

# INSIDE CORRECTIONS

Official Newsletter  
of the Kentucky Department  
of Corrections



LaDonna  
Thompson  
Commissioner

Vol. 8, Issue 2 - November 2015

## Awards Luncheon Honors DOC's Best

By Lisa Lamb  
Director of Communications

The 2015 Department of Corrections' Annual Awards Luncheon was held at the Galt House in Louisville.

There were approximately 500 attendees from across the state who turned out for the largest DOC event of the year.

Don Bottom, a 23-year veteran of the Department of Corrections, was named "Warden of the Year."

Bottom, warden at Northpoint Training Center, was selected primarily because of his efforts to bring new inmate programs to his institution, the importance he places on staff, and making training opportunities for his staff one of

Please See AWARDS, Page 3



Above left: Northpoint Training Center Warden Don Bottom was named the 2015 "Warden of the Year." Bottom is pictured above with Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Right: District 15 Supervisor Susan Thompson took home the 2015 "Supervisor of the Year" Award.



## Probation and Parole Enhances Training

Firearms instructors across the state met at the Wendell H. Ford Training Center recently for a two-day training.

The training is an enhancement of what was

Please See P&P, Page 24

## On The Inside

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## Named for Two Fallen Officers

## Ross-Cash Center Dedicated

People from across the state showed their support and gathered for the dedication of the Ross-Cash Center. The dedication of the prison was held Oct. 27th. The institution is named for Patricia Ross and Charles Frederick Cash, both correctional employees who were killed in the line of duty.

Representatives of both families attended the dedication.

Patricia Ross died in the line of duty March 1, 1984 while employed at the Kentucky State Penitentiary (KSP) as a food service worker. Ross was the eighth among nine staff members to die



in the line of duty serving the Kentucky Department of Corrections and the first and only female.

Charles Frederick Cash was killed by an inmate while on the

Please See ROSS-CASH, Page 2

## Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program

### 2015-16 Class Holds Team Building Session

Participants in the Commissioner's Leadership Program had a team building session recently at Pine Mountain State Park.

The class was led by facilitator Bob Bales, Training Manager for Atria Senior Living. Bales guided the class through several exercises designed to identify leaders within each group and to strengthen the team bonds.

One of the team activities involved building a bridge with the materials provided. The bridges were judged on structure and strength.

Bell County Forestry Camp Warden David Green and the BCFC staff provided the class with a tour and lunch.

The group's next session will feature a visit to the Kentucky Supreme Court and a discussion with Justice Bill Cunningham.



**Above:** The 2015-16 Commissioner's Executive Leadership Class posed for a photo while touring Bell County Forestry Camp. **Right:** Alicia Bloyd was a team leader and she gave step by step directions to her blindfolded team members.



## Ross-Cash

From Page 1

job at the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) dairy farm on May 9, 1986. Cash was promoted to Farm Crew Supervisor just days before his murder.

Ross-Cash Center Warden Scott Jordan opened the ceremony and talked about the mission of the new facility. Justice and Public Safety Secretary J. Michael Brown and Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson addressed the audience and talked about the sacrifices Correctional employees make to ensure public safety. KSP Warden Randy White and WKCC Warden Steven Woodward acknowledged that even though the murders occurred over 30 years ago, the memories were still very much alive with the employees of those two prisons.

Thompson acknowledged the large



**Left:** KSP Warden Randy White presented a framed dedication invitation to Pat Ross's son, Bryan Crawford. **Right:** WKCC Warden Steve Woodward made the presentation to Marilyn Terry, Fred Cash's widow. *(More photos on pg. 24)*

gathering which included several current and retired wardens as well as probation and parole supervisors and jailers.

"This family is a true family, even when we retire," said Thompson. "Families are loyal, and they're caring, and courageous."

The Ross-Cash Center serves not only as a memorial to Patricia Ross and Fred Cash but also a marker to remind the professionals serving the Department of Corrections of the danger they face on a daily basis in order to protect the public.

## *Increase Hopefully Will Retain, Recruit Correctional Officers*

# Staffing Emergency Leads to Pay Raises

**By Lisa Lamb**  
**Director of Communications**

A staffing crisis in our prisons led to an unprecedented action: enhanced compensation for correctional officers and other hazardous duty staff under a plan announced four months ago. The increase was an attempt to stabilize the workforce in state prisons.

While the raise has definitely helped, turnover rates for correctional officers are still at dangerously high levels. There are currently 302 officer vacancies in our prisons and the turnover rate ranges from 27% to 64% (excluding our eastern Kentucky prisons where turnover tradi-

tionally has been lower).

Gov. Steve Beshear approved the plan that raises pay for security staff in light of the crisis that existed. The plan also moved institutional hazardous duty, non-security staff to 40-hour work weeks. It also implemented a monthly stipend for members of the correctional emergency response teams, or CERT.

A review by the Personnel Cabinet revealed that Kentucky's corrections officers and hazardous duty workers were paid at below-market rates compared to nearby states. The low pay scale contributes to staff turnover and makes it extremely difficult to hire new officers.

"Our corrections staff work under stressful, dangerous conditions, and as our economy improves, it's understandable that many seek opportunities in less hazardous environments," Gov. Beshear said. "But the domino effect of that is that we are faced with high vacancies, mandatory overtime, and a revolving door of experience levels. Left unchecked, these conditions could worsen into a threat to public safety. I've taken this action to help recruit and retain correctional employees in order to maintain safety and security not only for our communities, but also for the staff and inmates within our corrections system."

## Awards

From Page 1

his top priorities.

Susan Thompson was named "Probation & Parole Supervisor of the Year." Thompson, who currently supervises District 15 in Catlettsburg, has served with the division since 2001.

Thompson was recognized for her ability to encourage her employees, implementing re-entry programs, and her dedication to the department by volunteering to assist with the staffing shortage in the institutions.

The "Rookie of the Year" award was presented to Ashley Thomas. Thomas, who joined the department in November 2014, serves as a Human Resource Specialist in the department's Division of Personnel Services. She was praised for her work performance and her attention to detail.

The agency's top awards, called "Commissioner's Awards," were presented to: Lisa Lamb, Director of Communications; Nikki James, Inter-

nal Policy Analyst II, Division of Administrative Services; Joseph Martin, Statewide PREA Coordinator, Division of Operations and Programs; Rebecca Palmer, Assistant Supervisor, District 15; Shannon Butrum, PREA Compliance Manager, Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women; David McIver, Assistant Supervisor, District 20; Kim Thompson, Unit Administrator II, Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR); Kirk Gausepohl, Assistant Supervisor, District 9; Brandy Harm, Deputy Warden, Blackburn Correctional Complex; Bridget Gilliland, Senior Captain, NTC; Kieryn Fannin, Executive Staff Advisor, Division of Substance Abuse Programming; Derwin Keith Williams, Unit Administrator II, Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex.

Department of Corrections Hero Awards were presented to: Jon Tangerose, Lieutenant and Donnie Konias, Sergeant, Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC); William Sweat and James Hamlin, Probation and Parole Officers, District 9; John Buckler, Sergeant, KSR; Dustin Conner and Jared Thompson, Sergeants, Kentucky State

Penitentiary; Darrell Wheeler, Unit Administrator II, Mark Mitchell, Classification Treatment Officer, Darime Ellis, Lieutenant, Debra Banks, Procedures Officer, Green River Correctional Complex; Michael Chace Wallen, Probation and Parole Officer, District 20; Cory Carter, Sergeant, Roederer Correctional Complex; Katie Edmonds, Correct Care Solutions Nurse, NTC.

The Kentucky Department of Corrections honored retired Lyon County Commonwealth's Attorney G.L. Ovey with the agency's 2015 Lucille Hurt Robuck "Commitment to Corrections" Award.

Ovey was selected for his steadfast devotion to the Department of Corrections and his commitment to make the prosecution of crimes committed within state prisons a top priority. He is widely respected across the Department of Corrections among staff and inmates alike.

A complete listing of the awards can be found on the Department's website under "Our Employees" and "Photo Gallery."

*(More award photos in this newsletter can be found on page 4 and 14.)*

## 2015 Commissioner's Award Recipients



**Brandy Harm**



**Nikki James**



**Bridget Gilliland**



**Kirk Gausepohl**



**Rebecca Palmer**



**Joe Martin**



**Derwin 'Keith' Williams**



**Kim Thompson**



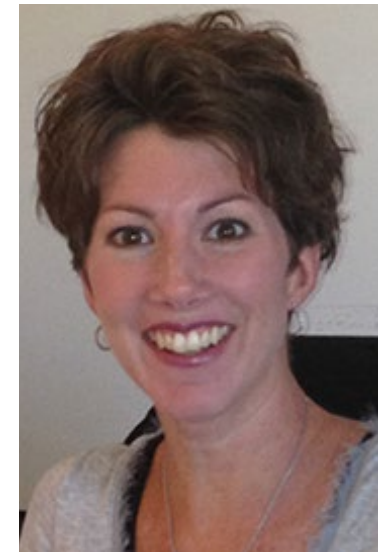
**Shannon Butrum**



**Lisa Lamb**



**David McIver**



**Kiern Fannin**



## Spotlight On A Veteran

### Ralph Maness

*This issue of "Spotlight on a Vet" focuses on Ralph Maness. Ralph started his career with the Department of Corrections in 1995 as a Correctional Officer at Northpoint Training Center. He recently retired from the department and promoted to Staff Sergeant for A Company 103rd Brigade Support Battalion.*

Recently retired Northpoint Training Center Correctional Officer Ralph Maness began his military career at the age of 19.

Following in his brother's footsteps, Maness enlisted in the Army after graduating from Mercer County High School. "The economy wasn't good at the time and I was looking for steady employment," Maness said.

He boarded an airplane for the first time ever and was flown to Fort Sill, Oklahoma for basic training. He was later sent to Fort Benning, Georgia to attend jump school. "My second plane ride ever, I was jumping out of it," he said.

Once basic training was completed, Maness was stationed at Fort Bragg, North Carolina. He was deployed to Granada, Spain for two and a half months and later deployed to Berlin, Germany for 19 months. There he was assigned as a forward observer (similar to tower observation) and received little time off. He said, "I remember how different the culture was there and how people were so content without having much of anything."

After he completed his tour of duty, Maness returned to Kentucky. While employed at Northpoint Training Center, he spoke to a recruiter and decided to enlist with the Kentucky National Guard in 2005.

Due to his previous time spent in the military Maness was not required to attend basic training but did attend additional military job training in Columbus, Ohio. Since enlisting in the



Above: Maness' National Guard unit received a warm welcome when they returned from Afghanistan in 2014. They were featured in the above edition of the Harrodsburg Herald. Left: Ralph Maness is all smiles at his retirement gathering held at Northpoint Training Center. His last day was July 31, 2015.

National Guard he has been deployed to Iraq and Afghanistan, and spent time in Bell Chase, Louisiana after Hurricane Katrina.

Maness was promoted to staff sergeant on July 16, 2015 and is a member of the A Company 103rd Brigade Support Battalion in Danville. He serves one weekend per month and attends annual training for two weeks.

Maness retired from Department Corrections on July 31st.



coming soon



## Joint Interim Judiciary Committee Meets at EKCC

**By Briney King**  
**Public Information Officer**

The Department of Corrections and Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) hosted the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary for its July meeting.

Warden Kathy Litteral began the meeting by welcoming the legislators and other guests and provided an overview of the prison.

Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson presented several items of key interest to the lawmakers, including the staffing crisis currently facing the department.

Thompson also talked to them about the conversion of Western Kentucky Correctional Complex into two separate prisons and programming opportunities for inmates in administrative segregation.

After the meeting, EKCC hosted a lunch for the legislators and LRC staff and provided tours of the prison.

Inmate participants in “Shakespeare Behind Bars,” a program that uses the healing power of arts to transform offenders by producing a Shakespeare play, performed a short skit for the guests attending the tour.

This is the fourth year the Department has hosted the Interim Judiciary Committee at one of its institutions.



**Above: Commissioner LaDonna Thompson answered questions from the lawmakers after presenting several items of key interest. Right: EKCC Warden Kathy Litteral welcomed the legislators to the prison and extended an invitation for a tour of the institution. Below left: (L-R) Representative John Tilley, Senator Whitney Westerfield, Representative Denny Butler and Representative Chris Harris climbed 119 steps to the top of the security tower for a full observation of the prison. Below right: Lawmakers and legislative guests toured several areas of EKCC. Lieutenant Kevin Dennis spoke to the group in Dorm 5, the Special Management Unit.**





## Agency Spotlight

*KOMS Helpdesk: The Heartbeat of Corrections*

# Offender Management System Runs Smoothly Thanks To This Office

**By Myles Young  
Communications Office**

Whether you work for probation and parole, in an institution, or the department's central office we all have one thing in common. Besides all working for the best department in the state, we also all use the same offender management system and are dependent on it for just about everything we do.

The Kentucky Offender Management System, better known as KOMS, has been the heartbeat of the Kentucky Department of Corrections for nearly 10 years.

In 2004 the department chose Marquis eOMIS to develop a new management system software to replace the non-integrated systems ORION (Offender Records Information and Operations Network) and the Probation and Parole Case Management System (PPCMS).

All data from ORION and PPCMS was combined and re-directed into a more efficient system now known as KOMS. After a couple of years in development, KOMS went live in 2006 for Probation and Parole and by May 2007 it was implemented department wide.

The KOMS Helpdesk consists of: Amanda Sayle, Information Systems Supervisor; Cedric Coleman, Programmer/Systems Analyst III; Ryan Walters, Systems Analyst II; Jessica Barrett, Systems Analyst II; and Brandon Toles, Systems Analyst I.

Sayle has been with the KOMS Helpdesk since it was implemented. Even though she was the Offender Information Administrator for the records section at the time, Sayle was assigned the task of training staff on KOMS.

She quickly became considered the subject matter expert and was able to transition into a full time position with KOMS in 2008.

The KOMS Helpdesk provides technical support and troubleshoots problems to about 6,000 users. The Department of Corrections holds the majority of those accounts, but some users with the Department for Public Advocacy (DPA), Commonwealth's Attorney offices, jails, Kentucky State Police, and Cabinet for Health and Family Services have limited access accounts.

Not only does the KOMS Helpdesk provide technical support for KOMS, but they also conduct trainings, coordinate the KOMS testing, update the DOC, Justice Cabinet



**Above: Staff assigned to the KOMS office keep the department's Offender Management System operating as it should. Back row (L-R) Systems Analyst II Ryan Walters and Programmer/Systems Analyst III Cedric Coleman. Front row (L-R) Systems Analyst II Jessica Barrett and Information Systems Supervisor Amanda Sayle.**

and Parole Board websites, and oversee the accounts for JusticeXchange and E-warrants.

With so many users, the KOMS Helpdesk does an outstanding job in keeping all branches of DOC running smoothly.

*Kentucky DOC Assists Sister Agency in Depopulation of Prison*

## CERT Operation Moves Vermont Inmates

By Lisa Lamb  
Director of Communications

Kentucky Department of Corrections CERT (Correctional Emergency Response Team) members from every prison in the state participated in a drill that moved all inmates out of Lee Adjustment Center (LAC), a private prison in Beattyville.

CERT members are trained and respond to tactical emergencies within Kentucky's prison system.

The Vermont Department of Corrections housed offenders at LAC since 2004, in a contract with the prison's operator, Corrections Corporation of America. Vermont recently entered into a contract with another private prison contractor, The GEO Group Inc., and the inmates are now housed in a prison in Baldwin, Michigan.

"This was an opportunity for us to help a sister agency," said Kentucky Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. "But even more important, our assistance was to ensure public safety. The safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth is always our first priority and moving inmates outside the secure confines of a prison is always one of the most dangerous operations in the field of Corrections. By having this large scale move carried out by our highly trained emergency response teams, we knew it would be done properly and safely."

A total of 168 Kentucky DOC



**Above: Kentucky CERT members checked Vermont inmates' restraints before the inmates were escorted to waiting vehicles that transported them to the Bluegrass Airport in Lexington. From there, the inmates were flown to Michigan and now incarcerated in a prison operated by the GEO Group, Inc.**

CERT members took part in the movement which began with a training exercise at 3 a.m. The teams then traveled to Beattyville early the next day and took custody of the 268 Vermont inmates.

The inmates were searched, secured with handcuffs and then loaded into several DOC transport vehicles. They were then driven to Bluegrass Airport in Lexington, Ky., where GEO's transportation division provided armed, secure

air transportation to Michigan.

"We conduct regular training for our emergency response teams that oftentimes include mock drills," said Thompson. "This provided us with an opportunity to utilize these skills in a real operation. I'm pleased, but not at all surprised, at how smoothly the operation went. This is why we train and it provided us with a chance to showcase our excellent staff."





## Executive Leadership Class Graduates

The 2014 Commissioner’s Executive Leadership Class graduated and 43 DOC employees received their certificates of completion from Commissioner LaDonna H. Thompson.

The 2014 class began September 2014 and the members were immediately divided into nine teams. The teams selected a topic to work on throughout the program.

Some of the highlights during the program included sessions on team building, project planning and implementation, and personnel issues. They also visited the Kentucky Supreme Court and toured Kentucky State Reformatory.

As part of the graduation, the teams presented their projects to Commissioner Thompson and Deputy Commissioners, Kimberly Potter-Blair, Jim Erwin and Paula Holden.

The commissioner and deputies were pleased with this year’s projects and proud of the work completed by the teams.

Project topics included:

- Re-entry to Families Project
- Installing a Kiosk in every Probation and Parole Office across the state
- Creation and implementation of mental health caseloads
- Mobile Training for Probation and Parole In-service



Above: The members of the 2014 Commissioner’s Executive Leadership class on the day they toured Kentucky State Reformatory. Left: Commissioner LaDonna Thompson addressed the group at their graduation ceremony. At the graduation, all the teams presented their projects to Commissioner Thompson and the Deputy Commissioners. Each graduate received a framed certificate and Commissioner’s Coin.

- Informational Video(s) for Parole Eligible Inmates
- Community Based Corrections Program
- Implement a self-defense training program
- GIS Mapping Interface with

KOMS

- Offender Employment Portal

The mentors of each class member were recognized during the graduation for their valuable time spent with the class members and for their commitment to the department.


## Submit your idea!

The Communications Office wants your input. Email [lisa.lamb@ky.gov](mailto:lisa.lamb@ky.gov) or [briney.king@ky.gov](mailto:briney.king@ky.gov) if you have a story you would like us to share in the DOC newsletter or on social media.



*Always Appreciated!*

## Government Officials, Others Send Thank You Notes



COMMONWEALTH OF KENTUCKY  
**DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC ADVOCACY**  
200 FAIR DAKES LANE, SUITE 500 • FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY 40601 • 502-564-8008 • FAX: 502-564-7890

6 October 2015

**RECEIVED**  
OCT 12 2015  
KSR Warden's Office

Mr. Aaron Smith, Warden  
Kentucky State Reformatory  
3001 W Highway 146  
LaGrange, Kentucky 40032

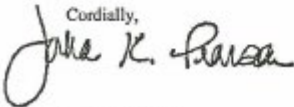
Dear Mr. Smith:

I am an attorney in the Appeals Branch of the Department of Public Advocacy. I am also in a wheelchair. This past Friday, October 2, I had occasion to come to your facility in order to visit a client.

I wanted to commend you and your staff, who could not have been kinder or more accommodating to me. I did not catch the names of any of the officers who assisted me during my visit from about 1:30-3:00, but the window personnel and the officer who escorted my wheelchair to and from Room 128, were quite professional and yet ready to assist me.

I realize visits from attorneys add difficulty to an already difficult job, but I did want to let you know how wonderful your staff was.

Thank you again.

Cordially,  
  
Julia K. Pearson  
Assistant Public Advocate

**Muhlenberg County Children's Fund, Inc.**  
P. O. Box 724  
Greenville, Kentucky 42345

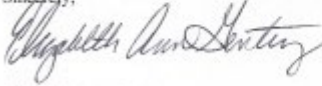
August 7, 2015

Green River Correctional Complex  
PO Box 9300  
Central City, KY 42330

Dear Green River Correctional Complex Employees,

We recently received a donation in the amount of \$815.00 to the Muhlenberg County Children's Fund. We are so thankful that you chose our organization to receive this generous gift. The money we use to meet the special needs of the children of Muhlenberg County is dependent upon generous donors like you.

Thank you again for this generous donation.

Sincerely,  
  
Elizabeth Ann Gentry  
Treasurer

**Autumn Ridge Personal Care Home**  
4880 KY-121, Mayfield, KY 42066


Tina Painter (270) 345- 2116  
Administrator

Sam Willett  
Owner


Dear Warden Woodward,

I wanted to write and extend my appreciation and gratitude for you allowing the WKCC K9 team to help with the search of our resident James Thompson. Without their help I do not believe he would have been found alive. The team was very professional and the WKCC bloodhound was obviously the best tracker on site. Mr. Thompson's family was very grateful as well and the K9 handlers even apologized to his daughter because he was not found sooner.

Mr. Thompson is currently doing well and will be moving to a higher level of care soon. Again, I want to emphasize my and his family's appreciation for allowing the team to help.

Sincerely,  
  
Tina Painter  
Autumn Ridge Administrator

**RECEIVED**  
JUN 16 2015  
WKCC  
WARDEN'S OFFICE



**Mountain Comprehensive Care Center**  
104 South Front Avenue  
Prestonsburg, Kentucky 41653  
606-886-8572  
Fax 606-886-4433

27 May, 2015


Attention: Bell County Forestry Camp Veterans Club

On behalf of the 16 (currently) homeless military service members living in the MCCC Veterans Transition Center, Pikeville, I want to take a moment to thank you for your tremendous support to our Center. I am overwhelmed by your kindness and generosity, and am equally overwhelmed by the enthusiasm shown by your Veteran inmates and staff. It gladdens my heart to know Bell County staff are so encouraging to our Veterans and that each are personally proud to help them rebuild their lives in positive and responsible ways.

I would also like to encourage each incarcerated Veteran to remember their personal goals, remember their already vast contributions to society, and remember to use that pride, those skills, and ideals to build a better future for themselves and their families.

I am humbled that you wanted to include us, this Center, so prominently in your celebration of Veterans. The joy I see in the face of a Veteran each time we have contact reminds me of the camaraderie so typically felt among our military members when they meet or greet one another. I like to think that if I meet another Veteran, then there are no strangers, only friends with a common understanding and a common passion.

Again, on behalf of our community, I wish to thank you for your generosity and in return, send you our very best wishes.

Sincerely,  
  
Randy Smallwood, M.A.  
Program Director

## Thanks

From Page 9

**From: Sandy, Ray C (DOC)**  
**Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 12:17 PM**  
**To: Caudill, Michael A (DOC)**  
**Subject: Training**

*Left: A note from an attendee about PIO Training*

Mike I just wanted to say that today's training was one of the best the DOC has had. There has only been a select few that sticks out in my mind and this definitely is one at the top. Thanks again!

**From: Wofford, Adam (DOC)**  
**Date: November 6, 2015**  
**To: David.Higgs@ky.gov**  
**Subject: RE: Transfer 11.06.2015**

Mr. Higgs,

I would like to compliment Sgt. Creecy and her intake Officers today during our transport. Sgt. Creecy, insured that we had an extremely smooth transfer with the inmates. Also, I would like to thank you for your help and guidance last week (10/30), during a lock down situation. If I can be of service please do not hesitate to contact me.

Again, thank you and your entire staff for a excellent well done job!!

*Above: A note from P&P about GRCC employees*

Reply to:  
Cooperative Extension Service  
Trimble County  
P.O. Box 244  
43 High Country Lane  
Boydton, KY 40006-0244  
(302) 255-7188  
Fax: (502) 255-3334  
http://ces.ca.uky.edu/trimble

Warden Aaron Smith  
Kentucky State Reformatory  
LaGrange, KY 40032

I just wanted to take the time to tell you Thank You for helping us with the trophies for our Trimble County 4-H County Fair Livestock Club members. The trophies you all made were wonderful, and were a big hit for our 4-H members and parents.

Throughout the year our 4-H'ers (ages 9-19) and Clove Buds (under 8 year old), attend our Trimble County 4-H Livestock Club meetings and received a minimum of 6 hours of education. They also learned by raising their own animals, and caring for them daily. This is a major emphasis in 4-H in Trimble County due to the declining of Farms in recent years.

These livestock activities provide youth with opportunities to learn about livestock and develop the life skills that are needed to be positive contributors to society. Through livestock programs and projects youth learn about livestock selection and evaluation, nutrition and feeding, health and daily care, reproduction, marketing, and much more. In addition, youth learn the importance of hard work and responsibility, and also develop important life skills such as critical thinking, decision-making, and communication.

Again, thank you for the trophies, and I've already talked to the leaders of our Livestock club, and I believe we will be asking you for all our trophy again next summer for the 2016 Trimble County 4-H Livestock Show if possible.

Sincerely,  
  
Ralph Hance  
Trimble County Extension Agent

**METROPOLITAN COMMUNITY CHURCH**  
5001 Crown Manor Place #206  
Louisville, KY 40218  
Rev. Colleen Foley – Senior Pastor

October 6, 2015

Warden Aaron Smith  
3001 West Highway 146  
LaGrange, KY 40032

Dear Warden Smith,

We, at the Metropolitan Community Church of Louisville, want you to know how appreciative we are of the beautifully crafted altar and pulpit made for us by the wood shop! Due to the economics of maintaining a lovely OLD church building, the decision was made for us to move to a newer facility that would require less maintenance. Yet, we wanted to take some of our history with us.

I contacted the prison to inquire if the wood shop would be able to make us a new altar and pulpit. As I understand it, the wood shop supervisor retired and Mr. Paul Sloan became the new supervisor. He called me and quickly got the project for us started. The wood shop employees crafted the altar and pulpit from our former pews.

We held our first service on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup>. Our church members were **AMAZED** at how beautiful the new furniture looks in our new sanctuary. They really appreciated having something new made from pews that we had to leave behind in our move.

Once again, it is with thanks and gratitude that your wood shop was able to produce such fine pieces of furniture for our new sanctuary. The craftsmanship and attention to detail was more than what we could have imagined.

Sincerely,  
  
Pastor Colleen Foley



**Pastor Colleen Foley of Metropolitan Community Church of Louisville stood behind the pulpit made in the woodworking shop at Kentucky State Reformatory. The shop also crafted an altar for the church.**

## Employee Recognition, News



### District 3 Officer Receives Coveted Marksmanship Award

Kentucky ARMY National Guard SSG and District 3 P&P Officer I Shahid M. Iqbal on being one of only two recipients on the coveted "Governor's 20" tab for excellence in marksmanship during the 2015 Adjutant General's Marksmanship Training Event held this past weekend.



Kentucky Correctional Industries (KCI) Warehouse members received letters of Commendation and Appreciation for their work moving the Department for Libraries & Archives, State Records Center to its new facility. Here's an excerpt from that letter: "The work was extremely labor intensive and the move was especially difficult due to austere conditions. Initial planning projected it would take a year to complete but was completed in half the time because of their hard work. Over 200,000 cubic feet of records were moved and re-shelved which resulted in a great cost saving to the Department for Library & Archives and to the Commonwealth of Kentucky." Pictured above: (L-R) Jerry Davis, Wayne Renfro, Keith Hunter, Danny Terry, Brad Holt, and Jessica Hall.



### ASCA's Susan Hunter Scholarship Presented

The Department of Corrections presented a renewal Susan M. Hunter scholarship check in the amount of \$500 to Joe Korby. He is the son of Kentucky Correctional Industry's Fiscal Manager, Roger Korby. Joe is currently a senior attending Eastern Kentucky University and is majoring in Occupational Safety.

The Association of State Correctional Administrators (ASCA) awards the annual scholarships and the recipients must be the son or daughter of a corrections employee within an ASCA-member DOC. Pictured at left (L-R): Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, Joe Korby and Roger Korby.

## *Employee Recognition, News*

# Promotions Announced Throughout Department

### **DeEdra Hart Promoted to Warden at GRCC**

DeEdra Hart was promoted to warden at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) in Lyon County. She is a 20-year veteran of the Department of Corrections and has served as deputy warden at WKCC since 2012.



**DeEdra Hart**

Hart began her career with the Department of Corrections at WKCC as a correctional officer in 1995. She quickly began moving up the ranks and has held numerous positions within institutions including classification and treatment officer, unit administrator and offender information supervisor. Her Corrections career includes two years serving as a probation and parole officer in Owensboro.

Hart has a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and political science from Murray State University. She is the recipient of the 2004 Commissioner's Achievement award and a graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program.

### **Merv Haddix Promoted to Warden at LLCC**

Mervin (Merv) Haddix was promoted to warden at the Luther Lockett Correctional Complex (LLCC) in LaGrange. Haddix had been serving as acting warden of the prison and officially assumed the top post on Sept. 1.



**Merv Haddix**

Haddix began his career as a correctional officer in 1982 at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR). He worked his way up through the ranks and was promoted to sergeant in 1985, lieutenant in 1989, Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) commander at KSR in 1991, and captain in 2002 at Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women.

In addition, he served as unit administrator at KSR and Roderer Correctional Complex before his promotion in 2007 to deputy warden at Frankfort Career Development Center. After

a short departure from the Department of Corrections, which included a stint working security for the Kentucky Correctional Psychiatric Hospital, he returned as the deputy warden of security at LLCC in 2014. He is the assistant state CERT commander and he has received numerous awards during his career for outstanding performance.

### **Rick Rowlette Promoted to Warden at BCC**

Richard W. (Rick) Rowlette was promoted to warden at Blackburn Correctional Complex (BCC) in Lexington. He assumed his new duties Sept. 1.



**Rick Rowlette**

Rowlette began his career with the Virginia Department of Corrections in 1982 as an officer at the James River Correctional Center. In 1984 he transferred to the Powhatan Correctional Center (PCC). While at PCC, Rowlette rose through the ranks to sergeant, lieutenant, and captain, and he served on the Institutional Strike Force for seven years.

In 1997, Rowlette was promoted to the rank of major where he served as chief of security at Red Onion State Prison. He served as chief of security at three other facilities over the next nine years before being promoted to assistant warden in 2007 and returning to Red Onion State Prison. In 2010 he transferred to the Pocahontas State Correctional Center where he served as assistant warden. He was awarded two Virginia Department of Corrections' commendations for outstanding performance of duties during his career.

In 2013, Rowlette was appointed deputy warden of programs at Northpoint Training Center in Boyle County and in 2014 he was named deputy warden of operations.

### **James David Green Promoted to Warden at BCFC**

James David Green was promoted to warden at the Bell County Forestry Camp (BCFC) in Pineville. He assumed his new duties June 5.

Green takes the reins from Kathy Litteral, who was recently promoted to warden at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex. Green began his career in 1989 as a correctional officer at

## Employee Recognition, News

### *Rookie of the Year*



Ashley Thomas, a Human Resource Specialist with the Department's Division of Personnel Services in the payroll branch, received the 2015 'Rookie of the Year' Award. The award was presented by Commissioner LaDonna Thompson.

### NTC's Bridget Gilliland Named Statewide CERT Commander

Northpoint Training Center Senior Captain Bridget Gilliland was recently named the statewide CERT Commander. She has been a dedicated member of CERT for many years. During this past year, she served on the team of CERT members that represented the Kentucky Department of Corrections in Moundsville, West Virginia. She was also part of the team that coordinated and executed a mass transportation of inmates from the Lee Adjustment Center.



Bridget Gilliland

Gilliland assisted with Northpoint's Glock transition and with other regional training centers as well. In her capacity as regional CERT commander, she was often called on to assist with special projects and frequently sought additional training to promote her professional development.

A graduate of the inaugural Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program, Gilliland is a true corrections professional and is widely respected amongst her co-workers across the state. She was recently presented with a 2015 Commissioner's Award.

## Northpoint Launches Pilot Program For Veterans

Northpoint Training Center is the first in the state to implement a pilot project with the Jobs for Veterans State Grant Program that works with the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training (OET) to reduce the recidivism rate of inmates.

While states are not federally mandated to do this program, Kentucky took advantage of available funding a year ago to implement the program. NTC was selected as a pilot location because of the veterans dorm offered at the facility.

In January, Jeffrey Cunningham, the program coordinator and Disabled Veter-

ans Outreach Program (DVOP) specialist with the Kentucky Office of Employment and Training (OET), began working with the institution to help veterans who were within 12 months of release and interested in the program. Since that time, Cunningham has offered intensive one-on-one services for veterans who are often economically and/or educationally disadvantaged with significant barriers to employment.

"This has been one of the first programs that has really worked as a seamless transition for the inmate veteran from incarceration to society," said Warden

Don Bottom. "In the past few months, the first inmate veterans that Mr. Cunningham has been working with have been released. We are excited to track the progress and see the success and changes this partnership is having for veterans."

Traditionally, DVOPs begin working with veteran ex-offenders after the veteran has been released. The Jobs for Veterans State Grant Program takes a different approach by working with veterans while they are incarcerated. The goal is to develop a support system while simultaneously addressing significant barriers to employment prior to release.



## ***Hall Named Tract Chair Conference***

**John Hall, Administrative Coordinator overseeing Information Technology and Offender Information for DOC, was recently asked to serve as a Tract Chairman for the Corrections Technology Association Conference in 2016. In this capacity Hall will assist with the selection of presentations for the conference and serve as a moderator during the conference for one of three presentation tracts.**

## **Probation and Parole Re-Accredited**

For the third consecutive time, the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) Division of Probation and Parole has received a near perfect score in its re-accreditation audit.

The division received an overall score of 99 percent. Auditors scored the agency 100 percent on the mandatory standard requirements and 99 percent on the non-mandatory requirements of the American Correctional Association (ACA).

In announcing the scores, ACA audit Chair Marian Langdon of Wynnewood, Pennsylvania said, "The agency's accreditation went excellent and the professionalism is impressive as well as the facilities."

Auditor David Lane of Ringgold, Georgia said all of the officers he encountered were very pleasant. "The offices were also very clean and organized," said Lane. "You could tell that the officers put safety at the forefront of what they were doing."

Probation and parole offices across the Commonwealth, covering four regions of the state, were toured by the audit team. The team spoke with probation and parole officers regarding supervision procedures and operational practices, as well as offend-

ers under probation and parole supervision.

"I am very proud of the probation and parole staff for their efforts and professionalism during the ACA audit," said Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. "To achieve such a high score takes a great deal of time and effort. It requires a lot of hard work on a daily basis to consistently maintain this level of performance."

Director of Probation and Parole Roberto Rodriguez said the dedication and commitment of his staff during this process was second to none. "I am very proud of all staff at the district level and appreciative of the work our ACA accreditation team has accomplished in getting the department re-accredited," said Rodriguez.

The probation and parole accreditation audit is a multi-faceted examination of every aspect within the division. It consists of more than 170 national standards that cover security, procedures, training, and record-keeping regarding offenders. The audit process requires constant monitoring and quality control checks. The division is audited by ACA every three years and undergoes an inter-departmental audit every year.



## ***Probation and Parole Participates in County's Cleanup Program***

*The District 12 Probation and Parole office in conjunction with the Anderson County Judge Executive's Office participated in the litter abatement program in August. They were assigned approximately 10.5 miles of county roads in Anderson County for trash pickup. All trash was taken to the local dump and recyclables were delivered to the county recycling center.*

## Project Warm - Giving Back to the Community



Members of KCCD's Louisville Chapter gathered on a Saturday morning recently to assist residents in winterizing their homes. "Project Warm" provides free weatherization education & services for low-income families in Louisville. Since 1982 Project Warm has provided these services for people who meet the eligibility criteria, including both homeowners and renters. It also provides Energy Management Workshops throughout the Louisville Metro area. The annual blitz service project enlists over 600 volunteers who work in teams to winterize homes of seniors and disabled residents. Top left: Northern Region Probation and Parole Branch Manager Dan Fountain and Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women Deputy Warden Vanessa Kennedy worked on covering windows in plastic to seal out the cold. Top right: Officer Brian Richardson from District 19 Probation and Parole reviewed the list of needs for the home they were working on. Left: The group of volunteers posed for a photo after the work. (L-R) Dan Fountain; Angela Alexander, Roederer Correctional Complex; Patti Birch, Roederer Correctional Complex; Vanessa Kennedy; Brian Richardson, District 19; and Rashawda Halsel, Roederer Correctional Complex.



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## Regional Leadership Programs Hold Graduations

### *Western Region*

The Western Regional LEAD program held a graduation ceremony at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex.

Western Regional LEAD is a six month program to develop and empower the future leaders of Western Kentucky Correctional Complex, Kentucky State Penitentiary and Green River Correctional Complex by providing education and direction in the following areas: professional development, administrative strategies and tactics, leading and coaching high performance objectives. Participants also receive guidance in upward mobility, resume preparation, public speaking skills, cultural diversity and networking opportunities.

During the ceremony participants were given a certificate and fleece jackets for their outstanding hard work. Facilitators were Lt. Brad Odom and Vanda Adamson (Business Office Supervisor) from WKCC.



**Western Regional LEAD program held a graduation ceremony at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex. Front row (L-R) Sgt. Johanna Chandler (WKCC), Officer Heather Keeling (WKCC), Officer Clayton McRoy (GRCC), CTO Frida Wallace (WKCC), Officer Mary Herrell (KSP), UAI Rachel Hughes (KSP), UAI Jill Robertson (KSP) and Facilitator Vanda Adamson (WKCC). Back row (L-R) Facilitator Lt. Brad Odom (WKCC), Chaplin Paul Sesock (WKCC), Officer Eric Frazier (WKCC), UAI Josh Patton (KSP), Sgt. Adam Loney (KSP), CTO Tina Moore (GRCC), CTO Jackie Bard (GRCC), Sgt. Patricia Allen (KSP) and Lt. Daniel Winsett (KSP).**

### *Central Region I-Lead*

On September 23, 2015 the Central Region I-Lead program held a graduation ceremony at the Minimum Security Unit Chapel at Roederer Correctional Complex.

Representatives from Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women, Kentucky State Reformatory, Luther Lockett Correctional Complex and Roederer Correctional Complex complete a six month program that includes a tour of local institutions, local support agencies and Central Office.

Members are placed in teams where leadership skills and creativity are tested as participants must complete a Capstone Project and present their ideas at Graduation.

I-Lead program fosters team work, creative and critical thinking, leadership, professional development and networking skills.

The 2015 I-Lead class embodied the spirit of forward thinking and problem solving with their ideas and commitment to the Department of Corrections. Congratulations to all graduates for your hard work and dedication.



**Central Region I-Lead held a graduation ceremony at Roederer Correctional Complex. Front row (L-R) Amanda Williams – RCC; Jordan Wright- RCC; Kevin Hayes- LLCC; Heather McManis-LLCC; Samantha Rash- KSR; Marsha Recupero- RCC. Back row (L-R) Doug Harvey- KSR; Charles Talbert- LLCC; Angela Cole-Williams- LLCC; Heather Horn- RCC; Durrell St. Clair- RCC; Debra McGrath- KSR; Monique Shanks- KSR; Branden Pennington- KCIW; Melissa Smith- RCC.**

## Promotions

From Page 13

the Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) in West Liberty. He was a member of the original group of officers hired when EKCC opened. He was promoted through the security ranks at EKCC and held the positions of sergeant, lieutenant, operations lieutenant and shift captain. While at EKCC, Green also served as the Hostage Negotiations Team (HNT) leader.



**James David Green**

In 2005, Green was promoted to unit administrator II at the Little Sandy Correctional Complex (LSCC), where he again served as the HNT leader. In 2010, he was promoted to senior captain at LSCC and promoted later that same year to deputy warden at LSCC.

During his 26-year career Green has been recognized with numerous awards including the DOC Achievement Award and multiple supervisor of the quarter awards.

### **Kathy Litteral named Warden at EKCC**

Kathy Litteral was named warden at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) in West Liberty earlier this year.

A 24-year veteran of the Department of Corrections, Litteral served as warden at Bell County Forestry Camp. Prior to that, she served as deputy warden at EKCC from 2007 to 2012.



**Kathy Litteral**

Litteral began her career as a classification and treatment officer at EKCC in March 1991. In 1993 she was promoted to unit administrator, and three years later was promoted to classification and treatment supervisor where she oversaw library services, religious services, volunteers and inmate programs. She was promoted to deputy warden in 2007.

Litteral has received honors for employee and supervisor of the month. She is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) and previously served as president of the Cave Run Chapter. She was also presented with KC-

CD's 2011 Adult Corrections Award. Her other memberships include the Southern States Correctional Association and the American Correctional Association.

A 1980 graduate of the University of Kentucky, Litteral received her bachelor's degree in psychology. In addition, she has completed 24 hours of graduate work at Morehead State University.

### **Hilarye Dailey Named Director of Administrative Services for DOC**

Hilarye Dailey has been promoted to the position of director of administrative services. This division includes fiscal management, procurement services and property management. She officially assumed the post on July 16.



**Hilarye Dailey**

Dailey started her career in Corrections in August 2003 as the fiscal manager for Blackburn Correctional Complex. Dailey remained in that position until 2007, when she was promoted to fiscal branch manager in the department's Central Office.

In 2010 Dailey was promoted to assistant director of administrative services.

Dailey received her bachelor's degree in business administration from the University of Kentucky and her master's degree in business administration from Morehead State University. She is a 2009 graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership program.

### **Tera Vincent Promoted to District 16 Supervisor**

Tera Vincent was promoted to the position of district supervisor of District 16 in Louisville. District 16 covers the northeast section of Jefferson County. She assumed her new duties June 16.

Vincent began her career with the Department of Corrections as a probation and parole officer in July 2003. She initially served as the court liaison in District 4. Since that time, she has worked as a pre-sentence investigation officer as well as a supervision officer within two Louisville districts.



**Tera Vincent**

She also routinely provided Truth in Sentencing testimony as needed at jury trials in the Jefferson Circuit Court and

## Promoted

From Page 18

is a Thinking For a Change Facilitator for the district.

Vincent is a 2002 graduate from the University of Louisville where she earned a bachelor's degree in justice administration. She is also a 2006 graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program and she is currently a participant in the Certified Supervisory Essentials Program.

### Chris Hatton Promoted to Deputy Warden at WKCC

Chris Hatton has been promoted to deputy warden at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) in Fredonia. She assumed her new duties June 1.



Chris Hatton

Hatton began her corrections career in 2004 as a classification and treatment officer (CTO) at WKCC. She has held numerous positions and duties at the prison in her 11-year career including CTO Senior, unit administrator II, trainer for the department's

offender management system (KOMS) and trainer of the risk assessment tool. During this time she also served as the prison's grievance coordinator and oversaw the prison's special management unit. In addition, she was in charge of the Inmate Services Building that houses legal services, property, intake and other key areas for the inmate population.

Hatton is a graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program, a recipient of the 2008 Achievement Award for WKCC and a 2012 participant in APEX (Achieving Performance Excellence) training. In 2014 she became a certified corrections program auditor.

Hatton is a 2002 graduate of Murray State University.

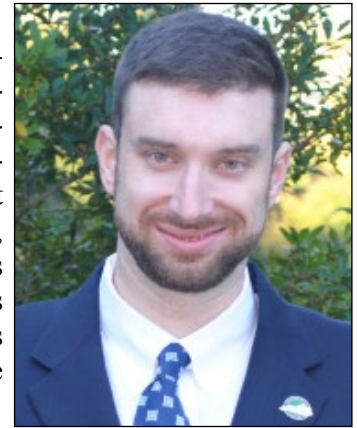
### Webb Strang Promoted to Deputy Warden at LLCC

Webb Strang was promoted to deputy warden at Luther Lueckett Correctional Complex (LLCC) in LaGrange. Webb assumed his new duties Sept. 16.

Strang began his career with the Department of Corrections in 2005 as a correctional officer at the Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women (KCIW). He served as a classification and treatment officer and a unit administrator I at KCIW. In 2010 Webb was promoted to unit administrator II and transferred to the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR) where he oversaw operations in general population, special management, and the Corrections Psychiatric Treatment Unit

(CPTU).

Since November 2014 Strang has been special detailed to the position of security program administrator with the Office of Adult Institutions. Additionally, Strang served on Corrections Emergency Response Teams (CERT) in varying capacities throughout his career and he was a correctional officer with the Federal Bureau of Prisons.



Webb Strang

Strang holds degrees from Centre College and the University of Louisville, and is a Certified Protection Professional and Certified Emergency Manager.

### Mendalyn Cochran Promoted to Deputy Warden at NTC

Mendalyn Cochran was promoted to deputy warden at Northpoint Training Center (NTC) in Danville. She assumed her new duties Sept. 1.

Cochran began her career in 1996 at NTC as a chief clerk and held various administrative positions until 2006 when she was promoted to a supervisory role as the prison's procedures and accreditation manager. In 2011 Cochran was promoted to unit administrator II. She has also served five years as the public information officer for Northpoint.



Mendalyn Cochran

During her career, Cochran has been recognized with numerous awards including the 2004 and 2011 Achievement Award for Northpoint. She is a 2001 graduate of the Leadership and Education Development (LEAD) Program. Cochran is also an active member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) and served as a Herrington Lake chapter president in 2002-2003.

### Steven Ford Promoted to Deputy Warden at KSP

Steven Ford was promoted to deputy warden at Kentucky State Penitentiary (KSP) in Eddyville. He assumed his new duties Sept. 1.

Ford began his career with the Department of Corrections in May 1997 as a correctional officer at the Green River Correctional Complex (GRCC). In 1999, he was promoted to

## Announced

From Page 19

sergeant and in 2001 he was promoted to lieutenant. In 2007, he was promoted to unit administrator I and three years later to unit administrator II. Ford remained active in security by supervising the Internal Affairs and Security Threat Group sections.

Ford has been recognized with numerous awards during his career, including Supervisor of the Quarter and Supervisor of the Year Award.

He is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF).

A 22-year retired United States Army veteran, Ford served in Operation Desert Storm, Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as other combat, operational, and peace-keeping deployments.



**Steven Ford**

### **Danny McGraw Promoted to Deputy Warden at LSCC**

Danny McGraw was promoted to deputy warden at Little Sandy Correctional Complex (LSCC) in Sandy Hook. He assumed his new duties Aug. 1.

McGraw began his career in 1994 as a correctional officer at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) in West Liberty. He was promoted to the position of sergeant in 2000 and then to coordinator in 2004. He transferred to LSCC upon the prison's opening in 2005 as a unit administrator I. He then transferred to a training coordinator's position at LSCC in 2007, holding that position until he transferred to captain II in 2014. McGraw served as the Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT) commander for LSCC from 2005 until 2014 when he became the eastern region CERT commander.

During his 20-year career, McGraw has been recognized with numerous awards including the 2013 Commissioner's Award. He is a 2013 graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program and an active member of Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD). McGraw also



**Danny McGraw**

serves as the current KCCD Laurel Gorge chapter president and a 2010-11 past president.

### **Kevin Mazza Promoted to Deputy Warden at WKCC**

Kevin Mazza was promoted to deputy warden at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) in Lyon County. He assumed his new duties Sept. 16.

Mazza began his career with the Department of Corrections in September 2003 as a correctional officer at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR). In 2005 he was promoted to sergeant and a year later was promoted to lieutenant. As lieutenant, he served as the internal affairs officer for the institution.

In 2007 Mazza was promoted to captain and later promoted to correctional industries manager. In 2012 he returned to security as an administrative captain and was promoted to senior captain in 2013.

Mazza has been recognized with numerous awards during his career, including employee of the month, volunteer of the year, and the DOC achievement award from KSR.



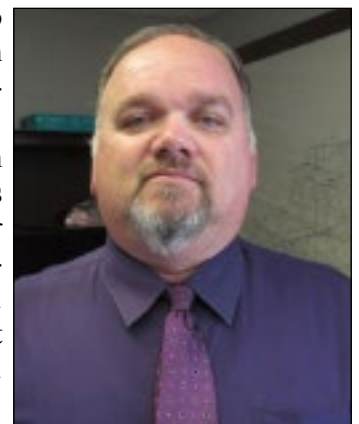
**Kevin Mazza**

### **Tim Lane Promoted to Deputy Warden at Ross-Cash**

Tim Lane was promoted to deputy warden at the Ross-Cash Center in Lyon County. He assumed his new duties Sept. 16.

Lane began his career with the Department of Corrections in 1995 as a correctional officer at the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC). He was promoted to sergeant in 2001 and lieutenant in 2004. As lieutenant, he served as the institution's internal affairs officer. In 2008 he was promoted to captain and in 2011 was promoted to unit administrator I.

In 2014 he was promoted to unit administrator II and transferred to the Kentucky State Penitentiary (KSP). Lane has served as the forestry detail supervisor, security threat group coordinator, and institutional armorer. He has received numerous awards during his career, including employee of the month and supervisor of the quarter. Lane served 12 years on the Corrections Emergency Response Team (CERT). He is a graduate of the Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program and a 22-year retired United States Air Force veteran.



**Tim Lane**

## More Promotions

From Page 20

### Scott George Promoted to District 4 Assistant Supervisor

Scott George was promoted to the position of assistant supervisor of District 4 in Louisville. District 4 oversees all pre-sentence investigations for Jefferson County. He assumed his new duties July 16.

George began his career with state government in 1998 with the Department of Juvenile Justice. In 1998 he transferred to the Cabinet for Health and Family Services (CHFS) and received the CHFS employee of the year award in both 2002 and 2005.

He began his career with the Department of Corrections in 2006 as a probation and parole officer in District 5. He has supervised multiple types of caseloads and mentored many new officers. Scott was the recipient of the 2008 District 5 achievement award.

A graduate of Western Kentucky University, George earned his bachelor's degree in sociology and a minor in criminology. He is a graduate of the 2014 Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program.

### David McIver Promoted to District 20 Assistant Supervisor

David McIver was promoted to assistant supervisor in Probation and Parole's District 20.

McIver began his career with the Department of Corrections in January 2008 as a probation and parole officer in Wayne County. He was a Class D officer, prepared presentence investigation reports, and conducted New Directions classes for offenders. He is the District 20 re-entry liaison and has served on Drug Court teams.

McIver was the recipient of the District 20 Achievement Award in 2014 and he received a Commissioner's Award at the 2015 DOC Awards Banquet. He is a 2004 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University and a graduate of the 2014 Commissioner's Executive Leadership Program.

In addition to his probation and parole duties, he serves as pastor of the Parnell Baptist Church in Monticello and is also a volunteer firefighter for the Albany Fire Department.



Scott George

### Brian Patterson Promoted to District 16 Assistant Supervisor

Brian Patterson was promoted to the position of assistant supervisor of District 16 in Louisville. District 16 covers the northeast section of Jefferson County. Patterson assumed his new duties Sept. 1.

Patterson began his career with the Department of Corrections in 2002 as a probation and parole officer, writing presentence investigation reports in District 4. He transferred to District 19 as a supervision officer and most recently served as a sex offender officer. Patterson has assisted as needed with halfway house parolee supervision in Louisville. He has also served as a field training officer and wrote two of the training modules used statewide.

Patterson received his bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration and is scheduled to complete his master's degree in May 2016. He is also a colonel in the United States Army Reserve. Patterson performs his reserve duties at the Pentagon and Army Operations Center and is the deputy director of the Army Reserve Domestic Operations Division.

### Katy Kilgore Promoted to Assistant Supervisor in District 3

Katy Kilgore was promoted to the position of assistant supervisor of District 3 in Bowling Green.

Kilgore started her service with the Department of Corrections in January 2007 as an intern through Western Kentucky University (WKU). Later that year after graduating with a degree in social work, she was hired as a probation and parole officer in District 3. Kilgore served as the drug court liaison and was actively involved in the re-entry initiative. She also served as a field instructor for WKU's internship program.

In 2011, she was promoted to social service clinician and has assisted in monitoring DOC's Substance Abuse Program/Intensive Outpatient Program (SAP/IOP) for the Pennyroyal and LifeSkills regions.

In addition, Kilgore currently serves as secretary for the Southern Kentucky Re-entry Council, the Bowling Green-Warren County Jaycees, the Southern Kentucky Fair Board, and as a trustee for the Lodge 13 Fraternal Order of Police.

Kilgore received her master's degree from WKU in criminology.



Brian Patterson



Katy Kilgore

## Contract Nurse Donates Kidney to Lieutenant at Northpoint

A nurse at Northpoint Training Center (NTC) received a Hero Award at the 2015 Department of Corrections Awards Luncheon due to an incredibly unselfish act.

Katie Edmonds, a contract employee in Northpoint's Health Services Department, donated a kidney to Lieutenant Steve Taylor after Taylor was diagnosed with kidney failure in November 2013.

He was told a transplant was needed and the search began for a donor match.

The search drug on for over a year and Taylor began to lose hope. At that point, Edmonds stepped up and discovered she was a match for the kidney donation.

On June 22, 2015, both employees were admitted to the University of Cincinnati Hospital. The transplant procedure was successful.

Edmonds does not work directly for the Department of Corrections (DOC) therefore staff do not have the option to donate their sick time to her. However, this has not deterred employees from doing everything they can to help.

Northpoint staff conducted several fundraisers to provide her with compensation during her time off without pay because of her brave and heroic act.

NTC Warden Don Bottom also sought the assistance of the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) and they provided Edmonds with \$350.



**Nurse Katie Edmonds receive the Hero Award for her selfless act in donating a kidney for NTC Lt. Steve Taylor. Edmonds received the award from Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. At the time of the luncheon Lt. Taylor was still recuperating from the surgery.**

The (CPOF) is a national, non-profit charitable organization created in 1984.

Its primary function is to preserve and support the surviving families of correctional officers who lose their lives in pursuit of their chosen profession of protecting the public.

The organization also has a catastrophic assistance program that provides financial assistance during a catastrophic illness, injury or event.

"In cases such as these it is amazing to see my staff pull together as a family and take care of their co-workers, said Bottom. "I am extremely proud to see such caring and compassion from Nurse Edmonds and the staff who are working to help her and Lieutenant Taylor through their recovery."

## *EKCC Holds CTO Appreciation day*



**Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex held a "CTO Appreciation Day" in September. It was in recognition of the hard work of all the institution's caseworkers. They were each presented with a personalized messenger bag from the warden, a gift from their unit administrators and a luncheon on their behalf. Pictured above, back row (L-R): Susan Thompson, Roger Gillespie, Jamie Elam, Wes Montgomery, Anthony Gilliam, Jason Boleyn, Jacqueline Kirby, and Marla Lonchar. Front row (L-R): Michelle Vance, Sam Marshall, Alicia Hamrick, Amber Spencer, and Margaret Jenkins.**



## *Catholic Bishop Visits Northpoint*

**John Stowe, the newly installed bishop of the Catholic Diocese of Lexington, Kentucky visited Northpoint Training Center. Bishop Stowe conducted mass and conferred the sacrament of confirmation for inmates and also provided confession for other inmates who were in attendance before and after the service.**

## *Former Corrections Commissioner Writes Book*

“My Life” is a recently released book that tells the history of American corrections over the last 45 years as seen through the career of John D. Rees.

Rees is a corrections professional who has worked in both the government and private sector, in six states, at various levels of executive and administrative positions. He tells his story of corrections through a variety of vignettes that he experienced over the past 45 years. Rees served as Commissioner of the Kentucky Department of Corrections from 2004-2008. It is available through Amazon and other book retailers.



### *District 2 Officers Participate In School Event*

Officers from Probation and Parole District 2 participated in the Todd County Middle School 8th Grade Reality Store. Students were allowed to draw a scenario out of a basket. If the student had contact with law enforcement, the court system or probation and parole, they would be charged a fine resulting in a deduction from their check register. If the student drew a scenario exhibiting positive behavior the student would be rewarded with a deposit being made into their check register. The students got a little taste of reality and were shown how fast money seems to disappear. Above (L-R) Officers Brooke Phillips, Amber Wood and Mike Sears.



### *DOC Employees Compete in Rugged Maniac Competition*

DOC employees spent a day being “Maniacs.” Several employees participated in this year’s “Rugged Maniac” obstacle course in Paoli, Indiana. The team helped each other run the 3-mile course, climb towers, slide down a 50’ water slide, bounce on trampolines, and jump over fire. The team included Top (L-R) Mike Caudill (Communications Office), John Hall (Offender Information Services/Information Technology), David Higgs (GRCC), Cole Morrell (KCI), Mary Hargis (KCIW). Bottom (L-R) Pamela Clayton (KCIW), Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, Deanna Moore and Randy Hargis (both from KCIW).



### *NTC Assists with ‘Hope Over Heroin’*

Hope over Heroin was held in August at Millennium Park in Danville. The event is a collaborative effort by churches to reach those suffering from drug-related issues. Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency (KCCD) members employed at Northpoint Training Center provided security and helped people find their way into the event. Staff participating included: Warden Don Bottom, Daniel Napier, Kristi Wellsman, Lewis Hines, James Wayne, Jann Edgington, Jessica Payton, Stephen Boles and Jason Perkins. Above (L-R) CTOs Jann Edgington and Jessica Payton on the day of the event.

## P&P

From Page 1

previously offered.

“Since my arrival to Kentucky, it has been my mission to prepare the staff in this division for their respective duties,” said Probation and Parole Director Roberto Rodriguez. “The officers’ training doesn’t start or end here; this is part of a continuum of training that begins at basic academy and continues through the 26-week field training of officer modules at the district offices.”

The Division’s firearms instructors were exposed to several high liability disciplines and will now go back to their respective districts and offer that same level of training.

The firearms board, division of training for probation and parole, and all firearms instructors from probation and parole were introduced to the 2016 curriculum.

The training provided a great opportunity for instructors to discuss any



**Director Roberto Rodriguez (far left) presented plaques in the shootout competition. (L-R) 1st place - District 11 Officer Nick Sloan, 2nd place - District 15 Officer Johnathan Porter and 3rd place - General Counsel Brenn Combs. (Additional photos on page 26.)**

issues or problems with the curriculum and offer feedback. Staff also had time to express ideas for future trainings and suggest changes to procedures.

The lesson plan included class instruction, night fire, a shooting competition, firing range training, edged weapon defense, and a glass house exercise.



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**Above: Several current and former DOC executives attended the Ross-Cash Center dedication. Front row (L-R) Ross-Cash Center Warden Scott Jordan, Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair, Roederer Correctional Complex Warden Ravonne Sims, retired Warden Becky Pancake, Deputy Commissioner Paula Holden, Green River Correctional Complex DeEdra Hart, Director of Population Management (and former Warden) James Sweatt, and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Back row (L-R) Kentucky State Penitentiary Warden Randy White, retired Warden Tom Simpson, retired Warden Glenn Haeberlin, Kentucky State Reformatory Warden Aaron Smith, Justice and Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown, retired Warden and PREA coordinator Bryan Henson, Medical Services Director (and former Warden) Cookie Crews, and Western Kentucky Correctional Complex Warden Steve Woodward.**



## Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair Selected for CPOF Board of Directors

In June 2016 at Project 2000 XXVI in Jacksonville, Florida, Deputy Commissioner Kim Potter-Blair was asked to join the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation (CPOF) Board of Directors. She proudly accepted.

The board is made up of eight members that are Corrections professionals. The headquarters for the Foundation is located in Sacramento, California.

In the early 1980s an idea was conceived. The idea centered around the problems encountered by many Correctional Officer families that had fallen on hard times following the Officer's death in the line of duty. Friends would try to help, but too often their efforts, although sincerely well intentioned, were fragmented and of little significant effect in the long term.

Most large law enforcement groups already had benefit organizations available and systems in place to assist their members. In 1984 this was not true of the Corrections profession.

With over 350,000 Correctional Officers nationwide at the time, the establishment and implementation of a supportive network among the Corrections community was long overdue.

An organization was called for that not only would assist the Correctional family in a time of need, but also would understand and attend to the unique and specific needs of a Correctional family, as opposed to other law enforcement professions.

Thus, the Correctional Peace Officers (CPO) Foundation was born.

Its two basic goals were and remain, first, to sustain, support and assist the survivors of a Correctional Officer killed in the line of duty; and, second, to promote and project a positive image of the Correctional Officer to the general public and within the profession itself.

With steady growth over the years, the CPO Foundation now also operates an extensive Catastrophic Assistance Program to assist Correctional Officers and/or their families in times of emergency, personal crisis or other critical need.

Membership in The CPO Foundation, as for all charities, is strictly voluntary.

As early as 1987, supporting members were able to make their monthly donations via the convenient option of automatic payroll deduction in three different states.

By December 2004 the number of states and counties in which the CPO Foundation had achieved payroll deduction status had grown to 28.

Additionally, Federal Bureau of Prisons staff may designate the CPO Foundation as a recipient of their charitable donations through direct deposit.

In 1990, The Correctional Peace Officers Foundation began hosting an annual four-day gathering for Correctional Officers and families called "Project 2000."

The focal event of the event is a National Memorial Service to rec-



**Kimberly Potter-Blair**

ognize those men and women in the Corrections profession who lost their lives in the line of duty in the preceding year.

Surviving family members are invited as honored guests of The CPO Foundation, and Honor Guards from Correctional facilities or departments across the nation participate in the Memorial Service.

Seminars and support group sessions are also offered at "Project 2000," as well as four hosted meal functions. The last of these is the Sunday Prayer Breakfast that many have considered as one of the most memorable and special events of their lives.

To learn more about the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation, contact: Wayne Bowdry, Field Representative for Kentucky, 502-680-3001, [wbowdrycpof@yahoo.com](mailto:wbowdrycpof@yahoo.com).



## *Running For A Cause*



Left: The KCCD Cave Run Chapter and the Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex (EKCC) staff canteen teamed up to host the “Zombie Run For Your Life” on October 10 in West Liberty. Modeling a zombie theme, participants were encouraged to dress as zombies. The Zombie Run raised over \$4,000. Above: The Kentucky Department of Corrections formed a team called “Howard’s Team Lockup” and gobbled up the top awards at the Turkey Trot 5k in Morehead held Nov. 7 to benefit the Alzheimer’s Association. EKCC Captain James Whitt helped organize the team’s participation. Whitt’s father has Alzheimer’s and he became involved with the event last year. “We had a tremendous turnout for the event and our team not only got the award for most members, but the most money raised as well,” said Whitt. “This could not have been accomplished without the support of my DOC family.” The team raised over \$2,000 for the cause. Top left: Whitt and EKCC Warden Kathy Litteral posed with the awards.

## *Enhanced Training for Probation & Parole*



Left: Firearms Instructor Rebecca Beard provided direction to the class on sharp-edged weapons when distance is not available. She demonstrated the proper footwork and hand motion techniques when dealing with edged weapons. Firearms Instructor Rogie Copher played the role as the offender. Above: Assistant Supervisor Denise Probus along with the firearms board provided instruction to the participants. This course is designed to reiterate and demonstrate range safety rules and weapon guidelines.

## Leadership Kentucky Visits Kentucky State Penitentiary



Leadership Kentucky is a non-profit educational organization that prepares participants to take an active role in advancing the state for the common good. The group made their annual stop at Kentucky State Penitentiary on October 15th. Left: KSP Warden Randy White (far right) welcomed the group to the Penitentiary and introduced the staff panel. The panel included (L-R) Michael Antosh, Fred Rodgers, David Lewis and Shea Holliman. Also speaking to the group was Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, Hopkins County Jailer Joe Blue and Supreme Court Justice Bill Cunningham.

## *Trunk or Treat Fun*



Trunk or Treat was hosted by the Northern Region Chapter of KCCD at E.P. 'Tom' Sawyer state park the evening of October 29th. All Department staff, their families and friends were invited to attend. Close to 100 were in attendance for the inaugural event. Left: Vanessa Kennedy posed in front of a car decorated as a frog. Above: Stacy Rigdon, Laura Plappert, RaShawnda Halsel, Angie Alexander and Patti Birch joined in the fun. Right: Jennifer Hogue is pictured with her daughter Jemma Lyn.



## State Personnel Board Visits LaGrange Institutions

Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson recently invited members of the Kentucky Personnel Board and the board's staff to tour and learn about the department's LaGrange area institutions.

The day started with the group riding in the department's transportation bus from Frankfort to LaGrange. Once they arrived at Kentucky State Reformatory they were greeted by KSR Warden Aaron Smith.

Thompson gave a short presentation that highlighted the department's most serious challenges. Smith discussed the overall mission of his facility and led the group on a tour of the institution.

The group then traveled to Roederer Correctional Complex and Warden Ravonne Sims led a tour of a housing unit and the therapeutic community for substance abuse programming. RCC also provided lunch for the group.

During lunch, a video about challenges faced by staff working in a correctional institution was played for the group. It highlighted several areas including the dangers of staff inattention to rules and the pitfalls of coercion by manipulative offenders.

The video was produced and narrated by Shannon DeHart and Webb Strang.

Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women Warden Janet Conover and Luther Luckett Correctional Complex Warden Merv Haddix also accompanied the group.

Haddix and members of the department's Correctional Emergency Response Team (CERT) talked to the group about the role they play with the department.

Conover spoke to the group about her institution and also addressed the dangers staff face during inmate transports.



**Kentucky Personnel Board Members and staff recently toured Kentucky State Reformatory and Roederer Correctional Complex at the invitation of Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Several staff accompanied the group including Deputy Commissioners Paula Holden, Kim Potter-Blair and Jim Erwin; PREA Coordinator Charles Wilkerson, Trainer Shannon DeHart, Communications Director Lisa Lamb and Public Information Officer Mike Caudill.**

*Wishing you and your family  
a happy & safe*

*Thanksgiving*