Maine State Prison Industries Are soaring to new heights!

By Bob Walden, Prison Industries Manager

The Maine State Prison Industries Program has taken on another carved Challenger Space Shuttle project, this time for the Christa McAuliffe Planetarium in Concord, New Hampshire. After reading a news release of the 44” shuttle, produced last year for the Christa McAuliffe Center at Framingham State College in Massachusetts, I received a call from a representative of the Planetarium requesting a 6’ carved wooden likeness of the space shuttle designed to be hung from the ceiling of their lobby. After consulting with our wood shop supervisor David Flynn, and prisoner craftsman Rod Whitten, we decided to give it another shot. This shuttle will weigh over 100 lbs. and has been designed to be safely supported with an internal steel plate and 3 balanced, heavy duty eye bolts.

Nearly 3 months into the project we are closing in on completion of this extraordinary basswood replica. There will be over 300 hours of labor associated with the project but the shuttle should again prove to be warmly received with excellent reviews from the planetarium and their, soon to be, visitors.

David Flynn and Bob Walden
Central Office

Central Office has undergone many staff changes in the last few months.

NEW HIRES

On 12-22-03 Jane Tower became the new secretary to Ralph Nichols, John Hinkley, Lorraine Spiller and Dave Brown, promoting from DHS. She also sits at the front desk and covers in-coming reception calls.

Mitch Boynton has joined us in our business office as an accounting technical, promoting from DHS on 12-8-03.

PROMOTIONS

Debbie Marceau who has worked for Corrections for many years moved to Adult Community Corrections and was promoted to Administrative Secretary, working for Associate Commissioner “Bud” Doughty. Congratulations Debbie

Jan LaPointe has been selected as Central Office's new Director of Human Resources effective Monday, January 12, 2004.

As you are aware, Jan has been acting in this capacity for several months and has done an excellent job while in that capacity. Janice is in her 30th year of State service, 26 of which are with Corrections. Please join us in congratulating her on her new position.

RETIREMENTS

Debbie Rafnell retired. We all wish her the best of luck in her retirement. She will be missed.

RESIGNATIONS

Lucretia Ahearn resigned to join Marine Resources. Our best wishes Lucretia
Course: Basic Safety Workshop for Probation and Parole Officers

Project Description:

With over two-thirds of the offender population in the United States under some form of community supervision, community corrections agencies and practitioners face the challenge of providing effective supervision while maintaining practices that promote personal officer safety. For a variety of reasons, new probation, parole, or community corrections officers may not receive safety training before assuming their job duties. This workshop is designed to introduce the new officer to information that will prompt their consideration of safety issues. It is not intended to replace onsite safety training, nor is it considered to be comprehensive enough to provide all that an officer needs to know to be safe.

The American Probation and Parole Association through a grant funded by the Bureau of Justice Administration (BJA), Office of Justice Programs, U. S. Department of Justice is pleased to make this course available at no fee to participants. The project is designed to give officers access to information they might otherwise have difficulty obtaining by presenting the workshop through a distance-learning methodology. Specifically, this workshop is being presented as a web-based curriculum that can be completed at a pace and time chosen by the participant.

For information go to: http://www.appa-net.org/interactives/workshop01/intro.htm

Funded by the

Did you Know?

Coach a Kid in the Game of Life . . . Be a Mentor

Justice and Mentoring is one of the best ways to help kids live healthy, happy lives. For children without positive role models, mentors offer valuable guidance, support, and friendship. In fact, children who meet regularly with a mentor are more likely to stay out of trouble, succeed in school, and achieve their goals.

Unfortunately, many children do not have the mentors they need. But you can help—regardless of your background or skills. A simple offering of your time and compassion can make all the difference in a child's life.

OJJDP's Juvenile Mentoring Program. The Office of Juvenile delinquency Prevention (OJJDP) plays a key role in keeping children healthy and safe. Through its Juvenile Mentoring Program (JUMP), OJJDP supports one-to-one mentoring projects that target youth at risk of becoming delinquent, being involved in gangs, failing in school, and dropping out of school. Since 1994, OJJDP has funded 299 JUMP sites across the nation, which have provided more than 9,200 youth with mentors.

For more information on mentoring programs visit: http://ojjdp.ncjrs.org/mentoring/index.html

Subscribe to OJJDP News @ a Glance - You can subscribe and receive the OJJDP News @ a Glance bimonthly newsletter electronically. You will read about OJJDP activities, recent publications, funding opportunities, and upcoming events.

For more information visit: http://puborder.ncjrs.org/listservs/Subscribe_OJJDPNewsAtAGlance.asp

Who oversees Probation and Parole in each state and how do I reach them? Detailed info - state by state -

For information visit the Adult Probation and Parole Directory (Last updated April 23, 2003) at: http://www.appa-net.org/directory/
16th Annual Maine Adult Correctional Education Association Conference

The 16th Annual Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) Conference will be held on Thursday, May 13, 2004 at the John Martin Manor in Waterville. This all day conference offers workshops and speakers that are directly related to the issues and “Best Practices” in the field of County and State correctional education and programs on a County, State, and National level. The specific details concerning the conference workshops and speakers will be announced in the next issue of the “DOC TALK”.

One of the integral parts of the conference are the “Outstanding Service Awards” that are awarded to anyone for exemplary performance or achievement in the field of correctional education or related programs. Anyone that is directly or indirectly connected to the field of correctional education can nominate a person for these awards.

Please start thinking about anyone that may be deserving of a correctional education outstanding service award.

Anyone needing more information about the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) can contact:

Bob Aubrey, MACEA Coordinator at 474-6086,
Ellis King, Maine Department of Corrections at 287-4342, or
Marcia Cook, Maine Department of Education at 624-6753.

FROM THE MDOC ARCHIVES

This newspaper article appeared in the March 18, 1941 edition of the Rockland Courier-Gazette that sold for three cents a copy.

If anyone has any old MDOC photographs that they would like to submit to the DOC TALK to use for this section, please contact Ellis King at 287-4342. The photographs may be published but will certainly be returned to the sender.
The Office of Victim Services is interested in whether victims feel informed, use the Office of Victim Services as an information resource and believe the information provided to be satisfactory.

The survey was first conducted in 1998 with victims whose offenders were released during the previous fiscal year. We have continued to conduct the survey on an annual basis in an ongoing effort to improve our performance.

We asked victims if they believe the public is aware of the services provided to victims by the Department of Corrections.

We asked victims if they know whom to contact if they have any questions regarding notification.

We asked victims if the notification arrived reasonably in advance of the release.

We asked victims if the notification form contained the information they need.
Take Back the Night Held on April 20th at key Bank Plaza, Augusta from 5:30 to 8:30 pm, presented by the Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center with the support of the following agencies is planned: Augusta Family Planning, Families First, The Family Violence Project, Maine Coalition Against Sexual Assault, Green Street Methodist Church, Maine Woman's Lobby & Woman's Policy Center, The Department of Corrections and the University of Maine at Augusta Student Government Association. This year's slogan: "Find Peace in your soul -- speak out against sexual violence".

The Following speakers are scheduled to speak at Take Back the Night:

STEVE ROWE, Attorney General, PAT COLWELL, Speaker of the House, LAURA FORTMAN, Commissioner, Dept. of Labor, EVERT FOWLE, Kennebec County District Attorney, MIKE CANTARA, Commissioner, Dept. of Public Safety, EVERLY DAGGETT, Senate President, LINDA WILCOX, Exec. Director, Family Violence Project, SARAH STANDIFORD, Director, Maine Woman's Lobby & Woman's Policy Center, DONNA STRICKLER, Exec. Director, Sexual Assault Crisis & Support Center

Some of the scheduled events on April 20th:

Peace Crane tree for Survivors of sexual violence: Origami Peace Cranes will be donated to the event and people will be able to put the name of a person who has been affected by sexual violence on the crane to hang them on a survivors tree of peace.

People who have been affected by sexual violence will be encouraged and given the opportunity to speak and/or read poetry or writings throughout the evening, if the person is unable or does not feel comfortable speaking and would like their poetry read there will be volunteers on hand to read for others.

Community members are encouraged to join together during 2004 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, and honor not only victims of crime, but also those who bring honor to victims on a daily basis. For additional information about 2004 National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, please contact Denise Giles, Victim Services Coordinator, Victim Services Maine Department of Corrections at 207-287-4385 or visit Victim Services web site at http://www.state.me.us/corrections/VictimServices/default.htm
The implementation of CORIS into our workplace has been a busy path to travel. This worthwhile project has proved to be a very helpful tool in order to help us improve our sharing of information. This program allows us to maintain continuity of prisoner records as well as helping us to ensure standards and needs are met.

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Our ACA (American Correctional Association) project is going forward. Thanks to the undying effort of Wendell Atkinson and Sergeant Chuck Perkins through their dedication to keeping the process going, we have taken great strides. We realize this is an on-going implementation of standards that protect and serve all involved within the Department of Corrections. The high standards set are goals to meet that have been met and sometimes exceeded. Thanks, Wendell and Chuck for all of your hard work - we truly appreciate it.

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We are hoping to build an addition at the Bolduc Correctional Facility soon. There is a real need for our vocational program as well as the substance abuse area to have more space. We plan to have our prisoner vocational programs and other prisoner crews do as much work as possible to help us to save money and expedite the process when the opportunity becomes available.

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We are with mixed emotion when we announce that we have said a temporary good bye to our Sergeant Thomas Shorey. He has accepted a temporary position with our local Probation and Parole Office to cover for an officer that has been called to Active Military Duty.

Tom came to the Bolduc Correctional Facility when he was still within his 6 month probation period
Our farm program has been very busy with our greenhouse this winter under the direction of Paul Dow and Guy Barter. They planted, cultivated and have begun the harvest of 40 beds for lettuce, spinach and radishes. These harvests are currently on the menu at our facility.

This program is gearing up to start seedlings for broccoli, cauliflower, cabbage, squash and head lettuce in the greenhouse within the next 4 weeks. Under ideal weather conditions these plants will go to the fields around Memorial Day with an annual harvest time approximately Labor Day. We appreciate all the efforts of our farm crew. The benefits are many.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE:

This program, under the watchful eye of Rick Horton, has been working with a new program. This is called Moving Forward. This is a program that includes homework geared towards prisoners getting released in the near future. This group is for motivated people that want to go further than previously allowed. This is by invitation only and group consensus.
PLATE SHOP

Our program under the direction of Harold Hodgkins and Donald Keene is moving full steam ahead. They are in the process of making the new State plate. This is distributed in some areas already and will be the new state plate for our future. The replaced plate had Maine on the top and State on the bottom. The new plate has State on top and www.maine.gov on the bottom. The previous plate served approximately 25 years of state service before heading for retirement.

This program has been fortunate to go through some positive changes recently. They have 6 positions for prisoners to work. Two of these positions have recently been changed to provide for two long timers that can commit to a continuous 2 year work plan while the other 4 are committed to prisoners that are within their last 6 months. This will work out favorably for the Bolduc Correctional Facility prisoners as well as the Plate Shop operations in order to keep things moving smoothly in the right direction.

VOCATIONAL TRAINING:

Our Electrical Trades class, under the direction of Gary Tilton, was completed in January of this year with all four of his students passing the Journeyman Electrician Exam given at Cony High School in Augusta. This is a first, as far as we know, for the whole class to pass the exam. This is the only class within DOC that can receive a state license upon successful completion. Congratulations to Gary Tilton, as well as his four students. We know this is directly related to the expertise of his teaching abilities and the willingness to learn by his students. Gary, we appreciate your accomplishments that you achieve with your class because we have all reaped the benefits of your teaching due to the fact that you are our facility electrician and have helped in a lot of areas whenever needed. Thanks for a great job.

EDUCATION NEWS

By Brent Elwell

There are four inmates enrolled in the college program this semester. The students take classes via videotapes which are sent to the institution within a couple days of the class. Three inmates are enrolled in courses through the Southern Maine Community College. These classes are delivered over the Nova Net system.

Bill Eberle, the volunteer computer instructor continues to teach computer programming. He is working with five students. Bill focuses mainly on teaching database programming.

Diane Finn and Sally Merrick continue to tutor students. Diane concentrates in literacy and Adult Basic Education. Sally helps students prepare inmates for the GED Writing Skills Test.

The Maine Humanities Council has sponsored a book discussion program series “Let’s Talk About It”. The theme of the current session is The American Sporting Experience. It has been very well received.
DEPARTMENT OF Corrections

MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER

NEW HIRES:

Caseworkers:
James Domegan               Donna Jalbert

Officers:
Jacob Allen               Karl Mack
Gary Beaulieu             Aaron Monty
Brett Bissonnette         Matthew Miller
Randall Calderon          Bill Paradis
Matthew Day               Bridget Rines
Leo Dubey                 Troy Roma
Chad Fanara               Belinda Rose
James Grovo               Michael Smith
Laura Kimball             Wayne Trunk Jr.
Gregory Lauture

Chaplain: James Plourde
Account Clerk I: Judy-Anne Thurston
Staff Development Specialist IV: Susan Holmes

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OUR MOST RECENT PROMOTIONS:

Lester Baker, promoted to Sergeant
Daniel Landry from MSP, promoted to Sergeant.
Brian Libby, promoted to Captain
Kenneth Reed, promoted to Sergeant
Peter Turner, promoted to Acting Sergeant
Monty Williams, promoted to Captain

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Officers Called to Active Duty

Maine Correctional Center would like to remember our officers who have been called to active Duty with Maine Army National Guard Companies from around the state:

Paul Charland               Stephen McKeen
Aaron Monty

Anniversaries

as of 12-31-2003

5 Years of completed Service:
Glean Brown                  Henry Priebe
Francine Bowden             Julie Reynolds
George Daisey                Barbara Robertshaw
Scott Holmes                 Ben Sanborn
David Laframboise           Peter Turner
Mark Peters                  Russell Williams

10 Years:
Lester Baker

15 Years:
Michael Carrier             Scott MacDonald
Beverly Jensen               Randy Nickerson
Gary LaPlante                Patricia Rogers

20 Years:
George Hanscom             Jack Redmond

25 Years:
Sandy Sarpelli

30 Years:
Nancy Marcoux

Congratulations to all!

Kudo’s

Thanks and appreciation to the Officers assigned to the Kitchen. Our current authorized strength has temporarily diminished by three due to illness or injury or other institutional needs. Keep up the good work Ron Coulombe, Rich Dunham, Scott MacDonald, Cally Peaco, Pat Rogers, Greg Royer, Tom Scanlon, Anthony Sosebee and Charise Srinivasan.

Normally assigned as a Correctional Officer Cook, Mary LaRoche has been filling an acting capacity role as a Correctional Trades Shop Supervisor. She has done a great job in helping to keep our Garment Industry up and running.

-Over-
MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER continued

Good-bye and Thanks

MCC says good-bye to Jo Russ-Kelley who is leaving her position as an Industrial Shop supervisor. Jo has been in charge of the industrial stitching and embroidery program at the MCC Women’s Center. Jo got the program up and running and will be missed.

We also say good-bye to Officer Eric Legassie who has taken a position with the Bureau of Probation and Parole. Good Luck!

Way to go Stephen!

Congratulations to Stephen Rand who has completed his first successful year as a sports broadcaster for Portland Public Schools public access television station. Stephen was the color commentator for Portland High football games. Stephen has been a Bulldog fan since his played as an offense lineman at PHS. Look forward to his being in the booth next season for more PHS football.

Best Wishes to:

Martin Wagg and June Jacobson who are out with long term medical issues. We wish them all the best during their recovery period!

☺☺☺

LONG CREEK YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

TRAINERS CORNER
By Eric Simonds

On the 22nd of December I assumed the position of acting capacity training coordinator from Debra Sodoma, who will be out on an extended maternity leave. Since assuming the position I have found that Long Creek is an environment that is very conducive to training. My first order of business was to appoint Neil MacLennan “Lead Trainer” and Robert “Sugar” Madore “Training Expert” based on their years of experience and training credentials. In addition to Neil and Bob, the staff development department has 4 trainers who have just completed “foundation skills for trainers” at MCJA in December. The individuals that went to Vassalboro were Denis Clark, Shaun “23” Durfee, Joe Foley and Willy Stewart, all participants reported and Due to ACA standards and MCJA mandates this will be a very busy training year, but the support that the training department has received in the new year is inspirational.

GIRLS’ ACTION GROUP
By Jordan Wealthy

The Girls' Action Group (A Grass-Roots Group seeking to improve life for girls in corrections) met with several of us from the unit, administration, and school - to see if they can be of assistance in helping to improve gender specific education for girls at LCYDC. This took place several weeks ago. The outcome was that they have applied for two grants for us - one to assist in dealing with trauma and the other for a group to be reinstated for girls that deals with girls' health issues. We are waiting for news on the grants. Also, there is a family literacy project that Portland's literacy volunteers of America is looking to establish at LCYDC.
The Christmas holidays at Long Creek were some of the best in recent memory. Extra long holiday visits were allowed during the long school vacation. Residents that were unable to go on holiday leave had special visits that included a buffet dinner provided by Culinary Arts! The energetic volunteer’s office provided gifts for every resident. Everything from personal hygiene items to shoes, watches and coats. On Christmas Eve volunteers and JFOS Campbell prepared a special dinner with all the fixings.

About one third of the facilities residents went on leaves from Long Creek over the Christmas Holiday. In a recent newspaper article, acting Superintendent Rodney Boufard said kids need to be around family and people they love at Christmas time. Mr. Boufard explained; “Our primary focus was to look at that and get kids near their family.”

Long Creek kids sang carols while visiting elderly people at area nursing homes and dropped off toys made at Long Creek at a local resource center. Chaplain Higgins said he was “in tears” watching Long Creek kids interact with the elderly. He said, “Kids feel good about themselves helping others have a joyous Christmas...”

Recreation Supervisor Kim Shaw and the Chief of Volunteer Services Mr. James McManus worked together to re-fit the activity room with exciting new equipment. The facility now has a pool table, dome hockey table, foosball, bumper pool, a large screen T.V. and an X-Box! The activity room was used constantly during the vacation period. Gym activities included a staff/resident basketball game, floor hockey, gym jams, volleyball and a plethora of other activities. Even though it was a school vacation, library hours were available due to the efforts of librarian Lisa Wojcik.

Now that the holidays are over Recreation Supervisor Kim Shaw is working on a grant that will enable the facility to train staff for Project Adventure. Project Adventure is a program that encourages behavioral change through participation in an adventure-based community.

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LCYDC Library

I am pleased to announce that the LCYDC Library is now a participating member of the Portland Museum of Art http://www.portlandmuseum.org/.

The library now has a complementary pass for up to 8 people; 2 adults and 6 children (children being 18 years or under). This pass is available to ALL staff and ALL residents, for any day that the museum is open, on a first come, first serve basis.

Any LCYDC employee can request the pass for his or her own personal use. This includes the employee’s family and friends. There will not be any admission charge for 2 adults and up to 6 children, 18 years or under.

With advance permission, arrangements can be made for any resident of LCYDC to request the pass for their own personal use. This includes the resident’s family. Again, there will not be any admission charges for 2 adults and up to 6 children, 18 years or under.

There is also the option for staff to plan a day trip with up to 6 residents.

Anyone interested in using the pass should contact me by calling 822-2679, via e-mail or stopping by the Library to obtain a copy of the pass for the day requested.

-OVER-
I hope you will take advantage of this benefit. Please pass the word onto the residents, so that they also can plan a trip to the museum with their family, compliments of the LCYDC.

Thanks, Lisa Wojcik, Librarian
Arthur R. Gould School
Long Creek Youth Development Center
675 Westbrook Street, So. Portland, ME 04106
ph-(207) 822-2679  fax-(207) 822-2779

PERSONNEL

NEW HIRES:
Rebecca Thompson, formally of Sweetser, is our new Director of Classification.

TRANSFERS:
Also, if I did not already send it up, David Leighton transferred to Long Creek and is now here as a JPW.

PROMOTIONS:
LCYDC promoted JPW Tom "Crash" Profenno and JPW Mike Murphy to the position Juvenile Program Specialist.

CONGRATULATIONS:
LCYDC is happy to welcome into this world a new 9lb 11oz baby boy named Julian. The proud father is JPW Tom "NASCAR" Profenno.

Long Creek is proud to welcome another new child into this world. JPS Rene Smith brought Charlene Rose, 8lbs 11oz, to us on 1/15/04. Happiest wishes go out to Rene and her new family member.

By Alison B. Smith

I just returned from a most wonderful trip to Naples, Florida. My husband Dick and I had the pleasure of spending 10 days in a condo with the view of the 9th hole of a beautiful golf course. We were right on the Gulf of Mexico coast. The temperature was between 71-80 degrees, and I loved every minute of our trip! It is Summertime there, with the grass actually a kelly green, the bougainvilla, impatiens and other tropical flowers in full bloom. I’ve got to figure out how to do this more often! Returning to sub-zero temps was a definite challenge.

The other day I was talking with Jane Lenetine (who lives way up in Aroostook County) and asked her how she deals with these cold days. She said, “my way of coping with the frigid weather was to get out a good book, or rent a movie and drink hot coffee next to my fireplace.” Sounds cozy…..

Speaking of trips, Donna Miles and her husband Ron are heading back to Florida. (I’m trying to figure out a way to get into Donna’s suitcase)! Dave and Nancy Barrett are also heading to Florida to watch their son Joel play baseball in Homestead and Daytona. Joel is a sophomore, on the University of Maine’s baseball team. Joel is an excellent athlete. Anyone who knows Dave, KNOWS he is very excited about this upcoming vacation, as it will be the first time he’s seen Joel play ball.

Some folks do enjoy the cold weather and actually want it to snow! Sue Colson’s husband, Greg, is an avid snowmobiler and is one of those happy people with the Maine winters. Galan Williamson and his family have been ice fishing. His two boys Galan Jr, and Levi had a great time catching pickerel on their last trip.
Tom Pailes has made yet another real estate deal, with his home in Florida. We’re just glad with all the real estate purchases, that he and Mary stays with us, here in Reg. IV.

Shawn Nelson is now with us in Bangor, in full force, and that is GOOD NEWS. Donna Miles, Tom Pailes and I have finally gotten back to our old case loads, after covering for Bob Boober, for months. Shawn is such an asset to our office. Shawn and his wife, Lynne are building a new home in Monson, ME, and hope to be all moved in by the end of March. Shawn is doing most of the work himself! A real talented carpenter.

Mary Jones, who is now covering all of Washington County, since Brenda Kimball has been out on medical leave, she is getting ready to facilitate the Motivational Interviewing Training at MVYDC. I took the last class she taught and was very impressed with her style and manner of teaching. Kelly Bickmore is another facilitator who is perfect for that position. They did an outstanding job. Mary not only juggles covering Washington County, teaching, taking advanced college classes, as part of the IV-E training, but also sponsored a Wings informational meeting for parents. Mary and I continue to visualize getting out in our kayaks, because that means summertime!!

We are all very proud of Julie Gould Leavitt, who was presented with an award from BDS, in Aroostook County, for her contribution to juveniles and their families. Good for you Julie!

The seed catalogues have started arriving, so that, for me, is good news. Spring is right around the corner! And with Spring, comes warmer weather. Hope everyone is staying warm.
The Maine Department of Corrections realizes that our correctional employees have an important role outside of their professional careers. As Victim/Witness Organizations around the Country commemorate National Crime Victims’ Rights Week, April 18-24, 2004, they honor the risk that correctional employees take everyday.

**How to Enter**

1. Draw a picture (ages 3-12) or write an essay (ages 13-15) that describes what makes you feel safe?
2. The pictures must be completed on a blank, white piece of 8 ½ X 11 inch paper. Water colors, crayons, markers, pencils may be used.
3. The essays must be limited to 1 page of 8½x11 inch paper and can be in either readable handwriting, typed, or printed.
4. Be sure to fill out your name, age, your relative’s name and the facility or program where they work.
5. The pictures or essays must be received in MDOC Central Office by April 9, 2004.

Send to: Denise Giles  
MDOC Central Office  
111 State House Station  
Augusta, Maine 04333

**JUDGING**

The Victim Advisory Group members will judge all entries on Friday, April 16, 2004. Participants do not need to be present to win. All pictures and essays will be displayed in the MDOC Central Office during the National Crime Victims’ Week (April 18 –24, 2004).

**PRIZES**

- Ages 3 - 5
- Ages 6 - 8
- Ages 9 - 12
- Ages 13 - 15