The Human Resources function for the DOC is an integral part of the DAFS Service Center. We are now fully staffed and look forward to providing DOC with first-rate service!

Here is an account of a few of the functions the Human Resource Services provide for the DOC and its employees:

- We coordinate and manage the DOC’s recruitment and hiring needs (meaning we help managers get the best employees to fulfill their missions);
- We administer and interpret the collective bargaining agreements, civil service laws and rules (meaning we consult on provisions of the contracts, discipline and grievance resolution);
- We advise managers and employees on personnel actions and processes (such as merit increases, reclassifications, compensation);

In Augusta, Charlene Gamage, Director of HR, provides overall planning, coordination and management for the department. Also in Augusta are Bonnie Harris, Personnel Officer and Sharon Boynton, Personnel Assistant. They have been joined by Melissa Corrigan, who comes to us from Riverview where she has been doing personnel work for several years. Her first and primary responsibility will be to help get the department’s payroll operations automated and standardized - a huge task by any measure. Please welcome her.

At the MSP, Bob McGorty has joined us from DOT. He is aided by Linda Grant and Amy Arthur in providing HR/payroll/workers’ compensation services.

MCC has Brad Fogg to serve their needs. He is assisted by Dianne Neilson who provides the payroll services.

LCYDC recently hired Steve Farrell as the permanent Personnel Officer.

Charleston/MVYDC/and DCF have Christine Conlogue, a seasoned Personnel Officer who is well equipped to handle any personnel/payroll issues which may arise.

We are eager to attend to the HR needs of the DOC so please call/e-mail any of us with questions/concerns you have.
Food for Thought

Be the change you wish to see in the world.

- Gandhi

CENTRAL OFFICE

Mitch Boynton, Senior Staff Accountant at the Central Office and his wife Lynn welcomed Nadia Quinn Boynton at 4:00 AM on Saturday October 28, 2006. She was 7 pounds 4.5 ounces and 20 inches long. Our very best wishes to Mitch, Lynn and Nadia.

Congratulations to Christine Merchant on her promotion to a Social Services Program Specialist II in the DHHS Office of Child and Family Services, beginning September 22. We know that her supervision of contracts in that new capacity will enhance operations there.

I would like to thank Christine for all her contributions to the Maine Reentry Network program during her two years as a Reentry Specialist. Her efforts are appreciated and will be missed. If you have case details you need to complete with Christine before she leaves, please contact her before she leaves next Thursday.

We are interviewing in a week for the Cumberland County position and will announce as soon as we have hired someone for that position. Best, Becky

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If this contributor list is incorrect or changed, please call Ellis King in Central Office at 287-4342 or FAX 287-4370 or E-Mail at Ellis.King@maine.gov
This photo was taken around 1870 by E.C. Fernald and published in one of the local newspapers. The photo shows a “CELL BLOCK VIEW” of the “old” Maine State Prison in Thomaston. The photo shows the small wood or coal stoves that were used to heat the building. The inmates and staff used to complain about the temperature of the East Wing in the Winter even after a more efficient heating system was installed.

Thanks to Gary LaPlante for the CD containing MSP historical archives for this photo.

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.

IMPORTANT NOTE ON THIS ARTICLE: I have nearly depleted my existing supply of old MDOC photographs and I am having difficulty developing future archive articles. If anyone has old photographs from the MDOC’s “Good Old Days” please let me use them for our newsletter. Thank You!! Ellis

Rick and Kelli welcomed their first grandchild Jayden Gage Towns born on June 26th weighing in at 10 lbs 8oz. Yes, he was a big one. The family is doing very well. Rick and Kelli’s oldest daughter Katie was married on September 16th to Joe Towns. Their oldest son Richard will be home from Germany from Oct. 7th thru 20th and then he will be heading to Iraq the first of November.

Rick Rogers had transferred from the South Portland area caseload to the Springvale/Sanford as of 9/11/06 (replacing Jenn Goan). Neil MacLennan will now be supervising Rick’s former caseload and Kelli Rogers will be transferring to Neil’s former caseload in Biddeford.

Mike Mack is now a member of the Children’s Cabinet in Region One.

Jasmine Savio, LCSW at Long Creek and Melissa Matthews, JCCO started FABS (For a Better System) when it was discovered that some girls in detention preferred to remain in detention as opposed to utilizing community based services. When working together, providers and the Department of Corrections staff can help motivate and empower young women to utilize existing services. Also, bridge the gap between what their needs are and what the DOC and the community lacks. The two meet with the girls in detention and committed twice a week to have small seminars on topics such as exercise, hygiene and sexual issues. Once a month the two have meetings with providers and community leaders to update and share information. The latest goal of the group is to start a mentoring program for the detained girls. Anyone interested in more information or to join them, please call 822-2856 or 822-2715.

We had our staff meeting on 10/27 at Kathy Pressley’s farm. It is always nice to add a personal touch to our ordinary staff meetings. We will have our annual Christmas party/staff meeting at Brian MacDougall’s house. We have done this for years and always enjoy it.
Did You Know?

U.S. Expenditures on Alcohol Attributable to Drinking by Alcohol Expenditure Study Concludes That the Alcohol Industry Has Compelling Financial Interest in Underage Drinking

“Early initiation of alcohol use provides substantial financial value to the alcohol industry, “ according to an analysis of the quantity and cash value of drinking in the United States. Of the estimated $128.6 billion spent on alcohol in 2001, $22.5 billion (17.5%) was attributable to underage drinking. In addition, because underage drinkers are more likely to become adult drinkers with alcohol abuse and dependence (almost all—96.8%—of the adult drinkers with alcohol abuse and dependence began drinking prior to the age of 21 years), early initiation also results in a long-term cash value to the alcohol industry. Slightly more than $25 billion was linked to alcohol consumed by adult drinkers with alcohol abuse or dependence. The authors conclude that “with at least 37.5% of sales linked to underage drinking and adult abusive and dependent drinking, the alcohol industry has a compelling financial motive to attempt to maintain or increase rates of underage drinking” (p. 477).


Maine Adult Correctional Education Association

Meeting at the Maine Department of Corrections – Central Office, Augusta, Maine

Friday, November 17 at 9 a.m.

Denise Lord, Associate Commissioner for the Maine Department of Corrections, will be speaking on the importance of MDOC correctional education programs and of future plans and initiatives in the area of correctional education.

Notes:
Please join me in congratulating the following individuals on their appointment as Officers of the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association:

President - Noel Plourde, Instructor, Androscoggin County Jail/Lewiston Adult Education

Vice President - Ray Therrien, Director, Franklin County Adult Basic Education

Secretary - Naomi Bonang, Jail Industries Supervisor, Two Bridges Regional Jail

Treasurer - Paul Robbins, Academic Instructor, Charleston Correctional Facility

I want to thank everyone who took the time and interest to vote in this first ever election of MACEA Officers.

It is our hope that the MACEA can re-activate the Maine Chapter of the CEA and somehow combine the organizations so that our Correctional Educators have the opportunity to participate in a professional organization that will offer the chance for professional development. The Mission of the CEA and the MDOC strategic plan can be examined to determine if the goals are similar.
Employee of the Month - September 2006
Presented to Dave Packard
Dept. of Administrative and Financial Services
Office of Information Technology
In recognition of your cooperative spirit and contributions to the fulfillment of our Department's goals.

Dave's work ethic and devotion to State service is unquestionable. He is a strong leader. He believes and trusts his employees, which encourages and motivates them to perform accordingly. I am writing this because I believe many do not realize how hard he works and how effective he is. We have lost key personnel in Corrections and yet, even with high user to staff ratios, continue the course - even deploying new systems that no other State correction's has even dreamed of. Many states (NH, VA, OR, MA, FL) are following our Corrections IT path and much of that is due to this man and those that follow him. We are saving the State money as well as increasing performance and services. I am proud of our State and this man in particular. We are setting the bar!

6 for 6
On Tuesday October 18th, 2006, The Department of Corrections, ACA Facility Compliance Managers presented Ralph Nichols, Director of Inspections, Quality Assurance and Professional Practices with a stunning plaque in recognition for his dedication, knowledge, assistance, and camaraderie in achieving “6 for 6.”

Ralph provided direction and oversight, during this 3 year process, in the achievement of all six facilities (Maine Correctional Center, Long Creek Youth Development Center, Maine State Prison, Bolduc Correctional Facility, Mountain View Youth Development Center, and Charleston Correctional Facility). His knowledge and persistence for excellence has enabled the Department of Corrections for the State of Maine to receive recognition and inquiries from other state agencies through-out the United States. The final facility scores and comments from the ACA Auditors have been testimony to the hard work and long hours by all the facilities’ staff under Ralph’s guidance and tutelage in achieving ACA Accreditation.

The plaque contains a silver plate with the scores of each Facility along with the “I Love ACA” button. This button was originally worn by the first Facility Compliance Manager to seek ACA accreditation (MCC) and then successively passed to each Facility Compliance Manger as they prepared for their ACA Audit. As you can see, this “good luck button” deserves to be with Ralph in recognition for his hard work.

The Facility ACA Compliance Managers look forward to continuing their work with Ralph and Commissioner Magnusson in continuing with ACA Accreditation in their facilities and working with other divisions within the Department to prepare for ACA Accreditation.
Maine State Prison would like to welcome Correctional Officers:

Joshua Black    Jerrit Blomgren
Paul Brooks    Chase Craig
Katherine Graves    Andrew Sabens

*****

Employee of the Month

Karen Anderson-August

Officer Bosdell-September

*****

Warden Merrill presents Officer Sam Godfrey a certificate for 30 years of continuous state service.

Staff Members Recognized for Continuous State Service.

From left to right: Paul Doughty 25 years, Gloria Seekins 20 years, John Sylvester 20 years, Dominic Hunt 20 years, William Robinson 20 years, and Scott Drake 20 years.
MSP Softball Team Takes Second Place

The Maine State Prison softball team has once again represented us well in the State Softball Tournament in Augusta on September 9th and 10th 2006. The team had to come back from the losers bracket to take second place overall. This team has been involved with the tournament for five years. They have brought home a trophy four out of the five years. Below is a list of the current team members.

COACHES ARE:
Doug Starbird and Eddie Mayer

PLAYERS INCLUDE:
Rusty Worcester Matt Starbird
Jerritt Blomgrenn Lisa Richards
Robert Brownell Stephen Plessner
Billy Jo Ladd Larry Worster
Lieda Kozlogiski Carroll Gifford
David Allen Danielle Mayer
Mike Mayer Andrea Henry

PERSONNEL

PROMOTIONS:
George Peterson, to Corrections Plant Maintenance Engineer
Leon Gerry, Corr. Maintenance Mechanic will transfer to a Correctional Trades Instructor position Oct. 30th.

ANNIVERSARY:
Congratulations to Steve Berry, Director and Robin Pinkham, Sgt on 25 years of service for the Department of Corrections; and our very best wishes to Steve as he recuperates at home during this time.

ACA

During the hard work of preparing for the ACA audit process, our own Sgt. Robin Pinkham created a song, with words applicable to all the facilities that underwent this rigorous adventure. Of course, the song with music is much better! Rob did a great 1st-time performance for the ACA auditors. These are the words:

Chorus: ACA it’s about working a whole new way, get on board cause it’s here to stay (you’ll like it).... ACA...
1. Working here at CCF is easy, people like it here; they want to stay; still we never got a lot of money, and buildings, they got older day by day.
2. Then one day the boss he called a meeting, said it’s time we work a different way; no one understood what he was saying, and that’s how we first heard of ACA.
3. We could not go back to the old ways...we could not go back to the old days, no; Chorus repeat times 2
RNP Music 8/06
Welcome and Congratulations!!

Long Creek is proud to announce our new hire class:

- JPW Justin Ahern
- JPW Francois Bouchard
- JPW Chris Scott
- JPW Hebert Alabre
- JPW Ashley Geissler
- JPW Susan McAllaster
- JPW Justin Madore
- JPW John Petrlik
- JPW James Lussier
- JPW Benjamin Martin

Welcome Aboard!!

And a Fond Farewell...

To Debra Andrews, training coordinator. Debra’s contribution to the training program at Long Creek was exemplary. Her work will be remembered long into the future. Personnel Director, Steve Farrell will miss her professional addition to the team. Mr. Farrell commented, “Deb was a tremendous asset to Long Creek: she will be greatly missed. MCJA will be getting a class addition to their training staff.” Debra has accepted a position with the Maine Criminal Justice Academy.

Good Luck and best wishes!

Employee Spotlight...

Each month, one employee receives special recognition as “Employee of the Month.” Our most recent being:

Richard LeClair, Special Education Teacher for the Carpentry Team. Just like clockwork, Mr. LeClair is in the hallway at the start of every school day, greeting our students with his signature handshake and “Top of the Morning.” His welcoming nature gives our kids a warm start to their day, and it is appreciated!

Jeff Batchelder, JPW. Jeff’s flexibility is a wonderful asset to our team. Jeff is always ready, willing, and able to lend a hand to all who need it. His amiable nature provides an excellent role model to our staff, great job Jeff!

Carol and Jack Saunders

“Jack and Jill” Party was a HUGE success!

On Thursday, August 17th, a Jack and Jill Bridal Shower was given to our good friend and co worker, Carol Saunders. She renewed her vows with Al, after 32 years of marriage on, August 26.

Carol was totally surprised!! About 35 people, who have worked with Carol over the past 23 years, showed up at our local Thatcher's restaurant. Carol received some pretty interesting and funny gifts, and was thrilled to see everyone.

A GREAT TIME was had by all. When Officer Friendly (A.K.A. Adam 12 Pack) arrived, we had even more laughs.

Thanks to all who helped make this such an unforgettable memory. Carol said, “It was the nicest thing anyone has ever done for me.” - Bev Grant

Beverly Grant did a spectacular job organizing the party. She is a remarkably thoughtful person!
MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS

Preble Street

For the past four years, LCYDC students have been helping out at the Preble Street Resource Center. Every Thursday morning, six students, two teachers, and a JPW help to prepare and serve the breakfast meal at the Center. Each year, electoral candidates visit the kitchen for a meet and greet at the Annual Candidates’ forum.

Student’s were allowed to ask questions of the candidates. Robert Foley, the Culinary Arts teacher who heads the Long Creek operation states, “The kids were empowered and impressed by what they experienced today. It’s another step towards becoming involved citizens.”

For the Troops...

LCYDC completed another successful Support the Troops drive this summer. The initiative is headed up by Beth Peavy, JPW. A variety of items were collected during both drives. Food and hygiene products were shipped overseas to the troops. Some people donated money that was used to purchase more items, and for mailing the packages. Every package costs at least $8.10, so the cash donated was put to good use, and a big help. Beth’s brother, Kyle Peavey, who served with the Marines in Ramadi, said his room was the “happening” place because all the guys would come over to eat snacks or get some personal hygiene items. Kyle just returned to the United States after serving 9 months with his marine battalion in Ramadi, Iraq. He left some of the items to the guys who replaced him, which was much appreciated.

Kyle said that we will never know how much getting packages means to the people serving in the Military, and that people who do not receive packages are grateful for everything that is sent and shared. David Derienzo, JPW at Long Creek, who is serving over in Iraq, shares his packages as well, and says the guys love the stuff. David still has another 9 months to go with the National Guard.

Beth pledges to continue sending over packages to David and those around him.

Bev Grant recently helped Beth conduct a bottle drive. All the proceeds will go towards additional items for the troops. Long Creek’s packages will continue to be sent with the help of her co-workers. Miss Peavy states, “Bev Grant is an enormous help and contributor. I don’t know what I would do without her.”

Our own Cedar residents painted the boxes. Bev Grant’s grand children, Skyler and Kobe helped out too.

Way to go Beth and Bev!!

Student Press Initiative chooses Long Creek!!!

Students have an opportunity to publish their writings!

SPI is built upon the premise that writing for publication provides young people with authentic audiences. When students realize the power and potential of an audience of their peers and the community at large, writing becomes purposeful thereby inspiring them to produce their best work.”

Bill Lundgren, Curriculum Consultant for SPI, is quickly becoming known here at Long Creek. Our students are excited and enthusiastic about the project. Thank you SPI and Mr. Lundgren!!

Way to go Beth and Bev!!

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Mr. Elliott’s Science Class
By Jim Elliott, Science Teacher

Space Shuttle Challenger rocketed toward the International Space Station on August 17, 2006 with six Mountain View Youth Development Center residents, Mr. Elliott and Mr. Brugger, JPW. Their mission was to prepare and launch a space probe designed to fly through the tail of a comet and collect space dust for analysis. The team of astronauts also had to perform life support, scientific research, data collection, and medical duties.

The space mission took place at the Challenger learning Center in Bangor. This educational and downright fun learning center was the brainchild of N.A.S.A. The first learning center opened after the tragic loss of the Challenger space shuttle in 1986. The mission of the fifty-three centers located across America is to educate the youth of America to the wonders of space exploration, and to encourage studies in space science.

After lunch, the residents built and launched model rockets. They learned basic model design and how to calculate the rocket’s height after launch. Everyone had a great outing!

Equestrian Program
By Sheena Lundin and Kathy Kemp

On September 18 and 19th, residents at Mountain View Youth Development Center had the opportunity to attend an Equestrian Day Camp at Isaac Royal Stables in Dover Foxcroft, Maine. While at the camp the kids learned aspects of horse care and stable management, and had the honor to receive training from an upcoming Olympic rider.

Residents were observed using great listening skills, being able to follow directions, being very well behaved and showing great manners. One resident in particular was very helpful to Ms Lundin helping her on and off the hay wagon for the ride to the campground/schooling site atop the hill. They enjoyed hamburgers, hotdogs, salads, and for dessert, toasted marshmallows and made s’mores on the campfire. The kids did a great job, and appeared they were having a very good time. There may have been some complaints of pain, as they used muscles they never knew existed!

PERSONNEL

ANNIVERSARIES:

We want to extend our congratulations to Steve Wagg, Juvenile Facility Operations Supervisor, who is working on his 30th year with the Department of Corrections. Steve is a true long-timer that began his career at the Maine Correctional Center in 1977, helped open the Charleston Correctional Facility in 1980, and continued there until his transfer to help open the MVYDC in 2002. Like Commissioner Magnusson, Steve has many good stories to tell! (Probably some of them have been captured by George through the years with his drawings - which we truly miss!).

Eric Campbell, JPW, 1st shift has been recalled to active duty for the armed services for one year; and Rick Jelley, Teacher continues in his tour of duty.

Edwina Strout, JPW, completed her last day today for MV. She has accepted a position at DHHS in Bangor, and we all certainly wish her the very best.

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HIRES:

Beginning Training Class on Sept 5, 2006

Rodney Lopez, JPW/Correctional Cook;

Susan Audit, Chad Audit, Bryan Evans, Paul Moulton, and Daniel Poulin, as JPWs

Shannon Newbert and Michael Nichols, acting Capacity JPW

Jean Barry as Substitute Teacher

Jody Hansen is being re-hired as JPW, acting capacity effective Oct. 30th.

PROMOTIONS:

Gary McCready from J.P.S. to Art Teacher

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

William Perkins, JPW and his new wife Becky were married on October 7th. The couple honeymooned in Boston.

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So much has been done and so many techniques were passed on to the students. We saw so many animals and learned about their habitats and how to identify their footprints. I captured pictures of most of our experiences and they are displayed on the classroom windows.

The staff has taught us how to spend our leisure time in a productive manner, instead of doing activities that may result in being incarcerated. The teachers and staff members have taught me so much that I owe it to them, and myself, to be successful when I leave here.

My thanks go to the Administration of Mountain View for supporting this program, and the Department of Inland Fisheries and Wildlife. Without them, this program would not have been possible. We really appreciate the opportunity to learn everything that we were taught.

The fall is quickly coming to an end here at the “Harbor”. Before you know it the seasons will have gone full circle and we will be back in the snow and ice that gives Maine its cool reputation.

The officers here are getting ready for the changes that come from the colder shift in climate. Screens in the windows are no longer of concern, the windows are, along with the heat going back on in the dorms and the many things that have to be repaired certainly keep Glen Davis and our maintenance crew very busy.

We’d like to welcome Tim Cobb to the team here at Downeast Correctional Facility. Tim is the new Manager of Correctional Operations.

Over the last few months the motor pool has brought new life to a number of vehicles. One of these vehicles became the first truck for Sgt. Cunningham’s son an older donated S-10 brought back from the brink with a lot of new parts bought by Doug Cunningham and carefully put on the truck by Kevin Millay and his motor pool crew. The end product gave this young man his first set of wheels.

Cook Denise Sullivan is the proud grandparent to a new litter of Labrador pups. Her male Chocolate Lab “Sir Grissom of Whitneyville”, is the new dad.
**ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 1**

Region One Adult is welcoming two new staff members this month.

Kelly Hodge comes to us after having worked three years with the South Portland Police Department and will be assuming supervision of a greater Portland caseload. She holds a bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and is particularly interested in domestic violence issues. During her off the clock hours, she has volunteered many times assisting at Family Crisis and Physicians for Social Responsibility. Her natural aptitude for the job makes Kelly a great addition to our staff.

Cathy Scott has also joined our staff. She comes to us from Columbus, Ohio where she was a case manager at Alvis House, a halfway house for federal prisoners. A graduate of Ohio State with a degree in criminology, Cathy has proven her love for the vocation with hours of volunteer work in her former hometown. Both Cathy and her husband are great lovers of the outdoors and are looking forward to transitioning to Maine and making it their permanent home. Cathy’s experience and enthusiasm will make her a great asset to our staff. To both Kelly and Cathy, we welcome you aboard the staff here at Region One.

**ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 3**

WOW! Time sure goes by quickly – the last article I wrote (I think I missed an issue) I was wishing everyone a happy summer and NOW we are well into the fall season… just think of what’s ahead...only 67 more shopping days till CHRISTMAS!!!

MORE CHANGES

So, again Region III has experienced a few changes since my last writing. Let me see if I can walk you through them.

We welcome two NEW Probation Officers to Region III – GEORGE MELE and CRAIG LADD (biographies follow!) George will be filling the position vacated by SCOTT LEWIS in the Thomaston Office (Scott has transferred to the Skowhegan Office) and Craig is filling a (very needed) new spot as the third Skowhegan Officer. Skowhegan caseloads are extremely high so it will be great to have a third officer in that area!

**NEW OFFICER BIOGRAPHIES**

GEORGE MELE is new to Probation but is a “seasoned” Department of Corrections employee. He spent the last 5 ½ years at the Maine State Prison in Warren and was in law enforcement before that. George has an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice with a minor in Behavioral Science from UMA and will be receiving his Bachelor’s in Administration of Justice in May of 2007 – he plans to start working on his Master’s right away. He is also a member of the Honor Society. George has attended the Maine Criminal Justice Academy for Basic Corrections twice before; the Reserve Officer Training and the 54th Municipal/County Basic Police School (where he received the academic achievement award) as well as several in-service courses. George is the father of four children of which he is EXTREMELY PROUD, two of whom attend Husson College. He is also a power lifter and holds several state and world record. George says he looks forward to this new endeavor! WELCOME ABOARD GEORGE!!

CRAIG LADD comes to us from a private, non-profit agency in Waterville where he worked for 12 years in a variety of positions (adoption, young father’s program, etc.) He graduated from the University of Maine with a Bachelor’s in Social Work in 1994 and obtained his LSW. In 1998 Craig joined the Army Reserves and was a military policeman for about 8 years. He is now attached to the 3rd/304th in Lewiston which is a marksmanship instructor unit. He has been deployed to Bosnia and Iraq as well as two other brief missions in Germany and El Salvador. He grew up in the central Maine area (Waterville) and now lives in Clinton. He will be working in the Skowhegan Office and is looking forward to getting started. WELCOME to Region III CRAIG!!

**MOVING TRIBUTE**

On October 1, 2006 PPO ANTHONY PREST (Aka: 1st Sgt. Prest) took part in what soldiers call a “ruck march.” Over 100 Maine National Guard Soldiers marched wearing their uniforms and boots and carrying 30-pound rucks (back packs) at the 15th Sportshoe Center Maine Marathon and Half Marathon. The soldiers marched to honor seven of their fallen comrades killed in Iraq. Tony marched the first 9 miles of the 26-mile course. Relatives and friends of the seven fallen soldiers marched the last two miles of the course. The families were very moved by the show of support from their loved ones’ comrades.
Fall has arrived in all “her” beauty. My husband Dick, and I took a trip down to S. Maine to close up our camp recently and the foliage was just beautiful. The sun was shining through the maple, oak and birch trees creating an artist’s palette full of reds, orange and yellows.

Region IV recently celebrated two birthdays “decade changes”. Sue Colson just celebrated her 40th birthday! She made me promise not to put a picture of her party in this article but we did get some great photos that Larry Austin and Donna Miles took of Sue having fun. Sue came to work to find her office decorated with funny “over the hill” pictures and balloons everywhere. Someone drew huge monster cartoon characters taped to her office walls, letting the world know she has joined the 40’s generation. All her nick knacks and pictures were turned backwards: (once you turn 40, you start counting back the years! J).

We celebrated Tom Pailles 60th birthday in September: more balloons, birthday cake and fun times.

Happy birthday to you both!

More anniversaries with DOC for JCCO’s:

- Bill Francis started with DOC on 9-25-89: 27 yrs. ago!
- Donna Miles started with DOC on 11-20-78!! 28 yrs. ago. Between Donna and Bill they total 55yrs. Wow!
- Debbie Reynolds started on 11-12-97.
- John Bennoch: 11-17-97.
- Roxann Austin, 12-1-97.
- Carolyn Chandler, 10-11-083 and

Congratulations to Bill Francis’s daughter Courtney. She ran her first marathon (26.2 miles) in the Maine Marathon in Portland in October. Her time was 3 hrs., 38 minutes, coming in 138th overall out of over 2000 runners. She was 10th in her age group of females 20-29 yrs.

Good job Courtney!

Jeff Leonard, our mental health coordinator had a harrowing experience in September. He was home with his daughter Abby who is 5 yrs. old. They were sitting at a table when suddenly they heard an incredibly loud crack! Upon investigation, Jeff saw that his 90 ft. pine tree, right next to his house, had been hit by lightening. The electricity was knocked out temporarily, appliances broke and all of Abby’s electronic toys were set off. The tree never fell down but splintered, spraying slivers of wood all over shrubs, the lawn and the house. Jeff had to call the tree removers as the tree was damaged beyond repair. We are just glad that no one was hurt. Jeff reports he has more light in his house since the tree was removed which is good news he said.

Functional Family Therapy has now expanded into Aroostook County. There are two new therapists to cover that area, Lynn Pelli and Darlene Smith. I believe our JCCO’s in Aroostook County welcome FFT into their area as this program is evidence based and has been successful with many of our families.

Jane Lenentine told us about all the work that clericals have been doing archiving files in the Aroostook County offices, sorting, sorting and more sorting! Chris Ross, out of the Bangor office, traveled north on two separate occasions to help with the archiving. Chris is a very creative person when it comes to recycling. She takes all the old paper and puts it through a shredder. The shredded paper is then put in her compost pile at her home. While Chris was up north, Jane said they took her around the area antiquing. Chris went home with souvenirs to add to her already beautiful country home.

And our last story from Reg. IV is about the winner of the “biggest fish contest”. Our “famous” fisherman, Josh Ash, recently came in second in a bass tournament he entered. His bass was 11 lbs.! Good job Josh!

May you all enjoy this beautiful Maine fall.
PERSONNEL

WELCOME OUR NEW HIRES:

Officers:
Shane Edwards
Nicholas Moffo
Sean Kraft
Ladd Postvanderburg
Matthew Rogers
Bradford Howard

Chaplain:
Susan Murphy

Correctional Boiler Engineer III:
Bruce McGahey

Office Associate II
Kelley Karr
Lindsey Whitney

PROMOTIONS:
Greg Royer, from Correctional Cook Supervisor to Food Service Manager

Resignations: Our Thanks for their hard work and service to the state:
BobbiJo Simard
Tandra Sargent
Rick Caoutte

Thanks:
Thanks go to Dennis Shipman and Christopher Garland for their on doing service as Acting Capacity Sergeants; and Dawn Grass acting as the Classification Officer.

APPOINTED:
Congratulations to Correctional Investigator Peter Herring for his appointment as the Department’s PREA Training Coordinator. Peter started providing PREA training at MCC two years ago and has since been providing PREA training for the National Institute of Corrections at various seminars across the country.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:
Brad Fogg who has been elected President of the New England Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association for a two year term beginning in December. Brad has officiated more than 800 games including all levels of state high school championships and two NAIA regional championships.

Military Service and Best of Luck
Michael Casey, USA SSG, currently serving in Iraq. You can get his mailing address from the Personnel Office.