

THE ADVOCATE



A publication for employees of the Arkansas Department of Correction

May 2015

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Paws in Prison applauded at Capitol

“People saw a need and found a solution. I applaud you,” said Arkansas First Lady Susan Hutchinson, addressing Arkansas Department of Correction Paws in Prison (PIP) staff who had gathered Friday, April 17, on the steps of the State Capitol.

The press conference, applauding the efforts of PIP and honoring the PIP ambassador-dog Chloe, was the brainchild of Holly Hester-Beaver, Executive Assistant to State Treasurer Dennis Milligan. Also attending were Milligan and Lt. Governor Tim Griffin.

“We have an obligation not just to lock folks up, but hopefully to rehabilitate them,” said Griffin. “The mission here is honorable.”

The Arkansas Paws in Prison program is a partnership between ADC, ani-



mal shelters and advocate groups. Designated inmates have the opportunity to become trainers of PIP rescue dogs. In an

Continued on page 3



In top photo, Treasurer Milligan, from left, Chloe, First Lady Hutchinson, and Lt. Governor Griffin. In left photo, Treasurer Milligan's grandchildren enjoy Chloe. In right photo, PIP co-founder Renie Rule with Chloe.



Celebrate National COs, Nurses, and Teachers May 3-9

“National Correctional Officers’ Week” was first established by proclamation in 1984 by President Ronald Reagan. Since then it has additionally been designated as Teachers’ Recognition Week and Nurses Week. We now know this first full week in May as National Correctional Officers, Nurses, and Teachers Week. Correctional Officers, Nurses, and Teachers - all crucial components of our correctional family.



Wendy Kelley
Director

To those of you we celebrate this

week, I want to say thank you. Thank you for what you do, not just every day of your work week, but every moment. For every moment you give of your heart and soul in what is often a thankless and silent duty, I am deeply grateful.

Grateful for your incredible spirit. Grateful for your unwavering contribution to the safety of our communities, our facilities, and each other. And grateful for your constant support of our mission: *to provide public safety by carrying out the mandate of the courts, to provide a safe humane environment for staff and inmates, to strengthen the work ethic through teaching of good habits, and to provide opportunities for staff and in-*

mates to improve spiritually, mentally, and physically.

And on a side note, to the many family members and loved ones of those we celebrate – thank you for your indispensable support.

As we celebrate National Correctional Officers, Nurses, and Teachers Week, I want to encourage you to read over our mission again, and consider the importance of your role. You have a monumental task, and you do it with great fervor. I know you are serious about your role. I see it in you every day.

Please know that I recognize that the lifeblood of this agency is you. Keep up the good work, and thank you for all you do.

Red Ribbon Run Scholarships announced

The winners of the five 2015 Red Ribbon Run Scholarships are:

- Jadyn M. Moore, Manila High School
- Jarrett Reynolds, Star City High School
- Austin B. Smith, White Hall
- Aylish Coleman, Watson Chapel
- Christian Jones, Dermott High School

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

MAY



May 2015

- 7—National Day of Prayer
- 10—Mothers Day
- 16—Armed Forces Day
- 18—Ball and Chain
- 21—Law Enforcement Torch Run
- 25—Memorial Day

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



Send information to Kat at
The Advocate
kathlyn.atkinson
@arkansas.gov

JUNE



June 2015

- 14 — Flag Day
- 21—Father’s Day
- 21—First Day of Summer

The Board of Corrections tours Ester Unit and new offices on 13th Street

Members of the Board of Corrections recently toured the new offices of the Arkansas Reentry Team (ART) and Pine Bluff Reentry Center on 13th Street in Pine Bluff and the Ester Unit still under reconstruction.



PIP . . . continued from page 1

effort to make the animals more adoptable, these inmates properly socialize the dogs and teach them basic obedience skills.

ADC modeled its program after the Missouri prison program. From the beginning, Renie Rule, University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences executive director of development, was instrumental in the development of Arkansas’ program and is its founding patron.

“Will Paws in Prison change the world?” Rule asked at the press conference. “Absolutely not. Will Paws in Prison change dogs? You betcha!

Will Paws in Prison change inmates? We hope so.”

Dr. Mary Parker-Reed, Arkansas Board of Corrections Vice Chair and co-founder of PIP, offered details of the modest beginning of PIP and stated her hope for the program to continue to grow.

“To date, 545 dogs have been saved,” she said.

Parker-Reed introduced Chloe, a two-year old Collie mix whose cancer was found shortly after she entered PIP. She said the veterinarian’s advice was to put Chloe down.

However, when it came time for Chloe to be taken in, Parker-Reed

said she “decided it just wasn’t her time. She now lives at our Randall Williams Unit. Her life will not be long, but it will be full. She will come home with me when she slows down.”

PIP Coordinator Tricia Dodson-Ross called Chloe an inspiration.

“Chloe and I are honored to be here today,” said Dodson-Ross. “She loves road trips.”

“Paws in Prison touches hearts and changes lives,” said Milligan. “Paws in Prison is vitally important. All I can say is God bless you and thank you for allowing us to be part of the program.”

ADC is UW's 'most improved state and government agency'

The United Way of Southeast Arkansas declared the Arkansas Department of Correction to be the "Most Improved State and Government Agency" after the 2014 campaign.

The offices of the United Way of Southeast Arkansas are in Pine Bluff, but 16 counties are helped. They are Arkansas, Ashley, Bradley, Calhoun, Chicot, Cleveland, Dal-



of Southeast Arkansas

LIVE UNITED

GIVE ADVOCATE VOLUNTEER

las, Desha, Drew, Grant, Jefferson, Lee, Lincoln, Monroe, Ouachita, and Phillips.

Volunteers, like ADC employees, are at the core of the organization.

Dogs get their man

On April 23, at approximately 12:22 p.m., Lt. Christopher Johnson received a call from the Des Arc Police Department Dispatch that stated they needed the assistance of the Tucker Unit tracking dogs.

They informed Lt. Johnson that two suspects had fled the scene of a residential burglary in a vehicle and deputies had pursued the vehicle into the city of Carlisle. The suspects wrecked the vehicle into a ditch, and the passenger fled on foot.

Warden David White was briefed of the situation, and an authorization was obtained.

The team consisted of Major Jarrod Self, Lt. Johnson and Sgt. Anthony Spadoni. They departed the Tucker Unit at approximately 12:35 p.m. with horses and the

Tucker Unit tracking dogs.

At approximately 1:20 p.m., they arrived on the scene in Carlisle and met with Prairie County Deputy Bill Duerson, who advised of the last location in which the suspect was seen.

The Tucker Unit tracking dogs were put out at approximately 1:25 p.m. and struck a scent about ten minutes later. The dogs continued for approximately eight tenths of a mile bringing them into the residential area.

The suspect was spotted and taken into custody by the deputies.

The Tucker Unit tracking team was thanked for their assistance. The horses and dogs were loaded up and returned to the Tucker Unit without further incident.

'Servsafe Manager' class held at Training Academy

The Training Academy held the first Servsafe class April 21-22.

The Servsafe Manager is a 16-hour training program taught by Certified Instructors through the National Restaurant Association with a direct commitment to food safety.

Servsafe training provides an understanding of all of the food safety risks faced by our agency. Once aware of these risks, there are ways to reduce them.

The class covers the basics such as handwashing, and also more complex topics such as foodborne pathogens and understanding the elements of a Hazard Analysis & Critical Control Points (HACCP) plan.

The HACCP plan is a Food and Drug Administration management system in which food safety is addressed through the analysis and control of biological, chemical, and physical hazards from raw material production, procurement and handling, to manufacturing, distribution and consumption of the finished product.

At this time it is taught by Larry Cyr and Mark Norris.



This is a required course for all Food Service staff within the first year of their employment. Other staff that should take the class are Deputy Wardens, ACA managers, fire safety sanitation inspectors and security in food service areas.

Enrollment by food service staff is automatically done. Those not in food service are to submit a request to the Academy In-Service Supervisor.



In both photos, Mark Norris teaches the Servsafe Manager class.

Perfect ACA audit scores for Max and Training Academy

Congratulations are in order for Training Academy Administrator **Fred Campbell** and the staff of the Training Academy and to Warden **Danny Burl** and the staff of the Maximum Security Unit for completing their American Correctional Association audits recently, both with 100% scores on mandatory and non-mandatory standards.

Auditors Douglas Sproat, from left, and Carol Thomas speak to Training Academy Administrator Fred Campbell and ACA Coordinator Sandra Kennedy.



At the Maximum Security Unit, staff members pose with the auditors: Unit Accreditation Manager Amanda Bacus, from left, Warden Danny Burl, Carol Thomas—auditor, ACA Coordinator Sandra Kennedy, Barb Denison and Douglas Sproat –auditors.

Pinning at Newport Complex

Sgt. Rita Mayhue, middle, is pinned by Major Vernon Robertson, left, and Captain Aaron Rogers.



ADC celebrates the phenomenal woman

Opening up the Phenomenal Woman Seminar this year was ADC Director Wendy Kelley.

“I want to encourage you to get the most out of this day,” said Kelley admitting she was a bit jealous that she couldn't stay and enjoy the day with them.

The 15th annual day long event is designed for female employees. **Ardella Bearden** has been instrumental in the seminar's success since its inception. She was at that time the secretary for Training Academy Administrator Fred Campbell who commissioned her to start a class for female employees. The class was originally called Assis-

ing the Assistant.

The 92 women who attended the seminar were treated to lunch by AACET. And Pine Bluff policemen took time out of their busy schedule to serve lunch.

“I just hope the women's hearts were open to receive the hard work and love the committee put into the conference,” said Bearden.

Committee members are **Verna Farmer, Tanya Collins, Omie Futch, Patrice Lewis, Tina Deen, Dexter Holmes, and Kimberly Withers.**



Pullets are here!

As the sun peeks over the firing range at the Cummins Unit (photo below left), the 49,000 one-day-old pullets that will fill the third layer house arrived to be placed in the pullet house (middle photo). Confined Livestock Manager Greg Stephens and his staff placed 45 pullets in each middle level cage (right). After they grow a few weeks, 30 chicks will be taken out so that 15 can be placed in the cage above and 15 in the cage below. At close to 20 weeks, the third layer house will be complete and this group of chickens will be moved into it. The pullet house, the production house and the three layer houses can be seen in the background (bottom photo), but the cattle seem unimpressed by the activity behind them.



Food for Thought

STAVE OFF (delay as long as possible)

A stave is a stick of wood used in the early 17th century in the bull-baiting 'sport' where dogs were set against bulls. If a dog got a bull down, the owner of the bull would attempt to save him for an additional fight by forcing the dogs away with a stave.



Pinning

Lt. Clinton Baker, middle, is pinned by Major Vernon Robertson, left, and Deputy Warden Joe Page.

Around ADC



Assisting Special Olympics

Benton Unit's Regional Maintenance Supervisor Lieutenant Jonathon Warner, from left in left photo, Regional Maintenance Sergeant Mitch Newcomb, and ERT Leader/Utility Supervisor Lieutenant Jon Burch assisted awards presenters with the Special Olympics Area 10 games held April 17 in Bryant. In other photos Warner assists in presentations.



C.O. thanked in ‘Commendation of Actions’ letter

On April 4, while **Captain Scott Taylor** was on the job assisting with the feeding of chow, an inmate got up from his table, came out of the chow hall, and appeared to be choking.

Taylor asked the inmate if he was choking and if he needed help. The inmate gave an affirmative nod.

Taylor performed the Heimlich Maneuver by wrapping his arms around the inmate’s mid-section and giving thrusts to his abdominal area.

After several thrusts, the inmate spit up a portion of food and was able to speak and breathe again. The infirmary staff escorted the inmate to the infirmary and provid-

ed medical treatment.

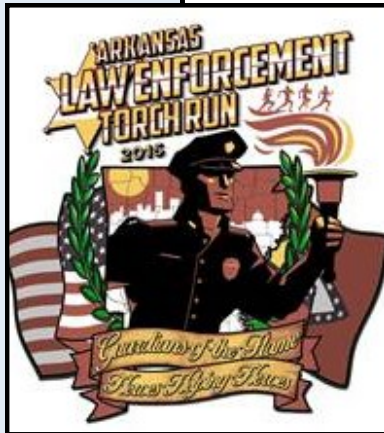
In a ‘Commendation of Actions’ letter to Scott, **Warden Randy Watson** stated: *I know it is our job to protect the inmates under our custody. But rarely does it actually involve being in a situation where you save someone’s life. You were in the right place with the right training and immediately acted. You are one of those exceptional persons who it is a pleasure and honor to work with. I wish I could do more for you than just this small display of my appreciation for the job you do. Supervisors and staff like you are greatly appreciated. I also know this heroic act will not go unnoticed by the inmate population. Thanks again.*



Scott Taylor

Special Olympics Law Enforcement

Torch Run



May 20, 2015 (changed from original date)

Please contact Terry Reid for a registration form!!!

at

terry.reid@arkansas.gov - (870) 267-6370

Pinning

Sgt. Bruce Golden, middle, is pinned by Deputy Warden Joe Page, left, and Sgt. Ricky Davis.



Health Matters

Encountering native snakes in Arkansas

Snakes are feared more than any other wildlife species in Arkansas. According to psychologists and animal behaviorists, the fear of snakes is a learned behavior. Yet statistically, venomous snakebites account for fewer deaths than bee or wasp stings or lightning strikes, though these are also rare. Despite their rarity, data from annual reports of the American Association of Poison Control Centers indicate a trend of increasing numbers of venomous snakebites. According to the Arkansas Department of Health, from 1960-2007 only three Arkansas residents died from native snakebites, with all three occurring in the 1960s. One death was a rattlesnake bite, while the other two were by unspecified snake species.

In 1995, one nonresident died in Arkansas from a rattlesnake bite acquired in another state, and in 2004 another nonresident died after being bitten by an exotic, nonnative pet snake.

Despite their low incidence, occasionally snakebites occur, and with quick medical treatment, the vast majority of victims survive. Obviously, avoiding encounters with snakes will decrease the odds of being bitten. An antivenin is available for all native pit vipers, so it is helpful, but no longer imperative, to determine the particular species of pit viper.

Arkansas Snakes

Snakes serve an important role in our environment. They prey on rodents, insects, toads, frogs, crayfish, minnows and other snakes and are themselves food for hawks, owls, foxes, bobcats, raccoons, fish and many other species. Of the 36 species of native snakes in Arkansas, only six are venomous. Several excellent resources are available for identifying snakes.

The Amphibians and Reptiles of Arkansas by Stanley E. Trauth, Henry W. Robison and Michael V. Plummer.

Arkansas Snake Guide – available free from the AG&F (800-364-

4263) or http://www.agfc.com/pdfs/dfm/arkansas_snake_guide.pdf.

Snakes of Arkansas web site: www.SnakesofArkansas.com sponsored by the Arkansas Herpetological Society.

People mistakenly kill snakes when in fact they pose no threat. Most venomous snakes are slow to strike and do so only if provoked. Typically, snakes will go to great lengths to avoid a confrontation with people. A study of cottonmouths in the field and laboratory found half of the snakes encountered in the field tried to escape. In the lab where escape was not an option, over three-fourths used threat displays and about a third bit an artificial hand used in the tests.

Some nonvenomous snakes share common characteristics with venomous snakes, perhaps to appear more threatening. The nonvenomous eastern hognose or “puff adder” will increase its head size and emit a smelly musk. If this doesn’t cause the threat to leave, the snake will roll over and play dead. The hognose, as well as other non venomous snakes, have color variations and patterns that can be mistaken for rattlesnakes. Some non venomous snakes will vibrate their tails against dead leaves, making rattlelike sounds. Although these characteristics are intended to improve survivability, these adaptations may lead to the opposite outcome when snakes encounter snake-intolerant people.

Avoiding Snake Encounters

Understanding snakes and their habits can help with avoiding a snake encounter. Oftentimes movies and the popular press play upon people’s fear of snakes for entertainment purposes. Snakes do not chase someone down and try to do harm. A venomous snake observed from a distance and left alone is completely harmless.

The camouflage of pit vipers makes them well-suited to hiding undetected in

locations where prey species are likely to be present. Snakes wait for their prey underneath or beside logs, rocks and debris. To avoid pit vipers, walk on paths with clear visibility and little ground cover where snakes may be easily seen. Never step over logs or other obstacles unless you can see the other side. Carry a walking stick, make noise and be wary, particularly of where your foot is about to step. When walking or hiking outdoors in an area known for snakes, wear snakeproof boots at least 10 inches high or snake leggings.

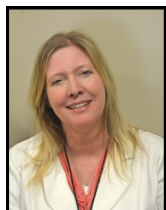
Pattern your outdoor activity to avoid snakes. Snakes are “cold-blooded,” which means their body temperature is similar to their surroundings. Most snakes prefer to maintain body heat at about 86 degrees F, though they are active in temperatures ranging from 50 to 104 degrees F. Snakes often seek particular locations to regulate their body temperature. In the heat of summer, snakes are more active at night and seek cooler areas for daytime retreat. When walking at night in the summer months, use a flashlight. In the late fall and early spring, snakes seek rocks or patches of sunlight to bask and heat their bodies and tend to be more active during daylight hours. Be snake alert when walking through rocky areas or in leaf litter, which can camouflage a snake.

When cleaning debris, watch where you put your hands and feet. If possible, don’t put fingers under debris you intend to move. Use a wooden pole to move or flip the object first to make sure a snake isn’t hidden underneath.

If you encounter a snake, step back and allow it to go on its way. Snakes usually don’t move fast, and you can retreat from the snake’s path.

Excerpts from the University of Arkansas Cooperative Extension Service article by Rebecca McPeake, Associate Professor and Extension Specialist Wildlife, University of Arkansas, Division of Agriculture

Seeing the good in people



Cathy Frye
Public
Information
Officer

As your public information officer, I read - and often save - each and every incident report that hits my mailbox.

Each day, I'm so impressed by the scope of your duties. I read about searches for missing seniors or lost children; searches led by our tracking dogs at

the request of area law enforcement agencies that are trying to catch fugitives; efforts to save the lives of inmates who get hurt or fall ill.

If the public knew of all this, I'm sure they would puzzle over it. After all, you're employed by the prison system. Why would you be out with a county sheriff looking for a lost kid or chasing down a fugitive? Why would you fret over a terminally ill inmate's comfort?

A few years ago, I might have wondered the same.

Not anymore.

On Oct. 6, 2013, after spending five days and four nights lost in Texas' vast Chihuahuan Desert, I was found - filthy, naked and studded with hundreds of cactus spines and needles - by search-and-rescue teams.

Even then, as my rescuers took off their own shirts to cover me, even as they checked my pulse and asked if I knew my name - I was humbled.

I had felt so alone. And yet all of these people had spent the last 36 hours looking for me in some of the harshest terrain that Texas has to offer.

I was even more humbled when I learned of the many entities and

agencies that participated in the search: Texas game wardens; Texas Parks & Wildlife state park police officers; Texas Guardsmen; a statewide volunteer organization called TEXSAR; the Department of Public Safety; sheriff's deputies; the U.S. Border Patrol ... and so on. Even Arkansas' elected officials offered help. They called their peers in Texas, asked if they could help provide resources. Someone even called the Texas Governor's Office.

I was lost in Big Bend Ranch State Park. The closest city is nearly a two-hour drive away. Some of my searchers drove nine hours just to get to the park's headquarters.

And then there were those who worked tirelessly behind the scenes, like the two 911 dispatchers who called my family members every couple of hours - even in the middle of the night - to update them on the search.

What really got me though, was the Border Patrol helicopter pilot, who, despite the federal government's shutdown, hopped in his chopper and flew to an area hastily cleared by the SAR teams to airlift me out of the desert.

Last weekend, Texas Parks & Wildlife, which owns and operates Big Bend Ranch State Park, honored ALL of those who participated in my search-and-rescue. Agency leaders even invited those who worked for private companies, like the flight nurses who tended to me in the air ambulance that flew me to El Paso.

It was one hell of a reunion, let me tell you. Lots of crying. Lots of shared memories. Lots of hugs and photos.

So I guess my point is that I read these ADC incident reports, and I'm so impressed by just how much our staff does to help out other agencies.

I read about our dogs tracking lost kids or how a group of off-duty correctional officers rescued a man from his submerged truck, and I am reminded once again that people - most of them, anyway - are good.

That can be hard to remember in our environment. I mean, we're in the business of incarcerating those who have done bad. As a journalist of 21 years, I had gotten pretty cynical about whether there was any good left in this world.

And then I experienced that moment when a group of men and women pulled socks from their backpacks and covered my bare feet. I remember how they wrapped me in their shirts and blankets to stop my shivering. (The temperature had dropped to 37 degrees that last night I was alone in the desert.)

I remember how they cried when I thanked them for those small kindnesses.

In this issue of *The Advocate*, you'll read about an officer who saved the life of an inmate who was choking. Yesterday, I watched a staff member ask if she could drop by the infirmary to visit a terminally ill inmate at Cummins.

I truly believe there is more good in this world than bad.

And our ADC staff - from our non-security employees who ensure that eOmis does what it's supposed to do, to our officers who must face danger on a daily basis - prove daily that I'm right.

God bless all of you. And be safe.

There are no shortcuts to any place worth going.

Beverly Sills

Prison Gang Activity Presented

Warden Tami Aiken gave a presentation on prison gangs for area law enforcement at the Washington County Sheriff's Department. Two presentations were given, a morning session and evening session. Topics included an introduction to the most prevalent gangs seen in the ADC, the dynamics of prison gangs, some information on gang management efforts, and how gang activities can impact public safety.



Job changes

Warden **David White** became the Warden of the Tucker Unit April 20. He joined **Deputy Wardens John Lowe and Moses Jackson**. Warden **Stephen Williams** became the Warden of the North Central Unit and joined **Deputy Warden Eddie Selvey**.

Linda Williams will join the mental health staff at the North Central Unit reporting to Mental Health Administrator **Bob Parker**.

“I know the Majors and staff will support these employees as they make the transition,” stated **Director Wendy Kelley**.



UAM at Cummins

Confined Livestock Manager **Greg Stephens** tours **Dr. Jason Cater** and students from the University of Arkansas at Monticello through the swine facility at the Cummins farm recently. **Cater** assisted ADC with swine mortality rates and used this as a teaching opportunity for his students.



Gumms enjoy agency benefit

Of the many benefits that ADC offers staff, one the best, yet least known about, is the Children’s Educational Activity Leave (CEAL).

Jim Gumm of the Arkansas Reentry Team (ART) and **Gina Gumm** who works with Centralized Records at the Pine Bluff Unit, recently accompanied their grandson, Xavier Carroll, on a field trip to the Mid America Science Museum in Hot Springs.

Although both have served many years with the Department, the

Gumms said they only became aware of this policy in 2012.

“This policy that allows parents and grandparents to enjoy a learning activity field trip with their sons, daughters or grandchildren is just great,” said Jim Gumm. “I wish more staff members would take advantage of this and other opportunities the Department offers.”

The policy *AD 2014-06 (also in the employee handbook, see article below)* explains the requirement and eligibility for use.



Jim and Gina Gumm accompany grandson Xavier on a field trip to Mid America Science Musuem.



Facts about policy and conduct

Do you have questions about ADC policies and procedures? Then send in your topics to The Advocate, and we’ll be glad to get you the facts. Contact KAT at kathlyn.atkinson@arkansas.gov with questions.

EMPLOYEE HANDBOOK

Leave Programs (in part . . . more to come in following editions)

Children’s Educational Activities Leave – As a full-time ADC employee, you are entitled to eight (8) hours of leave during any one calendar year for the purpose of attending or assisting with the educational activities of a child enrolled in pre-kindergarten through grade 12. The child must be one of the following relationships to you:

- a. Natural child;
- b. Adopted child;
- c. Stepchild;
- d. Foster child;
- e. Grandchild;
- f. Legal Guardian or custodian of child ordered by a court.
- g. You are acting as a parent for the child in any other legal capacity; or
- h. The child is over eighteen (18) years of age and has a developmental disability or is declared legally incompetent

“Educational Activity” means any school-sponsored activity including without limitations:

- a. A Parent-Teacher Conference;
- b. Participation in school sponsored tutoring;
- c. Participation in school sponsored volunteer program;
- d. A field trip;
- e. A classroom program;
- f. A school committee meeting;
- g. An academic competition; or
- h. Assisting with athletic, music or theater programs

All ADC employees shall be entitled to eight (8) total hours of leave, regardless of the number of children, during any one (1) calendar year for the purpose of attending or assisting with the educational activities of a child. Children’s Educational Activities Leave that is unused may not be carried over to the next year. Children’s Educational Activities Leave is not compensable to the state employee at the time of retirement or termination. Documentation supporting the “Educational Activity” must be attached to the leave request prior to use of leave.

TRAINING ACADEMY

Training Academy Graduates:

Class 2015-C, March 27, 2015



Bonnie Arrell, Malik Avant, Damonteago Barnum, James Bennett, Carl Boles, Jeremy Bratton, Shaquille Brown, Angelique Cooper, Megan Corbell, Gordon Davidson, Jennifer Davis, Jason Dickson, Robert Ditty, Ebony Donaldson, Scott Dyer, La Jarreyan Evans, Jason Finn, Aminnica Gardner, James Goynes, Montavious Graham, Myra Hall, Dylan Harralston, Travis Hebert, Katrina Hill, Derrick Holmes, Brenda Howard, Corvasse Hudson, Drashun James-Caffrey, Kimber Johnson, Michael Johnson, Hillary Jones, Mia Joshua, Matthew LaRue, Roshonda Martin, Jabreka Massey, William Milligan, Miasha Morgan, Jason Parker, Anthony Pendergrass, Zachary Pyle, Paul Rivera, Davonda Robinson, Kierra Robinson, Joseph Smith, III, Steven Smith, Brian Taylor, Jr., David Taylor, Jr., Justin Taylor, Darren Thomas, Roderick Trotter, Bobby White, William Wilfong, Dejuan Wills, Joshua Wyers, and Utaw Zakrzewski.

**Willis H. Sargent
Outstanding Student
Achievement Award**



The Willis H. Sargent student for Class 2015-C is David Taylor, Jr., second from left, with Industry Supervisor Bob Carter, from left, Training Academy Administrator Fred Campbell, and Warden James 'Hoot' Gibson.

Training Academy Graduates: Class 2015-D, April 17, 2015

**Willis H. Sargent
Outstanding Student
Achievement Award**



NO GROUP PHOTO AVAILABLE:

Sarah Abernathy, Vincent Arnaud, Jr., Quinton Baker, Michael Bell, Marrisa Bolden, Carlton Bryant, David Burks, Jermy Burnett, Raquel Cook, Crystal Cooley, Bladen Croslin, Asia Grady, Shanique Gray, Ariel Green, Austin Hall, Polaris Hendrix, Damien Hodges, Jr., Candice Holliday, Andrew Isom, Marquita Jackson, Christie Jennings, Robert King, Jonathan Lindsey, Christian McCullough, James McDonald, Joshua Merritt, Tristan Mitchum, Calvin Neal, Burell Nix, Latoria Ransom, John Ray, Ricky Riggins, Jacob Rodgers, Brittney Selvy, Balame Smith, Stephanie Smith, Riley Surratt, Bryan Thurman, and Dow Williams, Jr.

The Willis H. Sargent student for Class 2015-D is Christie Jennings, middle, with Director Wendy Kelley, left and Training Academy Administrator Fred Campbell.

Promotions & New Hires

Promotions

Date	Name	Position	Unit
3/23/2015	Deidre Harris	Mailroom Service Coordinator	Tucker
3/29/2015	Misty Coleman	Sergeant	Maximum Security
3/29/2015	Charles Ellis Jr	Project Specialist	Construction
3/29/2015	Matthew Estridge	Sergeant	Ouachita
3/29/2015	Joseph Grantham	Industrial Supervisor II	East Arkansas
3/29/2015	Telly Lawson	Sergeant	Grimes
3/29/2015	Brenda Parker	Records Supervisor	Classification
3/29/2015	Charles Poole	Food Preparation Supervisor	McPherson
3/29/2015	Akasha Walker	Sergeant	Maximum Security
4/12/2015	Clinton Baker	Lieutenant	Grimes
4/12/2015	Charles Ballard	Industrial Supervisor I	Industry-EARU
4/12/2015	Moses Byles	Advisor	MH-McPherson
4/12/2015	Phalia Carter	Advisor	MH-Varner
4/12/2015	Bruce Golden	Sergeant	Grimes
4/12/2015	Alonda Kendrick	Records Supervisor	Hawkins
4/12/2015	Steven Loftin	Sergeant	Cummins
4/12/2015	Gregory Stephens	Head Farm Manager I	Farm-Cummins
4/12/2015	Jahmorris Tyson	Agriculture Unit Supervisor II	Farm-Cummins
4/12/2015	Jonathan Warner	Lieutenant	Benton

New Hires

Date	Name	Position	Unit
3/30/2015	John C Allen	Project Specialist	Construction
3/30/2015	Misty Brewer	Advisor	MH-North Central
3/30/2015	Verenice Cabriaes	Advisor	MH-Ouachita
3/30/2015	Erin Dillon	Administrative Specialist I	Randall L Williams
3/30/2015	Joy McDonald	Administrative Specialist I	MH-Ouachita
3/30/2015	Mark Warner	Deputy Warden	East Arkansas
3/30/2015	Soweto Watson	Administrative Specialist I	Construction
4/1/2015	Tammy Dutton	Human Resource Assistant	Construction
4/6/2015	Sandra Staggs	Administrative Specialist II	Farm
4/12/2015	Amanda Hickerson	Administrative Specialist II	Maximum Security
4/12/2015	Douglas Lockhart	Sergeant	East Arkansas
4/13/2015	Jessica Persons	Administrative Specialist I	Tucker

ADC ADVOCATE EMPLOYEES NEWSLETTER

ADC Mission Statement

- *To provide public safety by carrying out the mandate of the courts.*
- *To provide a safe humane environment for staff and inmates.*
- *To strengthen the work ethic through teaching of good habits.*
- *To provide opportunities for staff and inmates to improve spiritually, mentally, and physically.*

The *ADC Advocate* newsletter is published monthly by the Communications Office 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.

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Parting Shots



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