor at Cooper Street Correctional Facility, where records staff is responsible for helping offenders obtain vital documents, reconciling count and processing an average of 132 visiting applications a month, among other duties.

Serious about Sentencing

In 2005, the Central Records Section began working with Michigan courts to verify sentencing documentation had been completed properly and release dates were accurate.

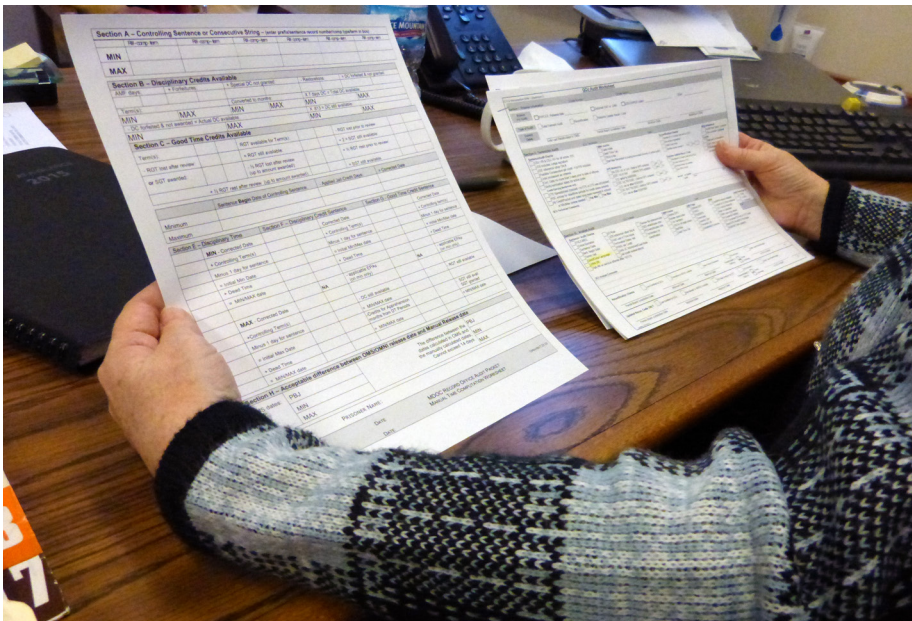
Now the department's sentencing specialists comb through each piece of sentencing documentation the department receives for accuracy and completeness. They also study new and amended statutes to confirm how they will be interpreted by the courts.

These specialists and other records staff are viewed as valuable experts by officials statewide and nationwide.

In October, Judge visited Washington D.C. at the request of the Federal Uniform Law Commission Committee on Criminal Record Accuracy. She, along with about 20 other committee members from across the country, worked together to draft federal legislation to bring all states into compliance with reporting criminal histories.

Judge was also cited as an expert in prisoner record

Continued on [Page 4](#)



By the Numbers

1 Million+ files maintained and stored in Jackson

83,698 files maintained and stored at Central Office Records in Lansing

1,000 cases per month certified by the Time Comp Unit

910 inches of mail received by Central Office Records in six months

keeping and calculation of release dates during a Sept. 2014 Department of Justice investigation into prisoner releases in Nebraska. A DOJ report on the investigation suggested other states look to Michigan for guidance on record operations.

MDOC Central Records Section employees have also conducted trainings on sentencing documentation at dozens of local courts across the state.

“We get so many calls from courts and judges and they value us and our opinion very highly,” said Connie Trevino, a sentencing specialist with the Central Records Section.

Teleconferencing Coordinators

MDOC efforts to conduct prisoner court hearings via teleconference also got their start when the Central Records Section Court and Writ Unit was formed in 2010. Staff researched whether local and state court hearings could be conducted remotely to improve efficiency before bringing the idea to a department process improvement team, Judge said.

So far, prisoner teleconferencing has helped the department save more than \$6.1 million and reduced transportation runs for court hearings by 70 percent.

The Court and Writ Unit handles about 1,700 cases a month and more

than half of those are through video conferencing.

“Our relationships with the courts have really blossomed,” Judge said. “We’re affecting change in such a positive way. It really has been an extraordinary success. It has saved a ton of cash and increased public safety.”

Tracking Time

Another important and challenging function staff faces is the auditing of prisoner files and time computation. The goal is to audit every prisoner file prior to their release. About 1,000 cases are certified per month.

Reviews are thorough and staff won’t leave any questions unanswered, even if it means calculating a prisoner date by hand to double check it.

“We have staff that are particular

about how you get a date and how you defend it,” said Cindy Partridge, a manager in the Time Comp Unit. “It’s very satisfying to work a case and understand all the angles and make sure it’s right.”

Audits of prisoner files

happen both at intake and before a prisoner paroles or discharges.

“Typos and misunderstandings of the sentence can change things significantly,” Judge said. “We need to thoroughly review prisoner files before they are released.”

Reconciling Records

Lansing’s Central Records Office is often busy managing up to 700 files a day as they make their way around the department. That translates to about 7,000 files delivered a month from the more than 83,000 files maintained and stored in Lansing, said Record Office Supervisor Sherry Kutt.

“Our mission is to maintain file integrity,” Kutt said. “Many functions performed within Central Office rely upon the files we create, maintain and deliver.”



Records Administrator Diana Judge at work in her Jackson office.

“Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success”

MDOC unveils new motto following department-wide vote

The Michigan Department of Corrections’ new motto represents both the department’s mission to uphold public safety and its focus on helping offenders become more productive and successful members of the community.

The winning motto “Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success,” was submitted by Macomb County Probation Agent April Griffin and received 20 percent of the total vote.

“I really wanted to submit something that I believed in and was a representation of how I feel about my job and the department as a whole,” Griffin said. “I chose Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success because I felt it presented the connection between public safety and offender success, two of the department’s biggest priorities.”

More than 3,200 votes were submitted for a new MDOC motto.

The department received more than 550 suggestions for a new motto and after careful consideration

10 finalists were chosen. Finalists included: Focus on Success; Dedicated Staff, Positive Culture, Successful Future; Promoting Success, Transforming Lives; Committed to Success; Improving Lives and Safeguarding Communities; Public Safety Through Offender Success; Promoting Positive Change; Creating a Safe and Successful Michigan; and Protecting Communities and Changing Lives.



Macomb Probation Agent April Griffin and Director Heidi Washington

Recognizing the Best

MDOC announces revamped Employee Awards banquet

The Michigan Department of Corrections is revamping its efforts this year to recognize all of its outstanding corrections employees.

The MDOC is excited to have the Michigan Corrections Organization join us in honoring the dedicated corrections officers

working for the department for the upcoming Employee Awards banquet.

MCO has also generously agreed to assist with the cost of the awards banquet, which has been reorganized to streamline award categories and ensure employees across the department have a

chance to be honored.

The Employee Awards will now recognize a Corrections Officer of the Year and Parole or Probation Agent of the

Year, in addition to Director’s Award and Professional Excellence Award recipients. Nominations for previous award categories, such as teacher of the year, can now be submitted as Professional Excellence or Director’s Awards.

The event will be held on May 3 at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing. A reception and dinner will be followed by the presentation of awards. Additional details and registration information will be announced this spring. The deadline to nominate an employee for an award is Jan. 31. Nomination forms can be found in DAS under CAJ-041.



Officer dignity a focus for MDOC

Department pushes to prosecute offenders who assault officers

The Michigan Department of Corrections will ensure inmates who assault officers are held accountable and criminally responsible. Custody staff have a challenging, but crucial role in the criminal justice system and the department will make every effort to keep them and other facility employees safe, and prosecute

offenders who attack staff, including throwing bodily fluids on them.

The department is working with the Michigan Corrections Organization on its initiative to raise awareness on these kinds of assaults occurring inside facilities, and will do everything possible to protect the dignity of its employees.



“Reverse job shadow” shows students the role of Kent County field agents

The Kent County Parole and Probation Office is helping to bring the workplace to students. The parole and probation office began participating with Junior Achievement’s “Reverse Job Shadow” Program during the 2012-13 school year and has been a presenter at Northview Crossroads Middle School, Westwood Middle School, University Preparatory Academy, Forest Hills Northern High School, Burton Middle School, Riverside Middle School, Kelloggsville Middle School, Union High School, Alger Middle School and City Middle and High School. The objective is to help students learn about the career opportunities available in the area, along with the education and training needed to qualify for jobs within the various career fields.

“I remember attending elementary school in Detroit, and Junior Achievement having a strong presence there, said Parole Agent Janell Freeman, who initiated the office’s participation in the program. “I remember it being my favorite part of the day. Therefore, I was thrilled to be able to pay it forward all these years later.” Freeman reached out to other agents in the office to see if they would be interested in participating, and many offered to assist. “It has been very rewarding sharing our job experiences and the career opportunities the MDOC offers with the students,” Freeman said. “During the beginning of our presentations I always ask how many students are interested in a career in corrections, and it’s usually only a few. However, by the end of our presentation,

it’s usually half the classroom.”

Warner named Office of Executive Affairs administrator

Kathy Warner has been named administrator of the new Office of Executive Affairs. Warner began her career at the MDOC in 1997 working in Labor Relations as a Labor Relations Representative. From there she went on to serve in Administrative Assistant positions, and served as the department’s Discipline Coordinator from 2004 to 2015. As part of her new duties, she will oversee the Internal Affairs Division, Employee Discipline, and Effective Process Improvement & Communication (EPIC) Unit. Warner has a Bachelor’s Degree in Business and 29 years of state government service.



Pictured (left to right): Amy Tracy, Jennifer Kula, Kimberly Williams, Randy Dockins, Jennifer Salinas, Charles Ruffin, Cindy Garcia-Weakley and Janell Freeman

We want to hear from you. Share your stories, and tell us about the great work happening in your office or facility by contacting Holly Kramer at KramerH@michigan.gov.

Season of Giving

MDOC staff continue charitable efforts through the holidays



Employees at G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility raised \$1,200 and donated it to the American Legion to provide gifts to U.S. troops. The facility also donated gifts, pillows and \$850 to the Aware Shelter in Jackson. Staff from both G. Robert Cotton and Parnall Correctional facilities also participated in Shop with a Cop to help area children buy gifts for Christmas, and donated coats, boots and gifts to more than 30 students at McCullough Elementary School in Jackson.



Macomb Probation and the Eastern Probation Office participated in Stockings for Soldiers and donated \$75 and several bags of snacks, hygiene items and other stocking stuffers.



Several uniformed staff and other non-custody employees from Lakeland Correctional Facility participated in Shop with a Cop. The event was financed through donations and a golf outing in August that raised more than \$5,300.



Ionia Correctional Facility provided Christmas gifts to four families in need whose children attend Ionia's Emerson Elementary School.



Muskegon Correctional Facility staff donated a number of toys and other gifts to the Muskegon Mission for Area People to help children in need during the holidays.



Macomb Correctional Facility raised \$567 and donated many food items for the 2015 Harvest Gathering Campaign, with donations going to the New Haven Food Pantry. Staff also participated in "Shop with a Hero," and 23 corrections officers and 8 non-custody employees took part in the annual event. Staff raised \$3,000 to sponsor 20 children for "Shop with a Hero" and to adopt a family for Christmas.

Guarding the Net

Agent helps protect children from online predators

Seven years ago Danelle Pigott joined a new statewide task force with a critical mission: Protecting Michigan's children from Internet predators. The Internet Crimes Against



Agent Danelle Pigott

Children, or ICAC, task force is a collaborative effort between Michigan State Police and the Michigan Department of Corrections that aims to find cyber criminals and prevent them from preying on the state's most vulnerable residents. "It's an excellent collaboration," said Pigott, who became the MDOC's first certified forensic examiner in 2015. The certification will allow the department to perform intensive examinations of electronic devices suspected of being used by offenders under MDOC supervision for computer crimes. These kinds of examinations were previously turned over to other law enforcement agencies with forensic examiners on staff, so Pigott's certification will help the department move forward with investigations without having to wait for another examiner to be available. That will help law enforcement

agencies solve crimes faster, she said.

"If there's a DOC connection, then we have access to their devices if they are suspected of being involved," Pigott said. In order to become a certified forensic examiner, Pigott needed to complete 80 hours of lecture and lab training through the International Association of Computer Investigative Specialists, in addition to passing exams.

"It's a very intense training," said Pigott, who learned how to filter through different operating systems and read computer code to find evidence of crimes despite offenders' efforts to hide it.

The task force primarily targets child victimization crimes, but also can assist in investigating other cases that involve electronic devices.

The MDOC's seven ICAC agents are highly trained and are embedded with law enforcement units across the state to assist in high-tech investigations of offenders.

Pigott said it can be challenging to keep up with the constant evolution of technology and she is thankful for regular trainings provided by Michigan State Police to keep task force members up to speed.

That's especially important as technology becomes increasingly mobile and accessible.

"Technology is constantly moving forward," Pigott said. "Our knowledge to keep up with them and what they have is very important."

Follow these tips for a safe online experience

Social networking sites such as LinkedIn, Facebook, and Twitter and other Internet forums can be a great way to keep in touch with friends and acquaintances, or make new connections. However, a person's online activities may also inadvertently expose excessive information about them creating an increased risk for identity theft, or other crimes. Consider these recommendations to maintain a safe online experience.

- Think before you post. Remember the Internet is a public resource, so only post information you are comfortable with anyone seeing.
- Configure your accounts to minimize who can see your information outside your friends or contact groups. It can be easy for people to misrepresent their identities and motives online, so consider limiting who can see your profiles. Sites may change their settings periodically, so review your security and privacy settings regularly.
- Avoid using the "save password," "remember me," or "keep me logged in" options on public or shared computers, which could allow others to access your accounts.
- Use and maintain anti-virus software and keep your web browser up to date.

Click [here](#) for more tips from the National Crime Prevention Council, or [here](#) for tips from the U.S. Computer Emergency Readiness team.

Handbags for Hope help ex-offenders

The Macomb Prisoner Reentry Program has partnered with Handbags for Hope to help female parolees get back on their feet. Handbags of Hope, a nonprofit that distributes new and gently used handbags filled with items that most women carry daily, focuses on women who are recovering from domestic abuse situations. A purse and its contents can greatly lift women's spirits and empower them to remember how it feels to possess something when they have so little. Each purse contains 10 items including a wallet, hairbrush, manicure set, lip balm, a memo pad and pen, tissues, hand sanitizer, soap, shampoo and conditioner, a toothbrush and toothpaste, as well as extra items when they are available. The partnership began when



Community Resource Specialist Khori Cannon reached out to Jackie Bobcean, the nonprofit's founder, and Bobcean was thrilled to help. So far, Handbags of Hope has donated more than 100 handbags to Macomb Prisoner Reentry. In addition to the purses, they have also contributed several boxes of feminine hygiene and hair care products, as well as a pair of pajamas and slipper socks. Women who have received the handbags have expressed joy and appreciation for the items. About 90 percent of the purses and items inside are donated by churches, schools and businesses. Those interested in donating can contact Jackie Bobcean at 586-215-2050. *Submitted by Community Resource Specialist Khori Cannon*

Around the MDOC

Injured RMI officer continues to recover

A Michigan Reformatory corrections officer who was assaulted by a prisoner and seriously injured is now continuing his recovery at home. He is making progress toward healing, and his family has appreciated all of the thoughts, prayers and words of encouragement from his corrections colleagues. We hope for a quick recovery for the officer. Please continue to keep him and his family in your thoughts.

MDOC organizes new leadership training

The department will be offering a Leadership Development Program through the Institute for Leadership Fitness. The program includes 10 cohorts for a total of 250 leaders selected by their respective administration. The first session begins on Feb. 16.

MCF dunks deputy to help local children in need

Muskegon Correctional Facility raised \$363.46 for the Muskegon Kid's Food Basket and "dunked" Deputy Warden Paul Davis as part of the fundraising effort. The Muskegon Kid's Food Basket provides snacks and sack meals to children in need.



Tech Corner

Infrastructure improvements completed for video conferencing

The MDOC video conferencing equipment has moved to its new home within the Budget and Operations Administration under the supervision of Analyst Travis Fisher. Several infrastructure upgrades were completed to improve the capability of MDOC video conferencing infrastructure. Along with those upgrades, 50 new Polycom units and 50 televisions were purchased to be deployed around the state and to replace older units. MDOC video conferencing is primarily utilized for court

hearings, parole board, medical and mental health service, or ad hoc meetings. Video conferencing enhances public safety and saves on transportation costs, as offenders do not need to be taken off facility grounds for court hearings or medical appointments. Please contact Travis Fisher for questions or issues regarding video conferencing at the MDOC. *Submitted by Analyst Travis Fisher*

Automated Data Systems Section (ADSS)
Budget and Operations Administration
Office of Research and Planning
MDOC-Central Office





Michigan State Industries' optical and dental programs were recently spotlighted as "superstars" in the winter edition of the National Correctional Industries Association magazine. The edition celebrated corrections employees who go above and beyond to help ensure positive outcomes for prisoners and improve programs. It also included stories of former Michigan prisoners who landed successful careers after release. [Click here](#) to read the full article.

No plans for department to expand use of 12-hour shifts

There have been some questions recently regarding the utilization of 12-hour shifts and whether the department will expand the practice. The Department supports the correctional facilities that currently utilize the 12-hour shift concept. However, the department has no plans to further expand this to other facilities at this time.



Volunteers sought for help in Flint

The State Emergency Operations Center is looking for volunteers to help expand its effort to deliver bottled water, water filters, replacement cartridges and water testing kits to Flint homes. Assistance is especially needed during the upcoming weekend. Click the dates below to sign up as a volunteer: [Jan. 16](#) [Jan. 17](#) [Jan. 18](#) Assignments begin at 9 a.m. at the Genesee County administration building, 1101 Beach St. in Flint, and end at 4 p.m.

Remembering former Deputy Director Dan Bolden

Former Michigan Department of Corrections Deputy Director Dan L. Bolden passed away in December.

Bolden was hired by the MDOC in 1973 as a corrections officer.



Dan Bolden

He went on to hold a number of positions at Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility and became warden of Kinross Correctional Facility in 1982. He was named deputy director of the Correctional Facilities Administration in 1984, and retired from that position in 2002.

Bolden was born in Springfield, Mo. and was a graduate of Missouri State University, where he was a Division II All-American in college basketball. He moved to Michigan in 1970.

Bolden leaves a wife, two children and four grandchildren.

The MDOC Honor Guard was present during funeral services for Bolden at Central United Methodist Church in downtown Lansing on Jan. 8.

The Extra Mile

MDOC staff go beyond the call of duty to help others



Pictured (left to right): Deputy Warden Scott Schooley, Deputy Director Ken McKee, Officer Clint Dickinson, Director Heidi Washington, Warden Carmen Palmer, and Deputy Warden Gregory Skipper.

When Michigan Reformatory Corrections Officer Clint Dickinson noticed a coworker was choking, he didn't hesitate to act. In April, Dickinson saw a colleague in the employee break room using hand signals to indicate he could not breathe. Dickinson immediately performed several abdominal thrusts, which dislodged the obstruction and allowed his coworker to breathe again. His ability to remain calm in a stressful situation helped resolve a life-threatening situation and earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.

While working at the Southwest Probation Office in September, Cindy Firlik saw a man stumble into Southfield Road and collapse. Firlik, who is secretary to operations administrators Kristin Gagnon and Latrece Porter, ran outside and found the man exhibiting seizure-like symptoms. She asked a woman in a car to call 911 and stop traffic behind her, then asked another driver to go into the probation office and seek help from staff. With the help of a coworker, she provided emergency first aid to the man until emergency medical personnel arrived and took the man to a local hospital. Firlik's decisive response helped her earn the department's Lifesaving Award.



Pictured (left to right): Operations Administrator Latrece Porter, Assistant Deputy Director Beverly Smith, Cindy Firlik, Operations Administrator Kristin Gagnon, and Deputy Director Russ Marlan



Pictured (left to right): Agent Richard Mitchell, Director Heidi Washington and Deputy Director Russ Marlan.

Three Rivers Parole Agent Richard Mitchell helps save lives in addition to serving as a DJ outside of work. Mitchell was setting up his DJ equipment for an event in January 2015 when he noticed a man holding his throat and pointing. Mitchell immediately went to the table and asked the man if he was choking. When the man shook his head "yes," Mitchell delivered abdominal thrusts until the obstruction was expelled and the man could breathe again. The man was overwhelmed with emotion and began thanking Mitchell profusely. Mitchell earned the department's Lifesaving Award for his quick actions.

Saving a woman's life by exposing a prisoner's plan, earned Lakeland Correctional Facility Inspector Bryan Morrison and mail room employee Janice Hutchins a Meritorious Service Award. In April 2014, Hutchins received a piece of mail in the mail room that had been returned as undeliverable. When she reviewed the letter inside, she discovered the prisoner sending the mail was attempting to hire a member of a street gang to kill his ex-girlfriend. Hutchins immediately notified Morrison, who alerted Michigan State Police and had the prisoner moved to a higher security level. Morrison assisted in a joint investigation of the case with state police and the local prosecutor's office, resulting in the case being referred for criminal prosecution. The prisoner ultimately plead to attempted solicitation for murder and received additional time to be served for the crime. Their professionalism and commitment to protecting the public helped prevent a violent crime from occurring.



Pictured (left to right): Warden Bonita Hoffner, Inspector Bryan Morrison, Janice Hutchins, Director Heidi Washington and Assistant Deputy Director Bruce Curtis.

The Extra Mile continued...



Michael Hartzler

Acting quickly helped Corrections Officer Michael Hartzler prevent a prisoner from choking to death and earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.

Hartzler was working at Woodland Center Correctional Facility in September 2014 when he noticed a prisoner in distress. He immediately went to the prisoner and determined he was choking on a cookie and could not breathe.

Hartzler administered several abdominal thrusts, which dislodged the obstruction and allowed the prisoner to breathe again.

A decisive response allowed Corrections Officer Kenneth Peek to resolve a potentially life-threatening situation and earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.

Peek was scanning prisoner ID cards during lunch at Gus Harrison Correctional Facility in May when he saw a prisoner choking. The prisoner had placed his hands on his neck indicating he could not breathe, and Peek immediately responded by performing several abdominal thrusts that dislodged the obstruction, allowing the prisoner to breathe again.



Pictured (left to right): Warden Paul Klee, Officer Kenneth Peek and Director Heidi Washington



Pictured (left to right): Deputy Warden Pat Warren, Warden Tom Winn, Officer Christopher Westphal, Assistant Deputy Director Lloyd Rapelje and Deputy Warden Jack Kowalski

When Corrections Officer Christopher Westphal noticed a prisoner in distress, he didn't hesitate to help and his swift actions earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.

Westphal was scanning prisoner ID cards for lunch at Saginaw Correctional Facility in September 2014 when he noticed an inmate struggling to breathe. Westphal quickly responded by administering seven to eight abdominal thrusts, which dislodged the obstruction and allowed the prisoner to breathe again. The prisoner was taken to health care, where he was examined and cleared to return to his unit.

In February 2015, Officer Brad Hill was returning from a transportation run when he noticed flames coming from beneath a vehicle on the side of the road. Hill turned around and pulled up behind the vehicle then contacted staff at Alger Correctional Facility for additional assistance. When he approached the burning car, he found the driver conscious, but disoriented. As the vehicle filled with smoke, Hill banged on the window and convinced the driver to get out. After Hill escorted the driver to his vehicle, the burning car was engulfed in flames. Emergency responders arrived shortly afterward to tend to the driver and put out the fire. Hill's quick assessment and willingness to help others earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.



Officer Brad Hill and Assistant Deputy Director Lloyd Rapelje.



Pictured: Arlene Edwards and Warden Tony Trierweiler

Arlene Edwards received the Office of Good Government's Leadership Coin for her hard work and dedication during the transition of the prisoner store process. She was instrumental in keeping lines of communication open during the process, which helped ensure a smooth transition by keeping both staff and prisoners informed of progress.

With Thanks

Groups grateful for Cooper Street Correctional Facility food donations,
Central Office contributions



330 W. Michigan Avenue
P.O. Box 6128
Jackson, Michigan 49204-6128
Tel: 517/787-7920
Fax: 517/787-2440
www.strong-families.org

FSCA Programs

330 W. Michigan Avenue
Jackson, MI 49201-2121

- Adoption Resource Center
- Breakout Drug Education
- Juvenile Diversion
- Employee Resource Network
- Family Counseling
- First Time Offenders Program
- Foster Care Services
- Home Again
- Kinship Care
- Parent Education
- Substance Abuse Services
- Wendy's Wonderful Kids

Born Free
300 W. Louis Clith Hwy
Jackson, MI 49201-2121
Ph: (517) 782-9905
Fax: (517) 796-7022

Jackson County
Guardian Services
1715 Lansing Ave., Ste 150
Jackson, MI 49202-2193
Ph: (517) 788-4242
Fax: (517) 768-5827



ACCREDITED
MEMBER OF ACCREDITED
CHILDREN'S INC.

Strong Families Build Strong Communities.

November 6, 2015

Tom Heise C/O
Cooper St. Correctional Facility
3100 Cooper St
Jackson MI 49202

Dear Tom and The Farm Guys:

We wanted you thank you for your generous donation of tons (well, not really, but hundreds of pounds!) of pumpkins for the children and families our agency serves.

We heard about the generosity you regularly show to the food banks in our community, but decided that your gift to us was extra-special. Because of all your hard work, more than 30 families were able to decorate jack-o-lanterns at our Halloween Party. The children had a grand time and were even able to trick-or-treat in our halls as dozens of our staff dressed up and opened their doorways for the little ghosts and goblins. It was a truly special evening, and much enhanced by your generosity.

We were so impressed that we considered it newsworthy. So much so, that we are sending you the 'proofs' of our "NEW" better homes and gardens magazine Prison Edition. Even though it will never be published, you can be sure that you have received your 15 minutes of fame here at FSCA.

Thank you again for your kindness. Our staff and the families we work with are sincerely appreciative.

Sincerely,

Judith Jove
Judith Jove
Executive Director

Thanks!



Hospice of Lansing
Stoneleigh Residence

December 14, 2015

Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC)
Central Office - Grandview Plaza
206 E. Michigan Ave.
Lansing, MI 48933

Dear MDOC Staff:

With this letter, we gratefully acknowledge your contribution of \$706.85 received on 11/23/2015 through the Capital Area United Way. Every gift supports the compassionate care of body and spirit of hospice patients and their families. Your gift makes a difference in someone's life...and in their death.

Never underestimate the power of your gift. We are a nonprofit, community-based hospice dedicated to serving all by bringing kindness, respect and quality to the end of life. Your support helps us send our staff of caring nurses, aides and social workers to help people who are dying spend their final days free of pain and creating lasting memories with family and friends. Your donation makes it possible to continue these essential services despite cuts to our budget resulting from the federal sequester.

On behalf of the patients, staff and the entire hospice family, thank you for sharing our commitment to providing the highest quality hospice care to anyone in need regardless of their ability to pay. We and those we serve deeply appreciate your generosity.

Yours in Hospice,

John W. Person, J.D.
John W. Person, J.D.
Executive Director

Heather Vida, CFRE
Heather Vida, CFRE
Director of Fund Development

Thank you so much!

Please keep this letter as a record for tax purposes and note that no goods or services were provided in exchange for this contribution.

P.S. Learn about Hospice of Lansing's Legacy of Love with a one-hour tour and information sharing session at our beautiful inpatient facility, Stoneleigh Residence. Join us the first Wednesday of each month at noon or the third Tuesday of each month at 8:30 AM. You will not be asked for a donation. Call us toll-free at 877-882-4500 to reserve your space.

HOSPICE OF LANSING
3186 PINE TREE ROAD
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48911
P: 517.882.4500 • F: 517.882.3010
WWW.HOSPICEOFLANSING.ORG



STONELEIGH RESIDENCE
3411 STONELEIGH DRIVE
LANSING, MICHIGAN 48910
P: 517.882.1663
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Corrections Quiz

How many Michigan State Industries factories are there statewide?

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.

December Quiz Recap

Question: Which correctional facility opened in December 2001?

Answer: Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility



Congratulations to Kent County Parole Agent **Eric Cottrell** for being the first to answer the December Corrections Quiz. Great job!

Snapshots

A look at life around the MDOC



Every year, Lakeland Correctional Facility's food tech program creates a giant gingerbread house covered in candies for visiting children to enjoy. The edible structure is moved to the facility's visiting room at Christmas and after the holiday, children visiting their incarcerated family members are encouraged to enjoy a piece of candy from the outside of the house. The 2015 gingerbread house was modeled after a real estate listing in Hour Detroit Magazine.



Ojibway Correctional Facility Deputy Warden Mike Yon gets a pie in the face courtesy of Records Office Technician Tracy Franti. As part of the facility's Harvest Gathering fundraiser, staff were asked to put donations in boxes marked for five different supervisors. The box containing the most donations earned the corresponding supervisor a pie in the face. Yon was the "overwhelming" winner, collecting 81.4 pounds of food.

Corrections in the News

[Inmates rescue dogs, who rescue inmates](#) — Detroit Free Press

[How prisoners and puppies will help each other in dog training program](#) — Muskegon Chronicle

[Inmates helping train service dogs](#) — WZZM-13

[Michigan Department of Corrections to send real-time public safety messages with Nixle](#) — Holland Sentinel

[28 local kids Shop with a Cop](#) — Coldwater Daily Reporter

[Detroit to job-hunting felons: We can help](#) — Detroit Free Press

[Michigan Corrections Chief looking for alternatives for heroin offenders](#) — Michigan Public Radio

[Stepping down from solitary confinement](#) — The Atlantic

[Program connects inmates, shelter dogs looking for homes](#) — WWMT-3

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

Seen on Twitter...

MichiganDOC Retweeted
MichiganDOC-CFA @MDOCCFA · Dec 22
 Staff from Parnall Correctional distributed 200 prisoner made stockings in Jackson filled with toys, crayons & cards

5 13

MichiganDOC Retweeted
MichiganDOC-FOA @MDOCFOA · Dec 22
 Thursday 9am - Check out Parole Board member Jerome Warfield talk about his work in #Detroit on #FieldDays #podcast
 Sarah Flesher, Deena Robarge, MichiganDOC and 7 others

To see more, follow the MDOC on Twitter



November New Hires

Almy, Alexander	Equipment Technician, Richard A. Handlon Correcitonal Facility
Bell, Matthew	Maintenance Mechanic, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Borie, Michael	Registered Nurse, Carson City Correctional Facility
Breternitz, Eric	Plumber, Saginaw Correctional Facility
Collins, Jennifer	Pharmacy Assistant, Baraga Correctional Facility
Craddy, Joelle	Procurement Technician, Corrections Central Office
Dorff, Dana	Licensed Practical Nurse, Macomb Correctional Facility
Faz, Monica	Clinical Social Worker, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Hard, Robert	Power Plant Operator, Lakeland Correctional Facility
Harris, Christian	Parole/Probation Officer, Allegan County Parole and Probation Office
Leclair, Jessica	Mental Health Social Worker, Marquette Branch Prison
Locklin, John	Corrections Officer, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Martin, Angela	Registered Nurse, Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Martinez, Nicole	Dental Hygienist, Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Newton, Brianna	Departmental Technician, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Norman, Nekarra	Word Processing Assistant, Muskegon County Probation Office
Owens, Jennifer	Word Processing Assistant, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Reed, Lisa	Employment Counselor, Saginaw Correctional Facility
Suydam, Alicia	Storekeeper, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Todd, Angela	Registered Nurse, Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Winkler, Melissa	Clinical Social Worker, Parnall Correctional Facility

November Retirements

Aley, Mark F.	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Baumgarten, Ronald R.	Oaks Correctional Facility
Boal, Allan K.	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Bradley, James F.	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Burke, Spencer	G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Campbell, Laura L.	Corrections Central Office
Cilibraise, Tammy L.	Carson City Correctional Facility
Clemens, Mark D.	Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Cook, Linden C.	Carson City Correctional Facility
Crawford, Curtis H.	Kinross Correctional Facility
Curenton, Sherry	Detroit Reentry Center
Ekdahl, Judy M.	Alger Correctional Facility
Flack, David M.	Corrections Central Office
Fletcher, Cynthia A.	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Fuester, Timothy J.	Macomb Correctional Facility
Funk, Wayland H.	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Fyan, Bruce A.	Michigan Reformatory
Gause, Cynthia	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Gee, Douglas A.	West Shoreline Correctional Facility
George, Eugene L.	Carson City Correctional Facility
Gill, Frank M.	Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Glover, Wynda	Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Hemenway, Joseph M.	Parnall Correctional Facility
Hoey, Michelle M.	Kinross Correctional Facility
Johns, Dennis J.	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Juranek, Edward G.	Alger Correctional Facility
Lane, Billie D.	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
MacLeod, Jeannine	Ojibway Correctional Facility
Mahar, Denis A.	Newberry Correctional Facility
Maresh, Catherine A.	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Marquedant, Suzanne M.	Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Metzmaker, Roxanne R.	Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Mickel, Jimmie	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Minard, Darla D.	Michigan Reformatory
Murray, David	Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Newell, Charles E.	Northern Region Administration
Ostrander, Yvonne	Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Ott, Paul R.	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Palomaki, Timothy C.	Alger Correctional Facility
Pea, Timothy J.	Detroit Reentry Center
Quigley, Suzanne F.	Kinross Correctional Facility
Riley, Willie D.	Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Rosek, Edward G.	Saginaw Correctional Facility
Ross, Joyce L.	Chippewa Correctional Facility
Schlumm, Anthony W.	Lakeland Correctional Facility
Simon, Timothy L.	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Taylor, Craig	Alger Correctional Facility
Walker, John J.	Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Watson, Paul B.	Chippewa Correctional Facility