

INSIDE CORRECTIONS

Official Newsletter
of the Kentucky Department
of Corrections



LaDonna
Thompson
Commissioner

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Annual Awards Luncheon Honors DOC's Best

By Todd Henson

Public Information Officer

The 2011 Department of Corrections' Annual Awards Luncheon was held at the Griffin Gate Marriott Resort in Lexington. With the exception of a little rain that morning, everything went exceptionally well. There were in excess of 500 attendees from across the state that turned out for the largest DOC event of the year. In addition to giving some well deserved recognition to this year's award recipients, there was also lots of good food and fellowship.

Among those honored at this year's ceremony was Philip W. Parker, who was named the "2011 Warden of the Year." Parker, a 27-year veteran of the Corrections profession, is warden at the state's only maximum security prison, the Kentucky State Penitentiary. Parker was recognized for not only handling of a major disturbance that occurred at KSP on December 2, 2010, but also for his



Above left: Kentucky State Penitentiary Warden Philip W. Parker received the "2011 Warden of the Year." Parker is pictured above with Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Above right: District 8 Supervisor Mark Davidson took home the "2011 Supervisor of the Year" Award.



overall leadership as well as his commitment to the community.

Mark Davidson was named "Probation & Parole Supervisor of the Year." Davidson, supervisor of District 8, is a

15-year veteran of the Division, and was cited as a source of invaluable knowledge and strength. He has served in many roles to include working with the Home

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On The Inside

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Department Launches New Website

In an effort to better serve the public, the Kentucky Department of Corrections (DOC) launched their new website on September 1.

"Information shouldn't be hard to locate. That was the goal of our team that designed and worked several months to revamp the Department's website," said Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. "We think the overhaul will better serve

the public and give them greater access to our services."

The new website is the result of a DOC initiative to make the site more user-friendly. The department worked with a Capstone Group through the state's Governmental Services Center.

"It was important for the department to have insight from non-DOC

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Commissioner's Award Recipients

11 Employees Receive Top Honor



Cyndi Heddleston



Brigid Adams



Jamie Strang



Webb Strang



Stephanie Wilkerson



Amanda Coulter



Bobbie Underwood



Leslie Tindall



Dan Fountain



Jenny Noe



Dr. Liz McKune

DOC Hero Awards Presented



Charles "Chuck" Rowe, Letha Bailey & Brian Melvin



Barry Myrick



John Morrison



Timothy Walker



Cindy Smith



Amy Ford (top right),
Janna Carmen
above) and
Bruce Cooney
(right)



James Ward



Michael Mitchell



Jennifer Price

*A complete listing of all
the award winners can
be found on the DOC
website at:*

*[http://corrections.ky.gov/about/
Pages/OurEmployees.aspx](http://corrections.ky.gov/about/Pages/OurEmployees.aspx)*

Recipients of Lucille Hurt Robuck 'Commitment to Corrections' Award

Jensen, Tilley Honored at DOC Luncheon

Senator Tom Jensen and Representative John Tilley were honored at the 2011 Department of Corrections Annual Awards Luncheon. They received the Lucille Hurt Robuck 'Commitment to Corrections' Award.

Although the two legislators hail from different political parties, but they worked side by side to pass what has been called the most significant piece of legislation to come out of the General Assembly since KERA, the Kentucky Education Reform Act.

House Bill 463 is the product of recommendations from an unprecedented bipartisan, inter-branch group, "The Task Force on the Penal Code and Controlled Substances Act," which Jensen and Tilley co-

chaired. The task force's mission was to provide to the Interim Joint Committee on Judiciary and the Legislative Research Commission draft changes to the Penal Code, the Controlled Substances Act, and other necessary statutes.

The draft was to be based on the principles of "Justice Reinvestment" and provide for alternatives to incarceration; the use of community treatment, education, and rehabilitation programs that have been proven to reduce recidivism; the monitoring of defendants where necessary; and a reduction of recidivism while protecting and enhancing public safety.

The task force included legislators, the Chief Justice, officials from the Justice



Senator Tom Jensen



Representative John Tilley

Cabinet (including Secretary J. Michael Brown,) prosecutors and local officials. The landmark justice reform bill is designed to decrease the state's prison population, reduce incarceration costs, reduce crime and increase public safety. On March 3, Governor Steven L. Beshear

signed House Bill 463 into law, the result of months of painstaking effort by these two gentlemen and a testament to their leadership. The task force will continue its work into 2012 and Senator Jensen and Representative Tilley have agreed to resume their roles as co-chairs.



Rookie of the Year

Alan Watt, Maintenance Branch Manager at Roederer Correctional Complex was honored with the Department's "Rookie of the Year" Award for 2011. Watt is pictured with Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson and Justice & Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown as they presented the award. Nominees for this award must be an employee who has worked for the DOC for 12 months or less. Watt was selected for his hard work in helping to prepare RCC for an upcoming ACA audit.

At KSP

NAACP Chapter Marks 30th Anniversary

The Eddyville Branch NAACP Unit #3084 at the Kentucky State Penitentiary celebrated its 30th Anniversary on July 27, 2011.

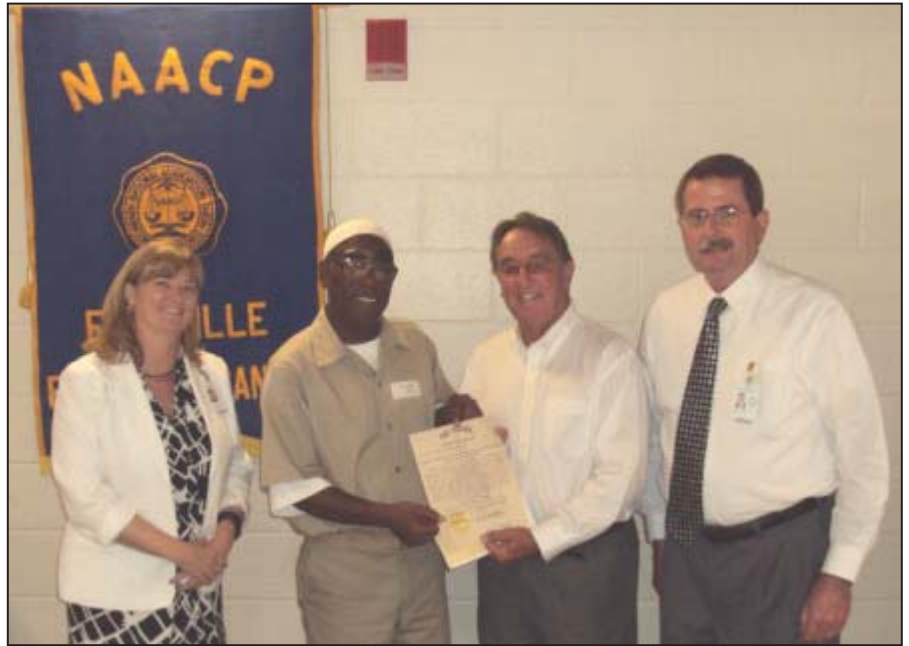
The event was marked with a celebratory banquet and musical performances. Among the honored guests were Department of Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson and Kentucky Representative Fred Nesler.

The Kentucky State Penitentiary chapter is the oldest NAACP prison chapter in Kentucky.

The Eddyville Branch is affiliated with the National NAACP and currently has 22 members.

The club has provided college scholarship for local high school students, holiday food baskets for distribution by local agencies, and currently provides every GED student at KSP with a \$5 incentive for each month of perfect attendance in the classroom.

(Submitted by Skyla Grief, Program Director, Kentucky State Penitentiary.)



Inmate Frederick Harris, Executive Director of the NAACP chapter at KSP, presents a resolution to State Representative Fred Nesler. The resolution was drafted by the local chapter to honor the life of Allen Barnett, a former inmate at KSP who paroled out and performed community service in Louisville until his death. Pictured left to right: Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, Harris, Nesler and KSP Warden Philip Parker.

Awards

From Page 1

Incarceration Program, the division's radio communications project and has been a vital member of the Corrections Policy and Procedures Committee working to align our current practices with those mandated by House Bill 463.

The "Rookie of the Year" award was presented to Alan Watt, the Maintenance Branch Manager at Roederer Correctional Complex. He was honored for his dedication, professionalism, positive work attitude and his tireless efforts to help prepare the institution for their ACA audit.

The agency's top awards, called

"Commissioner's Awards," were presented to: Cyndi Heddleston, Accreditation Manager for Probation and Parole; Brigid Adams, Interim Branch Manager for Re-Entry/Home Incarceration; Webb Strang, CTO, and Jamie Strang, UA I, at Kentucky Correctional Institution for Women; Stephanie Wilkerson, Fiscal Manager at Northpoint Training Center; Amanda Coulter, Executive Staff Advisor, Bobbie Underwood and Leslie Tindall, Branch Managers for the Personnel Division; Dr. Liz McKune, Assistant Director for the Division of Mental Health; Dan Fountain, Assistant Supervisor for Probation and Parole District 19; and Jenny Noe, Administrative Specialist III for the Kentucky State Reforma-

tory.

The "Hero Award", the agency's newest award, was established in 2010. This year's "Hero Awards" were presented to: Barry Myrick and John Morrison, Correctional Officers at the Kentucky State Penitentiary; Michael Mitchell and Jennifer Price, Probation & Parole Officers for District 19; Amy Ford, OSA II, Janna Carmen, CTO, and Bruce Cooney, UA II, at Green River Correctional Complex; Timothy Walker and Cindy Smith, Probation & Parole Officers for District 17; James Ward, Correctional Officer at the Kentucky State Penitentiary; and Charles "Chuck" Rowe, Letha Bailey and Brian Melvin, Probation & Parole Officers for District 11.



Spotlight On A Veteran

Roger Riley

This issue of "Spotlight on a vet" focuses on Roger Riley. Roger started his career as a Probation and Parole Officer in December 2010 and is currently assigned to the District 17 Office in Louisville.

Roger Riley, after already serving two deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq, calmly sits in his office during my interview while looking his third deployment right in the face. By the time you are reading this article he will have already left his family on his third tour of duty.

Riley, who is a sergeant with the 387th Military Police Company, has been with the Army National Guard since October 2000.

Riley refers to his first deployment to Afghanistan in 2003 as an "adventure." He was young, single and had no family to leave behind or worry about at that time. He was assigned as a communications/radio operator for a military intelligence detachment. He worked in the Tactical Operations Center (TOC) but would often rotate to assignments at an outpost. Riley said he would have stayed as long as they would have kept him.

Riley's second deployment in 2009 was a completely different scenario. He was now married with a child on the way. He had to initially report to the 384th Military Police Company in Indiana prior to leaving for Iraq. While still in Indiana, Riley's wife, Sarah, went into labor. He was granted leave to return home and be present for the birth of his first daughter, Cheyenne. However, following this most important event, Riley could only stay for 14 hours before having to return to his unit. He would not see his daughter again until he returned from Iraq one year later.

During his deployment to Iraq, Riley was assigned to a Police Transitional Team (PTT). The team's mission was to train and mentor a group of Iraqi National Police Officers. They would work with the Iraqi officers and train them in ba-



While Sergeant Riley was able to be there for the birth of his daughter, he had to leave only 14 hours after she was born. Returning to his unit that was preparing for deployment to Iraq, Riley would be gone for one year before being able to return home and hold his daughter once again. Above: Witness the special reunion between Sgt. Riley and his daughter, Cheyenne, upon his homecoming.

sic police operations. Riley's unit also branched out and created a special team that would go to different groups and train them in police investigation techniques.

At the beginning of Riley's second deployment his primary focus was to get the mission done and get back home to his wife and daughter. His actual homecoming, while exciting and a great sense of relief, was missing something. Like any father, Riley said he wanted to come home to "big daddy hugs" from his daughter. The problem was Cheyenne did not "know" him. After all, Riley had to leave right after she was born and was gone for a year. It was going to take a little time for Cheyenne to get used to him.

This is just one example of the sacrifices that soldiers

Please See SPOTLIGHT, Page 8



On August 4, 2011, the March of Dimes hosted the March for Babies Awards Luncheon at the Center for Kentucky History to celebrate the success of the 2011 fundraising campaign. Pictured above: Meredith Sanford (left) and Holly Murphy-Mattox (right) accept three March of Dimes awards recognizing the Justice and Public Safety Cabinet as the top fundraising cabinet and the Department of Corrections as not only the top fundraising team within the Justice Cabinet, but also as the overall top team for all of state government. This is the third consecutive year that the Justice Cabinet and the Department of Corrections has taken first place honors in these three categories.

DOC Receives MOD Fundraising Awards

The 2011 March of Dimes fundraising efforts were a huge success.

The Justice and Public Safety Cabinet raised a total of \$20,907, with \$11,883 coming from the Department of Corrections.

This extraordinary amount of money raised was recognized by the March of Dimes at their awards ceremony when they bestowed the following three awards:

First Place: Overall Top Cabinet - Justice & Public Safety Cabinet;

First Place: Overall Government Team - Department of Correc-

tions;

First Place: Justice Cabinet Team - Department of Corrections.

The March of Dimes is a wonderful organization which uses 77 cents of every dollar raised to help improve the health of babies by doing research to help prevent birth defects, premature birth and infant mortality.

A special “Thank You” goes out to Meredith Sanford and Holly Murphy-Mattox, who headed up this-years fundraising efforts for the Department of Corrections.

Website

From Page 1

staff as to what the public might want to see in an informational website,” Thompson said. “The Capstone Group provided that input to the project.”

A main feature of the new website is a navigation menu that has been organized to provide a more user-friendly experience. One of the main things visitors to the site will notice is the modern color scheme. The new site also has what are called “quick link icons” on the home page. The links are easily identified and take users to frequently visited areas of the website.

“The website is still a work in progress,” said DOC Information & Technology Branch Manager Craig Thatcher. “We are still adding new features and we are

going to add new photos of our institutions and updated information in many of the areas as well.”

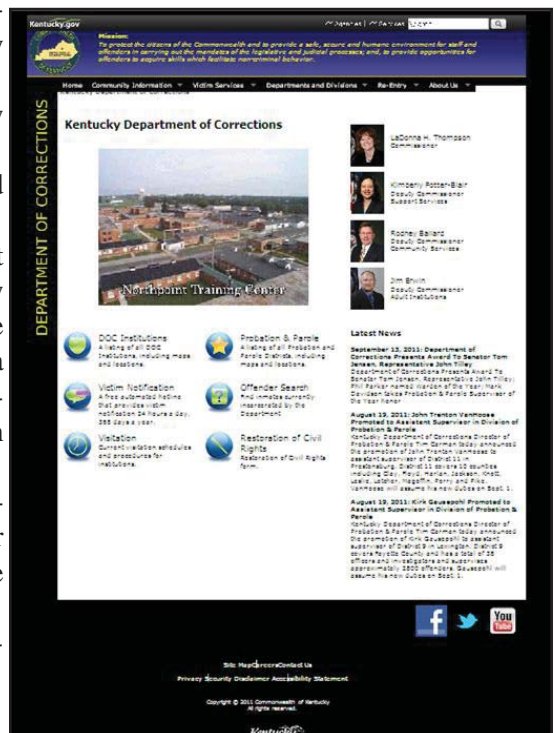
Another area, the Department’s new intranet site, has also been launched.

The new intranet site can be located at <http://intranet.corrections.ky.gov/>.

All of the data from the old intranet site has been reorganized on the new site. There is no longer a link from the website to the intranet site; however, a bookmark has been added to your “Internet Explorer Favorites” drop-down list.

If anyone has any comments or suggestions related to the new website or intranet site you may submit them to the Central Office helpdesk team at:

doc-helpdesk@helpdesk.corrections.ky.gov



Right: A snap shot of the new homepage for the Department of Corrections website.

Spotlight

From Page 6

make and the price that must be paid by not only them, but their entire family.

You would think someone who had given up so much to serve his country, would be somewhat bitter when asked to return for another year of service overseas, but not Roger.

“I love serving,” said Riley. “I still think it is important, what we are doing.” When asked about his family’s thoughts on his upcoming deployment, Riley said his wife was not happy about it but she accepts it.

“She is an Army wife and she is proud of me, he said. “The children, there are two of them now, make it a little tougher.”

Cheyenne will be three in

January, and his newest son, Grady, will be one in February. Grady is too young to be aware of what is happening and Cheyenne doesn’t really

understand the concept of Riley being gone for a year. All she knows is when Daddy goes to the airport he is going to be gone for a while, more

than a couple of days.

“She always tells me she wants to jump on the plane with me,” said Riley. “As we get closer to the time, I don’t know how she is going to take it, because she is a daddy’s girl.”

Even after all this, two deployments under his belt, one deployment just getting underway, the time away from his family, Riley says he will re-enlist in 2015 for another six-year commitment.

Again, as he puts it, “I still believe in what we are doing.”

Roger Riley’s service, sacrifice and commitment should be an inspiration to us all. Please keep him, his family and all the service men and women in your thoughts and prayers as they continue their service in order to keep us safe.

Roger Riley, a District 17 Probation & Parole Officer and Army National Guard member since October 2000, just left for his third deployment since 2003. Riley is currently a Sergeant with the Guard’s 387th Military Police Company.

“I love serving. I still think it is important, what we are doing.”

Governor Beshear’s 11-11-11 initiative underway to honor veterans, active duty service members

Governor Steve Beshear announced the 11-11-11 initiative, an event to honor the Commonwealth’s loyal and brave men and women.

Veterans’ Day is Nov. 11, 2011– or 11-11-11. Gov. Beshear and his administration plan to highlight and honor Kentucky’s veterans and active duty service members.

The initiative began on Memorial Day and will conclude with a celebration on Veterans’ Day.



GRCC Flies ‘Blue Star Flag’ To Honor Deployed Lieutenant



Above: Jeffery Hope, a Correctional Lieutenant at Green River Correctional Complex, is currently deployed with the National Guard in Kuwait. At right: The Green River Correctional Complex Veteran’s club proudly flies the Blue Star Flag over the yard in recognition of Hope’s service.

Jeffery Hope, a Correctional Lieutenant at Green River Correctional Complex (GRCC), has been on extended military leave with the Army National Guard and is presently serving in Kuwait.

The GRCC Veteran’s Club has replaced the MIA/POW flag that usually flies on the yard with a Blue Star flag.

The Blue Star is traditionally dis-

played to represent that a member of a family is currently deployed to a combat zone.

This flag will fly over GRCC until Lieutenant Hope returns from his deployment at which time it will be presented to him in honor of his service.

Please keep Lieutenant Hope and all our service men and women in your thoughts and prayers.



In the Next Issue ...

*Blackburn Correctional Complex
CO Christian Welch
will be featured as our
‘Spotlight on a Veteran’*

Commissioner Thompson Honored



Commissioner LaDonna Thompson, who is accustomed to presenting all the awards at the Department's Annual Awards Luncheon, was surprised when she was presented with this crystal bowl in honor of her dedication and leadership of the Department. The plaque reads:

*Commissioner LaDonna H. Thompson
In recognition of your excellent leadership,
dedication, and love for the Department of
Corrections. You have led us bravely and with
grace through the toughest times in the
recent history of the Department.
It is our turn to say "thank you."*

EKCC Holds CTO Appreciation Luncheon



On June 17, Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex Deputy Warden John Holloway, along with the Unit Administrators, held an "Appreciation Luncheon" for the Classification Treatment Officers. They wanted to make sure that they knew how much they were appreciated for all the work they do on a daily basis. "It was so nice of them," said CTO Shelva Fannin. "Sometimes we just need to hear that." The luncheon consisted of pizza, salad and plenty of desserts. Each caseworker also received a gift bag. Pictured above are the Classification Treatment Officers at EKCC. Front Row (left to right): Jimmy Cantrell, Eva Kash, Keith Williams, Donal Howard, Sam Marshall and Shelva Fannin. Back Row (left to right): Roger Gillespie, Jason Boleyn, Susan Thompson, Candace Rogers, Martha Stacy, Marla Lonchar and Carla Sparks (hiding). Not pictured: Michelle Vance.

Employee Recognition, News

Key Department Promotions Announced

Mary Godfrey Promoted to Branch Manager of Program Services

On July 1st, Mary Godfrey was promoted to Branch Manager of Program Services.

Godfrey began her state employment career as a technical services representative with the Job Services Office in 1974. She came to the Department of Corrections (DOC) in 1980 as a personnel administrator at the Luther Lockett Correctional Complex (LLCC). In 1989, Godfrey was promoted to instructor and moved to the Division of Corrections Training. In 1991, upon completion of her undergraduate degree, she transferred to the Division of Probation and Parole where she worked as an officer.



Mary Godfrey

In 1995 Godfrey retired from the DOC with 21 years of service and went to work as a police officer for the Louisville Metro Police Department. In 2005, Godfrey returned to the DOC as a program administrator to write content for Crimcast. In 2006, she was promoted to branch manager of the Central Region Training Center. In 2009 Godfrey transferred to Central Office as a program administrator with the Office of Adult Institutions.

Godfrey is a graduate of the University of Louisville where she earned a degree in Correctional Administration. While working at LLCC, she twice received the Secretary's Award. Godfrey is also a member of Southern States

Correctional Association (SSCA), the American Correctional Association (ACA) and Kentucky Council of Crime and Delinquency (KCCD), where she is currently serving as the 2010-2011 KCCD State President. Godfrey is the mother of three children, Mark Perkinson, Tim Perkinson and Trey Godfrey, and currently resides in Louisville.

Kimberly Whitley Overseeing Professional Standards Unit

On July 8th, Kimberly Whitley was appointed as the Coordinator of the Professional Standards Unit within the Office of Adult Institutions.

The unit is responsible for oversight of Internal Affairs investigations, PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) investigations, and STG (Security Threat Group) investigations.



Kimberly Whitley

Whitley served as Warden of the Frankfort Career Development Center (FCDC) from August 1, 2006 until the minimum-security prison's closure on June 30. She began her career in 1986 in DOC's Central Office with the Planning and Evaluation Branch through the cooperative extension program at Kentucky State University.

Since her initial employment, Whitley has worked in a number of positions and agencies, to include: Corrections Central Office Offender Records; Classification and Treatment Officer at Northpoint Training Center (NTC); Probation and Parole Officer in Fayette County, Court Designated Worker for

Fayette County Youth Services through the Administrative Office of the Courts; Personnel Management Specialist with the Department of Libraries and Archives; and a Personnel Administrator at NTC. In addition she held Deputy Warden positions at FCDC, Blackburn Correctional Complex and NTC.

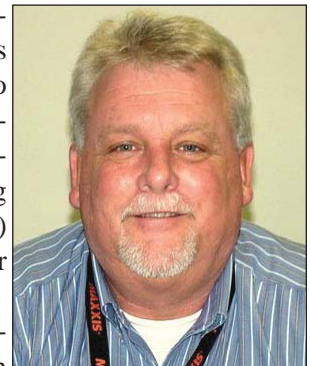
Whitley received her bachelor's degree in criminal justice in 1987 and her master's degree in public administration with a specialty in personnel management in 1990, both from Kentucky State University. She is a 2001 graduate of the Governor's Minority Management Trainee Program and she holds a Certificate of Management Fundamentals. She is currently enrolled at Eastern Kentucky University working on a Certificate in Paralegal Studies.

She has served on a number of Cabinet and Departmental committees and she is a member of the Kentucky Council on Crime and Delinquency, American Correctional Association, Southern States Correctional Association and the Correctional Accreditation Managers' Association.

Gary Prestigiaco Promoted to Deputy Warden at NTC

Gary Prestigiaco was promoted to Deputy Warden of Northpoint Training Center (NTC) on September 1.

Prestigiaco began his career in Corrections in



Gary Prestigiaco

Employee News

Probation & Parole's Lisa Howard Receives 'Best in the Business' Award from ACA

(Lisa Howard, the Department's program administrator in charge of sex offender supervision, was nominated for, and received, the 2011 American Correctional Association's (ACA) "Best in the Business" award. She was featured in an article in the June/July issue of Corrections Today, the official publication of the ACA. Please see the below copy of this article, reprinted with the permission of the American Correctional Association, Alexandria, Virginia.)

Lisa Howard describes herself as a "people person." Inspired by the civil rights movement and anti-war protests that shaped her social consciousness as an adolescent, she first considered a correctional career in high school.

"The values instilled by my parents, including equality and the importance of doing the right thing, definitely played a role in my choosing corrections," said Howard. She chose to major in corrections and criminal justice, with a minor in social work, at Eastern Kentucky University, completing an internship at Blackburn Correctional Complex

along the way.

In 1976, she joined the division of probation and parole to help those who needed a chance to reestablish themselves in society — and to raise awareness that someone would hold them accountable for mistakes.

She enjoyed the opportunity to work with so many different types of offenders, and still treasures the "feeling of belonging" she found as she collaborated with coworkers, law enforcement officers, and the court system.

Howard was one of few women in Kentucky probation and parole, and while she describes these early years as a time when women were "very underrepresented" in corrections, she held her own in the division with the utmost professionalism.

After taking some time away to enjoy motherhood, Howard returned to the Kentucky Department of Corrections in 1996. She chose to remain in community supervision, and took on the flagrant nonsupport cases for Lexington, Ky., tracking offenders who had failed to provide child or spousal

support. Soon, however, she found what her colleagues at the Department of Corrections describe as "her true calling:" sex offender supervision.

Shouldering this caseload meant that Howard became a pioneer in what was then a new specialty in community supervision. She researched the latest supervision strategies, collaborated with others to apply them efficiently to sex offenders, and strove to increase her professional knowledge base for the sake of public safety.

In 2005, Howard became Kentucky's first corrections program administrator for sex offender supervision. She served on the Kentucky Sex Offender Management (KSOM) task force and took over the training of probation and parole officers tasked with supervising sex offenders. She also "provided a vital and necessary link" to the Kentucky State Police as they developed their sex-offender registry, according to Kentucky DOC Public Information Officer Todd Henson.

When asked to discuss the unique challenges of



Lisa Howard, the Department of Corrections' program administrator in charge of sex offender supervision, recently was honored with an ACA "Best in the Business" Award. Howard is a 19-year veteran of the Division of the Probation & Parole.

sex offender supervision, Howard commented, "Sex offenders can appear to be very compliant, while continuing to be manipulative. An officer supervising sex offenders must have excellent observation and problem-solving skills [and] good judgment."

In the past several years, Howard has found that technology is catching up to offenders' ingenuity. She is



In the photo at left, Commissioner LaDonna Thompson presented ASCA scholarship recipient Josh Perry with his check. Perry is pictured with his parents, Donna and Jackie Perry. In the photo at right, Commissioner Thompson presented scholarship recipient Suzanne Scott with her check from ASCA. Suzanne is pictured with her parents, Ruth and Mike Scott.

ASCA Continuing Scholarships Presented

Commissioner LaDonna Thompson was proud to present two continuing scholarship checks in the amount of \$500 each to Suzanne Scott and Josh Perry. 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 Department of Corrections.

This year ASCA awarded 20 initial scholarship checks of \$1,000 each, as well as 22 continuing scholarship checks of \$500 each. These scholarship award winners were selected from a total of 669 applicants.

Suzanne Scott is the daughter of District 13 Probation and Parole Officer Mike Scott. Suzanne Scott is currently attending Western Kentucky University and is majoring in Biology/Pre-Med with future plans of becoming a doctor.

Josh is the son of Jackie Perry, who retired on August 1, 2011 after serving 20 years as a Correctional Officer at Eastern Kentucky Correctional Complex.

Josh Perry is currently attending Morehead State University with a major in Biology/Pre-Med. He hopes to continue his education after graduation by attending medical school at the University of Kentucky.

Howard

From Page 12

tech-savvy, and she's not afraid to use the latest innovations to stay one step ahead.

Howard uses field search tools to scan offenders' computers remotely. Intensely accurate global information survey (GIS) mapping is also available to the department, and assists in residency restriction compliance.

New, less obtrusive electronic moni-

toring devices, used as a sanction, have also proved helpful in the management of sex offenders in the community.

Howard has now spent a cumulative 19 years in community corrections, remaining in the field "for the certainty that there is never a dull moment."

She is quick to describe community supervision as very fulfilling work, and notes her continuing strong desire to work with and assist the sex-offender population; she also knows that a good balance is the key to continued enjoyment of her field.

Howard was Kentucky's Probation and Parole Officer of the Year in 2003

and received the Commissioner's Award in 2010. In addition to her commitment to the KSOM task force, she assists the Kentucky Interagency Council on Homelessness, Kentucky Re-Entry Strategic Planning Committee, and the Adam Walsh Act Compliance Work Group.

Lisa Howard is recognized by the Bureau of Justice's Center on Sex Offender Management, the National Institute of Corrections, and the Center for Effective Public Policy as an expert in her field. Her colleagues cite her quiet willingness to work behind the scenes, providing expertise and service "in an area most prefer to avoid."

Four Probation & Parole Officers Assigned to Fugitive Apprehension Teams in State

Within the Division of Probation and Parole, there are three fugitive apprehension teams. They are located in Louisville, Lexington and northern Kentucky. There are a total of four probation and parole officers assigned to these three teams, two in Louisville and one each in Lexington and northern Kentucky.

The team members are all assigned to a joint U.S. Marshal's task force that is represented by multiple agencies in their respective districts.

Probation and Parole Officers John Madeya and John Sutton work on the U.S. Marshal's Task Force in Louisville, Kentucky. This task force is comprised of representatives from the U.S. Marshal's Office, Kentucky State Police, Jefferson County Sheriff's Office, Louisville Metro Police Department and the Division of Probation and Parole.

Probation and Parole Officer Jonathan Parker works on the Central Kentucky Fugitive Task Force in Lexington. The Lexington team is comprised of a task force supervisor and seven full-time team members from the following agencies: U.S. Marshal's Office, Lexington Metro Police Department and the Division of Probation and Parole.

Officer Keith Link

works on the Northern Kentucky Fugitive Task Force located in Covington. This team consists of a Deputy U.S. Marshal Team Leader, four full time members and 14 part time members from the following northern Kentucky agencies: Kenton County Sheriff's Office, Boone County Sheriff's Office, Grant County Sheriff's Office, Kentucky Probation and Parole, Campbell County Police Department, Ludlow Police Department and the Covington Police Department.

The local law enforcement officers assigned to the task force are sworn as Deputy U.S. Marshals. With this power they are able to cross state lines and travel across the country to make arrests and gather information on wanted local fugitives. They gather information on offenders that have left their last known address without notifying authorities and as a result, have had a warrant issued for their arrest.

The task force members work closely with other local law enforcement agencies and their respective fugitive teams in order to locate these absconders.

In addition to tracking down state fugitives, these teams also perform several others functions. They assist the U.S. Marshal's in locating federal prisoners



John Madeya



John Sutton



Jonathan Parker



Keith Link

who have absconded, they work with local agencies on high profile fugitives and they participate in statewide round-up type operations. These task force team members also assist with sex offender compliance checks to ensure that registered sex offenders are in compliance with their living restrictions and are not violating the conditions of their release.

The Probation and Parole officers on the task force are assigned in a full time capacity. They are not assigned a standard "super-

vision" caseload but may have as many as 500 or more offenders on their "fugitive" caseload at any given time. The three fugitive task force teams were responsible for 1,605 arrests in 2010 and have made 1,663 arrests so far in 2011.

These four Department of Corrections employees play an important part to help ensure the safety of the citizens of the Commonwealth by tracking down and arresting these illusive and potentially dangerous fugitives.

30 Kentucky DOC Attend SSCA Conference

The Department of Corrections was well represented at this year's Southern States Correctional Association (SSCA) Summer Conference. There were approximately 30 SSCA members from Kentucky that attended the conference in Biloxi, Mississippi.

Since the 2012 conference will be held in Lexington, part of their responsibility this year was to host a "Kentucky Night," to showcase our state and what we have to offer.

The theme they selected was "Kentucky Night at the Races" and there were around 300 SSCA members that attended. They served traditional Kentucky food, Kentucky made candy and watched horse races that had been previously recorded. It was an exciting event, with the crowd screaming for their horse to win...it sounded like they were at Churchill Downs.

The SSCA is a "family" of professionals from 14 states representing every type of corrections agency. Nowhere will you find another group of people more willing to share both their ideas and their friendship.

SSCA offers you an opportunity for networking with the best corrections people in the country and training unsurpassed by any correctional organization.



Group photo of Kentucky SSCA members who attended the Summer Conference in Biloxi, Mississippi. Front row (left to right): James Sweatt, Abby McIntire, Cookie Crews, Tammy Lou Johnson and Linda Smith. Second row (left to right): Frenchie Sweatt, Sharon Veech, Amanda Dees, Brenda Overstreet, Joy Kiefer-Waford, Criettia Foree, Barbara Strahm and Mary Godfrey. Back row (left to right): Sheila Kamrani, Dale Waford, Ruth Staple, Jamie Strang, Jeff Dees, Wayne Dunn, Michael Burnett, Bill Seabold and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson.

The upcoming 2012 SSCA Summer Conference will be held at the Griffin Gate Marriott from July 15-17.

In addition to the summer conference, Kentucky will also host a Mid-Winter Conference in January for SSCA executive board members, state representatives, committee members and any

other SSCA members that would like to attend. The winter conference will also be at the Griffin Gate Marriott in Lexington from January 20-22.

Anyone who is interested in becoming an SSCA member may contact Abby McIntire, SSCA Kentucky state representative, at abby.mcintire@ky.gov.

KCCD would like to thank the conference attendees for joining us at our 52nd Annual Training Conference.

New Officers

President:
Tammy Lou Johnson

President-Elect:
Ray Canterbury

Past President:
Mary Godfrey

Secretary:
DeEdra Hart

Treasurer:
James Sweatt

*Mark your calendar!!
2012 KCCD Conference
in conjunction with SSCA
will be July 15-18, 2012
at the Lexington Griffin
Gate Marriott*

Board of Directors:

*David Bradley
Leigh Gent
Dale Hazelwood
Beth Moore*

*Gary Prestigiaco
Tim Settles*

Chapter Presidents:
Bluegrass: Tim Taulbee

Capital: *Kristen Proctor*
Cave Run: *Shawn McKenzie*
Four Rivers: *Vanessa Kennedy*
Green River: *Rickie Williams*

Herrington Lake:
David Gilpin

Laurel Gorge:
Paul Holbrook

Louisville: *Sharon Veech*

Announced

From Page 11

1980 as a Correctional Officer at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR). In 1982 he was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to Internal Affairs. In 1986 Prestigiacomio left the Department of Corrections to work for a private law firm. He returned to Corrections in 1996 as an Officer at Green River Correctional Complex (GRCC) and in 1999, was promoted to Production Supervisor at the Kentucky Correctional Industries furniture plant at GRCC.

In 2001 Prestigiacomio transferred to the Luther Lockett Correctional Complex in LaGrange as a Correctional Sergeant. A year later he was promoted to Lieutenant and assigned to Internal Affairs.

In 2004 he was promoted to Administrative Specialist III at KSR and assumed the duties of Accreditation Manager, Public Information Officer and Litigation Coordinator.

In 2005 Prestigiacomio was given the duty of coordinating the smoking cessation programs for inmates and staff. As a result the Reformatory became the first tobacco-free prison in the state. In June 2006 he was promoted again, this time to the position of Unit Administrator at the Reformatory.

Prestigiacomio was promoted again in October 2008, to Deputy Warden at Frankfort Career Development Center. He served three years in that position until his most recent promotion to Deputy Warden at NTC.

A 21-year veteran of the Department, Prestigiacomio is a 2004 and a 2010 Achievement Award recipient for DOC and earned the Certified Corrections Executive (CCE) designation from the ACA in 2010. He is a member of the American Correctional Association, Correctional Accreditation Managers Association, Kentucky Council on Crime & Delinquency – Board of Directors, Southern States Correctional Association, and the Correctional Peace Officers Foundation. He has attended the University of Kentucky and University of Louisville.

James Coyne Promoted to DW at KSR

On July 16th, James Coyle was promoted to Deputy Warden of Programs at the Kentucky State Reformatory (KSR) in LaGrange.

Coyne began his career with the Department of Corrections as an officer at Luther Lockett Correctional Complex (LLCC) in February 1999.

He was promoted to sergeant in May 2000 and remained at LLCC. In August 2001, he was promoted to lieutenant and transferred to the Roederer Correctional Complex (RCC). Coyne later transferred to the Assessment Center as a classification and treatment officer. Coyne was subsequently promoted to captain, unit administrator I and unit administrator II all while serving at RCC.

Coyne served three years of active duty and 17 years in the Kentucky Army National Guard, where he was twice deployed overseas for Operation Iraqi Freedom. He attained the rank of first sergeant before retiring from the military just two months ago.

Coyne is a graduate of the University of Louisville where he earned a bachelor's degree in Justice Administration.

Charles Jonathon Porter Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor

On July 16th, Charles Jonathon Porter was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 15 in Catlettsburg. District 15 covers 12 counties including Boyd,



James Coyne



Charles Jonathon Porter

Bracken, Carter, Elliott, Fleming, Greenup, Johnson, Lawrence, Lewis, Martin, Mason and Morgan.

Porter began his career with the Department of Corrections as a probation and parole officer in 2002. He has served in many capacities including working with the drug court program, class D program and the specialized sex offender caseload. He also served on the Division's compliance team for accreditation. Throughout his career Porter has taken advantage of numerous training opportunities and has been certified as a controlled force instructor and a firearms instructor.

Porter is a graduate of Morehead State University where he earned a bachelor's degree in business.

Porter currently resides in Elliott County with his wife and two children where he also serves as a school board member and little league president.

Keith Decker Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor in District 13

On July 16th, Keith Decker was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 13 in Owensboro. District 13 covers nine counties including Crittenden, Daviess, Hancock, Henderson, McLean, Muhlenburg, Ohio, Union and Webster.



Keith Decker

Decker began his state employment career with the Department of Military Affairs in November 1992 as a commissioned special law enforcement officer/security specialist. He transferred to the Division of Probation and Parole in October 2006. He has served as a supervising officer for Daviess and Ohio counties also serves as the chief firearms instructor for District 13.

Decker is a 20-year retired veteran of the US Army and the Kentucky Army National Guard. He served as an Infantryman

Promoted

From Page 16

in the 101st Airborne Division and the 3rd Infantry Division while on active duty. He also served as a squad leader, platoon sergeant, battalion intelligence sergeant, senior instructor, quality assurance NCO, before finally retiring as a first sergeant in the National Guard. Following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, Decker also served as first sergeant of the military police assigned to the airport security detail for Kentucky's airports.

Decker is a graduate of Murray State University where he earned a degree in secondary education in history and German. He was also the recipient of the 2010 Achievement Award for District 13.

Decker currently resides in Ohio County with his son Josh.

Heather Foster Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor in District 4

On August 1st, Heather Foster was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 4, which oversees all pre-sentence investigations for Jefferson County.



Heather Foster

Foster began her career with the Division of Probation and Parole in February 2005 as a secretary I in the District 4 office. In September 2005, she was promoted to a probation and parole officer position in District 17. While there, Foster supervised a low supervision caseload and managed all interstate compact and out-of-county transfers. It was in this role that she was shadowed by interstate compact programmers to assist in the generation of a new program focused on reducing the receptiveness and increasing the efficiency of transferring offenders to other states.

In May 2008, Foster transferred back to District 4 as a probation and parole investigator where she was assigned as one

of the district's three post-sentence report writers. In 2009, Foster was assigned as the accreditation coordinator for District 4. She also serves on the truth-in-sentencing team and has assisted in the training of new staff. In 2011, Foster was assigned to a pilot project to work with the local courts to help implement the LS-CMI risk/needs assessment into the pre-sentence investigation process. She is also one of the district's re-entry liaisons.

Foster is a graduate of the University of Louisville where she earned a bachelor's degree in justice administration. She is also the recipient of the 2009 District 4 achievement award.

Foster currently resides in Louisville with her husband Earl.

Jennifer 'Jay' Bell Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor

On August 1st, Jennifer "Jay" Bell was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 16, which is one of four supervision districts in Jefferson County.

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 and Parole in 2004 as a probation and parole officer in District 5. She currently serves as the re-entry liaison for her district and is an active participant in the central region re-entry task force. She is a graduate of the Commissioner's executive leadership program and is currently participating in the Commissioner's mentor program.



Jennifer 'Jay' Bell

Bell is a graduate of Western Kentucky University where she earned a bachelor of art's degree in sociology with a minor in criminology. She is a member of the Alpha Kappa Delta honor society. She is also the recipient of the 2010 District 5 achievement award.

Bell currently resides in Bullitt County with her husband, Dennis, and their son Brock.

Cortney Shewmaker Named Deputy Interstate Compact Administrator

On August 16th, Cortney Shewmaker was promoted to Deputy Interstate Compact Administrator for Parole. Shewmaker will oversee the parole operations of the Interstate Compact Office which controls the movement of probationers and parolees across state lines and provides for the appropriate supervision of these offenders. The Division of Probation and Parole supervises nearly 2,800 offenders from other states and has more than 3,390 Kentucky offenders in other states.



Cortney Shewmaker

Shewmaker began her career with the Division of Probation and Parole as an officer in District 14 in May 2005. She had previously worked for the Administrative Office of the Courts and as a deputy jailer. While an officer in Lincoln County, she was a member of the Lincoln County Drug Court team. In 2007, she was promoted to assistant district supervisor for District 14. In 2009 Shewmaker served on Probation and Parole's ACA Compliance Team and most recently was chosen to be a trainer for the department's new risk/needs assessment tool, the Level of Services/Case Management Inventory (LSCMI).

Shewmaker is a graduate of Eastern Kentucky University where she earned a bachelor's degree in criminal justice. She

District 19 Holds KECC Fundraiser



Probation and Parole District 19 raised over \$100 for the KECC campaign by holding a “Pie Your Boss” contest. Jim Wagner, District 19 supervisor, was the “victim” and Assistant Supervisor Dan Fountain won the chance to throw the pie. It appears Dan was really enjoying himself... Jim, not so much!

Promotions

From Page 17

is also a graduate of the Commissioner’s Executive Leadership Program.

Shewmaker is a lifelong resident of Boyle County and currently lives in Danville with her husband, John, and their two sons, Jordan and Joseph.

Trent VanHoose Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor

On September 1st, John Trenton VanHoose was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 11 in Prestonsburg. District 11 covers 10 counties including Clay, Floyd, Harlan, Jackson, Knott, Leslie, Letcher, Magoffin, Perry and Pike.

VanHoose began his career with the Department of Corrections as a probation and parole officer in 2007. Since that time he has supervised clients in numerous counties, served as the firearms instructor for District 11 and served as the District 11 liaison for the department’s new risk/needs assessment tool, the Level of Services/Case Management Inventory (LSCMI). In 2010 VanHoose received a commissioner’s coin for superior performance.

VanHoose is a graduate of Alice Lloyd College where he earned



John Trenton VanHoose

a degree in secondary education in history and German. While attending college he also played four years of varsity baseball.

VanHoose is a native of Johnson County and currently resides there today.

Kirk Gausepohl Promoted to Assistant District Supervisor

On September 1st, Kirk Gausepohl was promoted to assistant supervisor of District 9 in Lexington. District 9 covers Fayette County and has a total of 38 officers and investigators and supervises approximately 2800 offenders.

Gausepohl began his career with the Department of Corrections as an officer at Blackburn Correctional Complex on April 16, 1998. He was promoted to probation & parole officer in Fayette County on Jan. 1, 1999.

During his tenure as probation and parole officer, Gausepohl carried numerous responsibilities including presentence investigations, supervising half-way houses, monitoring the class D program at the Fayette County Detention Center, monitoring the Home Incarceration Program (HIP) and working the specialized sex offender caseload.

Gausepohl is a 1996 graduate of Eastern Kentucky University where he earned a degree in corrections.

He currently resides in Fayette County with his wife, Tammi, and three children.



Kirk Gausepohl

'Corrections to Career' offers offenders future in digital print industry

Xerox Training Program Offered at LLCC

A new hands-on training program developed by Xerox Corporation is helping offenders pursue a career in the digital print industry. The program is aimed at making offenders more employable once they leave the confines of the institution.

The Xerox Corrections to Career program is offered at Luther Lockett Correctional Complex (LLCC) in LaGrange. Offenders who successfully complete the curriculum have the opportunity to pursue a career in the digital print industry.

"Reducing recidivism of offenders has been a top priority for this Administration," said Corrections Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. "We have made great strides already in reducing the felon population and lowering the recidivism rate. Programs that provide skills training for offenders such as this one will work hand-in-hand to help accomplish this goal."

The program explores each stage of digital print production, including pre-press functions, design and page layout, photo manipulation, variable data and press operation.

Kentucky is only the second state to offer this type of program through its prison industry.

While receiving classroom instruction, offenders use their knowledge within KCI's Printing Services print shop to produce direct mar-

keting pieces, posters and booklets using Xerox's digital technology and workflow software. Print jobs are completed for customers within state government and municipalities such as Louisville Metro government and other outside agencies.

"With Corrections to Career curriculum we are offering offenders an opportunity to learn relevant job skills to the current print industry labor market which will give them an added advantage upon release to gain meaningful employment," said KCI Director Tom Cannady. "In turn, we have offered our offenders training on current equipment with the latest technology available."

KCI, along with the Xerox Corporation, hosted an Open House at the Kentucky State Reformatory's Central Region Training Center. Among those attending were Secretary J. Michael Brown and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson along with other members from the Justice Cabinet and DOC Central Office.

The Open House allowed everyone to see the new program first-hand and observe exactly what type of new products are now available. Those attending were treated to a buffet breakfast, a short presentation about the new program as well as a guided tour to demonstrate the capabilities of the new equipment at the LLCC Print Shop.



Above: Don Scott explains the Xerox iGEN4 system to Jennifer Brislin and Justice & Public Safety Cabinet Secretary J. Michael Brown. Below: A large group of open house attendees took the guided tour at the LLCC Printshop. Bottom Photo: Carol Dunaway (Xerox), KCI Executive Director C.A. Wilkerson, Operations Manager Cheri Kraus, and Production Supervisor Roger Liter helped host the Corrections to Career Open House.



Northpoint Scores First-Ever 100% On Audit

Northpoint Training Center (NTC) received a perfect score during its re-accreditation audit with the American Correctional Association (ACA). The 100 percent score is the highest the institution has ever received.

"It is obvious teamwork functions very well here," said Richard Faulkner, the head of the audit team. "You have earned the score of 100 percent and you have earned our respect as both auditors and fellow corrections professionals."

Faulkner, a retired supervisor of the U.S. Department of Justice in Virginia, noted that the institution was extreme-

ly clean for a facility of its age, adding that he was particularly impressed with the response of one inmate he interviewed during the audit who wanted to know "how are we doing?" referring to both staff and inmates. This shows that both staff and inmates care about the facility, he said.

In all of his years in auditing, he said, he had never had an inmate ask this question.

Commissioner LaDonna Thompson also congratulated the NTC employees. "I'm very proud of the staff at Northpoint Training Center," said Thompson. "This score speaks vol-

umes about their level of commitment to the job. To receive a perfect score requires a continuous day-to-day effort by all staff members. It is not something that you can just throw together at the last minute. This achievement is another example of the pride the staff have in working at NTC."

Steve Haney, Warden at NTC, said the perfect score reflects the dedication of both staff and inmates and could not have been accomplished without their efforts. He said he was very proud of his staff to be able to score a 100, considering the events of the last two years.



Four New Parole Board Members Sworn In

Governor Steven L. Beshear appointed four new members to serve on the Kentucky Parole Board. On August 1, 2011, they were all sworn in by the honorable Judge Thomas D. Wingate in the Kentucky Court of Appeals courtroom in Frankfort, Kentucky. Pictured above (left to right) are the four new parole board members, Dwayne Depp, Amanda Spears, Sarah G. Johnson and Neeka L. Parks, along with Judge Wingate, far right.

Sneak Preview

**Coming in
December:**

**A Story
On the
Department's
Home
Incarceration
(HIP) Branch**

Education Staff at WKCC to be Commended

124 Receive Certificates in Ceremony

September 1 was no ordinary day at Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC).

That is the day 124 women received certificates for months of hard work.

The certificates ranged from receiving Graduation Equivalency Diplomas (GED's) to graduating from numerous other programs including carpentry, Microsoft office, horticulture and C-Tech (a fiberoptic cable training program).

Warden Bryan Henson commended the graduates on their accomplishments and offered words of encouragement.

"The more you learn, the more employable you will be when you leave than you were when you came through our gates," said Henson.

Other guest speakers at



Above: The 124 women who received certificates posed for a group photo on graduation day at WKCC. Guest speakers at the graduation ceremony included the mayor of Princeton. It was the largest graduation in the history of the prison.

the graduation ceremony included Gale Cherry, the mayor of Princeton, and Lyon County Adult Education Center. Other guest speakers at the ceremony included Natalie McPherson of the



WKCC Education Staff

The hard working WKCC education staff saw their efforts pay off on September 1 when 124 inmates received program completion certificates ranging from GED to horticulture. Bottom row, left to right: Rose Ryan - Instructor Coordinator I; Sally Riley - Office Coordinator; Jayne Walker - Academic Instructor. Top row, left to right: Matt Herring - Corrections Education Administrator ; Jared Kinnis - Horticulture Instructor; Sean Mestan - Academic Instructor; Steve Woodward - Deputy Warden. Not Pictured: John Shelburne - Carpentry Instructor; and David Kaminski - Electrician Licensed Supervisor.

Jailers Appreciate Assistance from DOC, WKCC CERT; Others Take Time Out To Say ‘Thanks’ For Job Well Done

“Happiness is not in the mere possession of money; it lies in the joy of achievement, in the thrill of creative effort.”

- Franklin D. Roosevelt

This issue of Inside Corrections is once again chockfull with examples of agencies and individuals who have expressed their appreciation in some fashion to the DOC or written to praise a DOC employee or group of employees.

Kudos to those DOC employees listed here and a special thanks to the people who took the time to acknowledge their efforts!

At the top right of the page is a letter from Marion County Jailer Barry Brady who praises efforts of the Northpoint Training Center CERT and Kentucky Jail Inspectors who assisted in a sweep of his detention center on Sept. 21. Brady was cooperating with federal authorities who were investigating two of his deputies for bringing in contraband and he had requested the DOC assistance.

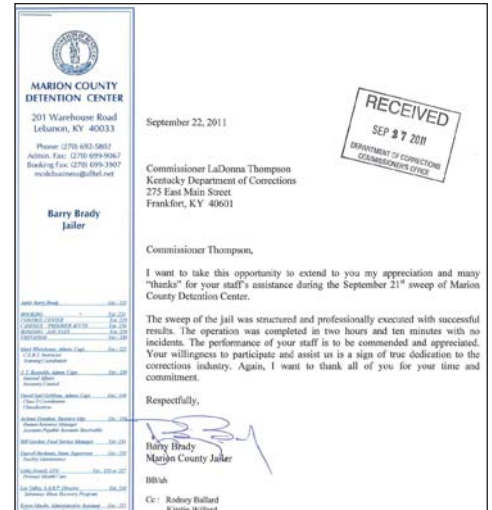
Brady wrote: “The sweep of the jail was structured and professionally executed with successful results. The operation was completed in two hours and 10 minutes with no incidents. The performance of your staff is to be commended

and appreciated. Your willingness to participate and assist us is a sign of true dedication to the corrections industry.”

In another jail sweep, The CERT team from Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) was requested by Caldwell County Jailer Jon Pettit to assist in a top-to-bottom search of the Caldwell County Jail in an attempt to rid the jail of any illegal contraband.

Pettit contacted the WKCC Deputy Warden, Steve Woodward, to ask if it was possible to use the state’s CERT team for this purpose. Woodward said this type of request had never been made before but, after receiving permission from the DOC Central Office, the CERT team was cleared to proceed. “Wanting to support our local community, we dispatched a squad to render assistance,” said Woodward. “We were happy to help.”

The search operation, which took place on August 10, began at around 6 p.m. The inmates were removed from their cells and placed in the hallways. Every cell was then thoroughly



searched, to include probing into the mattresses all the way down to looking in the air vents. The inmates were also searched before being returned to their cells.

While there were some minor violations such as cigarette lighters located and removed, there were no major contraband items discovered. The jailer was happy that the search produced only minor violations.

Pettit went on to say that he would like to have the CERT team come back. “I’m just glad that the state and county can work together.”

Please See THANKS, Page 23



Far left: Members of the Western Kentucky Correctional Complex (WKCC) CERT team conducted a search of the Caldwell County Jail. Jailer Jon Pettit (right) requested the search in an effort to rid the jail of any contraband that may have been smuggled in. Left: CERT team members searched the isolation cells after completing their search of the general holding areas. (Photos courtesy of Jared Nelson; Times Leader newspaper, Princeton)

From: Mathis, Alicia (CHFS DCBS TLR Fulton)
Sent: Wednesday, July 20, 2011 11:49 AM
To: Henson, Bryan (DOC)
Subject: Praise for your employees

Dear Warden Henson,

My name is Alicia Mathis and I work for Fulton County Protection and Permanency.

So far I have had two visits with her at your facility. One was last month and one was today.

From the very first encounter with your facility I have had nothing but EXCELLENT service and experiences from and with your staff. Your secretary, Kim, has always been very help and friendly on the phone. This is very greatly appreciated. She is always quick to answer questions and help with anything I need.

The two gentlemen that you have stationed at the front gate (one in the control center and one at the desk) are amazing. I regret that I did not catch their names to give to you.

On my first visit they went above and beyond their duties and assisted me in getting my state ID fixed so that I could wear it (they had to punch a hole through it). This was greatly appreciated.

Today was a very busy day. There was a great amount of traffic in and out of the Sally Port as well as through the office. Both COs still ensured that I was helped timely and were very friendly and helpful even though I could tell they very busy. They remained very professional the entire time even when everything was happening all at once.

The female CO (I did not get her name either) who escorted me to see my client was very helpful and friendly as well.

I have been to numerous facilities and have even worked at KSP for 2 years. I know the work and effort that your employees put in and I wanted to make sure that you were aware of the amazing staff that you have.

Your staff is not only dedicated to security but also to service. This has been rare for me to find especially when things get as busy as they were today.

Thank you for the wonderful experience that I have had and that I am sure I will continue to have as I continue to visit my client monthly.

Please thank you staff for me for all the help and courtesy that they have (and I'm sure will continue) to show me when I visit your facility.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to call or e-mail back. I believe that your secretary has my numbers.

Thank you again for having such an amazing staff.

Sincerely,
Alicia Mathis SSC I

Fulton County Protection and Permanency

More People With Great Things to Say About DOC

From: Clark, Melissa (DOC)

Subject: Needs Assessments- THANK YOU!!

To: Kieryn, Lisa, Brad, Jennifer, Amanda, Cheryl, Mavis, Melissa Moore, Tanya Stevens, Debbie, Holly, Katherine, Julie, Carri, Myles and Ambie:

I would like to take this opportunity to thank each of you for assisting in completing needs assessments for the July/September cases. We were able to develop the form, train staff, implement the process and complete over 1100 assessments in just 6 weeks thanks to all of you!!! Now that the risk assessment section is fully staffed and we are back to a single-month caseload we will be able to take this function on completely. I truly appreciate the team effort!!!

Sincere thanks,

Melissa Clark
Internal Policy Analyst IV
Division of Parole and Victim Services

Thanks

From Page 22

The good news keeps coming with the letter at the top of the page! Western Kentucky Correctional Complex Warden Bryan Henson received this great letter commending several members of his staff. Even though the writer, Alicia Mathis, a social services clinician from Fulton County, didn't know all the names to specifically tell Henson who she had encountered, she described her visit in enough detail so the warden could relay those good comments to not only the staff involved - but also to Central Office.

Henson wrote back to Ms. Mathis, thanking her for her letter. He wrote: "Thank you for the kind words regarding our staff here at Western. It is always nice to hear that your staff is performing their jobs in a professional manner with both security and service in mind. It is also nice to know that these acts performed by staff do make a difference to our visitors that enter the facility."

Other examples of recent notes of praise include:

- An email from Justice & Public Safety Cabinet General Counsel Vickie Wise to Deputy Commissioner of Adult Institutions Jim Erwin about her work in preparing Open

Records responses about PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act).

Wise praised the work of the Department's PREA coordinator, Jeff Hulker. She wrote:

"Because I am not familiar with PREA-related investigations or how they work, Jeff spent a great deal of time - not only helping me to assemble responsive documents but also educating me on mechanics of the Act/program. He showed a lot of patience and was great to work with. His reputation preceded him from the FPD, as I had heard of him many times from victim advocates in the community but didn't have the opportunity to get to know him. I'm glad I did."

- In another email received, RCC Assessment Center staff were praised!

Boyle County Detention Center's Class D Coordinator, Lt. Christopher Hubbard wrote:

"David (Alexander), Just wanted to take a moment this afternoon and thank you for the tremendous effort you always give when called upon by my office or my facility at large. You have been nothing but gracious, patient, and professional. Thank you for all that you and your staff do! Respectfully, Lt Christopher hubbard Boyle Class D."



Top-Notch Crew!

Wardens and Probation & Parole Supervisors posed for a group photo at the 2011 Annual Awards Luncheon. In the top photo, front row left to right: James Sweatt, Steve Haney, Daniel Akers, Philip Parker, Cookie Crews, Bryan Henson, Deputy Commissioner Jim Erwin and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Back row left to right: Joe Meko, Janet Conover, Clark Taylor, Gary Beckstrom, Greg Howard, Grady Perry and Randy White. Bottom photo, front row left to right: Mark Davidson, Trent VanMeter, Sandy Taylor, Susan Thompson, Harley Allen, Mark Stonex, Becky Carter and Commissioner LaDonna Thompson. Back row left to right, Chris Copenhaver, Jarrod Dortch, George Glass, Dewey Hackworth, Evan Roach, Warren Lambert, Christie Feldman, James Wagner, Kim Henegan and Deputy Commissioner Rodney Ballard.



Praise

From Page 23

Little Sandy Correctional Complex (LSCC) made a big impact at one of our beautiful Kentucky State Parks recently while at the same time providing a worthwhile training experience for the inmates!

The LSCC minimum security Horticulture class recently completed a work experience program at Grayson Lake State Park golf course. The inmate students gained extensive knowledge in the areas of turf management, pesticide and fungicide spraying, greens maintenance, and equipment maintenance.

The park was so impressed

From: Faulkner, Beverly (PARKS)
Sent: Thursday, July 14, 2011 1:46 PM
To: Meko, Joseph P (DOC)
Cc: Ison, Steve B.; Slone, Julian (PARKS)
Subject: Horticulture Class

Mr. Meko I would like to thank you for allowing the horticulture class come and work at Grayson Lake State Park. They have done an excellent job and I hope learned some new skills. Steve does a great job with these guys. We would like them to come back anytime.

Thank you,

Beverly Faulkner
Park Manager
Grayson Lake State Park

with their work Park Manager Beverly Faulkner contacted LSCC Warden Joe Meko. She wrote:

“Mr. Meko I would like to thank you for allowing the horticulture class to come and work at Grayson Lake State Park. They have done an excellent job and I hope learned some new skills. Steve does



a great job with these guys. We would like them to come back anytime.”

The students will return this fall to assist the park with aerating the greens and fairways. Pictured with the

inmate students, from left to right, is Classification and Treatment Supervisor Alex Ford, Warden Joe Meko, Horticulture Instructor Steve Ison, and Golf Course Superintendent Jerry Porter.