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As we start the New Year, I would like to thank you all for your hard work and dedication to the State of Maine and the Department of Corrections. We accomplished many positive changes last year and we have lots more ahead for this year.

The Department will be officially opening up the new gender informed Southern Maine Women’s Reentry Center in Windham with a ceremony on March 8th. Everyone has been working diligently to get the facility ready. A lot of effort and coordination work will go into transitioning the female inmate population. A special thank you to all those who have worked on this big project.

We are gearing up for another busy 128th legislative session. There are some legislative documents that will be coming through that we will be keeping a close eye on.

Looking forward to another challenging and positive year in Corrections.

Respectfully,
Commissioner Fitzpatrick

ON THE FRONT COVER: Thank you to Ryan Andersen, Central Office, for the icy shot of the Machias River.

Do you have a great snapshot you’d like to share? Share one of your photos and it might appear in a future issue of DOCTalk. (Email your photo to jason.carey@maine.gov)
Central Office News

Spring visitor, MDOC Central Office

Jane Tower photo
The Pell Second Chance Program is a new program that is being offered at the Maine Correctional Center (MCC) in Windham. The program provides the opportunity for inmates to pursue an Associate’s degree in mental health and human services, business management or liberal studies. Professors from the University of Maine/Saco will begin teaching two classes in the fall of 2017, providing the opportunity for inmates to attend college on a full or part time basis.

Shelli Pride has been teaching in Adult Education for over twenty years – many of those years at the faculty level. She is teaching the first College Transitions and College Prep Math to the men at the Maine Correctional Center thanks to a recently forged partnership with Windham Adult Education. These twenty students have all been recently admitted to the University of Maine under the Pell Second Chance Pilot Program. This program provides Pell grants to students in a limited number of state and federal prisons and is expected to help improve the chances of successful and productive reentry after prison release. Only 69 colleges and universities were selected out of 200 eligible applicants. Shelli’s course introduces students to the college environment and will strengthen academic skills necessary for success at college level. Students will explore the learning process, learning styles and student development theory. The final segment of the course will help students understand, and successfully manage, through readings, writing and activities, some of their life and career transitions. The class is worth three college credits through UMA and will be the first foundational course listed on their transcript.

After the class started the students quickly realized they would be learning, not just about managing stress and basic study techniques but that a research paper, using MLA formatting, and presentation, account for a large portion of their final grade. By the end of Shelli’s class it is her hope that their experience in her classroom will be a positive one and that students will not only possess the skills but the confidence necessary to take their first steps towards a college degree.

She will be teaching a college prep class to women enrolled in the Pell program at the Southern Maine Women’s Reentry Center this summer.
January 2017

To: All Dept. of Administrative & Financial Services Employees

From: Richard W. Rosen, Commissioner

Re: Employee of the Month

Please join me in congratulating Mitchell Boynton, assistant director of fiscal operations, in the Corrections Service Center, DAFS’ employee of the month for January.

In addition to his normal job duties, Mitch served as the project lead for what is now the MainePays accounts payable application. His focus was to design a system that would meet both user needs and functional requirements in the area of accounts payable. He worked closely with the Office of the State Controller, Office of Information Technology, and other service centers to deliver a product that would meet the needs of its end users.

Mitch’s initiative and creativity enabled him to overcome many obstacles during the project. He made himself available to anyone who was interested and mentored new users during testing and implementation. Mitch always looked around the problem towards a solution, which resulted in the successful 2016 implementation. With his support and natural ability to partner with others, utilization of the system is expanding into other financial service centers and other departments. The MainePays system has already streamlined workflows for both the Financial Service Center and the Department of Corrections, and the state will continue to realize efficiencies as its usage is expanded.

Thank you, Mitch, for your dedication and service.

Congratulations, Mitch – well done.

PHOTO: (207) 624-7800
OFFICES LOCATED ON 3rd FLOOR, BURTON M. CROSS BUILDING
www.Maine.gov

Photo left: Mitch received the DAFS Employee of the Month award for his leadership role in designing and implementing the MainePays accounts payable system.

Image above: the attached letter from DAFS Commissioner, Richard Rosen.
CupCake Wars - Central Office Spirit Committee

Most Unusual: Jennifer Michaud – Strawberry Cream Cupcake

Most Creative: Lisa McGrotty – Banana Caramel Peanut Butter Cupcake Bears

Most Original: Rene Smith – Love Monster Cupcakes

Yummiest Looking: Amber Dion – White Chocolate Cupcakes

 Ugliest: Tracy Sebranek – Triple Chocolate Mocha Cupcakes

 Prettiest: Angie Newhouse – Spice & Buttercream Cupcakes

Most Festive: Heidi Strassberg-Bersani – Red Velvet Ganache Filled Cupcakes

The top three tastiest:
Lisa McGrotty – Quadruple Chocolate Cupcakes
Tracy Sebranek – Triple Chocolate Mocha Cupcakes
Rene Smith – Double Chocolate Raspberry Cream Filled Cupcakes

Thank you to all for the fantastic baking and decorating. We also want to thank those who supported by purchasing the wonderful Valentines Cupcakes!
Let’s meet the judges...

Bill Goodwin, Mike Hicks, Don White and Larry Austin, from Central Office, fully engaged in judging the cupcake winners.

Tools employed by CupCake Wars judges, ensuring accuracy.

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Left: Packaging ready for transporting recently purchased cupcakes. Funds raised benefit the Spirit Committee which, in turn, benefits Central Office employees.

Right: Mike Hicks and Tracy Sebranek tally CupCake Wars winners.
Victim’s Services

by Tessa Mosher

National Crime Victims’ Rights Week Approaches

Every year in April, OVC helps lead communities throughout the country in their annual observances of National Crime Victims’ Rights Week (NCVRW), which will be observed in 2017 on April 2–8.

This year’s theme—Strength. Resilience. Justice.—reflects a vision for the future in which all victims are strengthened by the response they receive, organizations are resilient in response to challenges, and communities are able to seek collective justice and healing.
Together We Stand

DCF is facing elimination from the biennial budget, also known as closure, once again. This news is nothing new to many who are reading this article. However, this article is speaking to those who are far removed from our situation - to those who haven’t been put in a position to have to somehow carefully and tactfully fight for their jobs. I am proud to contribute to DCF’s article in DocTalk. I want to shine the brightest light possible on us so those of you who are far from us can see what we do, how we do it, and how the community and prisoners benefit from our presence in Washington County. We have a community, a county, rallying with us. At this time, I would like to take a moment to say thank you for your current and continued involvement and support of DCF.

Many of our staff attended the Public Hearing with the Appropriations and Financial Affairs and Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committees on February 15th and the Work Session with just the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee on February 27th down in Augusta. It’s only a three or so hour drive one way, no big deal right? Not only have staff made the trip, but local employers who hire our prisoners through the Work Release program have made the trip. Not only staff and local employers, but how about the Machias Town Manager? Yes, she even made the trip to Augusta. Our area legislators are on the front lines with us and together we stand with our community to be seen and heard in front of the committees to stand up for what we do here at DCF. We are coming together to ensure that the right thing happens. We are not going to sit back and let others far removed from us decide our fate. You will hear from us. You will see us. You will never know how huge of an impact a community, a county, a facility has until you have met us. We are here and we have no qualms in making the three plus hour trip there to make that point. The next scheduled Work Session with the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee regarding DCF will be on March 20th at 9:00am.

About 19 DCF staff, along with the Machias Town Manager, Washington County Manager and our district legislators attended the Work Session on March 20th with the Criminal Justice and Public Safety Committee regarding DCF’s future in the budget. The CJPS Committee unanimously voted against the proposed initiative to eliminate DCF from the budget. There is hope for us yet. The CJPS Committee will present its budget recommendations to the Appropriations and Financial Affairs Committee on March 29th at 10:00am.

Ready, Set, Work!

Vocational Trades Instructor, Chris Sprague, is wearing a new hat in addition to the one he currently wears in the Carpentry Shop. Chris has become the new Work Ready instructor which was previously contracted out to Axiom Education and Training Center in Machias. Chris completed his certification and started teaching the 26-week course on March 8th. The Work Ready course teaches prisoners some basic skills to assist them in the employment process by learning how to write resumes, how to fill out an application and interviewing techniques. These tools will not only assist prisoners during their incarceration with respect to work release employment, but also in seeking gainful employment after they are released.
Work Release

One of the local work release employers, Lobster Trap, has contacted DCF looking to hire several prisoners for the upcoming season. Interviews will be taking place the last week of March. Another employer, Coast of Maine, will also be conducting interviews once applications have been reviewed. We anticipate the other work release employers we have previously worked with to follow suit once their respective seasons start. We look forward to another busy work release season!

Public Restitution Work

With the warmer weather upon us, the work crews are looking forward to getting out in the community to work on some outdoor projects. Here are some of the projects that have been completed or are in the works:

- A crew has gone out the last few storms to do some shoveling at the Machiasport Fire Department.
- A crew is in the midst of rebuilding a backhoe at the Machiasport Town Garage.
- A crew is repainting the Masonic Lodge in Cherryfield.
- A crew has refinished some desks over at the Courthouse/Sherriff’s Department building.

Capital Improvement Projects

- The inside of the Motor Pool and Welding Shop have been repainted.
- New lights have been installed in the Motor Pool and the Welding Shop.
- Not only has tile been removed from Dorms 1 and 2, but those areas are being prepped for the bathroom renovation project as part of the ACA accreditation process.

Welding Shop

Our Welding Shop Wizard, Walt Jessiman, and prisoner students made four collapsible woodstoves. They are made of one-eighth plate and range in sizes from 26 inches down to 19 inches. The welding students will be attaching carrying handles to make these woodstove not only collapsible, but portable as well. The stoves will be finished off with some high-heat paint. The welding shop handles small and large scale jobs. This exposes students to a variety of hands-on projects which expands on the fundamentals learned in the classroom such as problem solving and troubleshooting.

Contract Staff Retirement

Chaplin Patricia Philips-Doyle retired. We are in the process of recruiting a replacement.
Maine Correctional Center
Submitted by Scott Landry

A number of the Adult Correctional Educators recently attended a demonstration and presentation on Interactive Whiteboard Technology. Jessica Spears, Account Manager for DGI Technologies modeled and explained how the Whiteboard technology can be used as an excellent tool to promote fully interactive classrooms. When the Whiteboard is used effectively it can replace many separate visual aids that have been previously used in the classroom such as TV’s, blackboards, flipcharts, VCRs, projectors, and other audio-visual devices.
MCC Promotions

Correctional Officer Stefan Black promoted from the position of Corrections Officer to Correctional Sergeant.

CO Black has a Bachelor Degree in Criminal Justice, he’s certified as a Method of Instructions Instructor, OC Spray Instructor, Less Lethal Instructor, Field Training Officer Team Member, Security Operator Group Assistant Team Leader and a Mechanical Restraints and Control Instructor.

Sergeant Christopher Garland promoted from the position of Correctional Sergeant to Correctional Captain.

Sgt. Garland was hired in 2002 and has earned an outstanding reputation as a knowledgeable, mature, reliable leader with a can-do attitude.
New Showroom Manager, Timothy Schau

The prison is pleased to introduce the new Prison Showroom Manager, Timothy Schau. Tim comes to the prison with many years of sales, marketing and business experience. His educational and business experience includes the following:

- BA degree from Purdue University in Organizational Communications
- Former businesses owner in Chicago, IL
- Marketing Specialist, NEC/Tokin America, Wheeling, IL
- Regional Sales Manager, Wakunaga of America, Chicago, IL

Please keep an eye out for the Prison Showroom’s upcoming annual Spring Sale in April and feel free to contact Tim at the Showroom where he’s busy learning our current operating system. He has many innovative ideas and has generated several initiatives to move the industries program forward.

Promotion, Unit Manager and Program Supervisor Anthony Cartlidge

Unit Manager Anthony Cartlidge has been promoted from Unit Manager of the Close Unit to the newly authorized position of Unit Manager and Program Supervisor. In the new position, UM Cartlidge will continue to manage the Close Unit but will also provide mentorship and guidance to other Unit Managers in the prison. UM Cartlidge has been in corrections for 21 years, 19 at the Maine State Prison. During his tenure, he has served as Officer, Sergeant, Captain and Unit Manager in Medium.

UM Cartlidge has earned two Bachelor’s Degrees one in Justice Studies, and the other in Business Management from the University of Maine at Augusta. He has additionally earned a Masters in Business Administration (Public Administration) from Thomas College and is currently pursuing a Doctorate in Business Administration (Organizational Leadership).

In addition to his service with the Maine Department of Corrections, UM Cartlidge served with the Georgia Department of Corrections in a parole revocation facility, a para military style facility. He served our nation in the U.S. Navy and Army receiving an Honorable discharge from both branches.
Sally Russillo supports team efforts

Our administrative staff members employ project management techniques to complete tasks every day. Organization and planning are vital to the success of not only our day-to-day activities, but also special operations assigned by supervisors. Because of multiple special assignments which were assigned to her, Senior Staff Accountant Sally Russillo decided to take a course which would add more project skills to her repertoire. A friend, a certified PMP (Project Management Professional) in the healthcare field, saw a class advertised at Husson University in Maine, and Sally immediately applied.

Husson provides Project Management training for professionals interested in becoming certified project managers. Throughout the month of February and into March, Senior Staff Accountant Sally Russillo attended a five-week course in Westbrook at Husson. One 7-hour class per week fulfills the required 35-hour training needed to even qualify for the 4-hour PMP (Project Management Professional) exam. In order to take the PMP exam, however, applicants need to have 4,500 hours of documented project management experience. Since Sally hasn’t logged enough PM hours, she will be taking the 3-hour CAPM (Certified Associate Project Manager) exam instead. Her successful completion of the class has qualified her to take the exam, and in the future, she will be monitoring her hours and looking for special projects in order to qualify her for the PMP. Sally thought that Husson’s class was wonderfully instructed and valuable to any person asked to implement new processes or work in a team environment.

Promotion, Anthony Cantillo

In January, Anthony Cantillo was promoted to the position of Unit Manager of the Intensive Mental Health Unit at the Maine State Prison. The Intensive Mental Health Unit is a 32 bed (single bed unit) including a dayroom, outside recreation area, storage rooms, utility rooms, and treatment meeting room. The purpose of the IMHU is to help the residents function at their optimal level while working towards the reduction of criminogenic risk factors. The goal is to prepare the resident for return to General Population living units within Maine Department of Corrections, their respective county jails, or to a hospital for continuing care within their community.

Unit Manager Cantillo has worked for Maine Department of Corrections since August of 2013. He initially worked as Correctional Officer and became a Field Training Officer in February of 2015. He was promoted to Correctional Care and Treatment Worker in June of 2015. Prior to his career at the Maine State Prison, UM Cantillo was a licensed social worker delivering services in Maine communities by providing case management and behavioral interventions for children and their families. He graduated in 2010 with a Bachelor’s Degree in Social Work. UM Cantillo states, “I value the challenge that unit management provides especially within the Intensive Mental Health Unit at the Maine State Prison. I look forward to broaden my professional experience within the Maine Department of Corrections.”

Anthony Cantillo, Unit Manager
MSP partners with Habitat for Humanity

Industries at the Maine State Prison have partnered with the Waterville area Habitat for Humanity. It is the mission of the Waterville Area Habitat for Humanity to enhance our community by helping qualified families become independent owners of decent, affordable homes.

As part of that mission, Habitat of the Waterville area performs weatherization projects which include audits to measure heat loss. As part of the heat loss prevention effort, wooden interior window coverings are built to significantly enhance energy conservation. The prison industries team has developed a system of creating the window coverings which are installed by teams of volunteers. Numerous elders, children and financially challenged families have greatly benefited from these heat saving efforts.

Leadership Academy, Fireside Chat Program

by Robert Costigan

In late January of this year, the Fireside Chat Program was developed and implemented in conjunction with the Basic Corrections Training Program. Each week during basic training a veteran employee or retiree has the opportunity to meet with the new employees and share their experiences and lessons learned during their years of employment in corrections. The chats are open ended and professional. Each weekly session lasts approximately one hour and new employees/students are asked to evaluate each segment of the fireside chats.

The program has been well received and the evaluations are reflecting the value of these “chats” with our veteran employees and retirees. Our veteran employees and retirees bring real life experiences to the classroom and they articulate what they have learned and observed through their hands on experiences with general operations and interactions with the prisoners. This new program is more than sharing experiences though; it also sets the best example of leadership and the support we provide to new employees whenever possible. As we think back to when we started as new employees, we probably all can remember someone who took their individual time to share their experience and knowledge with us.

Thanks to Warden Liberty and Captain Blakely for introducing this program, and special thanks to the veteran employees and retirees who voluntarily participate in the Fireside Chat Program.

Robert Costigan, Leadership Mentor
Maine Hire a Veteran Campaign

Ken Lindsey, Industries Manager

The Industries Department of the Maine State Prison has partnered with the Maine Department of Labor by building 150 wooden recognition plaques. The “Maine Hire a Veteran” campaign provides support for employers to expand the hiring of veterans. The plaques are awarded to Maine businesses who have demonstrated a commitment to hire Military Veterans.

Maine State Prison Industries was contacted by Steven Roy, campaign coordinator for the “Maine Hire a Vet” campaign, who requested the hand crafted plaques. The campaign set a lofty goal to have 100 employers hire 100 plus veterans and family members in 100 days. The goal was reached and then some, 150 employers became involved with this worthwhile event with well over 100 new hires and the hiring still continues.

Prison Industries strives to be a good community partner throughout the state in supporting worthy causes such as this one - in any way we can. We believe that it is the duty of all citizens to assist our Veterans in their transition back into our communities. We appreciate the efforts of employers in providing meaningful work to our Veterans.
Art Education, a physiological partnership

The Maine State Prison has partnered with the Art Loft of Rockland to enhance the Art education program offered to offenders. The Art Loft was founded by Kathryn Matlack of Camden and Paula Apro of Rockland. Both Kathryn & Paula have a deep passion for the arts and always dreamed of creating a community art center that would help make art accessible to everyone.

Kathryn Matlock reached out to Warden Liberty expressing an interest in bringing local Artists into the Prison to further expand artistic training and education. The first series of presentations were met with great enthusiasm. Local esteemed artist Daniel Daly from Camden provided great insight and motivation for the aspiring art students.

According to Kathryn Matlock, scientific studies tell us that art heals by changing a person’s physiology and attitude. The body’s physiology changes from one of stress to one of deep relaxation, from one of fear to one of creativity and inspiration. The prison looks forward to furthering this meaningful and inspirational partnership.

Painting by Daniel Daly, “Camden Harbor, In Winter, Low Tide”
VetDogs® Partnership

The Maine State Prison is exploring the possibility of partnering with America’s VetDogs organization. The service dog programs of America’s VetDogs® were created to provide enhanced mobility and renewed independence to veterans, active-duty service members, and first responders with disabilities, allowing them to once again live with pride and self-reliance. Not only does a service dog provide support with daily activities, the dog provides motivation to tackle new challenges.

VetDogs® trains and places guide dogs for individuals who are blind or have low vision; PTSD service dogs to help mitigate the effects of post-traumatic stress disorder; hearing dogs for those who have lost their hearing later in life; service dogs for those with other physical disabilities, and facility dogs as part of the rehabilitation process in military and VA hospitals.

Deputy Warden Troy Ross, an Army Engineer and Veteran of the Gulf War, travelled to the VetDogs® Head Quarters located in Smithtown, NY for a three day workshop. The workshop included program information for potential partnering organizations. Upon returning from the workshop Deputy Warden Ross reported that “The work that is being done to assist our Veterans by the VetDogs® Possible program design could include five to ten service dogs trained for eighteen months at the prison to assist our deserving Veterans. On April 3rd Sheila O’Brien, Director of External Operations travelled to the prison for a tour and to further discuss the possibility of a partnership.

Employee Academic Initiative

Over the past six months the Maine State Prison has embarked on a partnership with the University of Maine at Augusta, University College at Rockland, Kennebec Valley Community College and Southern Maine Community College. The goal of the initiative is to promote and assist our employees with continuing professional development and formal education. In October, February, and March, representatives from each of the institutions participated in a series of town hall meetings to present program offerings, financial aid and Veterans benefits. Program discussion often focused on Criminal Justice, Mental Health, Human Resources and Electrical.

In March, fifteen employees took the Accuplacer test at the Maine State Prison to assess their academic acuity. As a result of the Employee Academic Initiative, twelve employees have registered for classes with the University of Maine, Kennebec Valley Community College and Southern Maine Community College. We would like to thank the above mentioned institutions for their continuing support of our employees. Good Luck to all choosing to further their education and prepare for the next career opportunity!
Staff Changes

Charles Grenier, almost always called Chuck, is moving up the ranks from POA to full time Probation Officer. Chuck has always been an asset to our staff performing his POA duties with enthusiasm and detail. Learning the ins and outs of courts will certainly be very beneficial in his new PO position. Chuck will be relocating from the Portland Office to the Biddeford Office and will assume supervision of his assigned caseload there.

PO Johanna Rozzi is splitting her time between the Portland Office and the Biddeford Office. Her York County caseload will include the letters N-S in Biddeford, Saco and Old Orchard Beach as well as Kennebunkport. Her time in the Portland office will include handling the Institution Probation Officer duties and any split sentences releases coming out of Maine Correctional Center.

Employee Recognition

PPO Roxann Parker was commended for the care and concern she displayed to an employee who had fallen in the parking lot last February and sustained a number of injuries. Roxann stayed by her side, comforting her and calming her down until the ambulance finally arrived. Without a doubt this was truly an outstanding display of compassion and care put forth by Roxann for which she certainly deserves to be commended. Roxann was recognized and thanked for her good deed in a recent staff meeting and received a hearty round of applause from attending staff.
Region 2 Augusta Office

Probation Officer Ray French recently accepted another position at DAFS and has left Region 2. Ray was a consistent figure in the Augusta office and well respected by his peers, supervisors, and outside agencies. We shall miss him but understand his desire to move on.

With his departure, Probation Officer Assistant Cameron Dufour has agreed to assist Probation Officer Assistant Brian Castonguay. The Augusta office is a busy place and his assistance is appreciated.

PO Ray French accepts position with DAFS

Region 2 Augusta Office
Region 2 Adult, Updates

The Mechanics of Arrest, Restraint & Control (MARC) instructors work diligently to ensure the adult community corrections are trained to a high standard, having the opportunity to see all of the Probation Officer’s across the state. The Instructors felt it important to recognize staff for their knowledge and application of officer safety skills, exceptional judgment, determination and a “can-do” attitude while in the performance of their duties. The recognition will occur on an annual basis.

In January, Probation Officer Rafael Garza was the first recipient of this award and was presented a certificate from the MARC Instructors, as well as dog tags with the motto “I will prevail” on them. It was a unanimous decision of the group that Officer Garza should receive the award and we are proud to have him in Region 2.

During the month of February all of the Probation Officer’s from Region 2 participated in training for the Carey Guides. These guides were created by the Carey Group to address Criminogenic Needs and Effective Case Management. Each guide offers short, practical and easy to use interventions of a variety of topics, such as Emotional Regulation, Empathy, Overcoming Family Challenges, Co-occurring Disorders and others. Staff can use the guides to perfect their case management skills & assist the client in making lifelong changes and progress in attaining their goals.

Regional Correctional Manager’s Sue Wiechman, Adam Silberman, John Lorenzen and Adam Silberman recently completed the Trilogy Training of the Supervisory Leadership Institute, Command Leadership Institute and Executive Leadership Institute. These classes, held by FBI-LEEDA, were held throughout the year, each one being 4 ½ days in length. The mission of FBI-LEEDA is to advance the science and art of law enforcement leadership and hold the core values of ethics and leadership while embracing change and diversity. I can not think of four better staff members that exemplify those core values.

Probation Officer Merrell Reeves recently attended Methods of Instruction at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy. This 80 hour class is a huge time commitment but Probation Officer Reeves understands the need for high quality training and instructors. It is so important to be aware of the characteristics of adult learners and to provide meaningful experiences that bolster confidence. Her commitment to learning and then utilizing those skills is appreciated far beyond Region 2 and rings throughout the department.
Phat Tran has been practicing his craft in the Department’s Dover-Foxcroft probation office.

Region 3 News

Region 3 is pleased to announce the hiring of Nathan DeFelice for Probation Officer Assistant in Houlton.

Probation Officer Eric Legassie will be overseeing a Communication Class at the Husson campus. The class will be a 6 week communications skills group and the topics covered will be: Understanding Nonverbal Communication, Listen, Listening Critically, Speaking Responsibly, and Communicating Constructively.

All Probation Officers completed Carey Guide Training in March.

Probation Officers Amanda Sermersheim, Jenna Spoto and Lori Lamma completed the Train the Trainer for LSI Instructor.

Regional Correctional Managers Scott Lewis and Mary Jones completed the FBI Leadership Trilogy Class with certificates received on March 3, 2017.

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.
The A.R. Gould BEARS varsity Basketball team made history this season by making it to the Class D South Regional Championship game at the Augusta Civic Center, which is the farthest any team from A.R. Gould has made it in the post season tournament. The BEARS ended their regular season with a 15-3 record and finished 2nd in the Heal Point Standings. At the tournament, the BEARS played Temple Academy in the quarterfinals, winning 76-61. In the semi-finals, they faced 3rd ranked Valley High School and won that game 76-61. In the Regional Championship game the BEARS lost to the number 1 seed, Greeville, by the score of 69-33. The team received individual medals and a plaque for the school.

Once again I want to thank my GREAT coaching staff (Head Coach-JPS Chad Sturgis, Assistant Coach-FOS Aaron Beaulieu and Assistant Coach-JPW Joe Jardine) for making this basketball season one of the most incredible seasons ever! Making it to the Regional Championship game is no easy feat for any team. Then, when you take a group of at risk kids who have never played together before, and likely have never played on a team, and not having played since grade school while dealing with so many unfortunate life circumstances, and make it to the Regional Championship! This accomplishment is unprecedented and could not happen without guidance from great coaches. I absolutely know that our kids are blessed to have the most talented, fun, knowledgeable, and caring coaches out there. For many of these kids, this is the highlight of a lifetime. One which they will never forget!

The coaching we all did off the court taught life lessons - illustrating to them that we care about them, and their future. This work was not seen by many but the value was huge. The coaches won't forget these moments either. The coaches have given these kids confidence they never had, lessons in humility, accountability, leadership, a sense of belonging in a community, the skills needed to overcome adversity, connection with 3 terrific male role models, and experiencing success, possibly for the first time in their lives, and being proud of themselves for their achievements. Through this opportunity, players are given the tools needed to make it successfully in this world and we hope that they continue to use these skills as they move forward.

I would like to thank all the people who came out to support the BEARS basketball team throughout the season. Whether you know it or not, your presence is very meaningful to me, the coaches and most importantly - to the players. You showed them that they were a part of a community, gave them a sense of pride and made them want to work harder and demonstrate they are capable of great things. I was in awe to see the amount of people at our tournament games cheering on our team. THANK YOU ALL!
Fishing for the Future
by Kim Deering

Eligible students went on an ice fishing trip with two of our own Maine Registered Guides, JPM Scott Janosik and FOS Francois Bouchard. The fishing program has entered its 5th season and this ice fishing trip was the first one of the season.

When kids are reaching the end of their obligation here at Long Creek and are ready to leave, we teach them about positive healthy recreation and leisure activities that are available to them in the community. Some proven indicators of an individual’s success are having positive interests and hobbies, connecting with adult role models outside of the home and having a sense of belonging to the community. Many of these students have never experienced such opportunities and without the introduction and skills taught through Long Creek programs like this, the likelihood of them making the positive choice to participate on their own is slim.

Music makes a difference
by Kim Deering

The Maine Academy of Modern Music is once again working with students at Long Creek to provide weekly music lessons. These students receive individual instruction on the instrument(s) of their choice. We currently have 5 students learning to play instruments such as the guitar, piano and cello.
Let’s honor Dave Crowley
by Chris Concannon

After completing the site review for Long Creek’s October PbS data draw, Superintendent Jeff Merrill presented a symbol of appreciation to our PbS Coach, Dave Crowley. Dave has been working with Long Creek approximately 15+ years and has been part of Corrections for 50 years. He has decided to retire, possibly. Whenever Dave comes to Long Creek for a data draw review, he always focuses on the great work that is done here at Long Creek by all the staff, in all areas. Dave has honored Long Creek with an award of being considered a Mentoring Facility, due to the amount of information and experiences that we provide and share with other states looking for positive change. When we walk around on our tour, he constantly compliments the staff with doing a great job. He knows that working in corrections is difficult and there are difficult days, but he tries to remind staff that the hard work is noticed at the national level of being one of the best.

Thank you to our coach Dave Crowley for everything you have done to help us constantly improve over the years.

Employee of the Month for January 2017
is presented to:
JPS Kevin Drain

Mr. Drain was nominated for Employee of the Month by co-workers who write:

“Please commend Spruce Staff, especially Mr. Drain for supporting Girls’ English class and bringing work to and from the unit to the classroom. Please commend JPS Drain for consistently supporting Girls’ Education. Kevin has handled the transition from managers and program with professionalism. Kevin has stood tall in the face of adversity with many residents who have tried his patience. He remains calm and continues to applaud good behavior and have discussions with residents about their less than desirable behavior. Kevin does a fine job mentoring new staff.

Long Creek Youth Development Center wishes to extend to you our sincere appreciation for a job well done.
Employee of the Month for February 2017

is presented to
Janice Sabin, Psych Social Worker II

Ms Sabin was nominated for Employee of the Month by a co-worker who writes: “Janice has been a huge help in the Girls’ Unit transitioning to a new program with a new Manager. Janice takes the time to help the girls move forward in life. She works over her hours on a daily basis to make sure the task is done. Janice also spends hours a day talking to the girls who are having the most difficulties and does not complain. She understands it is very time consuming but continues to put in the effort.”

Long Creek Youth Development Center wishes to extend to you our sincere appreciation for a job well done.
Mountain View Youthful Offender Program
Submitted by Michelle Lawson & Marsha Higgins

MVCF Staff Getting Active In "Biggest Loser" Health Challenge
by Conner McFarland, Correctional Officer

Mountain View Correctional Facility staff are choosing healthier lifestyles by participating in Mountain View's annual "Biggest Loser" competition. This year the competition includes 29 staff members from all departments within the facility.

Run by CO Mike Larson, Cpt. Bruce Domenech and Admin. Asst. Penny Ames, the "Biggest Loser" competition is a 10 week health challenge where staff pay $25 into a prize pool and compete against each other to lose the most weight. Participants weigh in once a week at the facility. Results are posted weekly so competitors can track their progress against each other. At the end of ten weeks, the man and woman with the highest percentage of weight lost will split the prize pool.

The cash prize this year is $725, split between the winning male and female. The competition will end on March 27.

New Hires
by Michelle Lawson

Congratulations to Mountain View Correctional Facility's newest Correctional Officers: Spencer Nadeau, Cody Ellis and Scott Flannery. They graduated Basic Corrections Training at the Maine Criminal Justice Academy on February 27 and are eager to start work!

From the left: Spencer Nadeau, Cody Ellis and Scott Flannery
Region 1 • Juvenile Community Corrections

Submitted by John Coyne

JJJeopardy!
by Joe Hansen

In York county JCCO’s were recently trained in Juvenile Justice Jeopardy through Strategies for Youth. Juvenile Justice Jeopardy (JJJ) is an interactive and engaging educational tool that teaches youth about the law, juvenile justice system, and interacting with police and other authority figures. The interactive format is geared towards eliciting youths’ participation as well as learning about their viewpoints and experiences. The use of different teaching approaches (game questions, skits, discussion) derives from the premise that youth learn differently and that some modalities may be more effective than others. With this training they will now go into their communities and play the game with youth, community members and any other organization that would like to learn more about the justice system. The questions and answers are tailored toward their local communities.

Region 2 • Juvenile Community Corrections

Submitted by Afton Sinclair

Springing Forward

There have been some changes in Region 2. Now that we have welcomed our new hires, caseloads have shifted:

- JCCO Griffin has taken on portions of Kennebec and Lincoln counties.
- JCCO Sinclair is now covering all of Knox County.
- JCCO Murphy is covering portions of Sagadahoc County.
- JCCO Gagnon is covering the Auburn area.
- JCCO Ennis is covering the Lewiston area.

All of the caseloads have been shifted at this point, and all of the affected police departments, sheriff’s offices, and DA offices have been notified. This spring, our coverage areas have changed, and we have some new faces, but Region 2 is still moving forward with enthusiasm both for the work we do and for the warmer weather ahead.
Region 3 • Juvenile Community Corrections

Submitted by Darrin Constant

Confronting the Crisis: Opioids in Maine
by Galan Williamson

On March 6th, JCCO Julie Leavitt, JCCO Val Norman and MHPC Anita Hood attended “Confronting Maine’s Opioid Crisis” sponsored by Adcare. Several speakers provided good information regarding the crisis in Maine and steps that can be taken to help prevent opioid dependence and abuse. With a growing number of clients and families experiencing drug addiction, these valuable trainings increase our knowledge of the impact drug addiction and expands our connections to treatment providers and stakeholders in combating the growth of drug abuse damaging communities in rural Maine. A similar training “Changing the Legacy of Addiction” is coming to Bangor later this month with several area JCCOs already registered to attend.

JCCOs and Restorative Justice
by Galan Williamson

RCM Roy Curtis and several JCCOS in Region 3 convened in Belfast with Sarah Mattox of Restorative Justice Project to develop a training curriculum which blends restorative practices and principles into the case management work JCCOs do with clients involved with DJS. This effort will add another skills-based tool for JCCOS to have restorative dialogues and various exchanges with offenders and victims following key principles of restorative practices. We are excited to roll this training out in the coming months and thankful for the work Roy’s group and Sarah are investing in the design of this curriculum.

Vacationing

Several folks from Region 3 are taking warmer vacation trips to sunny Florida. Josh and Kim plan to spend some time in Tampa with friends and do a little fishing on the side of touring the area. Val Norman also got her plane tickets South as has Kelly Nightingale. Enjoy the warm weather and have a great time!
Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group

Submitted by Jay Pennell

Defining a Restorative Justice State

Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group (JJAG) is working on the release of a request for proposals to start developing the Juvenile Restorative Justice Council for Maine. This is one of the steps delineated in a recent report which will act as a point of reference in the development of a sustainable Restorative Juvenile Justice System here in Maine. The JJAG commissioned report, An Initiative to Develop a Sustainable Restorative Juvenile Justice System, 2016, can be found here: http://www.maine.gov/corrections/jjag/rj/sustainable-restorative-justice-maine.htm

Other recommendations include: the hiring of a Restorative Justice Coordinator; assisting in the selection of a Juvenile Restorative Justice model; expansion of accessibility to Restorative Justice services and practices throughout the state of Maine; and many more - all designed to help Maine become a Restorative Justice state.

According to a PBS report (http://www.pbs.org/newshour/rundown/states-consider-restorative-justice-alternative-mass-incarceration/) Maine is one of 35 States developing laws and practices supporting Restorative Justice.

What is a Restorative Justice State? This means all youth involved in the Juvenile Justice system in Maine have access to Restorative Justice Practices at all points. So, at initial police contact, referral to JCCO, referral to the prosecutors office, court pre-adjudication, pre-sentencing and post adjudication as well as post-commitment, youth involved in the system have the opportunity to: address the wrongs they have done, work with the victim and community on correcting the harm, and then bring the offending youth and their victim(s) back into the community as a whole positive part of the community. Restorative Justice is not a “be all end all” solution. However, it becomes one more option to help support youth. RJ is one of the few justice processes that supports victims involved in the justice system.

JJAG retreats for Long Creek culinary catering

The JJAG would like to thank Colin O’Neill, Associate Commissioner, for arranging the exceptional lunch catered by Steve Ogden and his culinary program consisting of Long Creek culinary students. The hot food and chance to meet the chefs mustered up some authentic enthusiasm from JJAG members during the JJAG’s annual retreat.

Colin O’Neill, Associate Commissioner (right) thanks Steve Ogden, Culinary Services at Long Creek Youth Development Center for working so hard to make this program a success. Lunch was prepared and served by the young men participating in the program to the Maine Juvenile Justice Advisory Group at its annual retreat held at the Glickman Library in Portland this year.
Employee Service Anniversaries for the months of January and February

Facility Key
CO - Central Office
CCF - Charleston Correctional Facility
DAFS - Department of Administrative & Financial Services
DCF - Downeast Correctional Facility
LCYDC - Long Creek Youth Development Center
MCC - Maine Correctional Center
MSP - Maine State Prison
MV - Mountain View
R1A - Region 1 Adult (R2A, R3A)
R1J - Region 1 Juvenile (R2J, R3J)
SMRC - Southern Maine Re-entry Center

5 Years
Christopher J Dumas ...................R2A
Deborah A Mcallian .....................CO
Josheph R Combs ........................MV
James T Tanner ..........................CO

10 Years
Ryan D Andersen ..........................CO
Brook Bowley .............................R1J
John Emerton .........................LCYDC
Dana R Fenton .........................DCF
Allison C Cumming .....................MCC
Kelly C Ridley ..........................MCC
William E Rollins, Jr ...............MCC
Cynthia A Austin ......................MCC

15 Years
Stacy J Abbott .........................MCC
Joseph A Gore, III ..................MCC
Prescott W Guerra .....................DCF
Gary L Magee ........................DCF
Wanda L Saucier ......................MV
Willie M Stewart, Jr .................LCYDC
Gerry Bassett ........................BCF
Rhonda L Farrell ......................LCYDC
Thomas J Farrington ...............BCF
Jacqueline E Weddle .................MSP
Dennis Duperre .......................MSP
Jason Miller ..........................MSP
Gerald A Scott .......................MVCF
Jane A Hudson .......................MCC

20 Years
Jeffery H Furlong ......................R2A
Troy D Thornton .......................R1A

More Than 25 Years
Russell L Worcester Jr. (84) ........BCF
Jeffrey J Doiron (86) ..............LCYDC
Brian W Day (86) .....................DCF
Lawrence D Austin (86) ............CO
Mark R James (87) ...............MCC
Carlo E Carlow (87) ..............R1A
Harvey E Bailey (88) ..............MCC
Arthur R McCurdy (88) .............DCF
Sharon L Boynton (88) .............BCF
Craig S Riley (88) .................MSP
Randall N Thomas (88) ..........BCF
Judith V Blake (89) ...............MCC
William Day (89) ...................DCF
Michael J Barrett (89) .............MCC
John R Coyne (90) .................R1J
Ilia D Stankov (90) ..............LCYDC
Peter H Warman (91) ..............MSP
Mark J Clevetter (92) ...............MSP
Matthew V Gerrish (92) ............MSP

The anniversary dates below are the “longevity” date provided by the Human Resources office. The longevity date is an employee’s most recent date of hire with no breaks in service/state employment. In the past, the employee’s original hire date was used, however this date doesn’t accurately depict an employee’s actual time working for state government on a continuous basis. The Department uses the longevity date when recognizing years of service each year. Please note that this date may differ from the date used to calculate vacation benefits. Please contact your payroll contact person with any questions.

photo by Ryan Andersen
Did you know ...

**DOCTalk**

the newsletter by and for the employees of the Maine Department of Corrections is available online!

You can access the current issue as well as back issues!