MAINE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS
Strategic plan - PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENTS

Measuring Community Service

The increase in Community Service Hours is one measure for assessing the department's progress in meeting the goals outlined in our strategic plan. This measure specifically addresses Goal C. to ensure that offenders are accountable to both their victims and the communities in which they offend. In 2010 the dollar value of community services provided by the MDOC Adult inmates was approximately $1,878,862.00.

Community service includes any work that a juvenile or adult offender performs for a nonprofit organization, town, county, or state agency other than the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC). Examples of community service are work crews that work on the restoration of local town buildings, maintain town and State Parks, and perform services for the Department of Transportation. If the offender receives any monetary benefit for his/her labor it is not considered community service.

The financial value of the annual community services is based on the State of Maine Report on 2009 State Occupational Employment and Wage Estimates. The average wages of people involved in construction trades (SOC Code 47-0000) is used because almost all of the MDOC community services are covered by these categories.

The goal of the MDOC is consistent improvement and the goal for each year is to exceed the previous year’s annual total of community services.
For Your Information

Did You Know?

Thousands of magazines, newspapers and reference books are now available online in all libraries and schools, and from any Internet-connected computer anywhere in the state of Maine.

Ejournals@MARVEL lists full-text journals, magazines, and newspapers available through many of the resources to which MARVEL subscribes.

About MARVEL!

MARVEL! provides every resident of Maine with access to a collection of full text articles and abstracts from magazines, newspapers, journals and reference books that are credible, reputable resources. MARVEL! also provides students, business people, public library patrons, and higher education students and educators the ability to search a number of resources at one time for information.

Frequently Asked Questions

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Many more questions and answers are listed. Go to the State of Maine Website and look up Maine State Library on the State Agencies section.

http://www.maine.gov/msl/agencies/index.shtml

The Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA)

Gary Upham

The Maine Adult Correctional Education Association (MACEA) held its last meeting at the Maple Hill Farms in Hallowell, on December 3, 2010. MACEA is an organization that promotes correctional education throughout the State and is supported by both the Maine Department of Corrections (MDOC) and the Maine Department of Education (MDOE).

The agenda for the day-long meeting included presentations by Irv Faunce, member of the Maine State Board of Corrections and Dena Winslow, Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Maine and a number of other workshop presentations on issues pertaining to correctional education and re-entry. About 65 people attended this meeting and represented the County Jails, MDOC adult correctional facilities, MDOE, community adult education programs, and other collaborating agencies.

All correctional educators from State and County correctional facilities and anyone else that is interested in correctional education programs in Maine are welcome to attend the bi-monthly MACEA meetings.

Please contact Gary Upham, President of the Maine Adult Correctional Education Association for additional information at 273-5300 or at Gary.Upham@maine.gov

Irv Faunce
State Board of Corrections

Dena Winslow, Executive Director of the Learning Disabilities Association of Maine

John Lorenzen, Acting Regional Correctional Administrator, Adult Community Corrections, Region 3-A
The Old Maine State Prison
Ellis King

The archive photograph in this article shows the wall at the “old” Maine State Prison in Thomaston. The walkway and guard rail can be seen at the top of the wall to enable the Correctional Officers to patrol the wall armed with shotguns. In the era of this photograph the guard houses at the corners of the wall were heated with wood or coal stoves (The stovepipe can be seen on the roof of the guardhouse) at later times the guard houses were heated with electricity.

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 so I will have difficulty developing future articles. I will develop future “From the MDOC Archives” articles as old photographs are submitted to me.

Thank You!! Ellis
Midcoast Maine – More Than Meets the Eye Photo Exhibit

Kathryn L. McGloin, Juvenile Justice Specialist, Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

The third floor of the Elkins building in Augusta is awash with ocean scenes! The Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) funded an opportunity for twenty teenaged photographers from Thomaston based Trekkers to develop a photographic celebration of working waterfronts from Port Clyde to Belfast.

The JJAG funds prevention and intervention programs for at-risk children. We like to say we fund outcomes and very clearly we did in this instance.

Trekkers is a non-profit, outdoor-based mentoring program that connects caring adults with young people from through expeditionary learning, community service and adventure-based education.

With community adult volunteers working throughout the year, Trekkers provides a myriad of educational, experiential, and cross-cultural opportunities for young people, with an emphasis on relationship building and an appreciation of the earth as "educator".

Their goal is to be a part of students’ lives from grade to grade and year to year. Trekkers follows students as they “graduate” from one program into the next along a six year journey that starts when they are in 7th grade and continues until they graduate.

This Photo Treks was an expeditionary art program with community support from the Farnsworth Art Museum and Maine Media Workshops. The artists, ranging in age from thirteen to seventeen years, represent seven towns and six schools from Cushing to Belfast. Under the guidance of photographer Matt Smolinsky and with support from five mentors, the young photographers explored midcoast Maine’s working waterfronts as a theme for documentary storytelling.

Over the course of the eight-week program participants traveled to field locations including Wayfarer Marine in Camden, the Fisherman's Co-op and Herring Gut Learning Center in Port Clyde, the Rockland Ferry Terminal, Belfast Harbor and Owl's Head. To develop a full picture of the economic and environmental challenges facing working waterfronts today, the young photographers met with local community members such as fishermen, marina managers, scientists, and wharf workers. After each field expedition, the students processed their photographs using state-of-the-art digital editing software at Maine Media Workshops. The resulting photography exhibition is a testament to the depth of the students’ experiences in the field and the lab.

More about Trekkers may be found at www.trekkersonline.com.

More about the JJAG may be found at www.main ej jag.org.

The JJAG is proud to offer this exhibit here at MDOC. It is a testament to the success of delinquency prevention work. This combination of education, aspiration, positive peer relationships and caring adults is what makes for good outcomes for children.

Please, come to see for yourself!

Prime Oceanfront Property, Lindsey Joyce, age 14, Georges Valley High School

During Photo Treks I tried to capture what I had to look for, not just what was in plain sight. My goals were to learn how to take good photos, not just random ones. The pictures I chose for the show were not my favorite in the beginning. Then I realized that photographs don't just have to be pretty; the stories behind them are just as important. My pictures didn't always show a working waterfront in them, but were very closely connected. It's a Small World shows barnacles. Even though there is not any water directly in the photo, the picture means a lot to me because barnacles were a big part of my experience around the ocean when I was little.

I made decisions about what photos to take by what was most interesting to me. I like to photograph lighthouses, wharfs, and shells. I wasn't interested in taking pictures of open water or boatyard. The angles I chose depended on what I was taking the picture
Sometimes a horizontal orientation was more practical than a vertical orientation, and sometimes it was the other way around. I didn't take any pictures diagonally because it would confuse the person looking at the photo, but occasionally it made the picture better and more interesting to look at.

*It's a Small World*

Photo Treks was a different experience for me. It challenged me to make decisions which I had never been very good at making. I had to choose between photos, criticize my own pictures and try to use my judgment to make them better. I was attempting to photograph just a small piece of nature's beauty. To do this, I had to explore the world around me and use the resources I had to get the best shot. I hope that when others look at my photos they see the beauty in them even if it isn't in plain sight. I also hope that they form their own opinions about what I was trying to get across in my photos, even if it wasn't the point I was trying to make.

*Mirrors*, Mikayla Jilson, age 13, Thomaston Grammar School

I like to take photographs that are mysterious and that show landscapes. I like mysterious photos because they make people think from a different perspective. My photos connect to the working waterfront because the water can be mysterious. Landscapes show how different people live in different areas. For example, photographs can show that the city is different from the country and the coastline is different from the inland.

I like to use a variety of angles, like down on my knees, lying down, standing or sitting. In the digital lab I changed most of my photos to black-and-white. In my opinion, most pictures are better from different angles and in black-and-white.

When taking photographs, I like to consider what other people might like and what I like at the same times. I also enjoy making my pictures pop our and making people think about what the picture is telling them. My favorite quote is, "A picture is worth a thousand words." I follow this quote when taking my photographs.

When people look at my photos I want them to think, "Wow, this photos is very beautiful and mysterious!" I want viewers to know that every photo is unique in its color and angles. I want them to see that mysterious is cool and amazing, not just weird and scary. I'm a very different person. I want to be represented in my photos. I don't want my landscape photos to be just another ordinary photo of a landscape either. I want people to see for themselves that every land is different. That's what I want people to learn from my photos.
Central Office

In Remembrance of Friends and Co-Workers

The past holiday season was marred by the deaths of two of our friends and past co-workers here in Central Office.

Frank Westrack, former Director of Classification and Tom Furman, MDOC Management Analyst both passed away in December 2010.

Frank's and Tom's jobs and responsibilities were significantly different. Frank worked with the classification and housing of the adult inmates and Tom worked with the MDOC database systems. Both of these men enjoyed their work and were a pleasure to work with. They both had retired from Corrections and Frank worked on his golf and tennis swings; dabbling in some acting and singing, but the one thing he wanted to do and did, was paint. He’s was quite the artist! Tom had quite a few interests but he loved flying remote controlled planes. He spoke often of models he worked on and the enjoyment of seeing them fly. It saddened us all to hear about their passing and our best wishes go out to their families and friends.

Frank’s obituary can be read at: http://www.legasy.com/obituaries/bangordailynews/obituary.aspx?page=lifestory&pid=147001048

Tom’s obituary can be read at: http://www.legacy.com/obituaries/mainetoday-morningsentinel/obituary.aspx?n=thomas-furman&pid=147337627

Welcome to Ruth Lawson-Stopps, Director of Health Care Services

Ruth Lawson-Stopps is pleased to join the Central Office staff as the new Director of Health Care Services. She joined the Department at the end of August. Prior to assuming this position Ruth worked for many years in the health care field primarily in health care management and policy development. Most recently Ruth reactivated the Maine Asthma Program at the Maine CDC and prior to that she developed a comprehensive pain management program and established a multi site occupational medicine program. Working with groups to determine needs and systems to meet those needs for public good are her strengths and her interest. Since starting the job Ruth has spent time at all of the Maine DOC facilities and has enjoyed working with many fine people. Although there is much work to be done in many sectors her work over the next few months will focus greatly on the upcoming RFP for medical services. Ruth is a Registered Nurse, a Licensed Social Worker, and has her Masters Degree in Public Administration.
Mission Statement

The Mission of the Department of Corrections is to reduce the likelihood that juvenile and adult offenders will re-offend by providing practices, programs, and services which are evidence based and which hold the offenders accountable.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Evidence Based Practices are correctional interventions considered effective because they reduce offender risk and subsequent recidivism and therefore make a positive long-term contribution to public safety. Evidence based practices means that our decisions will be based on the best available information, risk assessment practices and intervention actions and will focus on those risk factors that exist in the individual or his or her environment which if changed will reduce the likelihood that an offender will offend again. The National Institute of Corrections Principles for Effective Intervention will provide the framework for our approach.

The delivery of comprehensive Services for Victims requires us to design and administer a system which complies with the statutory rights of victims and addresses the needs of the victim and the harm done by offending behavior and invites victims, if they choose, to be part of the process of effective intervention.

Collaboration can result in a more coherent continuum of care; one that uses evidence-based principles to reduce recidivism. By collaborating with each other, governmental agencies and community-based providers can jointly provide a comprehensive and integrated array of services that could not be provided by a single agency. Access to a well-organized network of services and pro-social community connections can greatly enhance an offender’s ability to succeed.

Achieving Results, Ensuring Quality Services and Meeting Professional Standards will only be achieved through clearly articulated goals and strategies informed by staff’s experiences and research and supported by training. What we know works and doesn’t work, will inform all our policies, the programs we develop and implement, and the decisions we make. We are committed on an ongoing basis to evaluating and measuring our programs’ effectiveness.

Investing in our People and the Organization means that we will continually develop the organization and change and realign the existing systems to appropriately support new innovations. Change requires dynamic leadership who can manage the process of leading and directing an organization that integrates evidence based practices and collaboration into day by day operations and who can transform organizational culture.

Prevention will be promoted by working with families and communities to address those factors which put children and families at risk and to protect them from those risks.

Downeast Correctional Facility

Maintenance

Once again the prisoner crews at Downeast Correctional Facility did their part to brighten the holiday season for the Town of Machias. Prisoner Work Crews helped the Machias Public Works Department hang Christmas lights and ornaments throughout the town. The two bridges that span the Machias River and Bad Little Falls in the center of town wrapped with lights and garland were unmistakable signs of the coming holidays. CO/CTI JJ Tibbetts and his crew were asked to manufacture wooden toys to pass out to children during the annual town Christmas tree lighting ceremony and they did not disappoint. This has become an annual event for JJ and his crew and their efforts are always greatly appreciated.

The Machias Rotary Club had their annual fund raising auction in November. The garment and upholstery shop headed by VTI John Gilmore donated a queen size bed quilt which sold for $85.00. The wood working crew headed by CMM Jeff Mason donated a coat rack with a carving done by one of the prisoners to the auction which sold for over $100. As always we value the opportunity to help the community, a worthy organization and a great cause.

New Hires

DCF welcomes Rosa Tucker as our new Correctional Caseworker. Rosa began her new career with the Department of Corrections, on November 8, 2010. She comes to DCF from DHHS with 10 years of casework experience. We look forward to working with her.

DCF welcomes Allen Leighton as our newest Correctional Officer: November 22, 2010.
IN MEMORY OF

John H. Paskewicz
“Packy”

20 years of dedicated service to the
Maine Correctional Center
1 October 1990 - 16 November 2010

Senior Corrections Officer suffered a fatal heart attack while participating in a tactical training scenario involving the rescue of a downed officer

“Lest we forget, let us pause to remember who has given the ultimate sacrifice for public safety. Let us all be encouraged as we remember and honor his legacy of commitment, dedication and service. For it is written: There is no greater love than this: that a man lay down his life for his friends.”

The black bands in this monument were worn as a sign of respect and honor to our fallen brother.

8 April 1952 – 16 November 2010
It has been a challenging but rewarding year for the members of Maine Correctional Center’s Correctional Trades Division. There have been many hurdles to overcome along the way and at times it was quite a juggling act to meet the obligations of our commitments. With the skills of the Correctional Trades Instructor’s and the direction to their crews they were able to meet most requests without too much of a delay and complete the task at hand with quality results. In the area of Community Services we were able to register over 10,000 hours of service to the various organizations that rely heavily on our support and assistance for so many of their undertakings. Many of the agencies and municipalities that utilize our services are quick to realize that in times like these it pays to schedule as early as possible or risk having a lengthy wait. The many state agencies that exist in the Lakes Region from Parks to Hatcheries to the Maine Wildlife Park are able to consider tasks and improvements that they could not if money were involved. One of the non-profit tasks was to scrape and paint the 150 year old Beacon church located on Route 114 in Gorham. This building is so old that the siding nails used were the hand cut square nails of old, after a lengthy scrape and re-nail period the paint went on to give the building a look of “new”. The members of the congregation were ecstatic with the “Good Will” of the workers and the final results were much better than anyone had expected.

One new challenge for the Correctional Trades Instructor’s this season was the undertaking of a substantial sized garden designed for maximum use by the food service department of Maine Correctional Center. Having broken the ice learning the basics of gardening in the summer of “2009” we faced the upcoming season with a certain amount of anxiety. Who would have guessed that our Maine summer would be the finest summer in 20 years and all farmers young and old would have the season of seasons growing anything and everything. When all was said and done we were able to process and deliver thousands of pounds of garden produce to feed the many staff and residents of Maine Correctional Center. Just to give an idea of this summers strong season we delivered over 2000 lbs. of various salad greens by early August. Without having the time or space on this page to list and catalog all that was grown I can safely say that over 10,000 lbs. of fresh produce was delivered to Maine Correctional Center’s food service as well as Long Creek Youth Development Center and on a few occasions of excess product, we were able to donate to the Windham Food Pantry. To try and sum it up we had the season of season’s for growing produce and still managed to harvest a few thousand bales of hay from our fields.

In addition to the aforementioned the Correctional Trades Instructor’s replaced two roofs that had been in need for quite sometime. One roof was a dorm built in the 70’s, it was replaced with a new metal roof and hopefully the remaining dorms will be on the agenda starting in the spring.

From new office space to painting the many structures at Maine Correctional Center there were not many days spent trying to find something to do, that is the way it is when you are trying to keep up with issues within an institution that has stood since the 1920’s. With the New year upon us and new leadership in Augusta, we in the Correctional Trades Department look forward to the challenges awaiting us on all levels of our endeavors and tasks ahead in the coming year.

Congradulations goes to Captain Doug Starbird upon his retirement after 28 years of service to the Department of Corrections within several facilities. Also Charleston Correctional Facility has promoted Chad Curtis as a Captain. Congratulations Captain Curtis!
New Correction Officers at MSP
Class of Correctional Officers Graduated on December 17, 2010
Criniti, Bernie        Hooper, Al        Joslyn, Brady        Pettersson, Chris

This class has been named after Officer Robert Sutherland who died after his motorcycle went off the road while on his way to work at Maine State Prison June 19, 2010.

Maine State Prison Promotions During 2010
Gerry Bassett        Kevin Kramer        Chuck Thayer
Josh Black          Ben Bryant          Aaron Philbrook
Bill Miller          Dr. Bev Sherwin    Randy Thomas
Martha Boynton       Steve Wigdzinski   Lidia Kozlowski
Heidi Anderson

Maine State Prison Warden Honors MSP Special Teams

Fire Department
Members of the Fire Department are as follows:

Officer Gary Grass        Captain Rackliffe
Sergeant Rooney        Sergeant J. Black
Steve Wigdzinski        Officer Saucier
Officer Starkweather    Officer King
Officer LeClerc         Officer Benner
Officer Daigle          Officer McIntyre

Fire Chief Gary Grass being honored by Warden Patricia Barnhart.
Warden Barnhart honored Maine State Prison’s special teams at the Town Meeting on December 15, 2010.

The CERT Team arrived in full dress, led by their Team Commander, Mark Clevette. Sgt. Clevette recognized two members that have now moved to job classifications that will no longer allow them to be on the team, Steve Wigdzinski and Gerry Bassett. The Maine State Prisoner CERT Team members are as follows:

Commander – Sergeant Clevette, Commander
Squad Leader - Officer Benner, Squad Leader
Sergeant Hyatt
Officer Ames
Officer D. Helms
Officer Dolbier
Officer Keach
Officer Pelkey
Officer Sleaster
Officer Sylvester

Squad Leader - Captain Drake, Squad Leader
Sergeant Doyle
Sergeant Stewart
Officer Baker
Officer Davidson
Officer Grass
Officer King
Officer Rocque
Officer Staples

Honor Guard
Members of the Honor Guard are as follows:

Officer Newth
Steve Wigdzinski
Officer Engstfeld
Officer Wilson

Sergeant Barnett
Sergeant Slivinski
Officer Chaplin

Captain Ruel
Officer S. Lowden
Officer Burns

Left to right, Steve Wigdzinski, Sergeant M. Barnett, and Officer P. Newth.
United States Military
Also honored at the Town Meeting were Maine State Prison personnel serving in the Military.

Retirement
Maine State Prison Wishing Joe Allen the Best in Retirement

Joe Allen will be retiring in February after 29 years with the Department of Corrections. Joe began his DOC career as a Corrections Officer in 1982 and split time between the Maine State Prison, Maine Correctional Institution, and the Bolduc Correctional Facility achieving the rank Correctional Sergeant while also serving for many years on the Prison CERT Team. In 1996 Joe became part of the Prison Showroom management team and he has held the position of Showroom Manager over the past 10 years. Joe is completing a distinguished career with the Department of Corrections and his wealth of experience and knowledge will be missed particularly by the Industries Program. Prison Industries Manager Bob Walden, states that he can’t imagine calling the Showroom for important program input and not having Joe there to answer the call, but we all wish Joe a great, well earned retirement and the best of luck in all of his future endeavors.

“When in Prison, You Visited Me.”
Matthew 25:36 Naked, and ye clothed me: I was sick, and ye visited me: I was in prison, and ye came unto me.

Deacon Walter Foster spends his days behind the barbed wire and latched doors of the Maine State Prison in Warren. It is the place where men convicted of some of the worst crimes in the state are sent. Each day, he encounters men incarcerated for murder, rape, drug dealing. But to him, they are more than criminals, they are his congregation.

“That’s kind of my church, the inmates, the volunteers and some of the staff that work there,” he says. “They’re all God’s children in some way or somehow. I try to see them as such, regardless of the crime.”

Deacon Foster is chief of chaplaincy services at the Maine State Prison and at the nearby Bolduc Correctional Facility, which is a minimum security facility for those with less than five years left on their sentences. He serves more than 900 inmates, and although he is Catholic, he is there to help those of all faiths. They include Buddhists, Catholics, Hindus, Jehovah’s Witnesses, Jews, Muslims, Odinists, Pagans, Protestants, and Wiccans, as well as those who practice Native American spirituality. Shelves in the chaplain’s office are lined with literature to guide him.

For the full article go to

http://www.portlanddiocese.net/info.php?info_id=146
On November 4, 2010, Bolduc Correctional Facility (prisoners and staff) celebrated its’ Harvest Feast. The menu included Steamship Round, Roasted Turkey, Potatoes, Squash, Turnips, Stuffing, Gravy, Rolls, and of course, Pies!

We especially looked forward to this feast because of last year’s cancellation due to the lack of crops. This year we were blessed with a bountiful season and the talents of our Correctional Cook Supervisor Ray Davis and Correctional Cook Charles Mills.

Correctional Cook Supervisor Ray Davis and Correctional Cook Charles Mills.

Bolduc Correctional Facility added two security staff. In September, Jeff Powell returned to us via the Maine State Prison. He had resigned in September of 2009, then joined the ranks again in June of 2010. In October, Robert Hibbard joined our ranks after serving at Maine State Prison since July of 2003. Welcome to both!
HELPING HANDS PROJECT END OF YEAR REPORT
By Jeff Perkins, HH Program Manager

1. The Spring, Summer and Fall of 2010 made for an especially active year for the Helping Hands Program with 27 residents hired and supervised by seven staff members.
   • This year the team accepted the responsibility for the Mountain View parking lot and its grounds in good condition.
   • We continued to maintain the three largest Charleston cemeteries by contributing over 480 man hours of labor in grass cutting, trimming and leaf raking. As a special note, this is the sixth completed year of caring for these same cemeteries.
   • We continued (as in past years) to work with the Piscataquis Valley Fairgrounds Association by contributing over 264 man hours of labor.
   • The Town of Hartland asked us to scrape, straighten, and repaint the wrought iron fence surrounding the town’s cemetery, which took over 192 man hours to complete.
   • This year we began a beneficial relationship with the city of Skowhegan’s Trout club by assisting in restoring a fresh water stream that meanders through the middle of the city. While working in Skowhegan, we were invited to nearby Lake George State Park (managed by State Representative Jeff McCabe) to help in the raking of leaves and general winter preparation. These two projects represent over 152 man hours that were donated by the Helping Hands Program and the MVYDC Mountaineering Class combined.

2. The total man hours culminated in this year’s projects equals 1,688.

3. None of this could have been accomplished were it not for the superb support of the great Helping Hands Staff:

   JPS Dillon        JPS Kuespert
   JPS Preble       JPS Mayo
   JPS Gaudet       JPS Saucier

4. One other great accomplishment this year is the construction of a storage building located near the “Annex”. This building is a great encouragement for us, as we will now be able to properly store equipment, while at the same time, have much easier access without interrupting ball field activities.

NOTE: The Mountaineering Class with Teachers Gary Gray, JoAnn Joslyn, and Ryan Dearborn have been invited to join us in our new building as they are in need of storage space and we hope to continue working with them on large community projects in the future.

The ARTS
by Cheryl Quinn, Principal

Arts Teacher Gary McCready sent a letter of interest to the Maine Principal’s Association in response to their inquiry for schools to present artwork from their school art programs. He submitted a student’s pencil artwork of a young girl with her hair blowing in the wind. This work of art was accepted by the Maine Principal’s Association to be displayed in their Conference Center in Augusta through the rest of this school year, along with selected artwork from other Maine schools.

Jobs for Maine Graduates News

JOBS Program
by Pat Gillis, JMG Manager

On December 20, 2010, a nice article was on the front page of the State section of the Bangor Daily News about juvenile offender working at the Countryside and about his journey from mixed up kid to maturing young adult. He started working at the Countryside Restaurant through the Jobs for Maine Graduates Program before he was released, not only washes dishes but fills in as a line cook. Reporter Diana Bowley did an excellent job of incorporating the important information about the JMG program, Mountain View Youth Development Center, and the collaboration with employers and parents.
Honors for Local Employers

On November 16, 2010, Jobs for Maine's Graduates (JMG) at Mountain View Youth Development Center held a reception in honor of local employers who participate in the organization's successful Experiential Learning Program. The Program places student workers as volunteers in local businesses to learn employment skills in preparation for returning to their communities from the Youth Center. In most cases, the student workers come away from this experience with much more than that though – they develop confidence and self-esteem, learn team work, time management and social skills and the ability to ask for help when needed, and they get to explore options for future employment in many different areas.

The Program could not function successfully without the support of these local employers who were recognized with framed certificates (frames built by the JMG Building Trades work crew) and a hearty dinner. Honorees were graciously thanked by Superintendent Eric Hansen, Deputy Superintendent Larry Austin, and Principal Cheryl Quinn of MVYDC, as well as CEO Craig Larrabee, Board President Cary Olsen, and Program Manager Pat Gillis of Jobs for Maine's Graduates.

Participating employers honored at the reception but not pictured above: Scott Tuller of Countryside Restaurant, Scott and Sheri Duthie of Whitetail Golf Course, and Albert Tate of Tate's Strawberry Farm.

REMEMBERING

By JoAnn Joslyn, Teacher

The Mountaineering Class at Mountain View Youth Development Center, taught by Gary Gray and JoAnn Joslyn, traditionally makes balsam fir wreaths at Christmas. Students learn the art and science of wreath-making and the place these Maine wreaths hold in our state's history and culture. This Christmas 2010, the wreath-making would be different. 151 wreaths were handmade and then individually placed on the veterans' graves in our local town of Charleston. To form a connection between those who served in the past and those who currently serve, students met “Troop Greeters” at Bangor International Airport and then actively participated in “Welcoming Home” the troops.

This story is not about the teachers, nor is it about the hard-working students. It is not about the penetrating cold temperatures, making snow angels, or singing carols in the forest as we endlessly collected balsam fir tips. It is not about teachers working hard during vacation time or weekends to make wreaths so that all wreaths could rest in the five cemeteries during “Wreaths Across America Week”. It is not about adversity or things that didn't go right. BUT, it is about remembrance in the form of a simple green wreath wearing a bright red bow with an American flag tucked into its center. It is about an ever-widening circle of supporters who wreathed themselves around our project. More than anything it is about the magic that happens when hearts and minds come together to honor those who serve our country.

It is about Juvenile Facility Operations Supervisor Jeff Perkins and his Helping Hands crew whose community service projects inspired the wreath project. Students worked together to place seventy-four wreaths in the town's largest cemetery. Thank
you, Jeff, for all those helping hands.

It is about Scott DeMoranville, (pictured below) a teacher, who designed and manufactured with his Building Trades students 151 wreath holders. After delivering the bundles Scott said, “Next year when you do the project, I need to tell you, that there are stay-at-home moms who would like to help you make wreaths.” Thank you, Scott and crew.

It is about Bruce Curran, Day One counselor, who reconnected with an old World War II Navy buddy so that we could get arrival times for inbound soldiers. When it seemed like there was no plane for us Bruce said, “Just wait. There isn’t an inbound flight scheduled, but one will come. It has to.” Somehow itineraries changed and one single unscheduled flight landed at the perfect hour. Due to early-morning snow squalls, elderly troop greeters couldn’t make it to the airport. Magically, our group became the largest part of the troop-greeters efforts that day. The all-important connection between honoring those who served in the past to those who currently serve was not broken. There were handshakes, smiles, snapshots, and stories that none of us will forget. Thank you, Bruce for believing.

It is about colleagues, Juvenile Program Worker’s and nurses. “Just had to come into this room because it smells so good and because you guys are doing something great.” “What can I do to help?” “What’s the wreath count today?” “When will you place those wreaths so I can do a drive-by?”

It is about town officials and chance encounters that strengthened that larger circle of kindness and caring seeded by that small fir wreath. The young woman at our local supply store who packaged our wire, ribbon, and rings asked about the project and volunteered, “I am an Army wife. My husband is serving right now. Thank you for what you are doing. I hope someone remembers my husband like that after we are both gone.” Another chance encounter occurred when we placed the first wreaths. An elated town cemetery committee member jumped out of his pick-up and greeted us with “It’s just so beautiful. Thank you for doing this. It is just so beautiful.”

Mr. Gray, always willing to face a challenge, would not leave one veteran without a flag-decked wreath. “We cannot stop until the job is done. It is our duty.” Magically there was a hard freeze the night before and we safely drove to honor the last veterans on our list. He said, “We can’t forget even one!” He was right. Thank you, Gary and Ryan for your strength and dedication. The challenge was met and the project was done.

However, that is not the end of the story. When our students were asked what the whole experience meant to them they replied—”it was great”, “tipping was hard”, best thing I’ve ever done”, “I felt like a part of a community”, and “we honored ourselves when we honored those soldiers”. This last remark echoed the very lesson that Superintendent Eric Hansen had hoped our young men would learn. Thank you, Mr. Hansen and all the others who helped to make this happen.

Finally, as I circle back through each step, each wreath, each grave, each supporter, each magical moment, my remembering comes to rest on an eighty-four year old troop greeter. This World War II Navy veteran had grabbed my hand and asked, “Are you the one?” “Yes, but I didn’t do it by myself. I had a whole circle of supporters to help me.” He kissed my cheek, hugged me closer, and whispered, “Why?”

“It’s simple—it was the right thing to do.”

He smiled and replied, “That is the perfect answer—BECAUSE IT IS THE RIGHT THING TO DO.”

MVYDC Meets Nutcracker

Students and staff attended the Bangor Symphony Orchestra’s Nutcracker Ballet for the 8th year in a row. Their music teacher, Mr. Cushman has played celeste for the BSO’s performances now for 11 years. For this field trip, four staff members: Principal Cheryl Quinn, Juvenile Program Worker Tom Kirlin, Recreation Director Ryan Dearborn, and Chaplain Paul Dunfee assisted Mr. Cushman by chaperoning the trip while he performed. Mr. Cushman would like to thank the staff for taking time from their weekend to make this trip possible.
HAPPY NEW YEAR FROM REGION 3

Hope everyone had a great holiday and are ready for 2011. We at Region 3 are happy to welcome Jason Greenlaw, our newly hired Juvenile Community Corrections Officer to our Bangor Office. (Sorry Mountainview) What a great addition he is and will be to our Region. Upbeat and positive...he will fit right in nicely. I think there is getting to be too many "J" people in this Region. Julie, Jane, Jeff, John, Josh, Jason oh well Welcome Aboard Jason!

Lots of changes going on in the Bangor Office. Our office has been almost completely renovated from rugs, new paint, walls removed, offices moved around and gotta say it is looking pretty darn good. This was a really good change for all of us here! You'll have to stop in and check it out when your in the area.

As for us in Region 3 not so much news. We did have a staff meeting at Dave Barrett's new home in Hermon. What a beautiful setting and beautiful home. It was our October staff meeting so many of us dressed for the occasion and Kelly Chartier just came in her PJ's. Had some pretty artistic pumpkin carvers there as you can see and some pretty great costumes too. Mary Jones took lots of pictures for us all. Two of our retirees Alison Smith and Donna Miles showed up after the staff meeting and had a spread fit for a king that Dave's wife Nancy prepared for us all. It was SOOOOOOOOOOO good!! Thanks Nancy!!

Sorry to say our three stooges, Galan Williamson, Josh Ash and Jason Greenlaw were not successful in getting a moose this year....bummer.

Debbie Reynolds just got back from a 2 week vacation in Florida and we think it may have been warmer here but still she was on vacation so you gotta love that. Shawn Nelson, Sue Colson and Jeff Leonard had some vacation days but didn't go south...Stayed close to home with family. Bill Francis and his wife were in Mexico for a week last month and said it was just beautiful and a great getaway. We may have to check that place out another time... Roxann Austin, well little Ava is consuming most of Roxann's time these days. That's what an only granddaughter will do to you. John Bennoch's little boy Colby got word to Santa that he would not be home in Hampden on Christmas and apparently Santa did get the message! Yeah Santa!! Speaking of Santa, Gary Sanfacon played Santa at our Christmas Staff Meeting here in Bangor. He surprised us all with little flashlights to put on our key rings and there was any color you could want so we all got to pick out the one we liked! That was so thoughtful Gary...Thank You So Much!!! It's always good to see the people from the sub offices when we have staff meeting just wish Carolyn Chandler and Jane Lenentine made the trip more! (We miss seeing you two)

Well enough news from this Region! Until next time.

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COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Region 1 and 3, Juvenile

Region 1 - Juvenile

Welcome Wendy Kellman our new Office Assistant in Region One. She can be reached at Wendy.Kellman@maine.gov or 822-2850. Wendy is a welcomed addition to the Region One team and will work in South Portland as well as our sub-offices too. Great to have Wendy on board.

Office Manager Terry Hall received a certificate of appreciation from the Region One Staff. Assoc. Comm. Barry Stoodley attended and presented her with this certificate. Terry is a valued member of the Region One team and has been doing this alone for some time and we all appreciate that effort that she puts in daily. Great Job Terry!!

Region One held their Christmas party/staff meeting at Jay Pennell's home. Thank you Jay!
REGION 2 and 3, ADULT

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Region 2 host a Androscoggin Humane Society Luncheon

Region 2 held its annual luncheon on December 10th. It is becoming a tradition that Susan Conley hosts the event in her home. This year we added an admission price, that is, not only did we bring food but pet food as well. All the pet food and supplies donated were given to the Androscoggin Humane Society.

Region 3 Thomaston Office Will Be Moving

The Thomaston Office of Probation and Parole will move to its new location in Rockland as of February 1, 2011. The new address is:

360 New County Road, Suite 3  
Rockland, Maine  04841

The phone number will remain the same, 207-596-2351. This office will be serve both Juvenile and Adult Community Corrections.

OTB (Outside The Box) Reading Group

The OTB (Outside The Box) Reading Group is facilitated by MDOC Probation Officer Bud Hall and Regional Correctional Administrator John Lorenzen (Region 3-A in Augusta). The OTB participants read a selection of short stories and then get together, on a weekly basis, to discuss one of the stories. The OTB group is so popular that the group had to be split into two groups in order to fit into the meeting room.

Bud and John pick short stories that are based around decision making and the group discussion centers around the pros and cons of these decisions. The reading sessions give the Probation Officers a unique insight into how the clients are succeeding in the reentry process.

The most recent book that is being used in the OTB is “The Best Maine Stories”. This book was written by various Maine authors and edited by Sanford Phippen. Bud and John plan to invite the editor and some of the authors to attend the last session on the book group cycle. The men and women who attend the group are very impressed when the authors have the time and interest to talk to them.

The books for the OTB group are provided by the U.S. Dept of Education’s Youthful Offender Grant that is administered by the Office of Correctional Education.

Note: If any other MDOC adult Probation Officers are interested in starting a reading group and may need funding for books, please contact Ellis King, MDOC Central Office, at 287-4342 or Ellis.King@maine.gov

The Best Maine Stories

A Collection of Short Fiction by Sarah Dinsmore Stark, Ben James Williams, Carolyn Chace, and Others

Edited by Sanford Phippen, Charles Waugh, and Martin Greenberg
Service Anniversaries

5 Years
- Dean Hafford, Maine Correctional Center
- Robert Leclair, Maine Correctional Center
- Joshua Simpson, Maine Correctional Center
- Michael Simpson, Maine Correctional Center
- Darrell Daniels, Downeast Correctional Facility
- Donielle Wilson, Maine State Prison
- Randall Carl, Maine State Prison

10 Years
- Corey Day, Region 4 Adult Community Corrections
- Tadd Longtin, Maine State Prison
- Susan Henry, Region 1 Adult Community Corrections
- Jane Lenentine, Region 3 Juvenile Community Corrections
- Scott Janosik, Long Creek Youth Development Center
- Tolman Bowen, Bolduc Correctional Facility
- Larry Casey, Mountain View Youth Development Center
- William Deguisto, Maine State Prison
- Sue Wiechman, Region 1 Adult Community Corrections
- Margaret Dunn, Maine State Prison
- Wendi Boudreau, Long Creek Youth Development Center

20 Years
- Peter Warman, Maine State Prison

25 Years
- Werden Grover, Downeast Correctional Facility
- David Daniels, Downeast Correctional Facility
- Paul Whittaker, Maine State Prison
- Glenn Davis, Downeast Correctional Facility
- Kevin Millay, Downeast Correctional Facility
- Priscilla McLellan, Mountain View Youth Development Center
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