



LaDonna
Thompson
Commissioner

INSIDE CORRECTIONS

Vol. 8, Issue 1 - April 2015

Staff, Inmate Injuries Drastically Reduced With Use of OC Spray

By Mike Caudill
Public Information Officer

One of the goals of the Department of Corrections has been to utilize less lethal technology during incidents involving aggressive inmates.

This goal has been met through the use of Oleoresin capsicum (OC) spray.

The use of OC spray has led to a marked reduction of staff injuries during

resolution of incidents with combative inmates. There is a rapid de-escalation of violent and aggressive behavior in inmates that are exposed to OC spray, which has also led to a marked reduction of injury to inmates behaving violently.

Beginning in January 2013, all uniform security staff were trained and certified to use OC spray.

Please See OC SPRAY, Page 4



A CERT member from each Kentucky DOC prison is participating in the 2015 Mock Prison Riot training in Moundsville, W. Va. May 3-6. The event features hands-on training and technology exposure to corrections, law enforcement, military, and public safety practitioners from around the world. The DOC team prepared for the training at NTC. (Another photo is on page 3.)

On The Inside ...

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Commissioner LaDonna Thompson spoke at an event at Little Sandy Correctional Complex recognizing the excellent relationship between the prison and Morehead State University. (Story on page 6.)

Corrections, Heroin, Dating Violence Bills Passed in Final Hours

2015 General Assembly Wraps Up

By Briney King
Public Information Officer

The Kentucky General Assembly's 2015 session came to a close in the early morning hours of March 24 - the final day of the 30-day session. Senate and House members debated many high priority topics including combating the state's growing heroin epidemic and expanding protective orders to include dating violence victims.

House Bill 428, also known as the Corrections Bill, was sponsored by Representative Brent Yonts and passed favorably on the final day of the session.

Please See 2015 GENERAL ASSEMBLY, Page 8

Green River Correctional Complex Marks 20th Year

Green River Correctional Complex celebrated its 20th anniversary on December 16, 2014 - exactly 20 years to the day of the prison's opening.

The celebration included a display of memorabilia that tracked the prison's history - from the community's fight to have the prison located in Central City, to its construction and opening.

Warden Alan Brown welcomed the attendees who included Justice & Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown, Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, and Deputy Commissioners

Jim Erwin, Kim Potter-Blair and Paula Holden.

Hugh W. Sweatt Jr., a former mayor of Central City and one of the key individuals involved in the city's prison location bid, was the guest speaker.

Original employees still part of the GRCC staff were recognized for their dedication and years of service.

Former GRCC wardens were also invited and Randy White (current warden at the Kentucky State Penitentiary) and Patti Webb attended.

The special event was showcased with a commemorative coin.



Original Green River Correctional Complex staff members still working at the prison were recognized during the anniversary celebration. Back row (L-R): Back row from left to right is David Higgs, Brant Durall, Ron Beck, Willard Watson and John Wilson; front row (L-R): Glynda Conaway, Teresa Shanklin and Amy Fields.



Above left: Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, GRCC Warden Alan Brown and Secretary J. Michael Brown helped mark the institution's 20th anniversary. Above right: Attendees included: back row (L-R) WKCC Warden Steve Woodward, LLCC Warden Greg Howard, Secretary Brown, Warden Brown, Deputy Commissioner Jim Erwin and KSP Warden Randy, who is also a former warden of GRCC. Front row (L-R) Former GRCC warden Patti Webb, Commissioner Thompson, BCFC Warden Kathy Litteral and RCC Warden Ravonne Sims. Left: The 20th Anniversary GRCC commemorative coin. Right: The visitation building was beautifully decorated and transformed to host the celebration.



2015 Correctional Employees' Week To Be Celebrated in KY

Gov. Beshear Issues Proclamation for May 4-9

From Paducah to Pikeville, and everywhere in between, events are taking place this week to mark "Correctional Employees' Week."

Governor Steve Beshear proclaimed May 4-9, 2015 as the official period in Kentucky when correctional employees are recognized for their hard work and commitment to public safety.

Events are being held at state prisons, probation and parole districts and at the department's Central Office

in Frankfort to serve as a "thank you" to the Kentucky Department of Corrections' more than 4,000 employees.

In 1984, President Ronald Reagan signed Proclamation 5187, creating National Correctional Officers' Week.

In 1996, the name of the week was officially modified by Congress, becoming National Correctional Officers and Employees Week to include other vital members of correctional staff.

The observance seeks to commemorate the contributions of corrections professionals who work in prisons, jails and community corrections across the country.

Proclamation

by
Steven L. Beshear
Governor

of the

Commonwealth of Kentucky



To All To Whom These Presents Shall Come:

- WHEREAS, Correctional employees demonstrate professional excellence and risk their lives to provide the citizens of the Commonwealth with safe and secure institutions and supervision of offenders in communities throughout Kentucky; and
- WHEREAS, These employees share many roles such as communicators, counselors and educators, but it is their dedication and bravery that sets them apart; and
- WHEREAS, The Department of Corrections recognizes its over 4,000 employees who embody professionalism, compassion and collaboration while maintaining their steadiness often in a challenging environment; and
- WHEREAS, Correctional employees including, administrators, correctional officers, probation and parole officers, treatment specialists, wardens, supervisors, health care professionals, teachers, chaplains, counselors and support staff, are committed to provide a safe, secure and humane environment for staff and offenders by putting public safety first while implementing legislative and judicial mandates; and
- WHEREAS, Kentucky citizens are encouraged to commend corrections professionals for performing such hazardous and challenging tasks, recognizing they deserve the appreciation for the vital public service they provide;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, STEVEN L. BESHEAR, Governor of the Commonwealth of Kentucky, do hereby proclaim May 4-9, 2015, as

CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES' WEEK

in Kentucky.

DONE AT THE CAPITOL, in the City of Frankfort the 22nd day of April, in the year of Our Lord Two Thousand Fifteen and in the 223rd year of the Commonwealth.

STEVEN L. BESHEAR
GOVERNOR

ALISON LUNDERGAN GRIMES
SECRETARY OF STATE



The 2015 Mock Prison Riot training in Moundsville, W. Va. is held each spring at the decommissioned West Virginia Penitentiary in Moundsville. The Kentucky DOC team included Donnie Hartman, BCFC; Clay McRoy, GRCC; Travis Bradley, KSP; Paul Young, LSCC; Stephen Boles, NTC; John Young, WKCC; Nathan Aseltine, BCC; Jason Hebel, RCC; John Busteed, KCIW; Jesus Gonzalez, KSR; Cody Wallace, EKCC; Joshua Jarvis, LSCC; and Command Staff Greg Howard, Mervin Haddix, Bridget Gilliland, Danny McGraw, Jeffrey Hope, Mark Wasson and Steve Faulkner.

Long-Awaited Transition to GLOCK Underway

The Kentucky Department of Corrections began the transition into the .40 Caliber GLOCK Semi-Automatic Pistol this month.

Institutional CERT members across the state are being trained and qualified on the new GLOCK Model 23.

To help offset the amount of CERT members away from the institution in the month of March, multiple courses are being set up across the state to conduct this training. Part of this qualification will involve a two day training exercise that will include classroom and range time.

Division of Corrections Training as well as P&P will provide the firearm instructors in order to make this a successful transition.

“GLOCK has become the standard duty weapon in Law Enforcement all across the country due to its durability and dependability,” said Corrections Training Branch Manager Steve Faulkner.

(Additional photos are on page 19.)



Above: CERT team members learned to fire the GLOCK 23 under the guidance of firearm instructors. Mark Wasson (Internal Affairs Branch Manager) and one of the instructors looked on while officers displayed their shooting skill. The instructors gave advice on different type of stances as the CERT members fired their weapon.

OC Spray

From Page 1

OC spray is produced from the same chemical that makes chili peppers hot - but at a much higher concentration.

OC spray became available in spray form in the United States in 1973, and was used initially by the FBI and US postal workers.

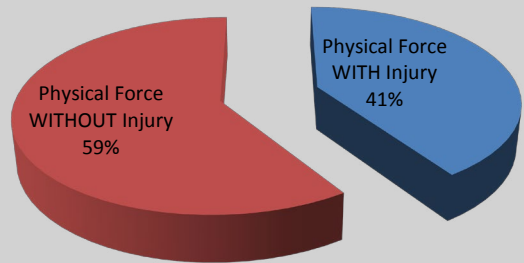
Instruction in the use of OC spray has been approved and implemented by the Division of Corrections Training. During the OC course, each trainee is required to be subjected to the spray; this helps to alleviate the initial shock in the event a staff member is exposed during an altercation.

The exposure also demonstrates that an individual can remain a threat even after being tainted with OC spray.

Decontamination is easily achieved through the use of water and fresh air. There are no long-term health risks associated with the use of OC spray, another key factor in support of its use.

Right: The graph (top) demonstrates the frequency of staff injuries when physical force was used to quell a violent inmate incident. Bottom Right: The graph (bottom) clearly shows the impact the use of OC Spray has had when dealing with these incidents.

Instances of Staff Injury with the Use of Physical Force



Instances of Staff Injury with the Use of OC Spray





Spotlight On A Veteran

Rodney Moore

This issue of “Spotlight on a Vet” focuses on Rodney Moore. Rodney started his career with the Department of Corrections in 2003 as a Correctional Officer at Northpoint Training Center. He is currently a branch manager in DOC’s Division of Personnel Services.



Division of Personnel Services Branch Manager Rodney Moore served his country in the United States Navy right after high school graduation. Above: Moore served aboard the USS Nimitz, an aircraft carrier commissioned in 1975.



Division of Personnel Branch Manager Rodney Moore previously served four and half years in the United States Navy prior his employment with Department of Corrections.

Moore enlisted in the Navy while still in high school. During his junior year, he met with a recruiter at a local career fair – but his ambition to commit to the military came at an unsettled time during the Gulf War and it took some time convincing his parents.

“Being a kid from a small rural town, I wanted to travel the world,” Moore said.

During his junior and senior year of high school, he attended monthly meetings at the Recruiter’s Office in Hazard. Just one month after graduating from Breathitt County High School he began basic training at the Great Lakes Naval Station located in North Chicago near Lake Michigan.

Once he completed basic training, orders took him to Kitsap Naval Base in Bremerton, Washington. Upon arrival he was assigned to the USS Nimitz, an aircraft carrier that was out to sea. He was flown by helicopter to reach the vessel and there he was given his first job duty in the fuel department maintaining the aircraft fueling system.

While serving at sea, Moore frequently sailed up and down the west coast of the United States and traveled to several large cities around the world including Hong Kong, Singapore and Thailand. The USS Nimitz was ordered to serve a six-month security detail outside of Dubai as the Gulf War was wrapping up.

The carrier had recreation opportunities including a basketball court, satellite telephone and movies to watch, but there wasn’t a lot of downtime and due to a hectic work

schedule most downtime was spent sleeping. During those six months, the vessel ported in Dubai every couple of weeks and although there were American restaurants at portside, Moore said, “I remember it being really hot, but what I remember the most is how the culture was so different from the United States.”

After he completed his tour of duty, Moore returned to Kentucky. In April 2003 he began employment with Department of Corrections as a Correctional Officer at Northpoint Training Center.

Moore has promoted up through the ranks of the Department by working at four of the state’s institutions, serving on CERT, as a firearms instructor, and a training coordinator. He credits his time spent in the military as the foundation for

Partnership Between LSCC and MSU Celebrated

During a ceremony held at Little Sandy Correctional Complex, Morehead State University was recognized with a hard-carved plaque to celebrate the cooperative relationship between the prison and university.

The plaque was made by inmates in the prison's wood-working class, just one of the vocational opportunities offered at LSCC.

MSU was specifically praised for helping launch the Prison Exchange program "Inside-Out" at LSCC.

Inside-Out is a college course inside the prison that pairs undergraduates with inmates to study as peers

State Rep. Rocky Adkins, Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, MSU President Dr. Wayne D. Andrews, LSCC Warden Joseph Meko and Steve Ison, edu-

cation administrator at the prison, took part in the event along with several MSU personnel.

"The program gives our students a chance to come into the prison and work with the inmates. They study together, they read, they write, and learn from each other," said Dr. Andrews. "This is a great opportunity for people to come together and learn from one another."

MSU's Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminology has been working with the Prison Exchange educational program since 2011, first at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex and for the last three years at LSCC.

"It is very moving to walk through this institution and see what is going on," said Rep. Adkins. "I call this a



Several Morehead State University officials visited Little Sandy Correctional Complex to celebrate the excellent relationship between the university and prison. (L-R) Dr. M. Scott McBride, Caudill College of Arts, Humanities and Social Sciences dean; Rep. Rocky Adkins, Dr. Latonya Hesterberg, interim chair Department of Sociology, Social Work and Criminology; Dr. Wayne D. Andrews, MSU president; Dr. Rebecca Katz, professor of sociology; Steve Ison, corrections regional education administrator; Commissioner LaDonna Thompson; LSCC Warden Joseph Meko; and Dr. Steven Ralston, chief academic officer and provost.

place of hope. This is a special program and those involved should be very proud of the work they are doing."

According to Dr. Rebecca Katz, professor of sociology, 25 criminology students

Please See PARTNERSHIP, Page 14

Veteran

From Page 5

a successful career in Corrections.

"The Navy absolutely helped prepare me for a career in Corrections," said Moore. "DOC is similar to the military in many ways. Just like the military, institutions are a 24/7 operation and don't shut down due to weather or sickness."

Moore currently serves the Department as Branch Manager in the Division of Personnel at the Central Office level. He resides in Mercer County with his wife Beth, a Systems Consultant in DOC's Information & Technology Branch, and their six-year-old son Alex.

"The Navy was the first job I ever had. I had never been on an airplane or out of the United States. I loved it!"

Rodney Moore
Branch Manager
Division of Personnel



Left: While serving in the United States Navy Moore traveled around the world on board the USS Nimitz.

Area Jails Included

Regional CERT Training Held at Northpoint

Northpoint Training Center held a joint Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) training on January 29.

Included in the training were teams from Blackburn Correctional Complex, Bell County Forestry Camp, Christian County Jail, Lincoln County Jail, and Mercer County Jail. The training was coordinated by Regional CERT Commander Bridget Gilliland.

Warden Don Bottom and Deputy Warden of Security Julie Thomas greeted the guests and Warden Bottom commented on the importance of training and being ready for any event that should arise where their expertise and training would be needed.

Colonel Steve Howard from the Christian County Jail conducted classroom training on cell entry and extraction. He also supervised exercises on cell entry and extraction as members donned tactical gear and completed hands-on-training.

Finally, the training group did a thorough search of Northpoint's Dormitory Four.

Warden Bottom closed the training by thanking the group for the time and commitment that they give to training and serving on CERT and tactical teams throughout the state.



Above: The Christian County Jail tactical team demonstrated a cell entry exercise at Northpoint Training Center. Area jails participated in the regional CERT training held recently at NTC.



Top: Northpoint Training Center Warden Don Bottom (far right) addresses the group during regional CERT training. Above: Mercer County Jailer Bret Chamberlain demonstrated protective equipment during CERT training at NTC.

Little Sandy, Roederer Receive Perfect PREA Audit Scores

Little Sandy Correctional Complex and Roederer Correctional Complex both received 100 percent on the institutions' initial Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) compliance audits.

The Little Sandy Correctional Complex PREA audit was conducted in February by audit staff Deanna Johnson, Luke Morris, and Jeremy Simonson, all from the Nebraska Department of Correctional Services. The auditors confirmed that the staff and inmates at LSCC knew and practiced the written policy after the audit tour and interviews.

"I am very pleased with the performance of the staff and the inmate population given the extreme weather we all experienced during our first PREA audit," said Warden Joseph Meko. "Our institution has worked very diligently

and with an eye on detail to meet PREA standards."

Roederer Correctional Complex followed suit in March when PREA auditors, Kenneth VanMeveren and Becc Coyle, both from the South Dakota Department of Corrections issued a perfect score.

The auditors were very thorough during their tour and interview process and complimented both inmates and staff for their PREA knowledge.

"I am very proud of the staff for their hard work in accomplishing a 100% compliance rating for the institution's first PREA audit," said RCC Warden Ravonne Sims. "A score such as this can only be achieved through a collective teamwork approach, and indicates an exceptional commitment and dedication to

our institutional and departmental initiatives."

Signed into law Sept. 4, 2003, PREA is intended to address the detection, prevention, reduction and prosecution of sexual harassment and abuse in correctional facilities in the country. PREA audits consist of 43 national standards that ensure compliance with all facets of this federal legislation.

Each of Kentucky's 12 prisons will receive an initial PREA audit within the first three-year audit period that concludes in August 2016, with follow-up audits conducted once every three years on a continuous cycle.

RCC and LSCC join three other institutions, KCIW, BCFC, and WKCC on receiving 100 percent on their initial PREA audit.

General Assembly

From Page 1

- The proposed legislation under the first section extends peace officer powers that are currently in place at the institutional level to the Internal Affairs Management staff located at Central Office.

- This proposal will also amend a portion of current language that requires the Department to provide inmates a birth certificate upon release as part of the re-entry process. Obtaining birth certificates has proven difficult for DOC staff in many instances, especially if the offender was born on military grounds or outside the United States. The amendment requires the Department to provide a birth certificate only for inmates that were born in the state of Kentucky.

- The third section will allow the Kentucky State Police to accept the Department's basic firearms training course as the firearm training requirement for the concealed carry deadly weapon application process. This allows current and retired employees of DOC who have successfully completed the Department's basic firearms training course to utilize this training to apply for a license to carry a concealed deadly weapon.

- The final two sections relate to proper reporting and jail personnel training. This proposed legislation allows DOC to



Blanketed Capital

Record snowfall forced the Kentucky General Assembly to close for a snow day during the 2015 legislative session.

forward a copy of jail inspection reports to each county's proper governing authority. This section will also allow the Department to provide training to jail personnel on the various communicable diseases that can be contracted in a facility without the limitation of any one specific disease.

With a total of 752 bills filed during this year's legislative session, 2015 proved a short snowy session did not mean a slow session.

We Never Get Tired of Receiving Them!

Notes of Praise, Thanks Always Appreciated

UK COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SERVICE
University of Kentucky – College of Agriculture

Warden Woodward,

On behalf of the 4-H Teen Leadership Academy group from Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston and Trigg Counties, I send thanks for a great tour of the facility there. Our young people were amazed. The impact you all had on them will last a lifetime. We are so appreciative to you and your staff for all the time you spend with our group. Please convey our thanks to all. Wanda Paris, Lyon Co. 4-H Agent

From: Delmenhorst, Mark
Sent: Wednesday, February 25, 2015 1:51 PM
To: Heddlston, Cyndi (DOC)
Cc: Allan, Christina M (DOC); Curtsinger, Todd; Wofford, Adam (DOC); Reynolds, Richard
Subject: Western Kentucky Region

Cyndi,

Just wanted to take a moment and express to you how fortunate DOC is to have a Safety Officer like Adam Wofford. He is very knowledgeable in OSHA Standards and is very passionate about ensuring the safety of your workers at your various locations in Western Kentucky on a daily basis.

I enjoy the working relationship that Adam and I share with one another. I have great deal of respect for him as I am sure you do as well.

Once again, thank you for allowing SimplexGrinnell the opportunity to keep you and your Staff SAFE!

Thanks!
Mark

Dear Jennifer,

I wanted to drop you a short note to just say "Thank you for saving my life." I never thought I would be saying that to D.O.C. (to) but I am. This place is awesome and I am so focusing on my recovery. I have felt feelings I haven't felt in years, some good, some bad, but that's ok, I am learning how to deal with all that now, "Sober + Clean". I know you are busy and won't keep you. But sincerely, I thank you! I will be here to see you when I complete the program. Happy Holidays!

Christmas 2014
To the staff and Warden at KSP,
Thank you for keeping my friend, who is doing time there, safe and cared for as he serves out his sentence. He was recently transferred to another prison where he came very close to being killed by several other inmates. He was recently sent back to KSP, where it seems the system of locating high risk prisoners is a lot more effective. I know that prison is never a great place to be but

May the joy and blessing of the Holiday Season be yours throughout the New Year

I am very grateful that you took him back and he is in P.C. where he belongs. God bless all of you for the difficult jobs all of you do. MARK

Above: The letter was sent by a former offender to a District 6 Probation and Parole Officer, thanking the officer because treatment provided in a substance abuse program was working. **At left:** The note was sent to the Kentucky State Penitentiary staff and Warden Randy White from an inmate's friend for the safe and humane treatment provided.

Thanks

From Page 9

From: Lay, Charles R CTR NG KYARNG (US)
To: Wright, Tammy Lou (DOC)
Subject: 16 hour SARC/VA Continuing Education Training

Ms. Wright,

I wanted to say thank you on the behalf of the Kentucky National Guard Joint Force Headquarters Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Office for you taking the time to come and conduct a block of training for our Sexual Assault Response Coordinators (SARC) and Victim Advocates (VA). I know that you have a busy schedule, and I greatly appreciate you taking the time to conduct the quality training that you provided during our 16 hour SARC/VA Continuing Education Training. Your professionalism and enthusiasm were recognized by our staff and the students in the course.

We conducted a course evaluation during the training, with each individual class being scored on a five point scale, with one being the worst and five being the best. We also provided a spot for the students to provide feedback on the overall training course, and/or to individual instructors if they wanted to. Here are the results of the evaluations as pertains to your portion of the course:

Average score for your class was: a perfect score of 5 in all areas!
Great job!

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact me.

Charles Lay
KYNG JFHQ SHARP Office
Program Analyst

From: Carney, Katie (LRC)
Sent: Tuesday, March 10, 2015 4:32 PM
To: Erwin, James (DOC); Potter-Blair, Kimberly (DOC); Holden, Paula (DOC); Kleymeyer, Chris (DOC); Brislin, Jennifer (Justice); King, Briney J (DOC); Mundine, Marlene (Justice); Thompson, LaDonna (DOC)
Cc: Yaeger, Mary (LRC)
Subject: DOC Outstanding Memo.doc

Briney,

Before anything changed here on my end, I wanted to get this updated outstanding memo to you!

Way to go for your first session!!! You have been great to work with and thank you so much for getting these to us.

Katie

Katie Carney
Legislative Research Commission

From: Ingram, Amber (DOC)
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2015 12:15 PM
To: Moore, Rodney E (DOC)
Subject: Ashley Thomas

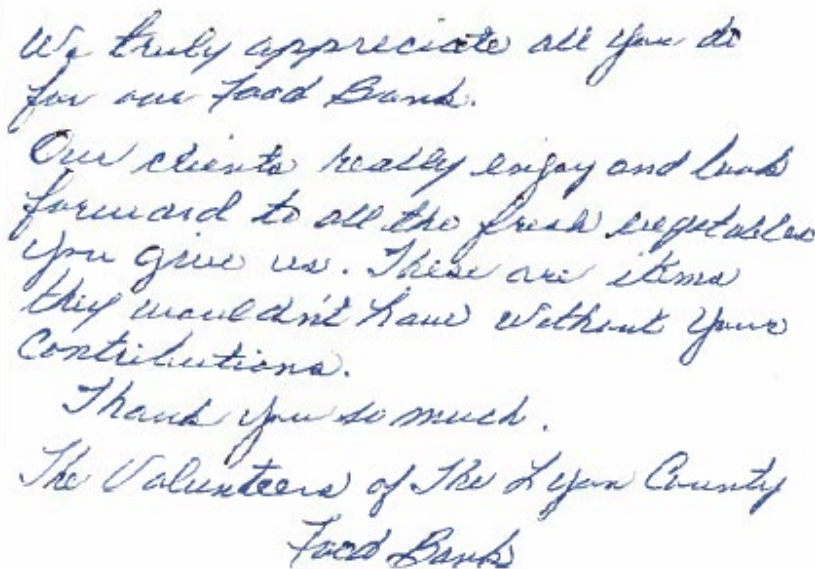
Rodney,

I just wanted to let you know that Ashley Thomas is doing a great job. I've had staff tell me that she has been helpful and quick to respond to any questions. When I have run into issues, she has always done the same.

I also wanted to let you know that recently she went above and beyond when one staff member was out on sick leave for a few weeks. Ashley called her at home a few times to let her know what was going on with her leave time and that some sick time had been donated to her. I know your office is extremely busy and I thought Ashley taking some time out of her day to help like this was incredibly nice and thoughtful.

Just wanted to let you know,
Ambie

Ambie Ingram
Corrections Program Administrator
Division of Parole and Victim Services



*We truly appreciate all you do for our Food Bank.
Our clients really enjoy and look forward to all the fresh vegetables you give us. These are items they wouldn't have without your contributions.
Thank you so much.
The Volunteers of The Lyon County Food Bank*

Above: The note was sent to WKCC Warden Steve Woodward in appreciation for the institution's contributions to the Lyon County Food Bank.

Employee Recognition, News

Key Promotions Announced Throughout DOC

Abby McIntire Promoted to Deputy Warden at BCC

Abby McIntire has been promoted to deputy warden at Blackburn Correctional Complex. Her promotion was effective April 1, 2015.

McIntire began her career in 1998 as a correctional officer at the Kentucky State Reformatory, and then transferred to Roederer Correctional Complex (RCC). In April 2000 she was promoted to classification and treatment officer for the Assessment Center at RCC. In October 2000, McIntire transferred to the Division of Probation and Parole and served as an officer in multiple counties. In September 2005 she went back to RCC as a classification and treatment officer managing the minimum-security unit and the 200-bed substance abuse program.

In May 2006 she was promoted to unit administrator I and in September 2007, McIntire was promoted to unit administrator II, where she served as the grievance coordinator for the institution and managed the inmate education program. In April 2012 she promoted to program administrator for the Assessment Center at RCC.



Abby McIntire

Amy Robey Promoted to Deputy Warden at RCC

Amy Robey has been promoted to deputy warden at Roederer Correctional Complex (RCC) in LaGrange. Her promotion was effective April 1, 2015.

Robey began her career with Kentucky Department of Corrections in 2004 as a correctional officer at the Kentucky State Reformatory. In 2005 she promoted to classification and treatment officer in the segregation unit. During this time she managed a caseload in addition to overseeing the minimum security unit.

In 2006, Robey promoted to unit administrator I and assisted in the supervision of the institution's Nursing Care Facility and a diverse general population housing unit consisting of 700



Amy Robey

offenders. Two years later Robey was again promoted to unit administrator II where she supervised the department's most severe mentally ill offenders in the Corrections Psychiatric Treatment Unit (CPTU). She was responsible for managing the security, safety, programs, food service, education, recreation, and all support services occurring and delivered to the unit.

After leaving CPTU she transitioned back to the management of a general population unit supervising the canine program. In addition, she once again supervised the Nursing Care Facility, facing many end of life occurrences with the offenders. She was then appointed as the unit administrator II of the institution's 130-bed segregation unit and the Behavior Modification Program for offenders with long term segregation sentences.

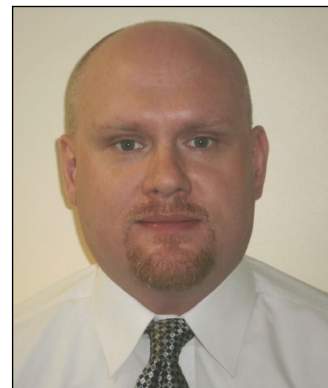
During her tenure Robey was awarded the 2009 Kentucky State Reformatory Employee of the Year, and she is a 2014 graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program. She earned a bachelor's degree in justice administration from the University of Louisville.

Robert Taylor Promoted to Eastern Region Branch Manager in Probation and Parole

Robert Taylor was promoted to administrative branch manager of the Eastern Region for the Division of Probation and Parole. The region consists of five supervisory districts with offices in Catlettsburg, London, Mount Sterling, Newport and Prestonsburg. Taylor assumed his new duties Jan. 1.

Taylor started his career with the Department of Corrections in 2003 as an officer in the Louisville southwest office. He subsequently transferred to District 14 where he served as both a felony and sex offender officer before returning to Louisville in 2009. He was promoted to assistant district supervisor in District 17 in 2009 and to District 16 supervisor in 2011.

Taylor has served as a firearms instructor, LS/CMI instructor, 24/7 Dads program instructor and a member of the firearms board. He has also served as a member of the American Correctional Association (ACA) compliance review team with the Division of Probation and Parole. In addition, he was appointed



Robert Taylor

Promotions

From Page 11

to the Sex Offender Risk Assessment Advisory Board in 2008.

Taylor is a 1997 graduate of Alice Lloyd College where he earned a bachelor of arts degree in business administration.

Diana Eads Promoted to Personnel Branch Manager

Diana Eads has been promoted to branch manager for the department's personnel services branch. She assumed her new duties Nov. 16.

Eads began her career in the Department of Corrections in 1997 in the Division of Probation & Parole. She promoted to administrative specialist in 2001 where she was responsible for Probation & Parole personnel and administrative functions. In 2011, after a short stint in the Division of Local Facilities, she promoted to human resource administrator, institutional, for the Division of Probation & Parole. She ultimately transferred to the Division of Personnel Services in 2012 as a human resource specialist III. In 2013, she was reclassified to the position of human resource administrator.

Eads is a member of the Kentucky chapter of the International Public Management Association for Human Resources and was selected to participate in various pilot programs during the state's transition to the new personnel system, KHRIS.



Diana Eads

Kirstie Willard Promoted to Regional Administrator

Kirstie Willard was promoted to a regional administrator for the department. In this position she will work closely with DOC officials, jail inspectors, jailers and local officials on all issues relating to Kentucky Jail Standards. Willard assumed her new duties Nov 16.

Willard worked as an intern with the Division of Local Facilities from May 1999 until August 2001, while completing her Bachelor of Science degree in correctional and juvenile justice studies at Eastern Kentucky University. Upon graduation, she worked as a graduate assistant at the University of Louisville while working on her Master's degree in justice administration.



Kirstie Willard

vocate II in the newly formed Office of Victim Services where she acted as a liaison between crime victims and the department. In September 2005, she was promoted to victim advocate III and managed the state-wide Victim Information and Notification Everyday (VINE) program.

In March 2007, she transferred to the Division of Local Facilities as a jail services specialist where she served as the jail inspector for 14 counties and the Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) liaison for all jails across the state. In February 2010, she was promoted to corrections program administrator where, in addition to her role as a jail inspector and PREA liaison, she handled the administrative duties of the Kentucky State Corrections Commission with regard to the community corrections grants program and served as the clerical assistant for the Kentucky Jail Standards Commission. In January 2014, Willard also assumed supervisory duties of the Division of Local Facilities administrative staff, who are responsible for processing housing reimbursement, state inmate pay and catastrophic medical claims for the jails.

Willard is a 2014 graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program, and is also a member of the American Jail Association and the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency.

Desi Brooks Promoted to Regional Administrator

Desi Brooks has been promoted to regional administrator for the department. In this position he will work closely with DOC officials, jail inspectors, jailers and local officials on all issues relating to Kentucky Jail Standards. Brooks assumed his new duties Nov 16.

Brooks, a Navy veteran, began his career with the DOC in 1996 as a correctional officer at Blackburn Correctional Complex. In June 2000 he transferred to the Division of Probation and Parole as an officer in the Louisville west office. He transferred to the Lexington office in September 2001. He was promoted to jail services specialist in the Division of Local Facilities in 2002 and was again promoted in 2007 to jail consultant. He has also been a Kentucky Employee Mediation Program (KEMP) mediator since July 2008.

Brooks is a 2008 graduate of Sullivan University where he earned a Master's degree in dispute resolution. He is also a graduate of the 2007 and 2012 classes of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program as well as the Governor's Minority Management Trainee Program in 2011.



Desi Brooks

Promoted

From Page 12

Jay Bell Promoted to District 16 Supervisor

Jay Bell has been promoted to supervisor of District 16 in Louisville. District 16 is one of four supervision districts in Jefferson County. Bell assumed her new duties on April 1.

Bell began her state employment career in 2000 with the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) as an adult and child protective services investigator. She served as a member of Nelson County's multi-disciplinary team which was established to combat child abuse. In 2003, the cabinet appointed Bell to the position of social service clinician. She received the CHFS employee of the year award in both 2003 and 2004.

Bell came to the Division of Probation & Parole in 2004 as a probation and parole officer in District 5. She served as the re-entry liaison for her district and was an active participant on the central region re-entry task force. In 2011, she was promoted to assistant supervisor in District 16. Bell served as a member of the American Correctional Association (ACA) mock audit team in 2012. Currently, she is a Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) investigator for the Northern Region and completes the ACA standards for District 16.

Bell is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where she earned a bachelor of arts degree in sociology with a minor in criminology. She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Delta honor society. In 2010 and 2011, Bell completed the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program. She is also the recipient of the 2010 District 5 achievement award.

Denise Probus Promoted to Assistant Supervisor

Denise Probus has been promoted to the position of assistant supervisor for probation and parole training. She assumed her new duties Jan. 16.

Probus joined the Department of Corrections in October 2006 as a felony supervision officer in Louisville District 16. She went on to supervise sex offenders, halfway house offenders, misdemeanor and low risk offenders and parolees. Probus spearheaded the training program for Probation & Parole and has served as the primary trainer for Probation & Parole staff since 2011.

In addition to her training role, she currently serves as the division rmoreer as well as chairperson of the Probation & Pa-



Jay Bell

role Firearms Board. Probus has also been deeply involved in re-entry efforts, piloting Thinking for a Change and Moral Recognition Therapy classes in Jefferson County.

Probus is a 2002 graduate of Northern Kentucky University where she received her bachelor's degree in criminal justice. She is also a graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program



Denise Probus

Mike Caudill Promoted to Public Information Officer/ Open Records Coordinator for Department

Mike Caudill has been promoted to the position of Public Information Officer for the Department. He will also serve as the department's coordinator for open records requests.

Caudill received his bachelor's degree in Integrated Strategic Communications from the University of Kentucky.

After a 15-year career in the field of civil engineering, he decided it was a time for change. Caudill joined the Department of Corrections in October 2009 in Offender Information Services where he was responsible for reviewing sentence calculations and awarding custody credit to nearly 3,000 state inmates per month.

In May 2010 he was promoted to classification and treatment officer at Blackburn Correctional Complex. He was responsible for conducting orientation for all incoming inmates as well as classifying offenders and recommending programs. Caudill was also the first program staff employee at Blackburn to be on the K-9 special response team.

In 2011 he transferred to the Division of Probation and Parole as an officer in Fayette County. He supervised an offender caseload and was also the safety officer for the district. He was a "Thinking for a Change" facilitator and a re-entry officer for the district, teaching a class for new probationers each month.

In March 2014 he was promoted to the department's Victim Services Branch. As a victim advocate, he responded to daily contacts from victims and traveled the state to conduct training on Kentucky DOC's automated victim notification services.

Caudill is a member of the 2014 Commissioners Executive Leadership Program and is secretary of the Capitol Chapter of Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD).



Mike Caudill

Partnership

From Page 6

have traveled to the prison for the program. Participation is limited to pre-screened juniors and seniors. More than 50 inmates have taken MSU classes.

“The Commonwealth of Kentucky appreciates the cooperation between Morehead State University and Little Sandy Correctional Complex,” said Commissioner Thompson. “The program allows convicted felons to work with bright, up and coming, students. The experience is invaluable to the students and inmate population. We are very thankful for all the hard work from both MSU and Little Sandy to make this possible.”

Inside-Out is an opportunity for college students to go behind the walls to reconsider what they have come to know about crime and justice. At the same time, it is also an opportunity for those inside prison to place their life experiences in a larger framework. Inside-Out creates a paradigm shift for participants, encouraging transformation and change in individuals and, in so doing, serves as an engine for social change.

“Study after study shows that education works. It improves the chances of success for an inmate,” said Warden Meko. “It has a positive effect on an inmate’s psychological




State Rep. Rocky Adkins posed with the hand-carved sign presented to Morehead State University. The sign was designed and crafted by inmates at Little Sandy Correctional Complex.

welfare and helps create a culture of respect.”

The Inside-Out Program is not the only way the education program at Little Sandy Correctional Complex is excelling. The center was given the Program of Excellence Award in 2014 and nearly 500 inmates have earned their GED at the prison. One inmate will soon earn his associate’s degree from MSU, a first for the prison.

(Press release courtesy of MSU’s Public Relations Office).



THINK YOU CAN'T BEAR ANYMORE??

We invite you to join us for the 2nd Annual Grin and Bear It 5K walk/run for a great cause!

This is your chance to run one of the most unique 5K races in Kentucky! Few have ever legally ran away from a prison and been able to tell the tale!

Join us to raise proceeds for an amazing program! Inmates are given the opportunity to design and sew hand made stuffed bears that are given to Law Enforcement, Fire Fighters, and Emergency Medical Services to distribute to children in a time of need or family crisis.

Please visit our Facebook page, *Luckett Bear*, for further information.

Where:	Luther Luckett Correctional Complex 1612 Dawkins Rd. LaGrange, KY 40031
When:	Saturday, May 16, 2015 at 8:30am
Packet Pickup:	Luther Luckett Correctional Complex (LLCC) Friday, May 15th 4:30pm—6:30pm Saturday, May 16th 6:00am to race time
On-Line	Headfirstperformance.com
Registration:	\$25 through May 9, 2015 \$30 after May 9, 2015
Contact:	Jennifer Fitzgerald—LLCC 502-222-0363

‘Grin and Bear It’ 5K Set for May 16 at LLCC

The second annual Grin and Bear It 5K Walk/Run will take place on the prison grounds at Luther Luckett Correctional Complex Saturday, May 16th at 8:30 a.m.

Last year’s event was a huge success with 22 sponsors and 157 participants.

The proceeds support the prison’s “Bears Behind Bars” program.

The bear program gives inmates the opportunity to make handmade stuffed bears. The bears are constructed from donated scraps of material and great care is taken to ensure the bears are safe for children, regardless of the age.

The bears are donated to local law enforcement agencies including probation and parole officers, fire departments and Emergency Medical Services to provide to children who are going through a difficult time.

Visit www.Headfirstperformance.com for online registration.

DOC Gives Back to Community

Probation and Parole Helps with Preschoolers' 'Rules Day'

Probation and Parole District 2 Assistant Supervisor Trent Haddock and the First United Methodist 4-Year-Old Preschool Class toured the Christian County Justice Center recently.

The tour was part of their Educational Day, "RULES." Each student received a goody bag and an identification badge with their photo on a lanyard. The students were able to meet Circuit Court Judge Andrew C. Self and Circuit Clerk Gary Haddock.

The students also met Hopkinsville Police Department Officer Rodriguez and his K-9 partner Enzo and Christian County Sheriff Deputy Sean Head and his K-9 partner Timo.



P&P Assistant District 2 Assistant Supervisor Trent Haddock (standing far left) had the pleasure of working with the First United Methodist four-year-old preschool class on the students' "Rules Day."



District 12 Charitable Drives

Each year District 12 participates in community charitable programs in lieu of doing "dollar blue jean days" on Fridays. This started four years ago and each year the district exceeds expectations. The Lagrange Office (Above, L-R: Jason Coulter, Amanda Ricks, Bonnie Greer) coordinated their canned food drive with the Oldham County Red Cross. The Frankfort Office (Left, L-R: Chris Johnson, Tim Hamilton) coordinated their canned food drive with God's Food Pantry in Anderson County and the women's shelter in Franklin County. The Carrollton Office coordinated their food & toy drive with local businesses in Carroll County and also participated in local Shop with a Cop programs for Christmas and assisted with Christmas for Soldiers which is a program through the local armory. And lastly, the Shelbyville Office adopted a family for the year and provided numerous gifts to them for Christmas.

DOC Gives Back to Community



Offender Information Supervisor Coaches Local Elementary School Archery Team to 2nd Place Trophy

The Archery Kentucky State Championship was held in March at the International Convention Center in Louisville.

The best teams from the state competed in elementary, middle and high school divisions.

Representing these divisions were over 4,000 archers, all eager to showcase their talents.

Collins Lane Elementary School, coached by Robert Belen, earned a second place finish in the elementary division.

The program was established four years ago by Robert Belen, Central Office Offend-

er Information Administrator. This accomplishment was made possible with the support of school staff, dedicated assistant coaches, determined archers and their families.

The success of this team all began very simply with three words, "I will try."

"We have been teaching the archers that with hard work and mental effort good things will come," said Belen.

"I am not only proud of their effort, but I am happy for the kids that they earned such an accomplishment and have realized that hard work and mental effort does have value in life."



The District 7 Probation & Parole office had a cupcake bake off in conjunction with a canned food drive. Contestants and tasters donated canned goods so they could enjoy a casual attire day at the office while tasting cupcakes. The collection of canned goods was donated to the Senior Services of Northern Kentucky (SSNK) agency to help replenish the organization's food pantry. SSNK helps senior citizens in eight counties in Northern Kentucky: Boone, Campbell, Carroll, Gallatin, Grant, Kenton, Owen and Pendleton. Pictured above: The winning cupcakes were made by Adena Luehrmann who is pictured in the other photo (left) receiving the best cupcake trophy from Assistant Supervisor Tara Higgins who took the time to personally construct the trophy.





4-H Group Tours WKCC

The 4-H Teen Leadership Academy toured Western Kentucky Correctional Complex recently. The group is comprised of students from Lyon, Caldwell, Livingston and Trigg counties. They are pictured at left with Warden Steve Woodward. The Lyon County 4-H Agent sent Warden Woodward a note of appreciation. (see page 9)

Leadership Boyle County Group Tours Northpoint Training Center

Participants from the Leadership Boyle County Program visited Northpoint Training Center to tour the facility recently and attend a question and answer session with Warden Don Bottom.

The group was taken on a tour of the Veterans Dormitory, Substance Abuse Program, Mutts with Manner Program in the Honor Dormitory, and the Multi-Purpose Building housing Food Service, Academic School, Library, Health Services and Inmate Canteen.

After the tour participants were welcomed by Warden Bottom and engaged in a question and answer session as they enjoyed refreshments.

When asked about the most fulfilling part of his job, Warden Bottom said: "When I am made aware of inmate

success stories upon release, to see my staff grow and get promoted in their career, and maintaining public safety. All of these components help to make a difference in the lives of others and that is what is most important to me."

Leadership Boyle County is a biannual program formed by the Danville-Boyle County Chamber of Commerce in 1983 as a non-profit leadership program designed to further the development of the talents and energies of Boyle County's present and future leaders.

The program has a cross-section of the community participating in the class that runs from September to May with monthly day-long meetings. These meetings include lectures, discussions, tours of local facilities and other activities.



The Leadership Boyle County participants are pictured at left with NTC Warden Don Bottom after they toured Northpoint Training Center. The group is comprised of business leaders, educators, court officials, and charitable organization representatives.

BCFC Canine Trained In Arson Detection Getting Results

Do you believe in Magic? Well, Bell County Forestry Camp (BCFC) staff and the citizens of Knox County do.

Majik, a K-9 wildfire arson dog, and his Kentucky Department of Corrections handlers Adam Sloan and Josh Brock, investigated a fire on Warrior's Path in Knox County. Upon arriving at the scene, Majik leapt into action and used his bloodhound scent, which is said to be 40 times stronger than human scent, to track back down the road to a black Mazda truck parked in a shed.

"All of the Forestry staff at the scene were very impressed with the ability of the K9 and handler to track the man that started the fire so quickly," said Warden Kathy Litteral. "The dog tracked him to his truck and then continued the scent through an area that the man had walked to the front door of the house."

"It was impressive that the dog took the scent from the fencing tool and followed it several hundred feet down the road to the person of interest's truck and then house," said Kentucky Division of Forestry Director Leah MacSwords. "He actually left the scene in a vehicle and Magic was still able to track him."

The individual who set the fire said that he was trying to burn out a fence row.



In the front left Bell County Forestry Camp Correctional Officer Josh Brock with Chloe and at right is Officer Adam Sloan with Majik. Not only did Majik work hard on tracking a scent that day, he took time to smile for the camera as well.

P&P District 19 Wins 'Denim Day' Challenge; Proceeds Go To Charity

In support of Denim Day in the USA, the Northern Region participating probation and parole districts raised over \$400 that will be presented to the Center for Women in Louisville to assist in raising community awareness about the devastating impacts of sexual violence and how to prevent it. In accordance with the challenge, D-19 had the highest per-capita donations and will be first in the food line at May 15's Employee Picnic led by top donor Del Duke and Denim Day Organizer Jessie Sides.



Gunvant Shah Completes FBI Citizens Academy

Gunvant Shah, manager of DOC's Capital Construction Management Branch, recently completed training with the FBI Citizens Academy. He was nominated and selected to participate in the six-week program introducing matters pertaining to the work of the FBI. Instruction was given in several areas including investigative techniques, hostage negotiations, recruiting and training, drugs, gangs, civil rights, white collar crime, deadly force, cybercrimes, terrorism, the victim witness program, corruption, counterintelligence, crimes against children, firearms training, HAZMAT issues and bombs. "This was an excellent program with many areas of overlap with issues we face in Corrections," said Shah. "The Citizens Academy provides an opportunity to build, develop and strengthen community relationships."

GLOCK TRANSITION

Right: Northpoint Training Center Captain Daniel Napier and the CERT team demonstrated the “team attitude” by helping others staple targets to the plywood. A total of 16 target stations were set up for the training exercise. The training also included a classroom module that was completed prior to the range qualification. A total of 35 CERT members qualified on that day,



Left: During training in the Western Region, the first of the statewide trainings held, CERT teams were educated on all the components of the GLOCK weapon. Part of the training course included assembling and disassembling the weapon and the proper way to maintain it. Also, they were shown the easiest and quickest way to fix a malfunction with the weapon. Curriculum Program Administrator Steve Thomas from Central Region Training Center (CRTC) explained and demonstrated the overall specifications of the GLOCK weapon before the class headed to the range. Below: The full class is pictured.





The Kentucky Department of Corrections hosted its second security audit training facilitated by the National Institute of Corrections. Last summer, agencies from several states came to Kentucky and were trained by NIC staff to conduct the audits. The Kentucky Correctional Institutional for Women, Kentucky State Reformatory and the Luther Lockett Correctional Complex were selected to be audited by the group. The experience for the institutions involved proved beneficial so a second training was held. This time, 30 Kentucky DOC staff from each of the 12 prisons were trained at the Western Region Training Center. The group will be split into three teams to conduct the audits and the prisons chosen for the audit were: Kentucky State Penitentiary, Western Kentucky Correctional Complex and Green River Correctional Complex. In addition, they will train other DOC staff to conduct the audits in the future – ensuring continued compliance of policies and procedures to reduce security risks for the public, staff and inmates.



Deputy Wardens/Senior Captains' Meeting

Deputy Wardens and Senior Captains filled a training room at General Butler State Park April 29 and 30. This two-day class covered a variety of topics addressing common issues faced at the institutions, including security challenges, communications and PREA. The next training is scheduled for October. Right: PREA Coordinator C.A. Wilkerson gave an update on the most recent and upcoming PREA audits.

Snow, Frigid Temps Pose Challenges for DOC

In Addition: Rain, Melting Snow Create Flooding Issue

**By Lisa Lamb
Communications Director**

No one will mourn the passing of this winter with Juno, Octavia and of course, Thor, wreaking havoc across the state and breaking snowfall records that have been on the books for decades.

Then there was the Siberian Express (no, I didn't make that up), the Artic blast that followed one of these record snowfalls that made it feel even colder than the double-digit below zero temperatures.

Throughout it all, DOC essential staff braved these conditions and made it in to work because there are no snow days in prison.

Wardens at the state's hardest hit institutions all echoed the same sentiment when asked how their staff and facilities had fared: glowing praise for a staff that once again rose to the challenge.

Please See SNOW, Page 22



Above: An Officer at Green River Correctional Complex is shown as he conducted a security check in the prison's sally port during the daunting snow removal process. Over 17 inches of snow was recorded in Muhlenberg County within a 24-hour period beginning March 4 resulting in a 'state of emergency' declaration by officials.



Far Left: Little Sandy Correctional Complex Warden Joe Meeko's vehicle reflected a record setting frigid temperature on the way to work. **Left:** Green River Correctional Complex staff trudged through heavy falling snow as they escort an inmate to the dining hall.

Happy Correctional Employees' Week!

We're proud to call Corrections "home," and use terms like "family" - it's what sets us apart and helps to make the job worthwhile. Take time this week to celebrate one another and enjoy the comradery. Just remember, you ARE appreciated!

Snow

From Page 21

Western Kentucky Correctional Complex Warden Steve Woodward said Farm Supervisor David Litchfield came in late in the evening during one of the storms and worked through the night to clear a path to the facility.

“The snow accumulation was about 15 inches with drifting,” said Woodward. “State road crews were overwhelmed and if it had not been for David, it would have been very difficult for staff attempting to reach the facility from the main road. Many staff did a tremendous job normalizing operations but David cleared the path for them to do it.”

Kentucky State Reformatory Warden Aaron Smith said his facility utilized its “4-wheel drive shuttle service” to pick up many employees unable to reach the prison in their own vehicles.

“Having two major snow events within just a week of one another did prove very challenging, however I commend the staff at KSR who braved the extremely challenging elements and somehow made it to work,” said Smith. “I must also commend those staff and inmates who were involved in the arduous task of snow and ice removal which, given the vastness of this institution, was a monumental undertaking. Through it all however, staff and inmates persevered and we didn’t miss a beat. I couldn’t be more proud of the folks here who stepped up to the plate, as they always do, during a very challenging time.”



Above: The parking lot at Green River Correctional Complex showed some cars literally buried by the snow drifts. The photo at left is a perfect depiction of the vital role that Corrections’ security staff played. Center left: No room for a picnic! The huge snow piles prevented any outside activity whatsoever at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex. Bottom left: Snow mounds reached over the hood of a dump truck at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex. Bottom right: Western Kentucky Correctional Complex Farm Supervisor David Litchfield plowed record snowfall that covered pathways using the John Deere tractor at the facility. Litchfield worked through the night so staff could reach the facility.



Kentucky Selected to Host National Conference

Kentucky has been selected to host the 16th annual Women Working in Corrections & Juvenile Justice conference (WWICJJ).

The 15th annual WWICJJ was held in Pittsburg last fall and Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson submitted Kentucky as a potential host state for the 2016 conference.

We received the official notification in December that Kentucky was selected.

After a thorough site selection process that looked at several cities in Kentucky, Louisville was chosen. The conference

will be held at the down Marriott, Oct. 2-5, 2016.

Lisa Lamb will serve as conference chair with Tammy Lou Wright as co-chair.

The training works to address the many significant issues experienced by women in corrections and juvenile justice.

Networking opportunities for colleagues who understand the challenges women experience will be provided along with keynote speakers.

The conference hopes to draw attendees, mainly female staff, from multiple correctional divisions across the U.S.

Former UK Players Visit KSR

Kentucky State Reformatory inmates had the unique opportunity to learn from University of Kentucky basketball royalty, Cameron Mills and Jarrod Polson. Together, speaking on behalf of Cameron Mills Ministries, they spoke to the inmates about independent excellence, character development and leadership skills and how they achieved all these things through their faith in Jesus Christ.

Mills shared with the audience how his faith had helped and encouraged him throughout life, including his basketball career. Since the Recreation Department brought these guys in, we couldn't let them leave without a little basketball being played. Mills challenged the KSR Varsity team's best shooter to a 3-point challenge. Mills obviously still retains his skills because he won with ease. Polson challenged the team's best player to a game of one-on-one. It was a very close game, but Polson finally came out with the win.

They were also kind enough to talk with inmates afterward and even signed a few autographs. As a token of thanks, The Recreation Department and the KSR Varsity Basketball team



Cameron Mills, KSR Recreation Leader Jason Nichter and Jarrod Polson posed for a photo when the former UK players visited

presented Mills with a basketball hand painted by a KSR inmate and signed by the staff and team.



Lake Herrington KCCD Easter Egg Hunt

The Lake Herrington Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) Chapter hosted an Easter Egg Hunt for the children of Northpoint Training Center staff on the institution's grounds. The chapter provided approximately 450 candy-filled eggs for the hunt. The Easter Bunny (Internal Affairs Captain Tracy Nietzel) took pictures with the children and helped them hunt eggs. The chapter also had games and snacks for the families. Pictured above (L-R) front row: Recreation Supervisor Stephanie Boyd and Easter Bunny (Internal Affairs Captain Tracy Nietzel); back row: Deputy Warden of Programs Gary Prestigiacomo, Offender Information Specialist Kristi Wellsman, Captain Daniel Napier, Offender Information Specialist Kelly Tyree, and Classification and Treatment Officer Jessica Payton.

Training: A Top Priority

BASIC ACADEMY

At Right: Commissioner LaDonna Thompson addressed the members of a Basic Academy class at the Western Region Training Center recently. The graduates and the institutional assignment included: GRCC - Joshua Brunson, Jason Drake, Dylan Garrett, Olivia Harmon, Matthew Long, James Stogner, Clyde Thorpe Jr.; KSP - Jimmy Combs, Chris Durbin, Nathan Elrod, William Haynes, Billie Jean Oakley, Jeffery Parmer, Jill Robertson, Rebecca Wilkerson; WKCC - Sean Coy, Brandon Driver, Zach Givens, Ricky Housman, Jason Parks, Ronald Pyke and Joshua Waller.



At left: On March 16-20 trainees from Blackburn Correctional Complex and Northpoint Training Center completed their final week of Basic Academy at Northpoint Training Center. A graduation ceremony was held for the 24 graduates on Friday, March 20th with refreshments for the graduates and their friends and family. Front row (L-R): Joey Sergeant, Aaron Kimbler, Sharonda Cooper, Allyson Rainwater, Linda Greer, and Austin Truex. Second Row (L-R): Rollie Lamar, Shannon Mitchell, John Robinson, Phillip Andrews, Billy Roberts, Jeremiah Rinker, Byron Howard, Spencer Eldridge, Jacob Ratliff. Third row (L-R): Demitri Ray, Sidney Covey, Robert Schmidt, Ben Williamson, Robert Jones, Michael Malone, Bobby King, Nicola Riley, and Daniel Smith.

CERT



CERT members stood at attention during basic training as they were addressed by longtime DOC employee Wayne Pearson. Pearson currently is assigned to the Division of Corrections Training and has over 43 years of service to Kentucky DOC.

Executive Leadership Class Preparing For Graduation



The 2014-15 Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program is nearing an end. The class is set to graduate on May 28th when they present their projects to Commissioner Thompson and her deputy commissioners. The class members and their mentors are listed below.

Commissioner's Leadership Class And Their Mentors

Webb Strang – KSR; Scott Jordan
Jeanie Waldrige – SAP; Paula Holden
Patrick Campbell – District 3; Chris Copenhaver
Allison Robinson – District 19; Janet Conover
Mike Caudill – Victim Services; Aaron Smith
Patricia Heuer – District 7; Kevin Pangburn
David McIver – District 20; Cyndi Heddleston
Kim Thompson – RCC; Jim Erwin
Michael Ratliff – Eastern Region Training Center; John Hall
Beth Moore – Information Technology; Chris Kleymeyer
Heather Foster – District 4; Becky Carter
Tim Forgy – LLCC; Ravonne Sims
Veronica Hunt – SAP; Gary Prestigiaco
Mark Wasson – Internal Affairs; LaDonna Thompson
Ronald Scott George – District 5; Steve Turner
Darrell Wheeler – GRCC; Steve Woodward
Jennifer Price – District 16; Bob Rodriguez
Linzie Abell – District 6; Kristin Smith
Tip Smith – District 10; Gary Compton
Amanda Scott – Classification; Deb Coleman
Bobbi Joe Butts – WKCC; George Glass
Scott Grimes – RCC; Gary Beckstrom

Steve Heddleston – District 14; Warren Lambert
Cheryl Hall – Health Services Division; DeEdra Hart
Travis Bradley – KSP; Alan Brown
Alexis Williams – Victim Services; Cookie Crews
Jason Turner – District 12; Martha Slempp
Jeremy Shuck – IT; Greg Howard
Marshall Smith – District 3; Dan Fountain
Nicole Dempsey – DNA Coordinator; Todd Gaunce
Samantha Ratliff – District 11; Mark Stonex
Amy Kearns – District 2; Kim Potter-Blair
Myles Young – Parole Board Support Staff; Lisa Lamb
Tim Walker – District 17; Cortney Shewmaker
Meredith Sanford – Policies & Procedures; Tiffany Ratliff
Ivan Krow – EKCC; Kathy Litteral
Daniel Napier – NTC; Joe Meko
Jason Joseph – LSCC; Bobbie Underwood
Pam Clayton – KCIW; Randy White
Chris Patterson – BCFC; Steve Haney
Michelle Blakeman – District 9; Hilarye Dailey
Tracey Goins – District 18; James Sweatt
Klaytor Burden – District 13; Skyla Grief
Kerry Mears – Reentry Branch; Rick Rowlette



DOC Human Resources Staff

The Central Office Division of Personnel Services hosted their annual Human Resources Liaison Training Meeting April 29 in Frankfort. Personnel and Payroll staff from all institutions and divisions of the Department came together to learn about new Human Resources policies and processes and receive best practice information for handling a variety of personnel issues. Commissioner LaDonna Thompson and Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair spoke to the group to acknowledge their work and thank them for the jobs they do. The HR staff for Corrections serves approximately 4500 employees in all aspects of their career to include; personnel actions, payroll, and benefits. These trainings allow for us to better equip the front line HR staff and help them to provide the very best assistance they can to Corrections' employees. The field HR liaisons are an invaluable asset to the Central Office Division of Personnel and this meeting was informative and also a great networking opportunity for these staff members. Central Office Staff: Bobbie Underwood, Diana Eads, Teresa Harris, Rodney Moore, Heather Gibbons, Ashlee Skillern, Becca Raney, Annette Sewell, Ashley Thomas and Michelle Hager. Field HR Liaisons: Vicki Allen – GRCC, Sue Martin – GRCC, Amy Fields – GRCC, Steve Lyons – KCIW, Heather Parker – KCIW, Serena Waddell – LSCC, Jason Joseph – LSCC, Betty Woodward – WKCC, Regina Moore – WKCC, Sandy Wilkins – RCC, Kalinta Underwood – RCC, A'Neial Lockhart – KSP, Mitzi Lisanby – KSP, Laura Giovacchino – KSR, Faye West – KSR, Sherri Cole – LLCC, Rick Deweese – LLCC, Pam Coffman – NTC, Debbie Medley – NTC, Tim Metz – NTC, Tiffany Taylor – BCC, Merrideth Calvert – BCC, Clark Jones – BCFC, Betsy Patterson – BCFC, Betty Lindon – EKCC, Regina Sutters – EKCC, Amye Havens – EKCC and Jeri Hines – KCI.

Handcrafted Rocking Chair Presented to KACo to Mark 40th Anniversary

Kentucky Department of Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson presented a rocking chair to the Kentucky Association of Counties (KACo) at their 40th Annual Conference at the Lexington Convention Center on November 21, 2014. The chair was made by inmates at the Kentucky State Reformatory and was presented to KACo in recognition of their continued support of the DOC.

