Adult Probation has recently filled its eight Probation Officer vacancies and would like to introduce our newest staff:

Top Row: Adam Silberman, Region 2, was a PO in Vermont and a sex offender Surveillance Officer in Arizona. His Associates degree is from Phoenix College in Administration of Justice and he is working toward a BA in Criminal Justice from the University of Phoenix.

Craig Ladd, Region 3, has worked as an adoption supervisor, case worker, and Fathers' Program coordinator as well as being a squad leader and military police staff sergeant. He has a BA in Social work from the University of Maine.

Robert Lamarre, Region 2, has worked for the State of Maine doing fraud investigation and recovery, as a loss prevention detective in the private sector, and doing police work for the US Air Force. He has an associate degree and a diploma in Law Enforcement from Texas Central College and from the Air Force Police Academy and a degree in Criminal Justice from the University of Phoenix.

George Mele, Region 3, was most recently a CO and Sergeant at the Maine State Prison. He also worked as a CO for Waldo County, a Detective Sergeant in Richmond, and the Chief of Police in Winterport. George has an Associate Degree from the University of Maine at Augusta and is working towards a BS in Administration of Justice.

Front Row: Region 4, selected Ruth Quirino to fill its position. Ruth is a former State of Maine and federal PO as well as a JCCO, a mental health worker counselor and a case manager for Pre-Trial Services. Ruth’s education includes a BA in Sociology from the University of Maine and a Masters degree in Criminal Justice from Northeastern University.

Kelly Hodge, Region 1, was a police officer in South Portland and has a BA from the University of Southern Maine in Criminology and Sociology.

Robert Omiecinski, Region 3, worked in the insurance industry in Connecticut as an investigative and quality analyst, as a bondsman and he had internship experience in judicial, legislative, and law enforcement settings. Robert has a BA from western Connecticut State University in Justice and Law Administration.

Catherine Scott, Region 1, comes to us from Ohio where she was a community corrections specialist and a case manager with federal inmates transitioning back into society. Catherine has a BA from Ohio State University in Criminology and Sociology.

These new POs started work on October 2, 2006 and will be sworn in as Maine Criminal Justice Academy graduates on November 17, 2006.

Please join Bud Doughty, Lisa Nash, Nancy Downs, Dan Ouelette, and Charlie O’Roak in wishing them well!
MDOC Newsletter Staff recognized for Outstanding Service and Dedication

Reni Marin of MDOC Central Office, who develops the format and layout of our own Departmental newsletter, and Dean Darien, Vocational Trades Instructor of the Graphic Arts Program of the Maine Correctional Center in Windham, who directs the program that prints the DOC TALK, were recognized for their outstanding service and dedication during a recent meeting of the MDOC Correctional Administrators. The award presentation was held in the MDOC Central Office in Augusta.

Denise Lord, Associate Commissioner and Marty Magnusson, Commissioner presented engraved plaques to Reni and Dean for their valuable contribution in the publication of the DOC TALK.

Denise told the Correctional Administrators that she often gets positive comments on the quality of the MDOC newsletter from Legislators and the executive staff of the other State departments. The DOC TALK is recognized as one of the best departmental newsletters within the State government.

Every employee of the MDOC can be proud of the efforts of Reni, Dean, and for each of the individual newsletter contributors who submits the information from our correctional facilities and community correctional regions.

As the editor of the DOC TALK, I would like to personally thank the entire newsletter staff for all of your hard work and dedication in this worthwhile project that makes my role in this process relatively easy!! (Ellis King)
Did You Know?

Teens Who Frequently Have Family Dinners are Less Likely to Drink, Smoke, or Use Drugs.

The more often teens have dinners with their families, the less likely they are to use alcohol, tobacco, or other drugs, according to a recent national telephone survey of teens. For example, 32% of teens who have dinner with their family five or more times a week report that they have tried alcohol, and 7% report that they get drunk at least once a month, compared to 48% and 18%, respectively, of teens who have less than three family dinners a week. This relationship can be largely explained by the fact that parents who frequently eat with their children are very involved in their kids’ lives. According to the survey, parents who have frequent family dinners are more likely to say they know the parents of their teen’s closest friends, know the names of their teen’s teachers, believe they have a good relationship with their teen. Overall, 58% of teens report having dinner with their family at least five times a week. The top three reasons given for not having more frequent dinners were that parents work late, being too busy, and having conflicting schedules.

SOURCE: Adapted by CESAR from the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at Columbia University (CASA), The Importance of Family Dinners III, September 2006.

Available online at: http://www.casacolumbia.org/supportcasa/item.asp?cID=12&PID=150.

From the MDOC Archives

Prior to the opening of the Charleston Correctional Facility (CCF) that is located in Charleston, Maine the facility was originally built and operated as a U.S. Air Force Base. The function of the Charleston Air Force Base was to provide radar surveillance that would warn of a possible enemy attack during the “Cold War” of the 50’s and 60’s. The Charleston Air Force Base was one of many similar installations that were spread across the northern part of the U.S. and formed what was known in those days as the Defense Early Warning (DEW) Line.

The photo shows the Non-Commissioned Officers (NCO) Club that was located on the base during the big winter storm of early 1969. The same building is currently called “Dorm # 4” and used for the industries and electrical shop of the Charleston Correctional Facility.

The photo and information was provided by Dan Davis, Building Control Supervisor of the Mountain View Youth Development Center which is located next to the CCF. Dan’s father was stationed at the air force base during the late 1960’s and took the photo during his tour of duty. “The car in the photo is a 1960 Oldsmobile 88. Thanks to Al Barlow, Deputy Warden at the BCF for this information.”

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. The photographs may be published but will certainly be returned to the sender. Thank You!! Ellis 287-4342
Maine Adult Correctional Education Association

The highlight of the November meeting of the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) was the celebration and recognition of Bob Aubrey’s ten years of outstanding service as the MACEA Coordinator. An engraved nautical clock was presented to Bob by Denise Lord, MDOC Associate Commissioner. The MACEA meeting was held in the MDOC Central Office in Augusta.

Pictured Left to Right: Denise Lord, Bob Aubrey

Denise spoke briefly on the Department’s focus on Performance Based Practices in correctional education and in correctional rehabilitation programs in general. Providing correctional rehabilitation programs to the adult inmates who will most benefit from the programs and the importance of changing criminalistic behavior is critical in preparing released inmates for a successful reentry back into the community.

Lorraine Christensen, Teacher at the MCC Women’s Unit was elected as the Representative at Large for the National Correctional Education Association (CEA). Lorraine is planning to represent the MACEA at the National CEA Conference in 2007.

Noël Plourde, the newly elected President of the MACEA, spoke to the group about updating the website and making it more interactive. Both Noël and Ray Therrien (Vice President MACEA) expressed the strong need for greater public awareness of correctional education, and greater connections and networking with the community.

The next MACEA meetings will be at the new Two Bridges Jail in Wiscasset on January 19, 2007, at the MDOE in Augusta on March 9, 2007, and the annual conference on May 10, 2006 at a location to be determined. The MACEA meetings go from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. and are open to anyone who is interested in promoting correctional education programs.

Employee of the Month - November 2006
Presented to Sharelyn Page
By Dept. of Administrative and Financial Services

Please join me in congratulating Sharelyn Page as DAFS’ Employee of the Month for November. Sharelyn works in the Corrections Service Center as a Data Control Specialist.

The following nomination was submitted on her behalf:

Sharelyn Page has been an outstanding contributor to the Corrections Service Center and goes above and beyond in her customer service to the Department of Corrections. Sharelyn is a Data Control Specialist and works mostly in restitution and supervision fees. She takes numerous phone calls from probation officers, juvenile community officers, institutional employees, victims and probationers. Her clientele is not always jovial, but she maintains her composure and cheerful attitude. Sharelyn is always helpful and respectful, and her superior attitude makes her a joy to have on our team.

Due to a vacancy, in the past month, Sharelyn has also picked up the ordering for 03A, as well as the Service Center. Sharelyn has carried the extra workload without any negativism, and tries to be helpful to all of her customers in every way.

Pictured Left to Right: Rebecca Wyke, Sharelyn Page, Jody Breton, Denise Lord
**DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS**

**VICTIM SERVICES**

**IMPACT OF CRIME AND RECIDIVISM**

The following information is the result of a recidivism study of participants of the Impact of Crime Program. Criminal history data was obtained on all offenders completing the Impact of Crime Program while incarcerated at an adult Maine Correctional Facility. Participants continuing to serve the same sentence they were serving at the time of participating in the class have been excluded from the findings. Additional information on each participant was sought through the Maine Corrections Information System, State Bureau of Identification and NCIC III, looking for any new charges since the release from incarceration after completing the class. A conviction resulting from a Probation Violation or a new criminal offense within three years after the completion is counted as recidivating for purpose of this review.

**Recidivism Findings:**

The 1999 Bolduc Correctional Facility had 15 participants who completed the program. As of the date of the project, October 2006, 13% had new offenses, 33% had a Probation Violation, 13% had a Probation Violation plus a New Offense and 41% did not recidivate.

The 2001 Women’s Unit group had 8 participants who completed the program. As of October 2006, 25% had new offenses, 13% had a Probation Violation and 62% did not recidivate.

The 2002 CRA class had 11 participants who completed the program. As of October 2006, 37% had committed a new offenses, 36% had a Probation Violation, 9% had a Probation Violation plus a New Offense and 18% had not recidivated.

Although the study did not include a control group, the findings will be part of the factors considered when determining the future of the program.

**SEX OFFENDER MANAGEMENT PILOT PROJECT**

The Department of Corrections has piloted the Center of Sex Offender Management’s Containment Model in Androscoggin County, incorporating the existing victim safety planning model practiced by DOC. The Office of Victim Services is excited to have the expertise of Martha Jo Nichols as the advocate dedicated to working with the victims of all sex offenders due to be released from DOC facilities. The Victim Advocate partners with the Sexual Assault Crisis Center, the Domestic and Sexual Assault Coordinator in the District Attorney’s Office and with the sex offender specialist responsible for the Lewiston/Auburn service center area to provide victim safety planning meetings with victims prior to an offenders return to the community from a DOC facility or a county jail.

Victim safety and well-being is a priority when convicted offenders are released on probation or parole. Advocates, victim service providers and other members of the team including the sex offender specialist and community treatment provider can assist victims in many ways through the victim wraparound model by: helping victims address their concerns and plan for safety; explaining the community supervision and treatment program making sure that victims are informed of changes in offenders’ status in the criminal justice system and the conditions of probation; providing victims with ongoing support, information, and referrals; communicating with justice system agencies, treatment providers, and other stakeholders; facilitating victim input regarding supervision and treatment plans ensuring that treatment providers view their responsibility to the victim as equal to their responsibility to the offender with whom they are working—interventions they utilize must be in the best interest of the victim and the community (recognizing that what is in the best interest of victims and the community is also in the best interests of offenders); helping treatment providers develop victim empathy in their programs; participating in case review meetings and sharing information (with victims’ consent) to promote informed case decisions that promote victim protection; and assisting victims in intra-familial sexual abuse cases to assess the risks involved in family reunification and, if reunification is to occur, monitoring the process to ensure safety.

The Department of Corrections plans to incorporate the containment model on a statewide basis.
DOC’s New Victim Services Intern
By Cindi Clark

I am a senior at the University of New Haven in West Haven, Connecticut. I am a Criminal Justice major with concentrations in Investigative Services and Juvenile & Family Justice, with a minor in Psychology. During my sophomore year I was inducted into the Alpha Tau chapter of Alpha Phi Sigma, which is National Criminal Justice Honor Society. When I am not at school in Connecticut, I live in Palmyra, Maine which is why I chose to do my internship here. I recently got married in June 2006. When I graduate in May I plan to go on to graduate school to get my Masters and Doctorate degrees in Psychology. I hope to go to the University of New Hampshire. I eventually would like to move back to Maine when I am done with my schooling. I am very interested in Forensic Psychology and once I finish school I would love to work in that field.

I am working with Tessa Mosher for my internship and I am doing a project on restitution. I am going through returned restitution checks and trying to locate the victims correct addresses. Research is done through internet research, the DMV and the DA's offices. I am able to track down addresses for victims which allows the Department of Corrections to send victims the restitution they are owed. In 7 days I have found addresses and located victims totaling a collection of $12,795.62. I have also had the experience of going to the Women's Center and sitting in on the last Impact of Crime class and will be going to both Criminal and Civil Court to observe and see what really goes on in court, as opposed to what is taught in the classroom.
ARTICLES

Good News for JMG program when former resident Brian said that his new job was going “Awesome”!! And he was just getting ready to go to Drug Court. So far, so good!!!  - Thanks, Kathy

VISIT BY GOVERNOR BALDACCI

On October 27th, Governor Baldacci and a few of his staff members arrived at MV for a visit and tour of MV and CCF. Sup’t Hansen was joined by Commissioner Magnusson and Associate Commissioner Stoodle to provide the tours, and were joined by MSEA President Dana Graham and Representative Frank Porter who had been at MV for membership meetings. All were very impressed with both facilities.

RESIDENT COURSES

By Dawn M. Fernandez, M.Ed., Special Education Teacher

The online class program at MVYDC this session is continuing to grow. The program currently has 5 students taking a total of 6 classes, including pre-algebra and US History 1, both high school courses, as well as 4 college level courses: Business Marketing, College Writing and Calculus. The students take courses through Brigham Young University and the University of Maine, Orono. The program is anticipated to grow to include at least 12 students taking 15 courses before the end of May.

NEWS FROM THE SMALL ENGINES CLASS

By John Simmons VTI

For a little nine year old girl, when I brought home this old beat up tractor and told her this would be the one she would be using in the tractor pulls at all the local fairs, she was just devastated. She had visions of the perfect little tractor that hopefully, she could win some ribbons with. This was not her idea of any of that.  -OVER-
The young men in the Small Engines shop at Mountain View worked on this project every day. They disassembled the whole machine and started from scratch to make this little girls dream come true. Once stripped, they rebuilt the entire motor, rewired, and replaced much needed parts. They continued by stripping and sanding the old rusty parts and painted them to look like new. The tractor was really looking good. They put it all back together, got a new seat for it and the feeling of accomplishment for these young men was just overwhelming. They continued with finishing touches such as personalizing with decals, and made wooden plaques that they had painted and stained for the front. The tractor, after about 116 hours of dedicated hard work, was finally done. You can just imagine the look on my daughters face when I brought this home to her.

These young men, with my guidance, made her dream come true!

**CAREER CHOICES**

*By Mike Cushman, Teacher*

In December Music Teacher, **Michael Cushman** and Online Class Proctor, **Dawn Fernandez** took several students on a career exploration activity. The day started off with a visit to WABI-TV in Bangor. The group was lead by Program Manager, **Casey Hutchinson**. The group was able to view the control room and audio control center. Staff at WABI was on hand to answer questions and provide insight into jobs and education. The next stop for the group was Clear Channel Radio where Sales Manager **Josh Scroggins** spent time discussing the inner workings of the national business that owns and operates 9 local radio stations. The final stop of the day included an in-depth tour of the New England School of Communications located on the Husson College Campus. WHSQ Radio Station Manager **Mark Nason** provided the group with a tour of the college’s radio station. The group also viewed a number of classrooms that are used in the degree and certificate programs, met with current students and discussed admissions.

The students were motivated to learn about all three businesses and one student has already completed the application and is awaiting word on admissions to NESCOM. Thanks to the local community business leaders for their assistance in providing the Students and Staff at MVYDC the chance to explore career and educational opportunities in the Bangor area.

By Mike Cushman, Teacher

On Saturday, December 2nd, present and past students from Mountain View’s music program visited the Maine Center for the Arts (MCA) where the Robin-son Ballet Company was presenting Tchaikovsky's *Nutcracker Ballet* in conjunction with the Bangor Sym-phony Orchestra. This is an annual field trip as a cultural extension of the Music and Music Technology classes at MVYDC.

Students were first given a tour of MCA by Lighting Director, **Scott Stitham** with emphasis on the staging of the show, including set design and construction, artistic design, and multi-function props. The students were then given more technical information during the tour when they went into the catwalks above the stage and auditorium to view the lighting and special effects, then below the stage in the orchestra pit where they learned about how a symphony functions and how acoustic instruments are designed to produce enough sound to fill a 1,600-seat auditorium. The students were then taken to the sound and lighting booths where they discovered the skills they had been learning in Music Technology class had practical application. The tour ended with a demonstration of fog-making techniques using dry ice.

-OVER-
Meanwhile, throughout the rest of the facility, the boys and girls and staff of Mountain View also participated in the Volunteer Services Crochet Program. Baby doll hats and blankets were made and tucked into the baby doll cradles, fleece blankets were carefully cut and trimmed for Charleston’s Santa Cause and Penquis Cap’s Christmas for Children, crocheted lap blankets were made and delivered to our neighbors at Highbards Nursing Home, and many more baby hats were crocheted and given to hospitals for their newborn babies. Thank you to Juvenile Program Supervisor, Marsha Higgins and Juvenile Program Worker, David Brugger for leading the Fleece Blanket and Newborn Baby Hat Projects.

Sheena Lundin, Chief of Volunteer Services, has knitted beautiful scarves throughout the year to be sold at Christmas time. The proceeds generously helped meet the holiday needs of five families.

We would like to recognize and thank the many wonderful churches and other organizations for their continued support and generous donations that help make Christmas for kids at Mountain View possible.

The youth at Mountain View are greatly appreciative and are proud to return that kindness by giving back to their communities.

**Happy Holidays to All**

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“Santa’s Workshop”

*By Sheena Lundin, Chief of Volunteer Services and Kathy Kemp, Jobs for Maine’s Graduates Program Manager*

Each year at this time the youth of Mountain View are busy at work making toys for the Volunteer Services Department Christmas Project. Under the instruction and guidance of their teacher, Jeff Schaller and Juvenile Program Worker, Scott Demoranville, the Jobs for Maine’s Graduates Building Trades Team made baby doll cradles, art easels, and lots of Lincoln Logs that were delivered to local children’s agencies: Penquis Cap, HeadStart, Community Health and Counseling Services.
The holidays are over and we are all settling in for Winter. As I write, we have yet to have snow. For me that is not a problem but for those who enjoy outdoor recreational activities, they can't wait. Chris and Glen Ross have a snowmobile trail they ride that takes them from Exeter to Howland!

Tom and Mary Pailes recently returned from a holiday trip to Florida. Tom reports he was out on the beach on Christmas Eve in 80 degree weather. Now, you're talking my language. Chris and Glenn Ross recently returned from Disney reporting they had a wonderful trip. They actually swam with dolphins. My husband Dick and I are heading to Disney in Florida in Feb. That is always a fun trip.

Reg. IV celebrated our Christmas Party with the annual "Yankee swap". The swap is always good for a great laugh. We had enough food for the city of Bangor! As expected, Shawn Nelson ended up with the funniest gifts. Too much fun….

Many thanks to Chris and Kristen for their hospitality. It was greatly appreciated.

Welcome new employee

Diana Onacki joined our staff on December 20th to fill the part time clerical position in our Biddeford Office. Prior to joining our staff, she was a personal care assistant for a handicapped person. The position will present a real learning curve to Diana but the enthusiasm she exhibits when it comes to taking on new challenges will carry her through with flying colors.

Welcome, Diana, glad to have you with us.