



correctional Newsfront

Governor Corbett Signs Justice Reinvestment Bill

Governor Tom Corbett in October signed House Bill 135, the second phase of the Justice Reinvestment Initiative that will redirect funds from corrections to communities.

Corbett also signed into law several other pieces of legislation, all related to Pennsylvania's criminal justice system.

"These reforms are all part of a philosophy that says justice, in order to work, must be administered with firmness, compassion and common sense," Corbett said. "We need to be smarter, more adaptable and more determined to solve crime and prevent crime."



Surrounding Governor Corbett as he signs HB 135 into law are, front row, left to right: Corrections Secretary John Wetzel and Senator Stewart Greenleaf. Back row, left to right: Sen. Daylin Leach, Rep. Glen Grell, Rep. John Sabatina, PA Board of Probation and Parole Chairman Michael Potteiger and Sen. John Rafferty.

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Accompanied by Secretary of Corrections John Wetzel, several members of the General Assembly and others who sponsored or advocated for the legislation, Corbett signed the bills into law at Harrisburg Area Community College.

Wetzel, along with the lawmakers, Sens. Stewart Greenleaf (R-Bucks), Dominic Pileggi (R-Chester), Daylin Leach (D-Delaware), as well as Reps. Ron Marsico (R-Dauphin), Thomas Caltagirone (D-Berks) and Glen Grell

Secretary Wetzel Talks About...

Managing Security Threat Groups

We have heard and noted employees' concerns about a safe environment.

Our department will not sit idly by while the security threat groups cause problems in our facilities.

As a result and as a first step toward our goal of eliminating security threat groups in our system, a Security Threat Group Management Unit has been opened at SCI Greene.

The 96-bed unit houses inmates from throughout the system who have poor prison adjustment, incurred numerous misconducts and/or have known gang affiliations. This unit provides specific phases through which each offender must progress in order to earn increased privileges and services. Inmates begin at Phase 5, being the most restrictive, and work toward

Phase 1. Each phase lasts a minimum of three months. While this is a first step in this area, we encourage staff to remain vigilant.

We also want to thank SCI Greene Superintendent Lou Folino and his staff for stepping up to break this new ground for the department.



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"Perfection is not attainable, but if we chase perfection, we can catch excellence."
~ Vince Lombardi

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(R-Cumberland), were all outspoken advocates of Justice Reinvestment.

In January, Corbett established a working group, including cabinet members, lawmakers from all four legislative caucuses and local criminal justice leaders. With support from the Council of State Governments, the Pew Center on the States and the Department of Justice, the group studied Pennsylvania's current judicial system and recommended ways to make it more efficient and effective.

Once implemented, funds generated from savings in the state prison system can then be redirected back to local communities to be used for law enforcement, probation, parole and victims' services.

Also attending today's event with the governor were cadets from the 102nd class of HACC's Municipal Police Academy. Graduates of the academy earn certification to work for Pennsylvania's municipal police departments.

In addition to the Justice Reinvestment Initiative, Corbett also signed the following legislative bills that passed this term:

House Bill 815 – This legislation amends the crimes code to broaden penalties, further providing for the prosecution of the sexual abuse of children and providing for the offense of transmission of sexually explicit images by a minor, also known as sexting.

House Bill 898 – Restores a five-year mandatory minimum sentence for those convicted of making repeat straw purchases of firearms. Earlier this year in Montgomery County, Plymouth Township Police Officer Brad Fox was shot and killed by a man who purchased an illegally acquired gun.

House Bill 1121 – Provides sentencing enhancements for crimes of violence or drug dealing committed in association with a criminal gang.

House Bill 2400 – This updates Pennsylvania's wiretap law, to reflect new technology and further provide for definitions of the law, as well as the possession, sale, and distribution of devices.



Secretary Wetzel speaks about the Justice Reinvestment Initiative process in Pennsylvania and how this legislation now sets the framework for the DOC to focus on its main mission of reducing crime while working to become the best DOC in the nation.

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Superintendent Changes Announced

Changes to the superintendents of SCIs Forest and Pittsburgh were announced in October.

Effective Sept. 30, Daniel Burns was named superintendent of SCI Forest, and Mark Capozza was named superintendent of SCI Pittsburgh effective Oct. 1.

Burns

"Dan has an extensive corrections career," Wetzol said. "He has proven himself to be a 'go to' corrections professional. He has served as superintendent at SCI Pittsburgh and will make the transition to SCI Forest smoothly. Burns understands the importance of providing safety for staff, inmates and the public."

Burns began his corrections career as a corrections officer at SCI Graterford in 1989. He rose through the ranks at SCI Greene where he was promoted to lieutenant, also serving as intelligence captain and major of unit management.

In 2005, he transferred to SCI Fayette as major of the guard/security and later, deputy superintendent for facility management. In 2008, he transferred to SCI Laurel Highlands in the same capacity. For nearly a year, until 2011, he served as the prison's acting superintendent.

In February 2011, he was assigned as interim warden at the Allegheny County Prison until June of that year, when he was appointed superintendent at SCI Pittsburgh.

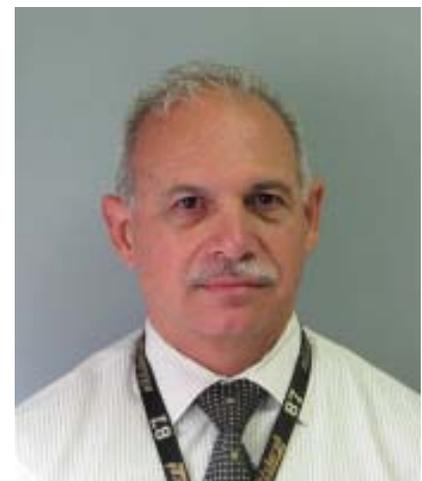
As superintendent of SCI Forest, Burns will be responsible for more than 600 staff and approximately 2,300 adult male offenders.

Burns is a member of the American Correctional Association and the Pennsylvania Prison Wardens Association.

Capozza

"Mark's experience in working in the parole system in California coupled with his ability to relate with staff make him the perfect leader to continue to change the mission at SCI Pittsburgh to one that focuses on delivering evidence based treatment to short term offenders from the western region of the state," Wetzol said.

Capozza began his corrections career in 1986 with the California Department of Corrections and Rehabilitation. He has varied experience including as youth correctional officer and counselor as well as parole agent. In 1998, he moved to



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Pennsylvania and worked at a community-based drug and alcohol treatment facility.

Later in 1998, Capozza began employment with the Department of Corrections as a Unit Manager. He was promoted to Classification and Program Manager in 2004 and then Major for Unit Management in 2006. He last served as Deputy Superintendent. Capozza held all these positions at SCI Greene.

As superintendent at SCI Pittsburgh, Capozza will be responsible for approximately 550 staff and more than 1,850 adult male offenders.

Capozza is a veteran of the U.S. Coast Guard Reserve. He graduated with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice and master's degree in social work from California State University.

Lamas to Supervise Two State Prisons at Once



Earlier this year, Corrections Secretary John Wetzel announced that Marirosa Lamas, superintendent of the State Correctional Institution at Rockview, Centre County, also will oversee operation of SCI Benner Township, which is presently under construction on the grounds of SCI Rockview.

Wetzel said the appointment of one individual to oversee two neighboring state prisons is an effort by Department of Corrections officials to reduce administrative costs while maintaining efficiency in operations.

"This appointment makes sense when you have two prisons so close to each other," Wetzel said. "Plans already were underway to share like resources, such as human resources, business office and warehouse functions. Having one 'campus director,' as the position will be called, continues our efforts to

be good stewards of taxpayer money."

With respect to Lamas, Wetzel said, "Marirosa's experience, her enthusiasm and her commitment to the field of corrections will serve her well as she now takes on the challenge of operating two state prisons," Secretary Wetzel said. "She is a very strong individual who is extremely capable of handling this combined responsibility."

"I am truly humbled and privileged to take on this assignment," Lamas said. "I look forward to continuing to be stewards of the Commonwealth's resources and always maintaining the integrity of our correctional facilities."

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Additional Key Staff Movements

Robert Marsh, deputy superintendent at SCI Rockview was appointed in August as licensed psychology director for the DOC. Marsh began his career as a psychological services associate at SCI Camp Hill in 1999. He previously served the DOC as a psychological services specialist, unit manager, classification program manager and most recently as deputy superintendent at Rockview. Marsh earned a bachelor of arts degree in psychology, a master of arts degree in community-clinical psychology, a master of science degree in clinical psychology and a doctorate of psychology in clinical psychology.



Also in August, Tammy Ferguson, major/chief of the Central Office Security Division, was appointed deputy superintendent at SCI Rockview. She began her career as a corrections officer at SCI Smithfield in 1995, where she progressed through the ranks to the position of captain. She became inspection captain for the DOC's Central Region in 2009 and promoted to chief of security in 2010. Ferguson previously served in the Air National Guard and the United States Air Force.

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Located on the grounds of SCI Rockview, once both prisons are operational they will have a combined inmate population of nearly 4,500 inmates and nearly 1,000 employees.

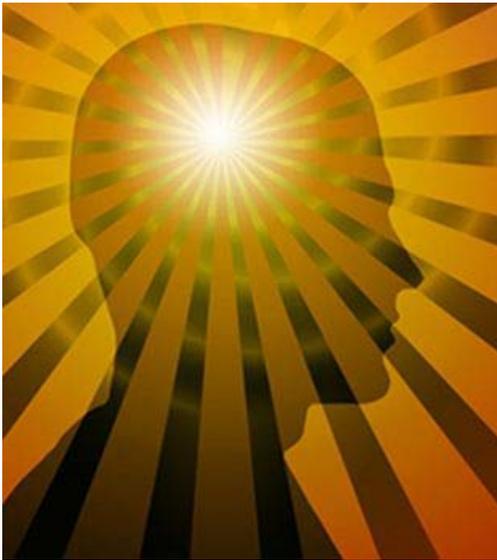
Lamas began her corrections career in 1990 as a counselor at SCI Camp Hill. While still working at the prison, she also served as unit manager. In 2004, she served as staff assistant to the regional deputy secretary at the department's headquarters. In 2005, she was named deputy superintendent for centralized services at SCI Frackville. The following year, she assumed the same duties at SCI Rockview. Lamas was appointed as superintendent at SCI Muncy in 2008. She was named superintendent at SCI Rockview in March 2010.

A native of Puerto Rico, Lamas is a professionally certified and trained hostage negotiator. She earned a bachelor's degree in administration of justice from The Pennsylvania State University. She also holds a master's degree in administration of justice from Shippensburg University.

Lamas is a member of the Pennsylvania Prison Warden's Association and the American Correctional Association.

A Psychological Change

By Robert Marsh, DOC Licensed Psychology Director



The future is now for the Psychology Department in the Bureau of Health Care Services.

As all of us know from working in the institutions, the numbers of offenders with mental illness, special needs and intellectual deficiencies continues to grow. Many reasons have been offered for this increase. The quickest and simplest explanation is that as state hospitals closed their doors and reduced their census the PA DOC's numbers steadily climbed — a term known as “trans-institutionalization.” Currently, the PA DOC has 10,325 offenders carried on what is currently referred to as the active mental health (MH) roster. More than 9,300 are stability level C roster inmates, which means they are active on the MH roster, and 944 are stability level D inmates on the active MH/psychiatric review team roster.

These offenders require special attention and manifest special needs that we are not always trained or accustomed to providing. This is not an issue related solely to corrections. Many communities have enacted crisis intervention teams (CITs), or police officers specially trained to deal with individuals suffering from mental illness on the front lines and at the lowest possible level. Sometimes this training makes the difference between de-escalating a situation and arresting an individual or worse — a tragic outcome based on lack of training or misunderstanding. The DOC is in the midst of creating CIT for corrections staff to better train staff for dealing with these types of offenders and ultimately keeping staff safe.

In an effort to better manage our resources from a psychological perspective, reorganization is required. The reorganization will divide the state into catchment areas for the east, central, west and specialized institutions. A regional licensed psychologist manager will be responsible for the mental health care from assessment, treatment and re-entry for each catchment area. This will better streamline services and permit staff to be out in the field more frequently to assist with issues related to this population requiring specialized treatment.

Stay tuned, as in the future there will more than likely be changes in policy in regard to psychology services to better serve the mentally ill population and keep staff and inmates alike safe. We are a national leader in the provider of mental and behavioral health care services, but there is always room for constant re-evaluation and improvement.

Reorganizing State-County Contracted Bed Space

Since 2009 department officials have had agreements with a number of Pennsylvania county prisons to house state inmates. Each county had a separate agreement with the DOC, and the cost per inmate ranged from \$40 to \$50 per inmate per day. As a result of implementation of Act 122 of 2012, the DOC is now in the process of reevaluating its use of county prison bed space.

In October, Corrections Secretary John Wetzel sent letters to all county administrators and county prison wardens informing them of the DOC's decision to remove all state sentenced inmates from county prisons. At the time of the notification, 554 inmates were being housed at 13 county prisons.

The initial need in 2009 to house state inmates in county prisons was due to overcrowding. However, the DOC has expanded its capacity and experienced a population stabilization. In addition, Act 122 allows the DOC to work with the PA Board of Probation and Parole to house technical parole violators in county prisons rather than in state prisons. As a result, while the DOC will remove state inmates from county prisons, the DOC is now seeking participation from counties that are interested in housing technical parole violators.

DOC officials are now waiting to hear back from those counties that are interested in housing technical parole violators. The DOC will provide training in the required programming at no cost to the counties.

Where are the State's Parole Violator Centers?

In addition to housing technical parole violators at county prisons, the DOC and Parole Board can place technical parole violators in community correction centers or contract facilities located regionally across the state.

Presently, female parole violators are divided into two regions -- east and west -- with facilities located at Kintock Erie in Philadelphia for those located in the eastern and central part of the state; and Gateway Sheffield, for those from the western part of the state. Gateway Sheffield is scheduled to begin housing female parole violators in November.

Male parole violators are housed at Coleman Hall in Philadelphia; Wernersville CCC in Reading; and Progress CCC, Renewal and Gateway Erie for those from the western part of the state.

Improved Inspection Process

The Office of County Inspections and Services is responsible for maintaining a statewide program of independent field inspections of all county prisons. A minimum of every 12 months and a maximum of every 24 months, each county prison receives an inspection. Inspections determine prison compliance with controlling Commonwealth statutes and regulations. The office employs three inspectors who are responsible for inspecting 62 county facilities.

A major change in how the inspection is conducted was implemented earlier in 2012. To maintain objectivity and ensure every county prison meets the same standards, the regulations contained in Title 37, "Minimum Operating Standards for County Prisons and Jails," have been broken down to allow for more thorough documentation and implementation. The concept was presented by Director Kay Kishbaugh to the attending county prison wardens and commissioners at the spring County | State Liaison Meeting. Kishbaugh introduced the "Inspection in a Box" concept. The regulations are broken down incrementally to reflect every aspect of the 48 essential (mandatory) requirements and the 93 non-essential requirements. Essential requirements directly affect the safety and security of the facility and could adversely impact staff, offenders and/or the public. These regulations merit a citation when not compliant. Non-essential regulations merit a deficiency when not compliant.

Each regulation is broken down and requires each county prison to provide the appropriate policy and procedure to meet the regulation. They must also provide support documentation that proves their practice. Each regulation is self-contained in its own folder and stands alone. This practice allows for improvement in policy and protocol and encourages staff to be more engaged in the process. The process no longer allows for a pass/fail option. Each jail receives a certificate signed by Corrections Secretary John Wetzel and includes their grade on compliance for both essential and non-essential regulations. Jails fortunate to receive 100 percent compliance in both categories are only inspected every other year. Jails receiving less than 100 percent in either category will be audited annually.

To support the change in the inspection process, the Office of County Inspections and Services conducted training for the counties to ensure everyone begins reviewing their current protocol and making any necessary changes. Training was well received and was conducted for a group of 40 county corrections staff in August. Training evaluations show that staff approves of the changes and feel the information being provided is beneficial. Kishbaugh also created a PowerPoint presentation for the counties so they have a tool for training all staff at their jails on the new process. This local training will enhance their participation and increase their understanding of the process and how it benefits them individually.

The improvements to the process are designed to promote more awareness of the requirements of Title 37, standardize processes, promote better policy writing and implementation and promote professionalism. The Office of County Inspections and Services is committed to providing technical services and training to any requesting county prison to ensure their success and help them achieve a high level of compliance.

Former DOC Secretary Receives “Distinguished Achievement” Award

Pennsylvania State University Professor of Practice and former Corrections Secretary Jeffrey A. Beard, Ph.D., was presented in August with the Distinguished Achievement Award in Evidence-Based Policy from the Center for Evidence-Based Crime Policy (CEBCP) in Fairfax, Va.

Several Pennsylvania DOC employees who had the opportunity to work with Beard attended the ceremony in a show of support of his efforts, which led the DOC many years ago to be evidence-based with respect to developing policies.

“We were pleased to cheer on Jeff,” said current Corrections Secretary John Wetzel. “Many years ago he put the DOC on the path of evidence-based research, making our decisions sound and based on statistical fact rather than knee-jerk reactions to situations.”

The award was established by CEBCP in 2010 to recognize outstanding achievements and contributions by individuals in academia, practice or the policy arena who are committed to a leadership role in advancing the use of scientific research evidence in decisions about crime and justice policies. This includes notable efforts in connecting criminology, law and society researchers with criminal justice institutions or advancing scientific research more generally in crime and justice.

The CEBCP, which is housed within the Department of Criminology, Law and Society at George Mason University, seeks to make scientific research a key component in decisions about crime and justice policies. It carries out its mission by advancing rigorous studies in criminal justice and criminology through research-practice collaborations and proactively serving as an informational translational link to practitioners and the policy community.

Beard retired as DOC secretary in August 2010 after serving more than 38 years with the state prison system.



DOC Pilots Special Housing Unit for Former Military Veterans

By William Woods, Deputy Superintendent for Centralized Services, SCI Pittsburgh

SCI Pittsburgh has made strides in developing a Veteran's Service Unit for inmates who are sentenced to the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections. This is an important part of the mission of the DOC and its goal to become the best at re-entry services for inmates in the nation.

Soldiers are trained to be tough and to work through any pain. Veterans gave their all in order to serve their country. They exemplified bravery and strength in high-stress situations. Oftentimes, veterans have gone through traumatic experiences that can lead to disorders such as post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) or substance addiction.

The National Center for Post-Traumatic Stress Disorder has released data which indicates that PTSD and alcohol problems often co-occur. This may be news to the medical community, but military veterans already know this.

PTSD is a medical condition that is treatable. Unfortunately, without treatment resources, many veterans turn to alcohol or drugs as a means of self-medication. PTSD begins as a normal reaction to an abnormal stress. It is normal to feel frightened, anxious, jumpy, emotional and fearful during a traumatic incident. When those feelings continue on for months or years, however, it can be impossible to live a healthy, meaningful life. PTSD sufferers may turn to alcohol or drug abuse to try and feel better, but substance abuse then becomes a problem on its own.

Veterans and soldiers are often hesitant to seek help for mental health and substance abuse problems. They fear these problems will become part of their permanent record and may affect future promotions. Others seek treatment outside of military resources and face a different set of challenges, as veterans and their families must look far and wide to find counselors that understand and respect the unique military experience. This issue becomes even worse for veterans who become part of the legal system and are sentenced to the state prison system.

Since October 2001, more than two million US troops have been deployed to Afghanistan and Iraq with many serving several times. With so many soldiers experiencing trauma, the need for treatment and treatment research has increased.

According to current population reports, the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections presently houses 2,766 inmates that are identified as veterans of the Armed Forces. This number may change as a process to better identify these veterans is developed. SCI Pittsburgh has been chosen to open a Veteran's Service Unit (VSU) to facilitate effective treatment for this specific group of offenders. These units will help these same inmates re-enter into society in a more effective and efficient manner than is currently in place.

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Prison Employees' Children Receive Correctional Scholarships

The following Department of Corrections employees and their spouses are the proud parents of college students who recently received scholarships from the Association of State Correctional Administrators:

Raymond and Maribeth Mrozek, parents of Christine Mrozek. Raymond has been a corrections plumbing trade instructor at SCI Coal Township for 14 years. Christine is attending Elizabethtown College majoring in biology pre-medicine and minoring in Spanish and studio art. Her essay highlighted how the scholarship would help her to afford a high-quality education and help her to reach her goal of becoming a reconstructive surgeon. Christine was presented with a \$1,000 scholarship.



The brother and parents of scholarship recipient Christine Mrozek pose with Corrections Secretary John Wetzel and SCI Coal Township Superintendent David Varano.

Albert and Brenda Broyan, parents of Channing Broyan. Albert has been a corrections officer at SCI Graterford since 2007. Channing, who also received a \$1,000 scholarship in 2011, attends the University of Pittsburgh for her master's to become a physician's assistant. Channing was the recipient of a \$500 renewal grant.

Mark and Susan Nicholson, parents of Chad Nicholson. Mark has been a corrections officer at SCI Pine Grove for 12 years. Chad attends Robert Morris College where he majors in engineering. A recipient of a \$1,000 scholarship in 2011, this year Chad received a renewal grant of \$500.

Susan M. Hunter was the former chief of the prisons division of the National Institute of Corrections. She died in 2003. According to ASCA, Hunter was a tremendous influence in the field of corrections. Scholarships are awarded in the amount of \$1,000 for undergraduate studies and \$1,500 for graduate studies. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be the son or daughter of a corrections employee (full-time, retired or deceased) within an ASCA-member department of corrections (including the federal Bureau of Prisons). The student must be enrolled full-time in an accredited two- or four-year college or university or an accredited graduate program.

Incoming first-time freshmen must have a minimum high school GPA of 3.0. Enrolled full-time students must have a minimum college GPA of 3.0. Graduate students' field of study must be corrections/criminal justice.

Motorcycle Club Donates to Staff in Need



From left to right: Major Dang, Deputy Superintendent Michael Clark, Officer Gillum, Sgt. Phillips, Officer Mayo, Sgt. Mielnik, Officer Weigel and Deputy Superintendent Joyce Wilkes.

SCI Cambridge Springs' PRIDE motorcycle club is a non-profit organization that raises funds for correctional staff that are in need. Earlier this year they donated to several employees -- one whose three-year-old daughter had a brain tumor and one officer who recently suffered a house fire.

State prisons across the commonwealth have similar PRIDE clubs whose mission it is to assist their fellow corrections employees.

Assisting Other State DOCs with Mentoring Initiatives

In August, three PA DOC employees visited the New York Corrections and Community Supervisions Training Academy in Albany, NY, to help that state implement a mentoring program.

SCI Chester Superintendent John Thomas, along with SCI Forest Unit Manager Erin Ireland and SCI Cresson Drug and Alcohol Treatment Specialist Christy Richers-Bejmovicz shared their knowledge and expertise with operating a successful employee mentoring program in Pennsylvania for the past 10 years.



And the Emmy Goes To...

WOED-TV, a public broadcasting station, spent some time at SCI Cresson about a year ago in order to gather footage of parts of the facility and to allow a former resident to provide his video account of life at the former TB sanitorium.

In September, the program, "Cresson: Remembering Life at the San," won an Emmy for Outstanding Historical/Cultural Program.

Cresson's "Project Charity Booth"

In September, the prison's Morale Committee and Employees Association held a charity event where proceeds benefitted the Correctional Peace Officer Foundation and the American Cancer Society. Staff raised \$363 and \$490, respectively, for the organization. Funds were raised by employees paying to dunk their prison administrators in a dunk booth.

Kudos to Officers & FERT Team!

Earlier this year SCI Graterford Deputy Superintendent for Facilities Management Jay Lane issued a commendation to the prison's fire emergency response team members and officers working the 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. shift on June 27.

These individuals, along with local fire departments and EMS, responded to a fire in the prison's Correctional Industries shoe shop. The fire was the result of a glue machine being left on and overheating. The shoe shop was heavily damaged, but the fire was contained and extinguished without serious injuries to staff or inmates.

"The actions taken on this particular day prevented a major fire from erupting in a crucial area of the institution," Lane said. "I want to acknowledge all staff involved for a great response during this emergency."

Lane said that the local fire department was very impressed with the prison's incident command system, and they specifically applauded Capt. Williams for her attentiveness during this incident.

Giving at Greene

Earlier this year, employees from SCI Greene participated in a number of events that resulted in donations to a number of worthy causes. Such as:

- The 6th Annual Tim Seibel Memorial "Hot Shot" Challenge, where 28 participants competed in a timed free throw and three-point competition. They raised more than \$1,200 for the American Heart Association.

Called Upon to Search for Missing Child

On Sept. 20, 2012, at 3:20 p.m., the Quehanna Boot Camp (QBC) administration was notified that a three-year-old child had wandered away from a nearby camp in the Quehanna Wild Area.

Five staff members responded to the site immediately to begin searching while waiting for Pennsylvania State Police (PSP) and local fire personnel to arrive. QBC staff conducted an initial sweep of the area and set up the command center and communications. Within an hour, personnel from several fire companies responded, along with Department of Conservation and Natural Resources staff and PSP personnel. The PSP deployed a search helicopter, and a bloodhound unit was contacted to respond.

As the search progressed, more QBC staff members reported to the scene to assist, bringing food, water, coats, road guard vests, flashlights, battle lanterns, radios and batteries. Approximately 75 people from various agencies were involved in the actual search, with many others assisting in the command post and providing direction to responding organizations.

As darkness fell and search commanders were preparing for reliefs for search personnel, the child was located unharmed at 9:30 p.m.

"It was nice to see so many organizations come together for a common purpose," said Lt. Brad Sheeder, who assisted with the search.

QBC staff members who responded were very knowledgeable of the topography of the area and were essential to the command post during the search.

"I'm very proud of the Quehanna staff and their efforts in finding a lost child. They didn't hesitate to respond to the emergency and worked tirelessly, not stopping until he was found. It's a good feeling to be able to support our local community when the need arises," said Quehanna Boot Camp Commander Mary Natoli.

Assisting in the search were Labor Foreman McGonigal, Labor Foreman McCullough, Lt. James, Lt. Sheeder, Facility Maintenance Manager Bamat, COI Maney, and Sgt. Kyle. Supporting the search from the Quehanna facility were Lt. Robertson, Lt. Henry, Sgt. Bard, COI Archer, COI Shaffner, Sgt. Stagi, COI Dick, and COI Williams.

In a letter from Citizen's Hose Company, Assistant Chief Eric J. Knauff wrote:

"I wanted to express to you my sincere thanks for the cooperation provided to us by the Quehanna Boot Camp. Commander Natoli and her staff should be commended for their quick response and all of the assistance they provided to the local community volunteers. Without their knowledge of the area and willingness to help, this situation could have ended much differently."

Heroics without Hesitation

In August, SCI Mercer Lt. Michael Glenn was commended for his heroic actions earlier in the year. Presenting the commendation to Glenn was Pennsylvania State Police Troop D Commanding Officer Captain Byron Locke.

In June, while leaving work on his motorcycle, Lt. Glenn saw a man run across the road in front of him. As he slowed to avoid hitting the man, Glenn saw a state trooper, who appeared to be limping, chasing the individual. After turning around, Glenn returned to where the trooper was now standing. He asked the trooper if he needed help and was directed to another trooper further down the road. There, he worked with the second trooper to apprehend the individual, who had run into a field and had an active warrant out for his arrest.

Lt. Glenn has been employed with the DOC for more than eight years, having worked at SCIs Pittsburgh and Forest before transferring to Mercer. He is a member of the PA National Guard having served one tour in Iraq. He also is a member of the prison's Corrections Emergency Response Team.



SCI Mercer Lt. Michael Glenn is presented with a commendation from Troop D Commanding Officer Capt. Byron Locke.

Training Academy News

Obtaining and maintaining intravenous (IV) access are essential skills that correctional health care nurses should possess to prevent and treat fluid and electrolyte imbalances, nutritional imbalances or provide IV medication for the inmate population.

The DOC's Training Academy has designed a flexible, cost-effective way to offer educational opportunities for nurses to acquire and sharpen these skills in a program tailored to the correctional environment.

Evidence-based resources were used to create a comprehensive one-day — Pennsylvania State Board of Nursing approved — class loaded with material that challenges participants' knowledge, skills and abilities regarding IV therapy.

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The Training Academy recently graduated its sixth Inmate Culinary Academy since restarting this re-entry initiative more than a year ago. Since that time, 42 inmates successfully completed the course with an impressive Serve Safe tested class average of 95.87 percent. Serve Safe is a nationally recognized and certified course that is taught during the first week of each culinary class. With this certificate and successful completion of the culinary arts course, offenders are more likely to gain employment upon re-entry to the community.

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Two separate but similar groups would be served through this program. The first is the veteran inmate who is close to being released back into society. Inmates that will be paroled in the near future would enter the Veteran's Service Units with an ultimate goal of using the program to successfully reenter into society. The second group would be veteran inmates who have lengthy or perhaps even a life sentence. They would complete the program with an overall goal for them to become positive role models within the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections' general population. Consistent with most programming or job assignments within the DOC, not more than 10 percent of the population of the Veteran's Service Unit should be long term inmates.

The Veteran's Service Unit will utilize a three-pronged approach to treatment of inmates who are honorably discharged veterans. The approach is based on best practice research. There would be three different units where the inmates would be housed. An initial or "pre-treatment unit," a main treatment or "therapeutic community unit" and a post-treatment or "aftercare unit." All VSU inmates would participate in programming in all three of the pod units. Each inmate would actively participate in an individualized treatment plan (ITP) developed to include up to a one-year stay in all three units.

The "pre-treatment unit" or Phase 1, would be set up to include initial orientation of the inmates to the VSU program, to establish an ITP/goals and objectives and determine the inmate's housing assignment. The pre-treatment unit would be approximately 9-12 weeks in duration. A complete assessment of the inmate, including his re-entry issues, would be reviewed. PTSD identification and needs assessment regarding treatment would begin during this phase. Research suggests that, prior to any intensive treatment, the veteran needs to begin to effectively deal with any PTSD issues, thus allowing the primary issues treatment to be most effective. PTSD treatment would be completed by a psychological services specialist or associate. If PTSD needs are not identified, inmates may be advanced from Phase 1 to Phase 2 or Phase 3 as indicated by the staff assessment and individual treatment program recommendation. The Veteran's Affairs Administration will be used for resources as well as information regarding what treatment is available for inmates who are veterans.

Therapeutic Community (TC) Treatment aspect, or Phase 2, of the program would occur next. The veteran inmates would be moved into this program by groups or squads of 10 to 12 inmates. This would allow for rolling admissions into the program. The TC phase of the veteran's program would be roughly based on the AOD therapeutic community programs that the Pennsylvania Department of Corrections already offers. There would also be a violence prevention component in this phase. Individualized treatment would be offered so veteran inmates that do not have AOD issues would be offered group work in cognitive behavioral problem solving, violence prevention and victim sensitivity awareness. Also Samenow's Criminal Thinking Errors group work would be offered during this phase of treatment.

The final phase of treatment, or Phase 3, would center on aftercare/ re-entry planning. The focus of this phase would be to prepare inmates for re-entry back into the next phase of their lives, be it a return to general population or society. The focus in this phase would be

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Mail!



Robert Greaves, Director
Erie Community Corrections Center

Dear Mr. Greaves,

I am contacting you on behalf of the Erie Art Museum to thank you for all of the help that you have personally provided in coordinating community service volunteers to our organization.

The community service volunteers that have come to us through your office have been a vital resource for us. As an organization that relies on volunteers in order to bring cultural programming to our region, the ongoing partnership that we have developed over the years has provided opportunity for the people that you serve, while at the same time helping the community to be a better place to live and work in.

Over the past year we have had individuals come to us from the CCC to work in our gardens, do composting and recycling, help with exhibit installation and perform many tasks that are mundane but necessary to the operation of our museum.

The individuals that you have sent to us have been polite and courteous, and many have had skills that they are able to use here as volunteers.

I hope that the experience gained by your clients while working with us aids them in their transition back to living and working in the community. The work that you are doing is so important to the future success of the people that you counsel, and the fact that it also helps us to present great cultural programming only multiplies its value.

Thank you.

Karen Dodson, Volunteer Coordinator
Erie Art Museum

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relapse prevention and to begin to build the positives relationships to successfully re-enter society. A staff member would be assigned to each inmate who is near release to facilitate this. During this phase it is expected that the Veteran's Affairs Administration, as well as other outside agencies that deal directly with veteran's issues, would be utilized. The plan for each inmate is for them to be referred for all necessary services to ensure that the veteran inmate has the best possible chance to successfully re-enter into society. It is critical to include the inmate's family in the recovery process. SCI Pittsburgh staff would encourage this support throughout all phases, and at the one year mark, a graduation ceremony would be held with approved family members invited to attend.

Did You Know...

...that , in 2010, the DOC conducted 53,000 random drug tests on inmates, with only .15 percent testing positive for illicit substances?

...that only 910, or .5 percent of visitors scanned for drugs tested positive in 2010?

...that inmate on inmate assaults have declined by 18 percent from 2003 to 2010 in spite of the population growing by nearly 10,000 inmates during this time?

...that inmate on staff assaults declined by 22 percent from 2003 to 2010?

...that the use of J-Pay to receive incoming inmate emails as well as funds from family and friends has increased and also has reduced the amount of mail processed by the mail rooms?

...that since establishing a mailbox in 2011 where employees can make cost-savings suggestion, more than 750 suggestions have been received and reviewed?

...that in 2011, the DOC responded to more than 1,000 Right-To-Know Law requests for information?

...that in 2011, 1,393 inmates took and passed the General Equivalency Test?

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Senate Bill 86 – Updates the Motor Vehicle Code's chop shop language, offering a broader definition to include vehicles, trailers and semitrailers, as well as outlining specific guidelines for inspection and searches of garages and repair shops.

House Bill 1794 – Act providing for HIV-related testing for certain sex offenders. This brings Pennsylvania into compliance with the Violence Against Women Act, allowing for the testing of certain sexual offenders within 48 hours after criminal information is filed.

House Bill 235 – This legislation provides for the National Human Trafficking Resource Center Hotline Notification Act; imposing duties on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency to develop a response plan to help victims.

Senate Bill 850 – Provides sentencing exceptions for minors convicted of murder, providing options for judges rather than the mandatory life in prison; expungement for certain juvenile offenders, sentencing enhancements for murder of a child under the age of 13 and provides the victim advocate with the authority to advocate for victims of juvenile crimes.

Senate Bill 941 – Increases fines for public drunkenness and underage drinking. The bill also makes it a summary offense if a person less than 21 years, attempts to purchase, purchases, consumes, possesses or knowingly and intentionally transports alcoholic beverages. Currently a summary offense carries a fine of not more than \$300 unless otherwise provided and this legislation increases it to \$500 for the first offense and \$1,000 for second and subsequent offenses.