



"SEEDS OF CHANGE"

The flowers are blooming at "Seeds of Change," a collaborative effort between five local organizations providing academic, vocational and parenting training for incarcerated fathers at the Maine State Prison, funded by the Barbara Bush Foundation. Incarcerated fathers have been working on the ABC garden, where plants represent every letter of the alphabet. The gardens, constructed inside and outside of the prison, are mirror images, ideal in plant varieties and developmental stages.

"Seeds of Change is designed to make learning to read fun through gardening," says Mark Hutchinson, University of Maine Cooperative Extension Educator.

Other partners in the Seeds of Change program include the Maine State Prison, Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine, Coastal Community Action Program/RSVP/Head Start, and MCST Adult Education.

An all-day Seeds of Change training with certification will be held in Rockland this October; one-hour informational meetings about the training will be held September 30 and October 2. Watch for details or call (207) 596-0361 for more information. For more information, contact Jennifer Hill at 596-0361



Partnering in Seeds of Change are (from left): Scott Bramhall, director of juvenile services for Youth Promise; Tony Grotton, greenhouse overseer and Main State Prison employee; Mona Stearns, director of the Retired Senior Volunteer Program; Martha Cushing, coordinator for mentoring with Volunteers of America; Jennifer Hill of the Coastal Community Action Program; Polly Black, MSP adult education director; Nadine Reimer, University of Maine Cooperative Extension; Beth Gifford of Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine; and Jeffrey Merrill, MSP warden. (Photo by Fletcher Smith)

Check out "Seeing what blossoms with Seeds of Change" article by Fletcher Smith, Rockland Village Soup under MPS on page 5.

& Food for Thought &

"Respect yourself and others will respect you".

- Confucius

"He who will not economize will have to agonize".

- Confucius

Looks like a few thousand years changes nothing.

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Central Office

HUMAN RESROUCES NEWS

NEW HIRES:

Sam Payson, Probation Officer R4A 8/2/2004 Brian Hurd, JCCO, R3J 8/16/2004 John Bennoch, JCCO, R4J 8/30/2004

TRANSFERS: 8/2/2004 Chris Libby, R2J to R1J Mike Pike, R4A to R3A Jim Rice, R3A to R2A

RETIREES:

Charles Strandbery, R1A 7/23/2004 Rosemary Kooy, CO, 8/20/2004

OTHER DEPARTURES:

Elaine Sosebee, R4J 6/28/2004

PROMOPTIONS:

Control Office

Sharelyn Page, Account Clerk II, CO **Lynne Leach**, Account Clerk II, CO



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Did You Know?

Our Retention Levels

- 10 percent of what we read
- 20 percent of what we hear
- 30 percent of what we see
- 40 percent of what we see and hear
- 60 percent of what we discuss with others
- 70 percent of what we experience personally
- 80 percent of what we discover and solve individually or in groups
- 95 percent of what we teach to someone else

Source: FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin, June 2004 and K. Spencer, Center for Excellence in Teaching, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, MD, Purposeful Teaching, http://www.rcmp-learning.org/ecdd1140.htm

Introducing

Basic Safety Workshop for Probation and Parole Officers

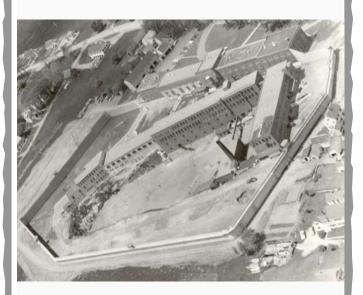
With over two-thirds of the offender population in the United States under some form of community supervision, community corrections agencies and practitioners face the challenge of providing effective supervision while maintaining practices that promote personal officer safety. For a variety of reasons,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

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

For more information go to http://www.appa-net.org/

Funded by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA)

FROM THE ARCHIVES



This is an arial photograph inside the walls of the "old" Maine State Prison at Thomaston. When the prison was in operation this photograph would have been considered "classified" and not allowed to be viewed by non-authorized individuals. Many of the MSP staff that worked there and the offenders that lived there have some significant memories of the prison.

I have this and a few other arial photos of the old prison that I can copy or e-mail them to anyone that would like a reminder of his/her former workplace.

The photograph was provided by Gary LaPlante, Chief of Security at MCC. Thank you for this contribution.

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.

Ellis King

VICTIM SERVICES

RESTITUTION IS NOT DISCHARGEABLE THROUGH BANKRUPTCY

On occasion offenders will try to avoid their restitution obligations by filing bankruptcy. The United States bankruptcy code provides that the State's criminal restitution order is automatically exempted from discharge (through bankruptcy), without requiring the State to take any further action to protect its right to collect restitution from the debtor. 11 U.S.C. section 523(c)(1) specifies which non-dischargeable debts require determination by the bankruptcy court. The State is not required to file an adversary complaint in the bankruptcy court or take any other action to preserve its rights to collect court ordered restitution



VICTIM IMPACT PANELS

By Jane Farmer

Victim Impact Panels give victims a chance to tell offenders about the impact of crime on their life and the lives of their families, friends, and neighbors. It allows victims a forum to talk about how the crime has affected them emotionally, physically, and financially and how sometimes the crime has changed them forever.

The first victim impact panel was initiated in 1982 by Mothers Against Drunk Driving (MADD) as part of a campaign to show the devastating consequences of drunk driving on victims and society in general. MADD was very interested in making it clear to everyone that these crashes were not "accidents", as they were being described, but instead they were crimes where someone had made two choices, one to drink and the other to drive.

Due to the positive feedback from both victims and offenders who had participated in the drunk driving panels many victim services departments have started to use this strategy with other crimes, from property crimes through homicide. One thing they have discovered is that every type of crime affects victims in very similar ways to varying degrees which has to do with everyone being different.

Victim Services in the Maine Department of Corrections has been doing Victim Impact Panels for the past 6 years in the Bolduc Correctional Facility and at the Maine Correctional Center Women's Unit and Therapeutic Care Unit. The panels are part of the Impact of Crime Program and what Victim Services has found is that the best and most anticipated and appreciated part of the program is the Victim Impact Panel. The offenders have said over and over on their evaluations of the program that the part of the class they get the most out of is listening to the victims speaking from their hearts. That is what makes the difference to them.

If you know of anyone who has been affected by a crime and who may be interested in participating on a Victim Impact Panel, please have them call Denise Giles at 1-800-968-6909.



OFFICE OF VICTIM SERVICES' VOLUNTEER

My name is **Rosemarie LaMarche**. I am 25 years old and a mom of three. I will be starting my degree program in Criminal Justice in August. I really wanted to get a feel for different aspects of the Criminal Justice field so I did some investigating and found victim services. I will be volunteering here until August 27. I am working on the restitution database so that the correct information migrates to CORIS. So far it has been interesting. I feel like I am helping people, even if it is a small part.

ABANDONED PROPERTY

Victim Services has been working for several months on cases in which there is money available from restitution paid by the offender, but the victim can not be located either through a current address or a phone number. Victims' addresses frequently change from the address provided at the time of the crime for several reasons, sometimes the address has been changed because of E911, or the forwarding order from the postal service has expired, and their State driver's license has not been updated.

The legislature enacted a law last session regarding victims who are unable to be located. The bill states "If the location of a victim cannot be ascertained, the money collected as restitution must be forwarded to the Treasurer of State to be handled as abandoned property" which allows us to protect the victim's restitution.

Victim Services researches these cases and needs to show "due diligence" before the victim's money can be sent to abandoned property. Abandoned property serves as a mechanism to ensure that the victims restitution will be available to the victim for years to come. Abandoned property publishes a list of names in the newspaper at least once a year and also has a web site where you can search to see if the State is holding any money for you http://thor.dafs.state.me. us/pls/treasurer/tredev.unclaimed_property. search_form_ Victim Services is hopeful that this will be a way to reach victims we have been unable to locate.



MAINE STATE PRISON

"Seeing what blossoms with Seeds of Change" article reprinted with the permission of Fletcher Smith, Rockland Village Soup

WARREN (Aug 27, 2004): Thanks to a \$25,000 grant from the Barbara Bush Foundation, Seeds of Change at the Maine State Prison in Warren will continue to bloom.

Seeds of Change is a program that provides vocational, academic and parenting training for incarcerated fathers at the Maine State Prison. Inside the prison, inmates are given the opportunity to work on an alphabet garden where each plant represents the 26 letters of the alphabet.

Outside the prison walls an identical alphabet garden along the front walkway gives family members, especially children, a chance to see what their fathers see within the walls of the prison. These gardens are the basis of a program that is unique not only in Maine, but nationwide.

"In a maximum security prison there are issues around how to interact with your children when they come to visit," said Retired Senior Volunteer Program Project Director Mona Stearns. "On a day-to-day basis the fathers and children have very few, if any, common experiences, which can make it difficult to find things to talk about."

Through Seeds of Change and with the use of the alphabet garden, fathers and their children find common ground in the flowers and are able to break down barriers to worthwhile and beneficial interactions with their children.

You can see the outside alphabet garden from the visitor room and together the father and child or the family together can talk about the garden," said MSP Adult Education Director Polly Black. "They can discuss what they both saw in the garden, what the flowers smell like, what they felt like and what they noticed about the garden."

Black said the garden opens up the lines of communication and can be an important starting point for both the father and the child.

Seeds of Change depends on the dedication of five local agencies for its continued success. These agencies include the Coastal Community Action Program, Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine, Maine State Prison, the University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Mid-Coast School of Technology Adult Education. Representatives from these agencies all spend time sharing their expertise at the prison.

Those from the Retired Volunteer Service Program, part of the Coastal Community Action Program, work with Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine to train mentors who take part in the Seeds of Change program. Seeds of Change provides assistance to incarcerated fathers in learning how to read or improving their reading.

Literacy Volunteers of Mid-Coast Maine also works with the adult education program to help develop an appropriate curriculum for those inmates who need assistance in learning to read or learning to read better in order to obtain their GED.

MSP will continue to offer the Long Distance Dads program in conjunction with Seeds of Change. LDD will offer classes on parenting and help selected inmates develop parent-child activities that can strengthen the bond that is lost when a parent is imprisoned.

The Seeds of Change project can help give inmates a sense of self-worth that can help to keep them from ever re-entering the prison system," Black said. "And if that newly formed sense of self-worth can be shared with a child, then it is a win-win situation for everyone involved."

MSP Warden Jeffrey Merrill backs this program wholeheartedly.

"The reality of the situation is that when the inmates are busy, time goes faster for them," he said. "When they are busy doing something productive they are not challenging the security."

Merrill said he has seen the gardens change some of the prisoners. Many take an interest in learning about horticulture under the guidance of Tony Grotton, a prison employee who has mastered the art of growing things.

"I have seen a prisoner with a life sentence walk by and smell a flower he has grown," Merrill said. "It is programs like the horticulture program and the Seeds of Change program that can change the outlook of the most hardened prisoner."

Merrill said that incorporating the educational component into an already successful program is proof that good things can and do happen at MSP.

"It helps them to see there are other options for their life when they are released," he said. "If they embrace those opportunities while inside the prison, it is like an olive branch to society."

For information on volunteering with Seeds of Change, call CCAP at 596-0361. An all-day training session to become a volunteer will be held Sept. 30 and Oct. 2.



BOLDUC CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

ADMINISTRATION

By Deputy Warden Al Barlow

Update: Saving Cars Behind Bars (SCBB)

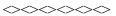
We sold our car on E-Bay - \$35,000 – to an individual in Maine. The buyer seized the opportunity to have some history and get his gears running with the BOSS Mustang – totally rebuilt from top to bottom. The buyer is a lover of muscle cars and plans to mount and frame all the information provided for historical value. The benefits have been many, including pride for an excellent job done. We would like to thank:

<u>Corson's Auto Supply of Rockland, Maine</u> – owned by Steve Corson (NAPA)

<u>Mustang Unlimited of Manchester, Massachusetts</u> – especially Kevin Gormley)

<u>Central Maine Mustangs of Pittsfield, Maine</u> – owned by Emery Pratt

<u>Pat's Pizza of Maine</u> – owned by Bruce Farnsworth.



Congratulations to **Mae Eischens Worcester** on her retirement. You have spent a lot of years at the Bolduc Correctional Facility trying to improve our services. Your absence is felt throughout the community because you have touched so many lives with your hard working efforts. We are looking forward to your continued visits and walking the dogs. We wish you well in your years to come and in whatever you decide to do with your future. WE MISS YOU MAE!



FARM

We are having great weather for our potato and bean growing season. Between the weather and labor available – it can be the perfect balance for fruition. We planted 30 acres which are now in full blossom. Beans have sprouted over our 25 acres.

These crops are doing very well so far. As it looks right now – we will have an abundance for this season – but the weather could change all of that in a short time. If conditions continue we will have one of the better years we have had in the last few when harvest time comes this fall – thanks to our **Farmer Paul Dow**.





Above: BCF Potatoes Below: BCF Beans





We have added another theme to our gardening project. We have followed the lead of MSP and implemented our own ABC garden at BCF – thanks to **Principal Polly Black** who has graciously shared the ideas for this remarkable attraction. This creates an opportunity for incarcerated prisoners and their children to cultivate relationships by means of common ground. It is a focal point of positive energy and hope. Some of these beauties include Astilbe, Delphinium, Foxglove, Hens & Chickens, Lamb's Ear, Marigold, Potulaca, Sweet William and Zinnia. Some, as you can see, are a perfect match for our garden on the Farm.





-more to come-

We have transformed our flower population all the way around. We have increased our gardens to 14 at this facility. Our gardening program is working great. What used to be sparse for selection is now varied and what use to be dried up or difficult is now in full bloom. The colors are vibrant and well matched for a continuous flow showing cultivation at it's fullest. Both the weather and gardening experience have been very instrumental for our success.

We currently have 13 cows, including 3 calves that were born in May of this year. The playfulness and antics are a sight to see. They are all very healthy and we hope to continue this path.

SOCIAL SERVICES

By Scott McCaffery

We are starting a new program brought to us by **George Izzy**, Executive Director of the New Horizons Academy and the Department of Labor with the assistance of Volunteers of America. This integration focuses on self discovery, personal growth, self assessment and empowerment. These experiences will give knowledge and coping skills to assist in successful employment decisions. This program will have approximately 25 participants with 24 to 14 months remaining on their current release dates. This 4 week program is scheduled to start near the end of September and will have many great presenters coming in to speak.

We are participating in the National Re-Entry Study, also known as the "Multi-Sight Evaluation of the Serious and Violent Offender Reentry Initiative" or SVORI. This evaluation is currently being conducted by Research Triangle Institute of North Carolina and the Urban Institute of Washington, DC for prisoners being released from facilities in 15 states throughout the nation. They feel this is one of the best opportunities to address the challenge of reducing prisoner recidivism. The study will involve 4,000 prisoners who will be released shortly. Prisoners will be interviewed just prior to release then at 3, 9 and 15 months after release. This study will give better understanding of services and other activities that might affect the lives of people leaving correctional facilities

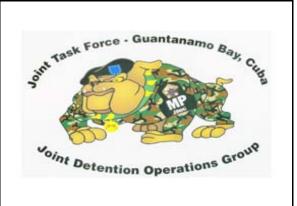
MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER

WELCOME HOME

MCC welcomes home Officer **Steven McKeen** after 14 months deployment in Cuba with the 217th MP Company. Steve was assigned to the Joint Task Force at Guantanamo Bay and stationed at Camp Delta. Steve presented the Correctional Center with an American flag that was flown over Camp Delta and its accompanying certificate. Both are proudly displayed in the lobby at MCC.

Steve has five years of service to the Correctional Center; and while in Cuba received a copy of the Correctional Center's Certificate of Appreciation for that service.





-OVER-

MAINE CORRECTIONAL CENTER continued

STILL SERVING AMERICA

Maine Correctional Center wishes to remember its employees still serving in Iraq: Paul Charland and Aaron Monty, both with the 133rd Engineering Battalion. If you want to send mail, or homemade cookies – here are their respective addresses. Make sure you put the Company in the address!

Sgt. Paul Charland, Company B 133 D, ECB(H), APO AE 09334

SPC Aaron Monty, Company A 133 D, ECB(H), APO AE 09334

PERSONNEL NEWS

Welcome New Correctional Officers:

Matthew Theriault Carey Walsh Salvatore Costanza Calista Kiley Bonnie May Kevin Conger Michael Casey Alfred Carter Michael Steeves

PROMOTIONS

Jon Smith from Officer to Acting Capacity Sergeant

YESTERDAY

Did you know that in the fiscal year 1926 the State Reformatory for Men at Windham produced:

220 Bushels of Apples
31 bushels of pears
187735 pounds of milk
4623 dozen eggs
6630 pounds of cabbage
11080 pounds of potatoes
17039 pounds of squash
6981 pounds of dressed pork, beef, poultry and veal

All of the products raised and consumed by the inmates.

1925-26 also saw the hiring of Elmer Pratt as the Superintendent and Levi LeChance as a mason in charge of the brick plant. Levi's job was to get the brick plant up and running as "Satisfactory progress is being made on the foundation of the new institution building. The inmates have crushed the stone and under the direction of officers have done all the work in connection with the building."



State Reformatory for Men Administration Building and Grounds 1926.

CHARLESTON CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

PERSONNEL

ANNIVERSARIES:

SEPTMBER	YEARS
James Chase	17
Paul Robbins	7
OCTOBER	YEARS
Rick Laliberte	18
Katherine Priest	7

TRANSFERS:

Valerie Norman, JPS from Mountain View is welcomed back to CCF as Correctional Officer.

2 2 2 2 2 2

DOWNEAST CORRECTIONAL FACILITY

We're continuing with the cosmetic changes at DCF. The interest in cleaning up the units and painting the walls has improved the attitude of the Inmates and Staff. Now if you can make a silk purse out of a sow's ear then we're well on our way.

Due to the amount of rain we've had this year our Fire Crews have not been used much. They were called into action with the resent search for a missing girl in Columbia. They were very helpful in doing their best to find any clues that might be considered useful. Their help was warmly welcomed. A comment was made by one of the groups donating food that they pulled in and said, "Could anyone help unload?" Our crews were first in line to volunteer and had the truck unloaded before they could believe it. A big thank you goes out to the crew bosses and crews that helped in this search.

Congratulations go out to **Dave Daniels** for his resent promotion to Captain. He is doing a great job making the new office his. We wish him luck in the future.

With this promotion we will be having a few changes; **Sgt. Kjenstad** will be moving to one of the Administrative Sergeant's positions on day shift. **Sgt Guerra** will be moving to B shift B swing. Our new Sergeant will be taking the B shift A swing.

ANNIVERSARIES:

JULY	YEAR
Sandra Altsmannsberger	19
Jimmy Case	15
Allen Devericks	7
Dennis Dulisse	6
Matthew Mitchell	6
Skip Pennell	24
J.J. Tibbetts	10
AUGUST	YEAR
Mark Caton	19
Valarie Day	19
Jeremy Mason	7

Have a happy summer that wasn't from the Downeast end of the State!

LONG CREEK YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

By Wealthy Jordan

The girls' program is enjoying quilting class that are led by volunteer **Jan Broda** and Special Education Director, **Margo Wright**.

Some exciting things are happening. Two of Jan's friends bought new sewing machines for the unit. I couldn't believe it - I thought we were getting their old ones!! Girls have been making quilts for themselves, friends, family. We plan to make several for newborns at the hospital. More good news is that we received a grant for **Lauren Webster** to return with her multi-media group on girls' issues and Lauren started the group 2 weeks ago. Girls have painted several sections of stockade fence for a pen for them. The carpentry class is going to help get it in the ground, hopefully within the next 2 weeks. Hooray!

"The Day of Caring."

On July 21st, 17 lawyers and 16 staff members from the local law firm of **Pierce Atwood** came to the Long Creek Youth Development Center to assist the residents in building a new running track around the baseball field, painting a mural-style fence, and just shooting the bull. It was a HUGE job and all had a wonderful time while working hard and recreating with each other. The volunteer's from Pierce Atwood were awesome and we look forward to the Pierce Atwood volunteer's coming again.

A B-B-Q lunch was offered and cooked by the residents for the entire facility and its visitors. The Spruce Boys enjoyed playing basket ball and taking part in a cook out. The boys really appreciated the fun day! Even a local band came in on their lunch hour to play free of charge. Superintendent **Rod Bouffard** was quoted in the local newspaper, saying,

Long Creek Youth Development Center continued.

"This is like a gold mine for us. To me this is far more important than any awards we might receive or that kind of thing. This truly is about the kids." **Barry Stoodley** was also in attendance, digging and raking along with the residents. All in all, 170 tons of stone dust was spread onto a new track, the fence was painted, and new friends were made. *LCYDC thanks Ralph Lancaster, Pierce Atwood, Barry Stoodley and all the residents for a fine day of work.*

JPW **Werner Pobatschnig** recently took an open maintenance position here at LCYDC. Also, LCYDC is pleased to announce that **Valerie Lareau** has been hired as our new Food Service Manager.

The Spruce Unit (Boy's Detained School) worked their magic out in the back yard again this year! **Sue Taylor's** Class maintained a garden that provided veggies, herbs, and flowers. The boys were amazed at the great smell of the herbs....Lemon Balm, Oregano, Marjoram and Basil. Ms. Taylor's Class used the herbs to make a huge pasta salad that everyone could enjoy. Ms. Taylor also made some home made garlic pesto for **Dan Fernald** who tells us he's going to cook some fabulous meal for all of us soon.:)

This month we have several new volunteer's joining us. We will have **Dr. Dyment** (who was the MYC Pediatrician some time back) come and spend time teaching a Health Class to the high school class. We will also be having a volunteer, **Sheila Frank**, come to teach the boys Stress Management Techniques (which we could all use!)



LCYDC would also like to welcome **Christopher Hogan** as one of our fine cooks.

We are proud to announce the birth of a new child. **Lorrie Brann**, Administration Secretary, gave birth to **Elisabeth Mercedes Brann** on 8-14-04. She was 21 inches long and weighed in at 8 lbs 12 oz. Congrat's.

MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER

PERSONNEL

ANNIVERSARIES:

SEPTEMBER		#
YEARS		
Kevin Perry	15	
Brian Carle	13	
Kevin Whitmore	7	
Jeffrey Grant	6	
Lynette Dow	5	
OCTOBER		#
<u>YEARS</u>		
Eric Hansen	19	
James Sinclair	14	
William Goodman	11	
Gary Gray	10	
Heidi Hamilton	7	
Shane Tyrrell	6	
Kent Commeau	6	
Marsha Higgins	6	
Graham Pearce	6	
John Simmons	5	
David Lovejoy	5	

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HIRES:

June Allen, Psych Social Worker II
Martin French, Guidance Counselor
Michael Beal, Juvenile Program Worker
John Bennett, Juvenile Program Worker
Hartley Gilbert, Juvenile Program Worker
Cheryl Preble, Juvenile Program Worker
Manuel Silveria, Juvenile Program Worker
Dennis Townsend, Juvenile Program Worker

TRANSFERS:

Carol Guerrette, Senior staff accountant has left MVYD/CCF to transfer to the same position at Bangor mental Health Institute.

MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER CONTINUED

PROMOTIONS:

Congratulations to Kim Partridge, RN as our new Health Services Administrator (HSA) for Correctional Medical Services (CMS). Kim has served as a correctional nurse at both CCF & MVYDC for 6 years. She also deserves recognition on becoming an NCCHC Certified Correctional Health Professional in June. She attended the National Commission on Correctional Health Care in Chicago Illinois and was certified as Certified Correctional Health Professionals (CCHP). A CCHP is one who has shown mastery of national standards and the knowledge expected of leaders working in the field of correctional health care. Certification is awarded to those working in the field of correctional health care who have excellent professional references, and who pass a national self-assessment exam offered by the Commission. CCHP is a symbol of accomplishment and recognition of self-improvement highly regarded by peers, staff and others.

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Johnathan Parker, JPW and wife Tanya on the birth of their new son Logan Daniel born July 15th. Brother Lincoln welcomes Logan also!

Edwina Strout, JPW, and **husband David**, on the birth of their new Baby Girl born August 16th- Little **Ailene Blair** joins **Brother Devon** in making their grandmother a very proud and happy lass, our own **Sheena Lundin,** Chief of Volunteers.

"Hope Out of Honor"

By Jefferson Prestridge

"Our impression was not of a juvenile correctional facility, but rather, a space that nurtures aspirations, finds hope out of honor, and cultivates dignity from our most vulnerable." These written comments came after a site visit from MACED (Maine Advisory Council for Exceptional Children with Disabilities) Facility-wide, integrated services, counseling, cognitive skills, unit

coaches and special education were singled out for praise in the MACED minutes. The visiting team, comprised of special education leaders across the state, is part of a group that serves in an advisory capacity for the Department of Education. Services for special education children in Corrections have been high on their agenda for many years. The special education population is two to three times the public school rate and special ed students tend to be in higher risk classifications and have more trouble completing their programs.

The visitors saw a program at Mountain View where the special education students are fully integrated in all classrooms and special education students cannot be identified from regular education students. Our teachers provide services through a co teaching model right in the classroom in pre-vocational, experiential, constructivist programs.

Special education in Corrections will continue to be high on the agenda of this advisory council, but now they are interested in extending the Mountain View model to other schools.

Well done to teachers Pat Conant and Kelly Asbury, and Director Lori Hasenfus.



MVYDC Special Education Staff - Left to right: Pat Conant, Kelly Asbury, Lori Hasenfus

MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER CONTINUED

HELPING HANDS

By Sheena, Kathy, and Jeff

The MV Helping Hands program has been provided with another wonderful opportunity to give back to our local community. In April of this year, the Piscataquis County Fairgrounds suffered a great loss at the hands of two teenagers, whereby historic buildings were destroyed by fire, and fairground supporters lost irreplaceable equipment.

It was only fitting that "Helping Hands" of MV reach out to help. Helping Hands so far has completed several projects to help restore the fairgrounds ranging from rebuilding sheep pens, building a new ticket booth, grass cutting and painting, with several other projects to follow and reach completion prior to the opening of the Piscataquis County Fair.

Excerpts of letter submitted by Dave Crowley, PbS Primary Consultant, in corroboration with David Werda, PbS Project Coordinator. August 5, 2004



MAINE YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER FIP SITE VISITS

David Werda and I visited the Mountain View and Long Creek Youth Development Centers on Tuesday, July 27, 2004 and Wednesday, July 28, 2004. On Thursday, July 29, 2004, we had the opportunity to meet with some of the Maine Juvenile Correctional leadership staff. The staff meeting included Associate Commissioner Barry Stoodley, PbS State Coordinator Lars Olsen, Mountain View Youth Development Center representatives: Superintendent Eric Hanson, PbS Site Coordinator Jeff Morin and Boyd Kronholm; and Long Creek Youth Development Center representatives: Superintendent Rod Bouffard and PbS Site Coordinator Bob Lancaster.

The purpose of visiting each facility was to participate in their Facility Improvement Planning (FIP) team meetings and to tour each facility during the two days in order to gain a better understanding and appreciation for the success achieved on the PbS data results. We discussed the success achieved in many of the Critical Outcome Measure areas within the PbS Site Report particularly with regard to injuries, assaults, the use of physical and mechanical restraints overall, and the short duration of isolation/room confinement (Safety 2, 3, 4, 5, 10, 11, 12 and Order 3, 4, 8, 9, 10, 11) - measures that usually receive the utmost attention whenever an outside investigation or review is required. In these measures the two facilities have attained and/or have maintained much to be proud of.

A desire for improvement in aftercare and community services was discussed at each facility as well. Efforts to enhance coordination and collaboration with probation officials were underway. The facilities are making concerted attempts to reach out to recently released youths in order to provide additional support by meeting with youths and their families out in the community or allowing youths to return to the facility for services. Also, increased work with judges with assistance from NJDA has paid off with a lowered detention population at both facilities.

The tours of each facility were equally impressive and they supported and reflected the positive impetus we found at both facility meetings. We each interviewed over forty (40) youths and a similar number of staff. We observed mostly smiling faces throughout both facilities among both groups of staff and youths. Youths were proud to discuss some of their achievements, the value of educational and vocational programs as well as their progress in learning to make better choices. There was little complaint about the food. However, they did express that time passed slower after school and on weekends.

OVER

MOUNTAIN VIEW YOUTH DEVELOPMENT CENTER CONTINUED

There was healthy interaction and much respect exhibited between staff and youths throughout both tours. Staff was eager to discuss their roles. Some veteran staff at both facilities was pleased to discuss how the atmosphere had improved markedly and that their jobs had become far more enjoyable. Many staff asked if youths could join in on many of these informal discussions to further explain and give their points of view on whatever subject was being discussed.

We observed many of the classes in operation, physical education team alternative programs, vocational programs and projects, culinary arts, youth maintenance crews as well as youth/staff kitchen and food services joint work details. It was obvious that youths are involved participants and their welfare and growth are the primary concerns at both facilities.

Finally, we praised the leadership that we observed as well as the hospitality and openness extended to us at both facilities by Superintendents Eric Hanson and Rod Bouffard along with their staff, particularly Site Coordinators, Jeff Morin, Boyd Kronholm and Bob Lancaster. We also mentioned the diligence and attention to data detail by Nancy Marsh at Long Creek. We cited the compelling, positive impressions we gleaned.

We also sincerely thanked Lars Olsen for doing a great job in coordinating the visit itself and for leading the PbS project effectively, and we applauded Barry Stoodley for his time, energy and commitment toward PbS and for inspiring many other youth-centered programs that have placed Maine Youth Corrections in such a prominent position.



ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 1

Time to say good-bye

Retirement beckoned and we had to bid fond farewell to Charles (Chuck) Strandberg as he left state service officially on July 23rd. Chuck's career in Corrections spanned more than 30 years beginning in March of 1974 at MCC as a Correctional Officer. On April 25, 1977, he moved from MCC to Probation and assumed supervision of an area that ranged from Baldwin to Sweden and a whole lot of places in between. Before we let Chuck depart, however, we all gathered in our conference room on July 16th for a bit of a send off. We shared pizza, laughs and memories and presented Chuck with a gift certificate to the Fore Street Restaurant in Portland. Will we miss him in the days to come? You bet! We'll miss his unique laid back humor, his team player attitude and the camaraderie shared through the years. Chuck left knowing that our best wishes for a long, happy and healthy retirement went with him.



(Chuck Strandberg)

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 1 continued

Moving around

With the retirement of **Chuck Strandberg**, PPO **Dave Edwards** has relinquished his Sex Offender caseload and taken over supervision of Chuck's area of Baldwin, Bridgton, Brownfield, Denmark, Fryeburg, Harrison, Hiram, Kezar Falls, Lovell, Porter, Sebago, Stowe and Sweden. Moving from the Biddeford Office to the Portland office will be **Chris Arbour** who will become our new Sex Offender Specialist in Cumberland County replacing Dave Edwards in that capacity.

NEW HIRES

We're welcoming two new probation officers to our staff effective September 13th. **Jennine Meserve** presently employed as a Special Investigator for the Massachusetts Department of Social Services will come on board and take over the York County caseload formerly supervised by **Chris Arbour**. Jennine has a BA Degree in Psychology from Univ. of Mass and a Masters Degree in Human Services from Springfield College.

Our second new face belongs to **Michael Lyon** who will be filling the position of Cumberland County Court Officer. Michael holds a BA Degree in Criminal Justice from the State University of New York and has been employed since 2002 by the Department of Human Services. For three years prior to that, Michael made several visits to our office as a Process Server for Portland Police Department.

Both of these individuals bring with them a wealth on experience and field training and will truly be assets to the department in the years to come.

We're glad to have you, Jennine and Michael. Welcome to Region One!

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 4

PPO Paul Kelly, wife Margo, and two of their children have just made reservations to fly to California in order to visit a friend in Oakland for 5 days. They leave August 18th and return August 24th. Two days after they return, their eldest daughter, Erin, flies to Alaska to attend a semester of her junior year at the University of Alaska at Fairbanks. Their youngest daughter, Meghan, will be leaving for Portland, where she'll be attending her sophomore year at USM. Their son, Paul-Matthew, is unable to go because he's on active duty with the U.S. Army in Germany.

Scott Lewis was recently home on a 15-day leave from Iraq and popped in to see everyone at the Region 4A staff meeting!! He looks great and can't wait to be home for good, which, he hopes, is in March of 2005. We're looking forward to having him back, too!!!

Sam Payson has come on board as a Probation Officer in the Regional Office. He comes to us from the Searsport Police Department and replaces Michael Pike, who has moved on to Region 3 Adults. Welcome aboard, Sam!! As they say, "You don't have to be crazy to work here, but it sure helps!"

PPO's Candice Kiefer and Bill Goodwin recently coordinated with the Hancock Sheriff's Department and the Open Door Recovery Centre to implement a 12-week substance abuse treatment program within the Hancock County Jail. Sheriff William Clark agreed to fund the entire program expenses from money in his community corrections budget. Hancock County Jail is the first community jail statewide to offer an intensive treatment program. After the offender's release, they transition to the Open Door out-patient program for aftercare. They had their first graduate of the program last month. Since implementation, the program is operating to full capacity. Bill and Candice are gettin' things done in Hancock County!!!!

ADULT COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 4 continued



PPO **Greg Locsin** is competing in a bike race called the Confederation Trail Open, their first race on the first completed section of the Trans-Canada Trail. Check out www.

Confederationtrailopen.com for details. He is racing solo in the recreational class, and his goal is to finish and leave with a T-shirt. Next year he hopes to do a relay team effort with family members. He's in week 3 of a 10-week training regimen which calls for up to 12 hours per week of trail and/or road bike riding. He's purchased two more bikes, racing licenses and entry fees, many gallons of gas and meals while checking out the trail and setting up logistics for lodging/ transport during the race.

UPDATE: He advised yesterday the race has been cancelled, but he's still going to do the ride with a group of stubborn cyclists who are organizing an unofficial race. He advises, "No sense dropping the ball now! I guess I'll be leaner and meaner next year and will have one run under my belt. I still want the damn' T-shirt!" Good luck, Greg!!!



Alexis Legassie, daughter of PPO Eric Legassie, along with 2 friends, recently raised \$152.35 with their lemonade stand with all proceeds donated to the Central Aroostook Humane Society. She got the idea

from a recent segment of "The Oprah Winfrey Show" featuring a girl who had a lemonade stand to raise money for cancer research. Alexis thought that was a great idea, except, "I decided to help the animals". Many people stopped and just made donations and didn't even ask for a drink, the kids said. She and the 2 friends have all adopted pets from the Central Aroostook and Houlton Humane Societies, so they knew the animal shelters

are always in need of supplies. The shelter was so grateful, they let Alexis take home a kitten she fell in love with when she and the boys took the money in. Great work, Alexis!!!!

That's what's goin' on in Region IV Adults!!
Until next time . . . keep those tidbits coming!!!

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 1

Summer is here, we think, although the weather cannot prove this to be true. We had a nice staff meeting in July at **Rick** and **Kelli**'s lovely camp on the lake, which we shared with Region II. As usual, Rick and Kelli's hospitality was amazing and all had fun and enjoyed great food.

We are pleased to welcome **Chris Libby** to our Region as of August 2nd. He leaves Region II to join us and we look forward to his being a part of our team. He will be covering the caseload that **Roy Curtis** formerly covered.

We are interviewing candidates for the position of JCCO in the Yarmouth, Cumberland area, which would alleviate a double caseload for **David Clock.** He has been doing double duty for some time now.

We have another joint staff meeting on the 20th of August in Gorham with Region II.

Hopefully in the next issue I will be able to announce our new employee and share more information.

We are looking forward to our upcoming retreat in the fall as it gives all DOC a chance to meet new hires and renew friendships with other employees.

JUVENILE COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS Region 4

We are all having a fun and productive summer here in Reg. IV. As you know, summertime means vacation time in Maine

Donna and Ron Miles, along with their children and grandchildren had their annual family vacation on Sebago Lake. Donna reports a tornado went through Naples, Maine while they were at the lake! The good news is the tornado was 6 miles from their camp site and no one was hurt. It seems the storm was a very intense moment for all involved. Speaking of intense moments, Galan and Jen Williamson took their children Lauren, Galen Jr. and Levi to the Bangor State Fair. It seems they ran into two girls who were in a physical altercation in the middle of the fairgoers. Galen decided their behavior was unsafe, not only for the girls, but for the others in the area. Galen took a hold of one of the girls and with the aide of others, managed to break up the fight. His children had great fun on the rides and playing the games. When they were asked what they remembered most about the fair, they said "the fight "!

Roxann and Larry Austin hosted another staff meeting at their beautiful country home in Orrington. Larry continues to impress us all with his creative carpentry skills. He built a new pool bar and a fence that surrounds the pool area. Along with his talent for building, he's a great cook too! The burgers and ribs were delicious! Roxann walked us through her beautiful flower gardens. They have tomato plants that are 5 ft. tall! We all received a DOC jacket for employee's appreciation day. Roxann and Larry also hosted a "double" 40th birthday party for Kelly Bickmore and Judy Fortin. Kelly is our liaison between BDS and DOC. Judy works for BDS as well. I was unable to attend as I was at my father's 84th birthday in Mass. I understand everyone had a great time, especially Kelly and Judy.

Jeff Leonard, our Wings case manager, is on a trip to Washington DC with his father. We're all waiting for a full report, especially being in D.C. in the "times" we are in these days.

My husband Dick, and I spent a week at our camp on Great East Lake, in Acton, Maine. We are lucky enough to have the camp right on the water. We kayaked and boated every day. I found some high bush blueberries that I picked from my kayak. I made my first blueberry pie! Everyone who dared to try a piece said it was great! :). I'm not sure if they were just being kind, but it looked good.

We have had some of our clients give charity donations as a sole sanction. Kids with drug related charges seem to like the idea of choosing the Juvenile Drug Court as their charity. The money goes towards rewarding the kids in drug court when they accomplish various conditions or complete phases. That seems to be working out good for the kids as well as Day I.

Chris Ross and Shawn Nelson have been generously sharing their home grown vegetables with all of us this summer. I don't know if it's the fertilizer they use or what, but they have the best tasting veggies I've ever had. (I think their secret is the good old fashioned cow manure, straight from the farm!)

We have a new vendor for our electronic monitoring. Lindsay Hearne flew to Maine from Rancho Santa Margarita, California, to train us on the new equipment. Lindsay went to the Presque Isle office first, to train Gary Sanfacon, Julie Leavitt, Kelly Lizotte and Bill Francis. She traveled on down to Bangor to train the rest of us in Penobscot, Hancock, Washington and Piscataquis. Tom Pailes is our resident expert, who most of us turn to when we need electronic monitoring for a juvenile.

Dave Barrett and **Galen Williamson** have been interviewing potential JCCO's to fill the vacant position in Washington/Hancock Counties. **Mary Jones** and **Roxann Austin**, who have been covering two caseloads, welcome this news.

Hopefully, by the time I write the next DOC TALK, I will be introducing you to our newest member of Reg. IV.

That's the latest news from Reg. IV. Hopefully, everyone reading this article is also enjoying your summer, which is coming to an end way toooooooo fast for me. Kids start school in two weeks!!!! (I'm still waiting for Spring..... Did we have one this year?)