

THE ADVOCATE



A PUBLICATION OF THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

January 2012

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Paws in Prison kicks off in four ADC units



Inmates get acquainted with the dogs they'll be training over an eight-week period.

Tails were wagging for the Paws in Prison program in December. The Arkansas Department of Correction hosted inmate training and inmates met their dogs on Dec. 8 and 13.

The program will start in the Randall Williams Correctional Facility in Pine Bluff, the Maximum Security Unit at Tucker, the Ouachita River Correctional Unit in Malvern and the A.J. Hawkins Center for Women at Wrightsville. The goal is to spread the program into as many units as possible in the future.

Paws in Prison is made possible through ADC's partnership with Central Arkansas Rescue Effort for Animals and other animal shelters and advocate groups in the state. Selected inmates have the opportunity to become trainers of rescue dogs in the program. Inmates work with the dogs teaching them basic obedience skills and properly socializing the animals, making them more adoptable. Last year in Arkansas, hundreds of homeless dogs were euthanized.

Continued on page 4

Hard work of agency's employees apparent in 2011

As one year closes and the next one begins, it's always a good idea to review accomplishments and set goals. In looking back over the past year, the hard work of employees in every area of the agency is apparent.

In response to Act 1494 of the 87th General Assembly, ADC began conservation efforts by retro-fitting and upgrading lighting and upgrading heating, ventilation and air conditioning systems at four units: Cummins, Tucker, Varner and Wrightsville. The work at these units was completed in 2011 and ADC's investment in green projects is expected to save the state \$746,000 per year in energy costs.

All officers assigned to the Central Office K-9 Division completed basic police training at the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy in 2011. These officers now have arresting authority, which will be an asset at check points for contraband.

The first Coretta Scott King Day was held Feb. 15 at the J. Aaron Hawkins Center for Women at Wrightsville. The program was a partnership between ADC and the Arkansas



Ray Hobbs
ADC Director

Martin Luther King Jr. Commission. Inmates within five years of parole participated in a day of activities that included motivational speakers, image consultants and workforce specialists.

On May 13, the Tucker Unit's Island of Hope Chapel was re-dedicated after extensive renovations. The chapel is believed to be the South's first free-standing prison chapel and was originally dedicated in 1969.

ADC's first horse auction was held Nov. 19 at the Saline County Fairgrounds in Benton. The sale of more than 80 horses and mules raised about \$35,000 for the prison's horse program, while making room for new stock and

allowing the public the opportunity to purchase some good horses.

The Paws in Prison program kicked off on Dec. 8 and 13. PIP is made possible through ADC's partnership with Central Arkansas Rescue Effort for Animals and other animal shelters and advocate groups in the state. Selected inmates have the opportunity to become trainers of rescued dogs in the program. Inmates work with the dogs teaching them basic obedience skills and properly socializing the animals, making them more adoptable.

When storms and floods hit Arkansas in the spring, ADC was there to assist. Tens of thousands of sandbags were filled by inmate crews under the supervision of correctional officers.

Re-accreditation was celebrated at several units across the agency in 2011.

Those are just a few highlights. We've managed to get a lot done and it happened because of dedication and team work. Thank you for the role you played in making this agency a success in 2011 – and thank you for the role you will play in 2012.

In the coming year, we will face the continued challenge of maximizing the agency's budget dollars, while streamlining how we do business and operating as efficiently as possible.

One of the ways we can do this is in the area of training. In 2011, ADC made better use of video conferencing, E-Learning and distance education. The push to expand online training resources began last January with the roll out of the ADC eCADEMY, which offers more than 350 online classes – at least 200 that are already ACA accredited. In November, ADC had 1,335 active eCADEMY users, up 14 percent from the previous month – and that's typical of the monthly increases we have seen and we anticipate more of the same this year.

This use of technology has saved on travel time and overtime expenses, while offering staff the opportunity to get the training they need at their desks. It's a smarter, more efficient way of meeting training requirements.

Keep up the good work and Happy New Year!

Department Briefs

Susan Brewer has been the voice of ADC's Central Office for more than 10 years. On Dec. 20, the voice behind the switchboard said goodbye by retiring.

Susan's career with the ADC

began with a part-time job in the construction division. Prior to her employment with ADC, she was a school teacher.



Susan Brewer

Francis Ratcliff shows the \$250 she won in a drawing sponsored by the Southern States Manhunt Field Trials Committee. The drawing was a fundraiser for the group.



Training Academy recognizes Class 2011-M, Class2011-N graduates

Class 2011-M Graduated 11/25/2011



Sean Barber, Justin Bitting, Richard Boling, Calvin Bracey Jr., Terrance Bradley, Rex Burrow, Lexus Callison, Christina Card, Marie Claggett, Quinton Cloird, Kevin Collins, Caleb Cowan, Latonya Crossley, Andrew Cunningham, Janelle Dickson, Bradley Dillinger, Albert Fortier, Luciana Gayton, Devin Gettman, Tavoris Goodman, Thomas Griffin, George Griggs Jr., Johnny Harris IV, Sean Hartman, Terry Howard, Shanese Johnson, Tony Johnson Jr., Jasmine Jones, Silencio Jones, William Kilgore, Jacob Koenen, Agustin Martinez, Craig Mayhan, Bobby Miller, Kim Mitchell, Travis Moore, Costina Moorer, Edna Motton, Briana Mouldin, David Pike, Makesha Proctor, Lamontrell Randle, Marvin Roberts Jr., Glene Scurlark, Bill Stephens Jr., Kenyette Thomas, Douglas Thornton, Teddy Vest, Michael Wade, Yoshika Wessels, Carshun Westbrook, Shana Whitmore, Dexter Williams, and Mary Williams.

Class 2011-N Graduated 12/16/2011



Dominique Bankston, Brad Baughn, Twunika Bell, Latonia Bennett, Debra Brothers, Bryant Cambell-Bebe, Tyler Carr, Sheldon Childress, Michelle Clemons, Ashley Cole, Sheree Coleman, Markfain Crowley, James Curtner, Latasha Drakes, Amber Duncan, Katrina Edds, Sandra Evans, Michael Flowers, Vaneesha Freeman, Jacqualine Gardner, Wesly Horton, Darlene Hudson, Cordney Jackson, Sheneka Johnson, Ryan Jones, Andre Jordan, Kayla Kellett, Samuel Knight Jr., Erica Lea, Jeffery Manning, Ann Martin, Shemariah McCloud, Xavier McGrone, William Milby, Kortedrea Mitchell, Shanika Moten, Jamaal Nabors, Steven Nelson, Zachary Parker, Cisco Patterson, Stameisha Pitchford, Wendell Poindexter, Johnny Polite Jr., Carl Redden, Charday Roebuck, Lauren Rowell, Joseph Rushing, Lisa Sallie, Sharrica Scales, William Sexton, Clifton Shine Jr., Christopher Shorter, Elmika Sims, Shandon Smith, Christopher Smith Jr., Phatemia Stokes, Dezarae Taylor, Tracy Terry, Marvin Turner, Trecia Vincent, Cynthia Walker, Mitchel Wilkerson, Zelda Wilkerson, Shyeka, Wimbley, Nicollette Woods, Melvin Wooten, Erica Wright, and Lois Young.



This explains why the Mayan Calendar ended at the year 2012.



Officer Robert Lewis, right, receives his captain's bars from Supervisor Gary Bryant of the Mississippi County Work Release Center. Lewis received his promotion in late November.

Paws in Prison offers pooches and inmates unique opportunity

Continued from page 1

The benefits of this program are three-fold. The Paws in Prison program will reduce the number of animals who perish by better preparing them to be loving, obedient and adoptable pets. The program will give inmates the skills necessary to support successful rehabilitation and reentry – and ultimately improve public safety. At the same time, this is an opportunity for the inmates to do something positive for the communities of Arkansas. In states where similar programs operate, they have had a profound impact on inmates and staff, thus improving security and the quality of life inside the institutions.

ADC modeled its program after a similar one in the Missouri prison system, which recently adopted out its 500th dog. In August, a four-person team representing ADC traveled to Missouri to see first-hand how that program operates and get ideas on how to implement a successful program in Arkansas. The group included Board of Corrections Vice Chair Mary Parker, ADC Assistant Director Dina Tyler, ADC Communications Administrator Shea Wilson and Renie Rule, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences executive director of development.

Rule has been instrumental in developing Arkansas’ program and is its founding patron. Without her generous personal donation, the program could not have started at this time.

Paws in Prison will be supported by private donations. There is no state budget for the program. Anyone interested in contributing may send checks to Paws in Prison, c/o Arkansas Department of Correction, PO Box 8707, Pine Bluff, AR 71611; or donate online by clicking on the Paws in Prison link at adc.arkansas.gov.



Trainer Ashley Shoaf and Cain



Trainer Carrie Kessler and Toby



Renie Rule



Thirty-year service awards presented to ADC employees

Five ADC employees were presented plaques recognizing 30 years of service by ADC Director Ray Hobbs and members of the Management Team. They include clockwise from top, Nadine Burkett, Melba Bradley, Monica McFalls, Becca Landreth and Jeania Scifres.

Good job!!

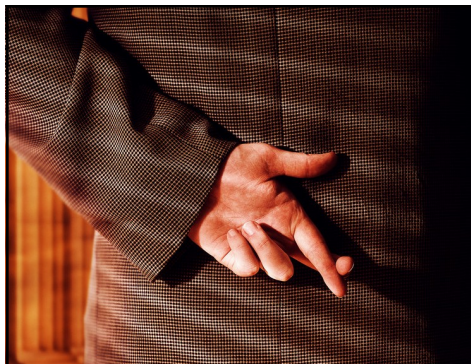


“The trouble with retirement is that you never get a day off.”

— Abe Lemons

Health Matters

New Year's resolutions: Proper planning can make them happen



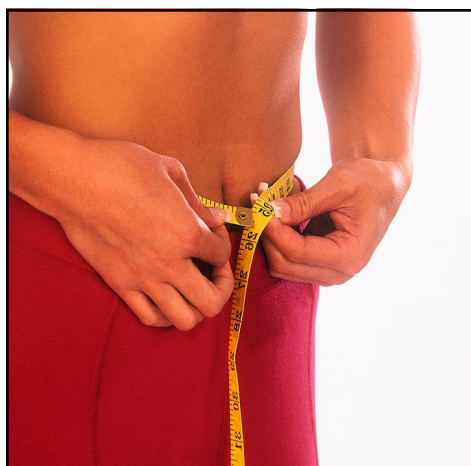
“When you're finished changing, you're finished.”

— Benjamin Franklin

With the passing of the holiday seasons and the advent of another new year, many individuals consider the idea of making a New Year's resolution with the intentions of improving themselves in one way or another.

However, many of these resolutions tend to be paved with more good intentions than the proverbial road to hell. It isn't that people deliberately say things they do not mean. It simply comes down to the fact that many of these “good intentions” are harder to achieve than others.

If you are considering a resolution to improve some area of your life, a little thought and pre-planning will help you to make a decision that will work best and be easiest to achieve.



“This year, I'm going to lose a few extra pounds ...” Along with being the most popular resolution, weight loss is also one of the toughest promises to keep. According to the American Medical Association, most Americans gain between four to seven extra pounds between the Thanksgiving and New Year's Eve holidays each year.

If the goal is to lose that extra weight and feel good about yourself, then go for it! By returning to a normal pattern of eating rather than the binge eating of the holidays, results are easier to achieve. But if a more serious weight loss plan is part of your resolution, make sure that your goals are realistic.

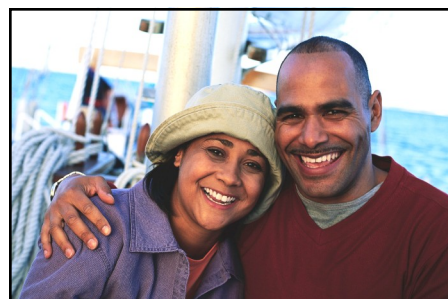
We all want a more perfect body, but be reasonable. Some are born to be supermodels—others are not. Consult with a doctor before beginning any diet or exercise plan to determine if you are healthy enough to do so. Chances are likely that your physician will have a plan that will fit your needs without putting a dent on your stamina.



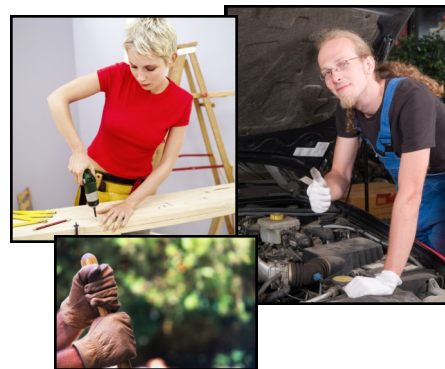
“This year, I'm going to give up smoking ...” Another popular New Year's resolution that is also difficult to achieve. While the health benefits to the lungs and heart are considerable, the attempt to quit a nicotine addiction can be an enormous undertaking.

Support groups and physicians are there to assist you when you're ready to quit smoking. It will be a tough resolution to keep, but the benefits will

certainly last a lifetime. For more information, consult your doctor or the American Cancer Society at www.cancer.org.



“This year, I'm going to take a dream vacation ...” The idea of doing anything to take life a little easier doesn't have to be a lofty or unrealistic goal to achieve. Some try to plan ahead for a cruise or an extended visit in another country as a form of adventure. Others may take a fishing trip to a nearby lake or river for relaxation. Whatever the motivation, a dream vacation can be within reach with a little planning.



“This year I'll fix the house/car/start a garden...” Whatever you plan to do, set a goal that you are able to accomplish. Be realistic about your abilities, set a timeline, and then go for it! Whether your resolution, do it because it is something you would like to do. Change can be a good thing as long as the rewards outweigh the effort! Happy New Year and good luck!

George Brewer, ADC mainstay since 1973 to retires

From bug zapper inspector (yes, you read that correctly) to ADC research and planning administrator, George Brewer can truly say that he's seen it all. Since his start with the ADC in July 1973, George has held many titles within the department and now he's getting another one. In January, George will assume the post of "retiree" when leaves after 38 years of service.

"I was 23-years-old when I started. People in the system had a lot of faith in me and the others I started with back then," George said.

He has served under seven directors and watched the inmate population in Arkansas grow from 1,500 to 15,000.

George has been instrumental in many changes and developments within the agency. He helped develop ADC's electronic records system, eOMIS; worked with the agency's task force on computerization to develop an information system plan for corrections; participated with the University of Arkansas School of Architecture to develop plans for the First Offenders Correctional Facility; and along with members of the project development staff, designed a 10-year master plan for ADC.

Starting as a property clerk in 1973, George has also served as business manager for the ADC School District, research associate, acting treatment administrator, research and planning supervisor, public information officer, administrative assistant for special services, assistant to the director, assistant to the director for internal affairs, classification administrator and his current title, research and planning administrator.

George enjoys golf, cooking and raising horses with his wife, Susan. In retirement he plans to spend more time with his grandchildren and to take life a little easier. And he just might have time to tell you the story about inspecting bug zappers!



George Brewer ties up a few loose ends before retiring from ADC.



Whether testing his skills on the golf course in 2010 or at a prison rodeo in 1981, George loves a challenge.



Members of the ADC Management Team gathered for the 2011 Human Resources Awards Luncheon on Dec.1 to pay tribute to the outstanding departmental supervisors and employees. Attendees were treated to a meal provided by the team at Admin East and door prizes were awarded.

In addition to the awards given to supervisors, special recognition was given to employees with 30 years or more service with ADC.

Deputy Director Sheila Sharp reminded everyone the Pinnacle Awards are coming up in February 2012 at the Governor's Mansion in Little Rock.



Sgt. Billy Hayes graduates from ALETA

Sgt. Billy Hayes of the ADC K-9 Narcotics Division graduated from the Arkansas Law Enforcement Training Academy on Dec. 16. He is the last of several K-9 officers to complete basic police training at the academy. However, Hayes is no stranger to police training.

Working part-time with the Fordyce Police Department in 1997, Hayes entered ALETA for 12 weeks of basic training. After graduation, he worked full-time in Fordyce until 2000, when he joined the Lake Village Police Department as patrol sergeant and firearms instructor and worked on the Emergency Response to Terrorism Division Team until January 2005 when he joined ADC.

He began at the Cummins Unit as a member of the field force until moving to the K-9 Narcotics Division in 2006. Prior to completion of police training, ADC officers had to call other law enforcement officials to arrest suspects. Hayes now has arresting authority, which will be helpful during routine checkpoints for contraband. ADC conducts checkpoints prior to visitation to cut down on the smuggling of contraband into the units. Those found with illegal substances can be arrested on the spot by ADC officers.

ALETA's 12-week, 480-hour course focuses on standard police tactics, firearms, legal issues, technical skills, and practical exercises. Officers must have a 70% average in academics and an 80% firearms score to graduate.



Sgt. Billy Hayes



Major Gordon Davidson

Training director becomes U.S. citizen

Maj. Gordon Davidson has been responsible for the training of hundreds of ADC officers who have passed through the doors of the Willis H. Sargent Training Academy at Tucker, where he is training director.

On Dec. 2, it was Davidson who was the student, undergoing oral and written examinations to become an official United States citizen. His score was a perfect 100 percent.

A native of Hamilton, Scotland, Davidson had already served 16 years as special police inspector for the Royal Air Force before moving to the United States in 2004. In 2005, he be-

gan working for the ADC as a drill instructor for the Boot Camp program before becoming an instructor at the training academy in 2008.

Davidson said the test to become a U.S. citizen covers topics such as U.S. history, civics and English, which he says is "easy, if it's your mother-tongue, so to speak!" Still, Davidson passed his test with an impressive 100%. If all goes as planned, Davidson will be officially sworn-in at the Clinton Library in Little Rock.

Davidson and his wife, Leslie, live with their daughter, Heather, in Sherwood.

Cummins recognized for Red Ribbon support

The annual Red Ribbon Run supports drug-free youth programs and also raises money for the ADC's Red Ribbon Scholarship Fund. More than 220 runners and walkers participated in this year's event Oct. 15.

Event chairman Grant Harris announced a plaque to honor the unit that showed the most team support for the Red Ribbon Run. The plaque will circulate to a new unit each year.

During a warden's meeting at Central Office on Dec. 15, Mr. Harris presented the plaque to Warden Gaylon Lay of the Cummins Unit for having 25 team members in his group.



Grant Harris, left, and Gaylon Lay.

Santa Central 2011: Helping hands and generous hearts make season brighter

Life happens -- and not always according to schedule. A death in the family, a devastating fire, an accident or even the loss of a job can make Christmas for some families seem impossible. That's where the volunteers for ADC's Santa Central program step in. Their goal is to help ADC families during times of need acquire food, toys and clothing to make the season a little brighter.

Program Coordinator Lucy Flemmons said the pace was non-stop from Dec. 12 until the last package was picked up on Dec. 19. With donations from ADC employees and AACET, Flemmons and other volunteers spent more than 35 hours shopping and countless hours wrapping, tagging and bagging bundles to be picked up at Central Office and delivered to the units.

This year's "Angel Tree" provided 66 children with toys and gifts. More than 22 families received 26 large boxes of non-perishable food, while AACET furnished hams for Christmas dinner. In all, 82 bags of toys, food and clothing were distributed to ADC families at various units across the state. In spite of an unstable economy, ADC employees came through in the effort to take care of their own and make Christmas possible for many.



ADC Volunteer Coordinator Lucy Flemmons hangs angels representing children who received Christmas presents from Santa Central.



Inmates at the Diagnostic Unit decorate canvas bags for toys and gifts .



A Central Office conference room becomes a makeshift storage area for food, clothing and toys. Volunteers sorted items and filled bags for families needing a helping hand this year.





ADC In-Service Training

Schedules/Protocols

The Training Academy wishes to welcome staff to In-Service Training. The academy strives to promote a professional environment during your learning experience.

Listed below is appropriate attire for In-Service class participation.

Shirt — button up or pull over (please, nothing derogatory, offensive or inappropriate for professional correctional staff, no T-shirts, no sports team shirts).

Shirt and Tie

Slacks — **NO DENIM, no holes or frayed edges.**

Dress/Pantsuit — (please, nothing see through, sleeveless or low cut. Length should be professional and appropriate for professional correctional staff)

Shoes — (no flip flops, sandals, tennis shoes or house slippers).

Uniforms — must meet Department guidelines

Headgear — allowed only outside of building (no derogatory or offensive wording, symbols, etc.).

Sweats/Shorts/Sport Warm-ups — will be considered appropriate only in classes containing physical activities – not during normal In-Service classes.

Smoking is not allowed on Academy property.

Please observe break times and lunch periods.

Cell phones or pagers need to be on vibrate or silent while in the classroom.

Students arriving more than 15 minutes late for the starting time of a class, or more than 15 minutes late from a break/lunch will be dismissed from the class.

OPEN ENROLLMENT (Year-round Classes)

Internet-Based eCademy Classes

Classes provided by National Institute of Corrections Visit www.nicic.org. You must get approval from your Unit Trainer before taking any eCademy classes.

Open enrollment, Inter-Agency Classes

These classes are offered to all staff members in Little Rock. They vary in length. Classes are also offered through the Criminal Justice Institute in Little Rock.

Notable Quotables

“Character is the ability to carry out a good resolution long after the excitement of the moment has passed.”

— Cavett Robert

The Spotlight

One-stop source for training schedules

If you're trying to find the latest training schedules for the Training Academy or Human Resources, you can find it on *Spotlight*.

Interested in an online e-learning course, but aren't sure what's available? You can find it on *Spotlight*.

When on your unit computer, click on the “Favorites” tab. Scroll down until you see “ADC Links”, then click. Look for the *Spotlight* heading — click and you're there!

The latest and most up-to-date training schedules will be available under “in-service training”.

ADC takes advantage of eCademy classes

Earning training hours online is catching on with offices and units within the ADC, as employees log-on and take advantage of the more than 350 e-learning courses available through the ADC eCademy.

All courses satisfy requirements for American Correctional Association standards and recertification. Unit trainers have been given the information to register and enter employees who may earn 30 hours of online training per year. In addition to eCademy, courses are also available through the National Institute of Corrections for security and non-security supervisory employees. For more information, see your unit trainer



Let it snow, let it snow ...

An early winter blast turned a mild rainstorm into a soft blanket of snow across many states in the Midwest in early December. Arkansans were luckier than many surrounding states, which were buried in 12- to 14-inches of the white stuff. In one day's time, the snow was gone, but weather forecasters have already expressed concern for a tough winter ahead.

Resolutions in January? Spring is season of rebirth

As with many traditions we observe these days, the modern celebrations aren't in keeping with their ancient roots. New Year's Day was not always Jan. 1.

The celebration of the new year is reportedly the oldest of all holidays, first observed in ancient Babylon



Shea Wilson
Communications
Administrator

about 4,000 years ago. In the years around 2000 BC, the Babylonian New Year began with the first New Moon, which according to online reports, was actually the first visible crescent, after the Vernal Equinox or first day of spring.

So historically, Baby New Year's birthday is not Jan. 1.

Spring was the season of rebirth. Not much is happening in January, so the new year emerging in spring makes sense. As power shifted through the ages, so did the New Year. The Romans continued to observe the new

year in late March, but the calendar lost synchronization with the sun as new emperors came to power and meddled with the calendar.

The Roman senate, in 153 BC, declared Jan. 1 to be the beginning of the new year. But nothing was firm until Julius Caesar, in 46 BC, established what has come to be known as the Julian Calendar. It again established Jan. 1 as the new year. To synchronize the calendar with the sun, Caesar had to let the previous year continue for 445 days.

Presumably after that span of time, the Romans were in need of some resolutions.

Interestingly, the tradition of resolutions also dates back to the early Babylonians. While we strive to lose weight and exercise, the early Babylonians' most popular resolution was to return borrowed farm equipment. From farm equipment to fat, resolutions like the New Year's celebration have evolved.

The most popular resolutions vary in online polls, but there are some consistently in the Top 10 and getting fit is typically

No. 2, followed by the typical No. 3 of losing weight.

The No. 1 resolution is to spend more time with family and friends or to get a better job. Other resolutions making the various lists include: quit smoking, enjoy life more, quit drinking, get out of debt, learn something new, help others, get organized, get a better education, find a mate, take a trip, buy a house or move or find a hobby.

When it comes time for New Year's resolutions, I always think of Mark Twain's famous quote: *"Yesterday, everybody smoked his last cigar, took his last drink and swore his last oath. Today, we are a pious and exemplary community. Thirty days from now, we shall have cast our reformation to the winds and gone to cutting our ancient shortcomings considerably shorter than ever."*

A fair assessment, if you ask me. There's no point in starting the calendar year off with the stress of resolutions. Besides, spring is the time for rebirth.

"Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors, and let each new year find you a better man."

Benjamin Franklin

"Cheers to a new year and another chance for us to get it right."

Oprah Winfrey

ADC CALENDAR OF EVENTS



JANUARY 2012
National Book Month

1 — New Year's Day
16 — Martin Luther King, Jr. Day Observed



FEBRUARY 2011
Black History Month
2 — Groundhog Day
14 — Valentine's Day
20 — President's Day
21 — Fat Tuesday/Mardi Gras

**Special Events?
Unit Functions?
Announcements?
Conference Dates?**



Send information to
The Advocate

Bill.Watson@arkansas.gov

Diagnostic Unit employees transfer to jobs in other facilities

Since 1981, ADC's Diagnostic Unit in Pine Bluff was the place where new inmates were evaluated and processed into the prison system. From the Diagnostic Unit, many inmates transferred to other facilities across the state, while others with special medical needs or mental health issues remained.

In November 2011, the Board of Corrections approved plans to close the Diagnostic Unit in January 2012 and relocate operations to the recently completed Special Needs Unit, located in the Ouachita River Correctional Unit in Malvern. Diagnostic employees were given the option to transfer to the Malvern facility or to any of the other ADC units where positions were available.

"An immediate freeze was put on all open positions so that we could handle the transfer requests that were coming in," said Sonia Wallace, associate human resources administrator.

Wallace said some employees opted to retire at the end of the year, while others chose to relocate to other facilities. Out of the Diagnostic Unit staff, only 17 chose to terminate their positions by the closure date.

The majority of the Diagnostic staff -- 80 employees -- will make the transition to ORCU. Twenty-five relocated to the Maximum Security Unit at Tucker, 17 to Randall L. Williams, 10 to the Tucker Unit, seven each to Wrightsville and Cummins,



The Diagnostic Unit in Pine Bluff.

and six each to Pine Bluff and Varner Supermax.

The remaining 16 employees are moving to Central Office, Administration East, Delta Regional and to departments such as transportation and construction.

"In an economy like ours, it's wonderful that

ADC employees are kept on the job in spite of the closure of one of its units," added Wallace.

ADC hopes the closure is only temporary. The plan is to renovate the Diagnostic Unit and re-open it when funds are available.

The New Blues by Bill Watson



**Want to make prison Jack Mack at home?
Take your favorite salmon croquette or tuna salad recipe
and replace the fish with a can of Jack Mackerel.**

2011: The year in pictures



Renovations were completed on the Island of Hope Chapel at Tucker. A rededication was held in early May.



ADC inmate crews filled sandbags in after heavy rains brought flooding to many areas of the state.



The Southern States Manhunt Field Trials were held at Camp Robinson in March.



Sidney Moncrief prepares to tee-off at the Ball and Chain Challenge Golf Tournament in May.



Arkansas delegates attend the 42nd annual SCA conference in Biloxi, Miss., in July.



ADC employees wait for runners to cross the finish line at the Red Ribbon Run on Oct. 15.



The first Coretta Scott King Day was held at the Hawkins Center for Women on Feb. 15. Jermaine Taylor's mother, Carlois Reynolds, left, was the guest speaker. Stylists, right, from regional salons, provided hair and make-up tips to inmates.

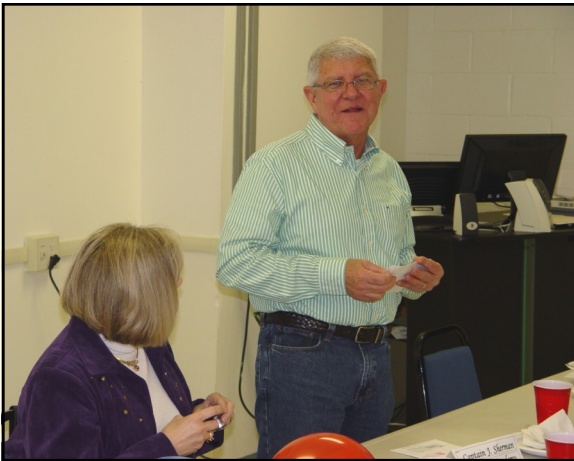


The first ADC Horse Auction was held Nov. 19 at the Saline County Fairgrounds in Benton. The event raised about \$35,000.



Almost 9,000 pounds of apples were picked during the 2011 harvest from the North Orchard at the North Central Unit near Calico Rock.

Sherman retires from Training Academy



Capt. Jimmy Sherman tries expresses gratitude to friends and co-workers at a luncheon in his honor.

Capt. Jimmy Sherman, ADC Training Academy in-service supervisor, has retired from service. On Dec. 21, the officers and staff of the Willis H. Sargent Training Academy gathered to pay tribute to Sherman and enjoy barbecue, homemade chili and fellowship.

Sherman came to work for the ADC in 2004 as a lieutenant instructor after having retired from a career in the Air Force.

He served as an instructor from 2004 until 2007, when he promoted to captain and became supervisor of the Training Academy until this year. Although Sherman may be leaving ADC, he insists that he is far from “retirement age.” Sherman will soon embark on a new career in the field of heating and air conditioning. He will take classes to become certified in HVAC and continue working in the Pine Bluff area where he lives with his wife, Linda.

“I’ve reached the point where I’m ready to try something different,” said Sherman. “I’ve enjoyed the people I’ve met and the friends I’ve made at the ADC.”

ADC construction crews keep busy with multiple projects in 2011



Crews complete finishing touches on the training facility near the Cummins and Varner Units.

Last year was a busy one for the ADC Construction and Maintenance Division. Assistant Director Leon Starks said with state budget constraints, dollars must be stretched and recycling is one way the department manages.

When the ADC receives requests for inmate crews to perform any type of demolition, Starks seizes the opportunity to take down and store bricks, lumber, cast iron, and copper that go into a storage warehouse.

“We keep as much as possible,” Starks said. “This allows us to work under a tight budget with materials that would otherwise wind up in a landfill.”

While certain projects facilitate the need to purchase steel or siding, Starks says that the stored materials work well in the rough-up stage.

This year’s list of projects included the renovation of the living pods at the Tucker and Cummins Units, transforming an old farmhouse into a training and information facility, and turning an old barracks into energy-efficient living quarters for work-release inmates.

Everything from plumbing, welding, carpentry and finish work were performed by inmate crews who work alongside professionals who share useful techniques. Each project is a learning process that also saves money.



A skyhook rolls through the gates at Tucker with roof sheeting for pod renovations.



An inmate barracks at the former State Police Headquarters in Little Rock goes from drab to fabulous using materials reclaimed from other projects. Both inmate and professional crews worked under tight deadlines to achieve dramatic results.



Promotions & New Hires

Promotions

Date	Name	Position	Unit
12/11/11	Stephanie Budnik	Substance Abuse Program Leader	Mental Health
12/11/11	Stephen Lane	Lieutenant	East Arkansas
12/11/11	Michael Lee	Sergeant	Varner
12/11/11	Christopher Lowery	Sergeant	Varner
12/11/11	Christopher Riley	Captain	McPherson
12/11/11	Darren Threlkeld	Major	Ouachita River
12/11/11	Roderick Walker	Sergeant	Transportation
12/11/11	Joseph Williams	Lieutenant	Diagnostic
12/25/11	Vermarsha Stewart	Administrative Specialist II	East Arkansas
12/26/11	Kerry Neely	Commissary Manager	Mississippi County
12/28/11	Scotty Clark	Sergeant	McPherson



New Hires

Date	Name	Position	Unit
12/05/11	Karen Kirkham	Administrative Specialist I	Varner
12/12/11	Alan Hahn	Industrial Supervisor I	Industry
12/19/11	Tiffany Howell	Computer Support Technician	Admin East
12/19/11	Kristina Lettenmaier	Advisor	Mental Health
12/19/11	Angela May	Human Resource Assistant	Cummins
12/27/11	Summer Prado	Substance Abuse Program Leader	Mental Health

ADC ADVOCATE EMPLOYEES NEWSLETTER

The mission statement of ADC is to:

*Provide public safety by
carrying out the mandates of
the courts;*

*Provide a safe, humane
environment for staff and
inmates;*

*Provide programs to strengthen
the work ethic; and*

*Provide opportunities for
spiritual, mental, and physical
growth.*

The *ADC Advocate* newsletter is published monthly by the Division of Public Services for employees of the Arkansas Department of Correction. The publication strives to enhance communication and provide information on the development and achievements of this agency.

All employees are encouraged to submit articles, comments, ideas, letters and questions. The deadline for submission is tentatively set for the 15th of each month for inclusion in that month's publication.

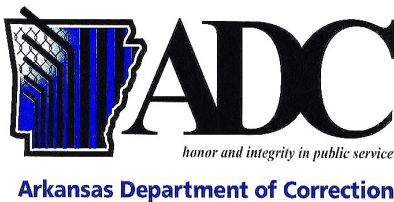
Please be aware that all submitted items will be subject to editing. However, every effort will be made to maintain the writer's essential meaning.

In addition, statements contained in the *ADC Advocate* are the personal views of the authors and do not necessarily represent the opinion or policies of the Arkansas Department of Correction.

The *ADC Advocate* is printed by Arkansas Correctional Industries.

Visit ADC on the web @ www.adc.arkansas.gov

Parting Shots



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