

# Corrections Connection



Volume 31, Issue 9

October 2019



# In this issue:

<u>Changing lives through tech</u>	3
<u>Remembering Robert Brown Jr.</u>	5
<u>Field Days Podcast</u>	5
<u>Employee Recreation Day</u>	6
<u>New Employee Spotlight</u>	8
<u>Cybersecurity</u>	9
<u>Ironman triathlete</u>	10
<u>Plane Pull Challenge</u>	10
<u>COMS Food Service</u>	11
<u>The Extra Mile</u>	12
<u>Corrections Quiz</u>	14
<u>Upcoming events</u>	14
<u>Chippewa celebrates anniversary</u>	14
<u>Snapshots</u>	15
<u>Corrections in the news</u>	15
<u>Seen on social media</u>	15
<u>New hires</u>	16
<u>Retirements</u>	17



**Corrections Connection** is a publication of the Office of Public Information and Communications. Story ideas, feedback and comments can be submitted to Holly Kramer at [KramerH@michigan.gov](mailto:KramerH@michigan.gov). Like MDOC on [Facebook](#) or follow us on [Twitter](#).

The image on the cover was taken 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](mailto:KramerH@michigan.gov).



# Changing lives through TECH

## Vocational Village adds computer coding program through partnership with The Last Mile and Google.org

John Mannion had dreams of making a career out of working with computers before an armed robbery sentence sent him to prison.

But those dreams didn't fade, and today they're moving closer to reality through a new partnership that brought computer coding and web development training to Parnall Correctional Facility's Vocational Village.

"This is not just another prison program," Mannion said. "This is a life-changing event."

The program is the first of its kind in Michigan and is supported by Google.org and The Last Mile, which provides those returning to their communities with

training for jobs in the technology industry.

Using a \$2 million grant from Google.org, it will be the seventeenth classroom program for The Last Mile, which was founded in 2010 in San Quentin State Prison in California and now operates in five states.

The grant allowed The Last Mile to supply Parnall Correctional Facility's classroom with state-of-the-art computers, electronic devices and audiovisual equipment for students and instructors.

"Michigan continues to set the national standard for criminal justice reform through innovative programs and partnerships at the Vocational Village," said Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist, who addressed students and participated in an Oct. 22 ceremony to officially launch the program. "I'm proud to partner with Google and The Last Mile to create a space for future parolees to build the skills that will enable them to secure careers in high-demand jobs in the tech field."

Over the next two years, The Last Mile is expected to educate and certify 525 incarcerated individuals in its prison classrooms, including its newest in Michigan. That training includes entrepreneurship, front-end coding languages like HTML, CSS, and Javascript, web and mobile app development and design, and quality

**Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success**





Pictured: Ceremony attendees cut the ribbon to launch The Last Mile's coding program at Parnall Correctional Facility.

assurance.

"Our Vocational Village programs provide returning citizens with a valuable opportunity to learn in-demand skills that lead to meaningful, positive changes in their lives," said Michigan Department of Corrections Director Heidi Washington, who has pioneered the Vocational Village concept. "This important partnership with Google.org and The Last Mile will give them an additional path to a stable career and a successful future."

In addition to the \$2 million grant, Google software engineers, user experience researchers, and program managers are also volunteering their time as part of the partnership. A group of volunteers from Google's offices in Detroit and Ann Arbor visited students in Parnall's program to talk about their experiences, share ideas and hear details about what students were working on.

"This grant from Google.org allows us to extend our reach to Michigan and continues our efforts to educate incarcerated individuals," said Beverly Parenti, co-founder and executive director of The Last Mile. "TLM strives to return its students to society with meaningful job skills. We are thrilled to be a part of Director Washington's innovative Vocational Village."

Google will also develop accessibility web development trainings and will create a virtual lecture series so Google employees can engage with classes of learners using Hangouts — an online communication tool. These projects will help strengthen The Last Mile's program offerings and give participants direct access to technologists working in the sector. "Google.org is proud to stand by The Last Mile and Lt. Governor Gilchrist to share in this incredible moment," said Maab Ibrahim, Criminal Justice Grants Manager for Google.org. "By expanding access to computer science education to people who are behind bars, The Last Mile helps learners return to their communities with tangible skills to pursue a career in

technology. We are truly inspired by the individuals that have already completed The Last Mile's training and look forward to the program's expansion."

Mannion said his nearly 20 classmates in the program were grateful for the opportunity to learn new skills and build a better future. He said he could hear the pride in the voices of his classmates when they call themselves software engineers.

"We are building our futures in this class, righting our paths through code writing," Mannion said. "Not too long ago, this was just a dream, but because of Google, The Last Mile and MDOC, we have a new reality."

[Click here to see more photos from the launch of The Last Mile.](#)

**Plus, check out these stories about the event:**

[New program teaches prisoners how to code — WLNS TV](#)

[MDOC unveils "The Last Mile" coding program at Jackson prison — WILX](#)

[Coding classes help inmates prepare for productive life outside prison — Detroit News](#)

[Google-funded program connects Michigan prison inmates to coding skills — MLive](#)



Pictured: Lt. Gov. Garlin Gilchrist and Director Heidi Washington write well-wishes to students at the launch of The Last Mile's coding program at Parnall Correctional Facility.



# Remembering former Director Robert Brown, Jr.

Former Michigan Department of Corrections Director Robert Brown, Jr. passed away on October 7.



He served as the head of the department from Sept. 23, 1984 to April 22, 1991.

He was an outstanding leader and highly-respected member of the MDOC family. He started his career with the MDOC in 1961 as a social worker at Cassidy Lake Technical

School. He went on to serve as a parole agent in Detroit, an assistant deputy warden at Marquette Branch Prison and Michigan Reformatory, an administrative assistant to the director of the department and deputy director of the Bureau of Correctional Facilities. He succeeded Perry Johnson as director in 1984.

Even after his retirement in 1991, he continued to serve as a tireless advocate for corrections and was a member of a number of corrections professional

organizations.

He served as a criminal justice consultant and worked with correctional organizations in Connecticut, Illinois and Pennsylvania. He was also appointed to serve as a consent agreement monitor by the U.S. District Court and was an auditor for the American Correctional Association.

He was honored many times throughout his long career for his work.

He received the Michigan State University Black Alumni Inc. Distinguished Alumni Award in 1992, the Edward R. Cass Award from the American Correctional Association in 1995, and the Association of State Correctional Administrator's Past President's Award in 2005, among other honors. He was a military veteran with service in the U.S. Air Force, and a graduate of Michigan State University and Wayne State University.

Services were held on Oct. 14 in Lansing.

Our thoughts are with former Director Brown's family, friends and those at the MDOC who were close to him.

[Click here to read the Lansing State Journal's tribute to former Director Brown.](#)

## HAVE YOU HEARD?

Check out these other great episodes of the Field Days Podcast

- [The Field Days Podcast team recognized World Sight Day with some special guests from Leader Dogs for the Blind.](#)
- [Hear more about a first-of-its-kind farmers market at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility, and how the horticulture program there is supporting it.](#)
- [Celebrate International Podcast Day with this popular episode of the Field Days Podcast.](#)



**FIELD DAYS**  
PODCAST

Listen to us on



Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success



# First Employee Recreation Day in the Upper Peninsula a huge success

Rain might have been in the forecast, but that didn't dampen the spirits of more than 400 MDOC Employees, retirees and their guests, who attended the first Employee Recreation Day in the Upper Peninsula.

The Sept. 27 event at Bay Mills Resort and Casino in Brimley included golf, a softball and corn hole tournament, scavenger hunt, photo booth, horseshoes, lawn games, dinner and a silent auction.



Attendees also had an opportunity to create their own chalk art shadow box. The event was organized by the Employee Engagement EPIC Team and was intended to offer another Employee Recreation Day opportunity to MDOC employees and retirees, especially one closer to home for those in northern Michigan and the Upper Peninsula.

Employee Recreation Day was first held in 1987 to give department employees

a chance to relax and unwind together. The event returned in 2017 for the first time since 2005.

Planning for 2020 Employee Recreation Day events will be underway soon.

**The 2019 Employee Recreation Day event winners at Bay Mills Resort and Casino in Brimley included:**

- Golf — Jim Myers, Kinross Correctional Facility; Pat VanSloten, Kinross Correctional Facility; Brian Masterson, and Barry O'Connor
- Longest putt — Charlie Gimpel, Chippewa Correctional Facility
- Longest Drive — Pat VanSloten, Kinross Correctional Facility; Angie Zellar, Alger Correctional Facility





- Closest to the pin — Mark Swan
- Putting contest — Matt Bush, Marquette Branch Prison
- Softball —

First Place: Kinross Correctional Facility (Merle Vollick, Todd Menard, Derek Beseau, Mark Andrezjak, Jeff Clark, Brian Killips, Lisha Slater, CB Kemp, Don Basawa, Jeremy Davis, Jimmy Shaw, Chastin McKelvie)

Second Place: Carson City Correctional Facility

Third Place: Chippewa Correctional Facility

Corn Hole — Dean McGregor and Kyle Tejchma, Education; Cassie and Loretta Maleport, Kinross Correctional Facility; Team Beseau, Kinross Correctional Facility

50/50 winner — Mary Callentine, Baraga Correctional Facility

Thank you to everyone who made Employee Recreation Day a huge success.



[For more photos from Employee Recreation Day in Brimley, click here.](#)





## New agent looks forward to helping others

When D’Vontae McGowan graduated from Western Michigan University, he had plans of going to law school.

But as time went on, and he had an

opportunity to work in the field, his plans began to change.

“I love helping people and coming to corrections helps me



help other people who have come into contact with the criminal justice system,” McGowan said.

He said he’s looking forward to helping offenders on his caseload at the Kent County Probation Office improve their lives.

McGowan said he likes the variety of experiences a career in corrections offers.

“Every day is something new,” McGowan said. “Not one day is the same as the next.”

He said he believes it’s important for new agents to find a mentor they trust and respect.

It’s also important for agents to treat those they supervise with fairness and respect, he said.

“Everyone has done things that they’re not proud of,” he said. “Treating individuals with respect really goes a long way.”

## Michigan Department of Corrections welcomes nearly 20 new agents

Nearly 20 new field agents joined the Michigan Department of Corrections as members of the Pamela Burnett class following an oath of office ceremony in late September.

MDOC leaders greeted and congratulated graduates and spoke to them about the important role they play.

### New field staff included:

Brandy Bowers — Court Services Unit

Luke Cody — Marquette County Parole and Probation Office

Jacob Desgrange — Genesee County Probation Office

Jennifer Emerick — Macomb County Probation Office

Marcus Gleaves — Court Services Unit

Bradley Kline — Jackson County Probation Office

Cassandra Lindberg — Tuscola County Parole and Probation Office

Roddrick Martin — Jackson County Parole and Probation Office

D’Vontae McGowan — Kent County Probation Office

Decara Mims — Macomb County Probation Office

Samantha Oliver — Jackson County Probation Office

Paris Pace — Court Services Unit

Christine Pettit — Tuscola County Parole and Probation Office

Ferris Sobie — Court Services Unit

Alexis Starkweather — VanBuren County Parole and Probation Office

Olivia Temrowski — Macomb

County Probation Office

Gary Yung — Macomb County Probation Office





## New agent speaks to value of support system

Jennifer Emerick knows the value of a good support system and has seen the difference it can make in a person's life. While providing mental health treatment at the Macomb County Jail, Emerick



said she would see a person released one day and back the next because they lacked the resources they needed to be successful. Having the ability to

connect offenders with resources that can help is part of what interested her in a job in corrections.

She said providing the right resources at the right time can help move offenders toward positive change.

"If we can catch it early enough, we could have better outcomes for people," she said. Emerick, a graduate of Central Michigan University and Wayne State University, who has a master's degree in social work, said she was interested to learn more about the role of field staff in the court process.

She previously worked with survivors of domestic violence and sexual assault and said effective communication is always key.

Communicating well with offenders will help them get greater benefits out of supervision.

"If we can communicate openly, then there are a lot more opportunities for them to get the benefits of being on probation," she said.

## State hosts cybersecurity summit, offers tips for staying safe online

We live in a world that is more connected than ever before. The Internet touches all aspects of our daily lives, whether we realize it or not. Cybersecurity threats continue to advance with unsurpassable speed and Michiganders must do everything they can to be protected.

According to the FBI Internet Crime Complaint Center, Michigan residents and businesses have lost more than \$42 million to cybercriminal activities so far this year, with an average victim loss of \$5,400. State government experiences more than 1.5 million attempts on its network each day.

In an effort to enhance cybersecurity awareness around the state, Gov. Gretchen Whitmer has declared October as Michigan's Cybersecurity Awareness Month. There is no better time than right now to review our daily practices, at work and home, to ensure you are protected from cyber-attacks.

To protect yourself, your family and your property before a cyber-attack occurs:

- Only connect to the Internet over secure, password-protected networks.
  - Do not click on links or pop-ups, open attachments or respond to emails from strangers.
  - Always enter a website name by hand instead of following links if you are unsure of the sender.
  - Do not respond to online requests for personally identifiable information.
- Most organizations—banks, universities, companies, etc.—do not ask for your personal

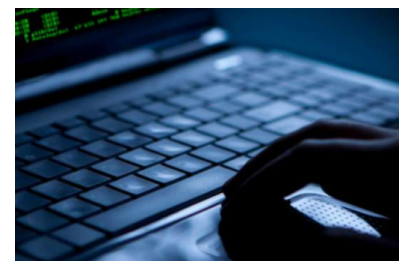
information over the Internet.

- Limit who you are sharing information with by reviewing the privacy settings on your social media accounts.
- Trust your intuition. If you think an offer is too good to be true, then it probably is.
- Password-protect all user accounts and devices that connect to the Internet.
- Do not use the same password twice. Choose a password that means something to you and you only. Always change your password on a regular basis.

- If you see something suspicious, report it to the proper authorities.

Gov. Whitmer also hosted the North American International Cyber Summit at the TFC Center in Detroit on Oct. 28. It was the eighth cyber summit in Michigan, bringing together cybersecurity professionals from around the world to participate in dynamic discussions and provide the latest information in cyber technology and strategy. By being aware and prepared, we will be able to stand up against cyber-attacks.

To learn more about staying safe and protected online, visit the [Michigan State Police Cyber Command Center](https://www.michigan.gov/Cybersecurity) and [Michigan.gov/Cybersecurity](https://www.michigan.gov/Cybersecurity). There you will find information ranging from practicing proper cyber hygiene to learning about available law enforcement resources.





# Ionia Correctional Facility psychologist breaks through barriers to complete full Ironman triathlon

Kari Nader was looking for a challenge when she signed up for the Ironman Race in Louisville. She trained for a year for the grueling, day-long triathlon that traditionally includes a 2.4-mile swim, 112-mile bicycle ride and 26.2-mile run. But one of her biggest challenges of the competition



would come before the race even began. Green algae in the Ohio River forced organizers to cancel the swimming portion of the event. Determined to complete the entire race and

not let her many hours of training go to waste, Nader started looking for alternatives to complete the swimming portion of the race.

"I was not walking away that day without doing the whole thing," said Nader, a psychologist at Ionia Correctional Facility. "I could not control them

cancelling the swim because of the algae in the river, but I could control if I was determined to swim that day somewhere else and how to make my goal complete."

She said she also wanted to do it for her family, who provided so much support while she trained.

Nader was struggling to find a place to swim when her husband arrived in Louisville early and eventually found an RV park with a private lake where she could complete that leg of the race.

They arrived at the lake before sunrise and Nader's husband held a spotlight for an hour and a half so she could see where she was swimming.

While other Louisville Ironman competitors only completed the biking and running portions of the event, Nader ultimately finished all three portions of the race.

Nader said her journey to completing the Ironman started 11 years ago when she set a goal to lose weight and shed 100 pounds in two years. Since then she said she has continued to set new goals for herself and wants to inspire others to live healthier lifestyles.

"If I impact one person to achieve a goal, I feel like it was worth it," she said.

## Employees show power to give during Plane Pull Challenge

Michigan Department of Corrections employees showed off their superhuman strength and power to give during the 3rd annual Plane Pull Challenge for Special Olympics Michigan at Willow Run Airport.

The three MDOC teams helped raise more than \$18,000 through the event. Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility's two teams raised \$1,000 and had the most participants of any team. Team Metro Air Force One took first place in the co-ed pull and won best costumes.

Department employees participating in the Law Enforcement Torch Run were also honored by Special Olympics Michigan, which presented a Legacy Award to the Torch Run.



Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success



# COMS Active for Food Service

On August 6 of this year, MDOC conducted a successful COMS pilot with Food Service staff at Lakeland Correctional Facility. MDOC built upon this success and can now report that as of October 1, COMS is active for all 225 Food Service staff across all 29 facilities statewide. MDOC joins the Federal Bureau of Prisons, California, Iowa, North Carolina, Massachusetts, Nevada, and Idaho as major institutions using COMS as part of their offender management system.

This implementation is a significant achievement for Food Service personnel and the COMS Project team appreciates their hard work and flexibility in making the switch to COMS a success. Bringing COMS online for Food Service is a major step forward in helping to achieve MDOC's strategic goals of improving communication and collaboration in offender management and care.

## Looking Forward

The COMS Project team has also been actively preparing for future module releases. The next release will focus on healthcare operations. Just as Change Champions helped with implementing the Food Service module, Change Champions are being selected to help with the Healthcare module implementation. As future COMS modules are implemented, Change Champions from impacted areas of the Department will be selected to assist (e.g. Trust, Field Ops/Parole Board, and CFA). After a brief respite, the Food Service Change Champions will be re-engaged in the Spring of 2020 to assist with the Meal Tracking module. Additionally, planning is taking place between FOA regional managers and the COMS Project to coordinate project communication with parole and probation satellite offices.

## COMS Survey Update

The first round of COMS Project Surveys has concluded – a huge ‘Thank You!’ to everyone who took the survey. We were able to gain a lot of insight from your responses, and the bottom line is that people are still learning about COMS and how it will be implemented. We will continue to release COMS Project information, and continue

COMS Implementation Schedule	
Module	Timeline
Food Service	Complete
Healthcare: Pilot - Huron Valley	December 10, 2019
Healthcare: Statewide	January 14, 2020
Trust	Late Spring 2020
Meal Tracking	Summer 2020
Field Operations/Parole Board	Late Summer 2020
CFA Case Management – Group A	2021
CFA Case Management – Group B	2022

sharing success stories and challenges experienced by the Department during this transition.

It is crucial for as many people as possible to take future surveys; even if you think the survey does not apply to you, it DOES!

Knowing which parts of the

Department are feeling prepared is essential information for the COMS Project team. Survey results that identify little knowledge of COMS and that identify areas of frustration on behalf of staff will allow the project team to properly focus resources on training and outreach. We will be adapting our communication strategy to match the unique needs of each department area, so your opinion IS important to us.

## Helpful Project Information

COMS Project information and resources are available to you:

- The COMS Project Website contains useful information about the COMS Project. For example, links to past Corrections Connection articles, Field Days podcasts, Q&A documents, FAQs and more! Find this material here: <https://stateofmichigan.sharepoint.com/teams/insidemdoc/work/COMS>
- The COMS temporary training site is live, with helpful how-to videos, FAQs, and training material. Find this material here: <https://stateofmichigan.sharepoint.com/teams/insidemdoc/work/COMS/Pages/COMS-Training.aspx>
- Please direct questions about the COMS Project to your facility Change Champions. You can find a list of facility Change Champions on the [Project Website](#).

**CORRECTIONS OFFENDER  
MANAGEMENT SYSTEM**



Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success



# The Extra Mile

MDOC staff go beyond the call of duty to help others



Pictured: (Left) Director Heidi Washington and Warden Jeremy Bush with Officer Christopher Crance, Nurse Anzhelika Koonter and Supervisor Halee Jordan. (Right) Warden Bush with Officer Mark Kamma.

Corrections Officer Christopher Crance was on his regular assignment at Duane Waters Health Center in August 2018 when he noticed a licensed practical nurse who worked at the center was not acting like herself.

Officer Crance offered to assist her and brought her something to drink. He noticed she was struggling to complete tasks and suggested she sit down. Corrections Officer Mark Kamma also noticed that the nurse seemed unwell and offered to stay with her.

When the nurse went into the restroom, Officer Crance requested medical

assistance. Registered Nurse Anzhelika Koonter arrived and called out to the nurse to ask if she was OK. When there was no response, Koonter called House Supervisor Halee Jordan and instructed Crance to contact the emergency room. Registered Nurse Nikki Brafford also responded to assist and helped provide care to the nurse until emergency medical services arrived to transport her to the hospital.

The quick actions of Officers Crance and Kamma, nurses Koonter and Brafford and supervisor Jordan and their concern and care for their colleague earned them the department's Lifesaving Award.

In April 2018, Christine Bourdon, a registered nurse at Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center, was driving home when she saw an overturned semi-trailer.

She was the first person to arrive on the scene and immediately stopped to assist the driver, who was pinned in the vehicle. After calling 911, she stayed with the driver and continued to provide critical assistance to emergency responders by sharing information and helping with supplies.

The driver was ultimately flown to Sparrow Hospital for treatment of his injuries.

Bourdon's outstanding commitment to helping others in need earned her the department's Lifesaving Award.



Corrections Officer John Menary was working at Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center in May 2018 when he was alerted that a prisoner was found face down in his cell and covered in blood. He immediately called for medical assistance and after assessing the prisoner, determined he had a large laceration on his arm and was losing blood quickly. Officer Menary applied direct pressure to the wound while moving the prisoner out of his cell.

Sgt. Adam Yott arrived and began to perform CPR while Officer Menary continued to hold pressure on the wound. After four minutes, the prisoner regained consciousness and was transported to the hospital for further treatment.

Officer Menary's ability to react quickly and perform under stress to help a prisoner in need earned him the department's Lifesaving Award.



# The Extra Mile continued...



Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Director Heidi Washington recently recognized Food Service Administrator Kevin Weissenborn and Oakland County Probation Agent Chanel Johnson. Weissenborn has been critical to the success of the transition to state run food service operations, and Johnson was crowned Miss Michigan USA in September.

---



The Rotary Club of Ionia honored corrections officers of the year from Ionia-area facilities during an Oct. 23 ceremony.

Those recognized included Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility Officer Matthew Schultz, Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility Officer Aaron Griffith, Ionia Correctional Facility Officer Louis Hengesbach, Michigan Reformatory Officer Sarah Wellman and Carson City Correctional Facility Officer Jeramie Mangus.

The event was attended by State Reps. Thomas Albert and Julie Calley and State Sen. John Bizon and

included remarks by Ionia Mayor Dan Balice and MDOC Director Heidi Washington.

---

Muskegon Correctional Facility Warden Sherry Burt presented Warden's Coins to Corrections Officers Scott Dakin, Stanley Shank and Joseph Young for their efforts in a fight involving nine prisoners. Their quick response and actions helped de-escalate the situation.





## Corrections Quiz

## September Quiz Recap

Leader Dogs for the Blind operates its Prison Puppies initiative in how many correctional facilities in Michigan?

Name this correctional facility that launched a farmers market on prison grounds in 2019.

Send your answer to Holly Kramer at [KramerH@michigan.gov](mailto:KramerH@michigan.gov). The first person to answer correctly will receive a congratulatory shout out and the answer and winner will be published in the next edition of the newsletter.

**Answer: Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility**

Congratulations to **Shari Shaw**, a corrections officer at Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility, for being the first to answer the August Corrections Quiz. Great job!

## Upcoming events for MDOC employees

MDOC employees will have the opportunity to participate in a number of great activities and events in the coming months.

They include online store discounts, recognition events, and fundraisers.

Please make sure to watch for these great events coming up in the next three months:

### November 2019

10% Online Store Discount – November 5, 13, 21 and 26

Veterans Week Various Statewide Activities – November 11 – 15

Chalk Art Session – Give Thanks, There is Snow Place Like Home or Joyful – November 14, 6 p.m. (after work activity) at Barbeau Sportsman's Club—contact Jennifer Metro at [Metroj@michigan.gov](mailto:Metroj@michigan.gov) for more information. An example photo is below.

### December 2019

December 1 - Detroit Pistons vs. San Antonio Spurs – discounted seats available at [pistons.com/](http://pistons.com/)

[MDOC](http://MDOC) (link may need to be accessed from a home network)

### January 2020

January 12 – Great Wolf Lodge Discount – discount available by calling 1-866-962-9653 and using the code 2001MDOC.

## Chippewa Correctional Facility marks its 30th anniversary with event

Chippewa Correctional Facility marked 30 years in operation on Oct. 9 with a special event for staff.

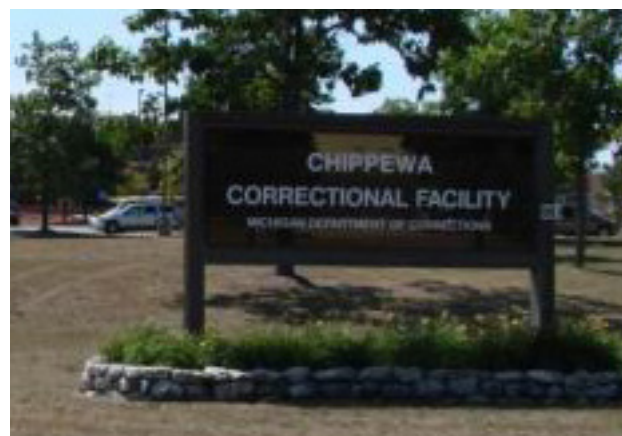
The event included food, games and door prizes for staff on all three shifts.

The facility opened in Kincheloe, Mich. in 1989.

It was the first in Michigan to partner with Leader Dogs for the Blind on its Prison Puppies initiative.

Today, its other programs include academic and vocational instruction such as building trades and food technology.

A Michigan State Industries garment factory is also housed at the facility.





# SNAPSHOTS

## A look at life around the MDOC



Saginaw Correctional Facility held its first Delta College graduation ceremony. The 10 graduating prisoners earned associate degrees in business.



Michigan State Industries staff, including Administrator Chris Kamrada and his family and MSI employees Margret Leisinger and Deann Gallagher, participated in the Michigan Parkinson Foundation walk and helped raise more than \$700 for the foundation. The team, which included 21 participants, was ranked as one of the top 10 contributors at the event.



Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center staff recently pitched in to help prepare meals for prisoners during a widespread power outage that affected thousands in Jackson.



Michigan Department of Transportation Director Paul Ajegba participated in a tour of the Parnall Correctional Facility Vocational Village with MDOC Director Heidi Washington.

## Corrections in the News

[One Detroit Workforce Development Roadshow](#) — Detroit Public Television

[Michigan prison takes a gentler tack with mentally ill](#) — Detroit News

[New expungement package will help thousands find work](#) — Crain's Detroit Business

[Michigan allows prison inmates to seek college financial aid](#) — Associated Press

[Recovery Park CEO recommends training inmates behind prison walls](#) — Iosco County News Herald

[Community says 'thank you' to corrections officers at annual Ionia Rotary event](#) — Greenville Daily News

[Ionia Rotary Club honors corrections officers at annual event](#) — Ionia Sentinel Standard

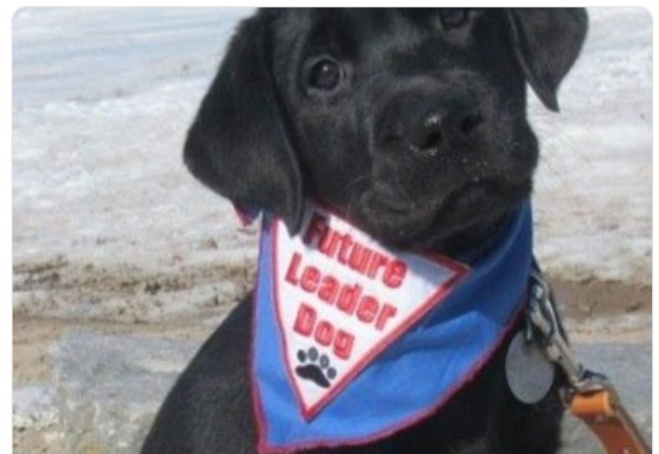
Spread the word about some of the great things happening at the MDOC and share these stories with friends, family and coworkers.

## Seen on Twitter...



**MichiganDOC** @MichiganDOC · Oct 10

We are so proud of our partnership with @Leader\_Dog and all the leader dogs that have trained or are currently training in prisons throughout #Michigan. #GuideDogs can make a big difference – eye health includes assistance. @IAPB1 #VisionFirst #WSD2019 #WorldSightDay #Michigan



To see more, follow the MDOC on [Twitter](#).

Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success



# August New Hires

Baltimore, Alicia	Departmental Technician, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Bolton-Aaron, Candace	Medical Records Examiner, Detroit Reentry Center
Bouschor, Laura	Licensed Practical Nurse, Marquette Branch Prison
Brown, Larhonda	General Office Assistant, Earnest C. Brooks Correctional Facility
Burlew, Laura	Registered Nurse, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Buskirk, Joshua	Physician Assistant, Corrections Central Office
Cantwell, Patricia	General Office Assistant, Corrections Central Office
Cekander, Christina	General Office Assistant, Corrections Central Office
Collins, Antoinette	Cook, Baraga Correctional Facility
Cramer, Denise	Registered Nurse, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Czarniowski, Joshua	Registered Nurse, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Debose, Christopher	Building Trades Crew Leader, Jackson Central Region
Dickinson, Jill	Secretary, Ionia Correctional Facility
Dumback, Jessica	Administrative Manager, Kinross Correctional Facility
Elkins, Robert	Food Service Supervisor, Oaks Correctional Facility
Emerick, Jennifer	Field Agent, Macomb County Probation Office
Epps-Harris, Tamica	Registered Nurse, Detroit Reentry Center
Funk, Nicholas	Departmental Technician, Corrections Central Office
Green, Troye	Corrections Qualified Mental Health Professional, Parnall Correctional Facility
Gross, Melissa	General Office Assistant, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Hamlin, Phoebe	Registered Nurse Manager, Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Haynes, Cathynn	Corrections Qualified Mental Health Professional, Parnall Correctional Facility
Hewitt, Chad	Registered Nurse, Marquette Branch Prison
Leson, Claire	Licensed Practical Nurse, Lakeland Correctional Facility
Lopeman, Allison	Dietician Nutritionist, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Luschas, Nicholas	Departmental Technician, Corrections Central Office
Lyons, John'l	Cook, Muskegon Correctional Facility
McCallum, Colleen	Licensed Practical Nurse, Parnall Correctional Facility
McCave, Troy	Storekeeper, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Meyer, Jeffery	Cook, Alger Correctional Facility
Monahan, Julie	Registered Nurse, Alger Correctional Facility
Murdock, Franklin	Corrections Officer, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Mutter, Amanda	Pharmacy Assistant, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
Neve, Emileigh	Industries Production Leader, Michigan State Industries
O'Rourke, Alicia	General Office Assistant, Corrections Central Office
Pace, Paris	Field Agent, Court Services
Pula, Nelda	Registered Nurse, Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Ramirez, Juan	Corrections Qualified Mental Health Professional, Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Roe, Linda	Cook, Chippewa Correctional Facility
Serratos, Christine	Word Processing Assistant, Greenfield District Probation Office
Smith, David	Departmental Technician, Corrections Central Office
Smith, Dexter	Corrections Officer, Parnall Correctional Facility
Stapleton, Amy	Registered Nurse Manager, Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Strieby, Matthew	Maintenance Mechanic, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Swajanen, Dana	Food Services Supervisor, Marquette Branch Prison
Swanson, Kristine	Library Technician, Saginaw Correctional Facility
Temrowski, Olivia	Field Agent, Macomb County Probation
Vadlamundi, Madhavi	Licensed Practical Nurse, Parnall Correctional Facility
Williams, Niaweika	Resident Care Aide, Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Woodman, Christina	Cook, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility

Committed to Protect, Dedicated to Success



# August Retirements

Bruder, Todd	Maintenance Mechanic, Charles E. Egeler Reception and Guidance Center
Campeau, Brian	Corrections Officer, Detroit Reentry Center
Chilcote, Charley	Departmental Analyst, Corrections Central Office
Dumond, John	Correction Officer, Newberry Correctional Facility
Frey, Brian	Corrections Officer, Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Furlong, Craig	Corrections Security Inspector, Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Garcia, Kimberly	Corrections Medical Officer, Woodland Center Correctional Facility
Genson, Troy	Corrections Officer, Carson City Correctional Facility
Hardin-Collins, Lillie	Registered Nurse, Women's Huron Valley Correctional Facility
Honeywell, David	Corrections Officer, Gus Harrison Correctional Facility
James, Sheila	Corrections Officer, Detroit Reentry Center
Janssen, Leonard	Corrections Officer, Baraga Correctional Facility
Kubasiak, Michael	Corrections Officer, Lakeland Correctional Facility
Lafler, John	Storekeeper, Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Lavigne, Arland	Corrections Officer, Alger Correctional Facility
Lindsey, Kevin	Warden, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
McCoy, Keith	Corrections Officer, Detroit Reentry Center
Mills, Pamela	Corrections Officer, Newberry Correctional Facility
Nelson-Jones, Sheri	Corrections Shift Supervisor, Detroit Reentry Center
Ness, Craig	Corrections Officer, Alger Correctional Facility
Paul, David	Corrections Shift Supervisor, Central Michigan Correctional Facility
Reed, Randall	Corrections Officer, Richard A. Handlon Correctional Facility
Reinsch, Daryl	Field Agent, Muskegon County Probation Office
Shafer, Ruth	Secretary, Cooper Street Correctional Facility
Shepard, Christine	Corrections Security Inspector, Bellamy Creek Correctional Facility
Skinner, Todd	Corrections Officer, Alger Correctional Facility
Steenland, Mark	Maintenance Mechanic, Macomb Correctional Facility
Wilkins, Chad	Corrections Transportation Officer, Carson City Correctional Facility
Ybarra, Amador	Corrections Shift Supervisor, G. Robert Cotton Correctional Facility
Young, Mary	Corrections Shift Supervisor, Alger Correctional Facility