

THE ADVOCATE

A publication for employees of the Arkansas Department of Correction



Holiday Edition 2016



The Tucker Unit commemorates its centennial

The Tucker Unit held a [centennial commemoration](#) on Friday, Dec. 16 at the Island of Hope Chapel. The unit opened its doors to inmates 100 years ago!

On February 16, 1916, the state purchased 1,384.64 acres of land that would become Tucker State Farm, today's Tucker Unit. Additional land was later purchased.

From stockade to modular-style housing, brozene to digital money, male to female inmates and back to male Tucker has made many transitions through its century, and made progress in many of its original areas, like farming.

Although it was known for many years as the prison where death row and the execution chamber were located, other monumental prison events have occurred there. The ADC's first GED students graduated at the unit in 1974. The notorious Tucker Telephone became nationally known through the movie

Brubaker in 1980. The unit was chosen for the filming location of the 1973 movie [White Lightning](#), starring Burt Reynolds. Tucker Unit search dogs and correctional officers were used for small roles in the movie.

Arkansas Board of Corrections Vice-Chairman Dr. Mary Parker-Reed presented a commemoration address at the event acknowledging the rich history of Tucker. ADC director, Wendy Kelley, gave closing comments. Warden Joe Page, II was joined by former wardens Marvin Evans, Steven Williams, Jerry Campbell and David White. The [Old State House Museum](#) displayed in the Tucker Unit gym the state's first electric chair, the Tucker Telephone and other relics. The program ended with a tour of the Tucker Unit.

Director's Corner



As 2016 comes to an end, and we begin this new year. I am grateful for each member of our department! We have so many dedicated and talented people. 2016 was full of challenges that gave staff many opportunities to shine... we had escapes (all recaptured), batteries committed upon staff and inmates where both were heroes, accidents, contraband issues – including the surge in K-2, the need to call in negotiators at Delta, tornadoes, a 100-year commemoration at the Tucker Unit, the start of an anger management treatment program at Cummins, Re-entry Barracks at each unit, Step-Down barracks at Varner, MSU and the Edovo tablet project at EARU for those earning their way out of segregation. We have had many successes and too many loses. Through the year, we remained true to our Public Safety mission.

Thank you for rising to the challenge as we continue to try new methods, policies and programs. We are making a difference with our re-entry programs, opening more beds for the mentally ill within our system, the excellent CORP training for our staff that started several years ago, and the new behavioral health training, and the leaders who have stepped up to provide guidance and make the tough decisions. I believe the new policies on Restrictive Housing and the policies on the

Step-Down programs that go into effect Feb. 1, 2017, implementation of Think Legacy and expansion of motivational interviewing will improve public safety by reminding all of us that those in our custody are members of our community who need to be prepared before they are released. As we have discussed, almost 90 percent of our inmates will be released, and they will be neighbors of ours and of our loved ones. We want them to be released in a better and safer frame of mind than when they were sentenced to us.

The role our staff plays in setting the example of how people should be treated cannot be stressed enough! What you do, say, and your response to each other and to inmates makes everyone's day safer, or more stressful. Kindness goes a long way, but an insult can hurt even deeper. It is disheartening to read the incident reports of how some people treat others. I regret that we do not always show each other the respect we deserve. Please, continue to do your part to make these negative behaviors the exception within our agency.

I hope 2017 will bring joy to each of you. I am confident it will bring more changes for our agency, and I will do my best, as I know you will, to be a positive influence. Be safe!

Wendy Kelley
Director

Words From the PIO

As we begin a new year, we also see the beginning a new legislative session. In odd-numbered years, the 135 members of our General Assembly meet in Regular Session where they consider policy and fiscal issues impacting the state. Criminal Justice issues will once again be a major focus for them. Over the last 18-months a legislative taskforce has been working with the Council of State Governments to look for ways to slow the growth of our inmate population and to reform our sentencing laws and parole policies. Director Kelley and other ADC staff have been involved with this process since the beginning. We are optimistic

about the proposals that have come from the taskforce and you should be too. You will most likely see and hear a lot during the upcoming session. Some things might excite you and some things might appear to be a challenge. Our Session Team will be working hard over the next several weeks to ensure that whatever changes come out of the session advance public safety, further our mission, and provide for the collective welfare of our inmates and staff. Thank you for all that you do. Be safe!

Solomon Graves
Public Information Officer



ADC Advocate

Red Ribbon 5K brings good numbers benefiting charity

Early Saturday, Oct. 26, 154 runners lined up to run in the 27th annual Red Ribbon 5K. With good, mild racing weather, the 3.1-mile race put another success in the books. 34-year old Misty Douthit was the overall female



There is strength in numbers. This group runs an enjoyable pace.



Seeing the finish line can be deceivingly motivating.

winner with a time of 29:33 (minutes, seconds). The overall male time was 20:35, ran by 52-year old John Thrash.

Proceeds from the race go towards the Red Ribbon Scholarship Fund that is awarded to five high school seniors annually.

Two receive commendation letters from Governor Hutchinson



Warden Nurzuhal Faust and her administrative assistant, Suzie Inskeep, Ouachita River Correctional Facility, were personally recognized by Gov. Asa Hutchinson for their service to our state. In a response to an email sent by Ms. June Taylor praising the two's work, the governor sent both a letter of commendation.

In his Dec. 29, 2016 letter to Faust, Hutchinson praised her for her service and her positive representation. He says, "I thank you for serving in such a way that I can receive positive feedback from Arkansans regarding this great state's civil servants."

He praised Inskeep for her professionalism and kind demeanor. "Best wishes to you as you continue to set an excellent example of public service," he said.

Paws in Prison receives huge dog food donation, check

The [Paws In Prison](#) program received two donations recently. On Nov. 1, 2016, the Humane Society of Pulaski County and Pet Fresh Dog Food donated 124, 3.5-pound bags of food and 48, 6.5-pound bags of food. Lt. Troy Moore and Lt. Kevin Glover of the Central Office K-9 unit accompanied PIP Coordinator Tricia Dodson-Ross to Little Rock to pick up the food.

"Thank you to the [Humane Society of Pulaski County](#) and Pet Fresh Dog Food for their recent donation to our program," Dodson-Ross said. "Also, a big thank you to Kevin and Troy for making the trip on such short notice."

PIP received another donation in the form of a check from Dana Gentry, who won the Admin. East Halloween Door Decoration contest, allowing her to donate the winning \$25 check to the charity of her choice. She chose PIP.



From left: Lt. Troy Moore, Debbie Howell (Humane Society), Tricia Dobson-Ross and Lt. Kevin Glover in Little Rock to load dog food.



Tricia Dobson-Ross, in blue, receives a \$25 check from Dana Gentry, in red. Gentry won the \$25 check for having the best Halloween decorated door.

Returning servicemen honored with quilts

Returning servicemen and service women at the Grimes Unit are receiving a warm welcome from the “Happy Quilters.” Around 2004, a group of ladies from Tuckerman began making patriotic quilts of red, white and blue for servicemen returning from the Middle East. Now, they are in the process of making quilts for each returning service members employed at the Grimes Unit.

The quilters have made over 400 quilts since they started the group – 93 of those in 2016! Each quilt is given with a pocket prayer, with lots of prayers for safety and thanks for their service.



CO-I Nicholas Feemster



Cpl. Daniel Barrett



CO-I Samuel Kaepfel



Cpl. Jagdipkumar Patel

High Five

EARU rocks, gives

Between the dates of Nov. 1 and 14, EARU staff collected 1,231 can goods and non-perishable food items for needy families. They divided the items into 20 care packages. The Employees Association added a Turkey to each package and delivered the items to families on Nov. 17, 2016.



EARU staff collect an abundance of food for local needy families.



EARU staff wear pink on Oct. 26 in support of breast cancer awareness.

SOCNA counselor shows excellent interrogation skills, awarded

Seletta Hamilton, SOCNA counselor, was given special recognition by General Counsel Lauren Heil for her excellent ability to get truthful answers from offenders.

“I have spent years watching police interrogations, and while the conditions are somewhat different,” Heil said, “I have never seen anyone with Ms. Hamilton’s instincts or persistence.”

Lauren Heil honors Seleta Hamilton with an Above and Beyond certificate for her superior interviewing skills.



Employee Awards

Partial list



*Richard Cooper,
Supervisor of the Year,
Construction*



*Robert Parker,
Supervisor of the Year,
Heath/Programs*



*Fred Campbell,
Supervisor of the Year,
Administrative Services*



*Jeania Scifres, Monica McFalls and
Wanda Reeves,
35 years of service*



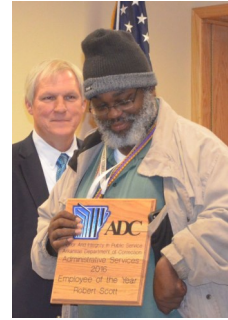
*Chris Brown,
Employee of the Year,
Institutions*



*Jamie Johnson-Braden,
Employee of the Year,
Legal Services*



*Gwendola Goins,
Employee of the Year,
Construction*



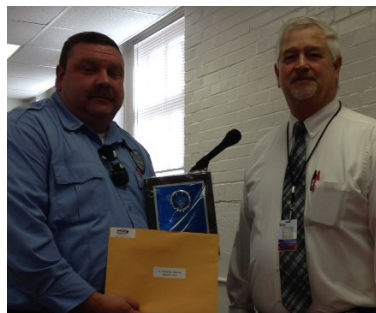
*Robert Scott,
Employee of the Year,
Administrative Services*



*Teresa Funderburg and
Fred Campbell,
30 years of service*



*Latasha Young,
Supervisor of the Year, Benton,
Non-security, Kitchen*



*Jonathan Warner,
Correctional Officer of the Year,
Benton*



*Lynn Dozier,
Employee of the Year, Benton,
Medical Records*

Award program held for employees, supervisors

An employee awards program was held on Dec. 14, 2016, 2:00 p.m., for employees at the Administrative Annex East and Central Office. A pre-award meal was hosted by Administrative Annex East and Central Office Employee Association.

Awards were presented by Deputy Director Dexter Payne, Assistant Director Mike Carraway, Assistant Director Gail Mainard and HR Administrator Stacia Lenderman. There were 30 nominees for Employee and Supervisor of the Year awards.

There were an impressive 69 employees who received Service Awards. Nadine Burkett was the lone recipient of a 40-year award. Six were awarded for 35 years of service, four for 30 years, eight for 25 years, four for 20 years, 10 for 15 years, 20 for 10 years and 16 for five years. For a complete list of those awarded for service go [here](#).

You can see a list of all awarded supervisors and employees, and a list of those who were nominated [here](#).



On July 14, 2015 President Barack [Obama announced](#) that he had asked Attorney General Loretta Lynch to conduct a review of the overuse of solitary confinement in American prisons. His directive purposed that the review be not simply be to understand how, when, and why correctional facilities isolate certain prisoners from the general inmate population, but also to develop strategies to reduce solitary confinement use throughout the criminal justice system. Over the past several months, the ADC has developed policies and practices that will help reduce the number of inmates housed in “Administrative Segregation,” or what we now know as “Restrictive Housing.”

Restrictive Housing is a placement that requires an inmate to be confined to a cell at least 22 hours per day.

Extended Restrictive Housing is placement in housing that separates the inmate from contact with general population while restricting an inmate to his/her cell for 22 hours per day, and for 30 days or longer for the safe and secure operation of the facility.

ADC Deputy Director Dexter Payne explains that there are more than 50 “Guiding Principles,” which are intended as best practices for correctional facilities across the U.S. criminal justice system. These principles are designed to serve as a roadmap for correctional systems seeking direction on reforms and address a range of topics, including the use of disciplinary segregation, protective custody, and long-term administrative segregation; the conditions of confinement in restrictive housing; and the treatment of certain categories of inmates, including juveniles, pregnant women, LGBTI inmates and inmates with serious mental illness.

Guiding Principles, but not limited to, include:

- Inmates should be housed in the least restrictive setting necessary to ensure their own safety, as well as the safety of staff, other inmates and the public.
- Correctional systems should always be able to clearly articulate the specific reason(s) for an inmate’s placement and retention in restrictive housing. The reason(s) should be supported by objective evidence. Inmates should remain in restrictive housing for no longer than necessary to address the specific reason(s) for placement.
- An inmate’s initial and ongoing placement in restrictive housing should be regularly reviewed by a multi-disciplinary staff committee, which should include not only the leadership of the institution where the inmate is housed, but also medical and mental health professionals.
- For every inmate in restrictive housing, correctional staff should develop a clear plan for returning the inmate to less restrictive conditions as promptly as possible. This plan should be shared with the inmate.
- All correctional staff should be regularly trained on restrictive housing policies. Correctional systems should ensure that compliance with restrictive housing policies is reflected in employee-evaluation systems.
- Absent a compelling reason, prison inmates should not be released directly from restrictive housing to the community.
- Correctional systems should seek ways to increase the minimum amount of time that inmates in restrictive housing spend outside their cells and to offer enhanced in-cell opportunities. Out-of-cell time should include opportunities for recreation, education, clinically appropriate treatment therapies, skill-building and social interaction with staff and other inmates.

“We have established policy for Restrictive Housing (AD 17-02) and for a Step-Down Program (17-03) that will assist us in reducing the number of inmates in Restrictive Housing,” Payne said. “This will be a huge change in what we are used to doing in our segregated areas, however I know that we have the staff that will not only embrace the change, we will excel in accomplishing the goal of reducing the number of inmates in Restrictive Housing.”



Assistant Director Mike Carraway passes away at 55, ADC loses valued leader, friend

With his usual warm smile, Assistant Director Mike Carraway welcomed attendees and presented awards at the department's annual award program held four days prior to his death.

Assistant Director Mike Carraway's death touches the heart of the ADC. Carraway died Saturday, Dec. 17, 2016 at the age of 55.

The department will miss his service, his presence and his friendship. We will not forget him. He was a remarkable person.

Director Wendy Kelley said, "He was a mentor, co-worker and member of the department; he had a wealth of knowledge, which he would happily share with others. He was a friend who provided an encouraging word – 'as long as we have our team, we will be okay'."

Although most of us only knew him as the person he was at the ADC, he had an enriched life outside of work.

He was born on March 16, 1961 in Clarksdale, Mississippi to the late Hugh W. and Joyce Taylor Carraway. His hobbies were hunting, fishing, marksmanship and parenting his son, Noah. The greatest joy in his life was being Noah's father, and he was proud to have that title. He was a huge St. Louis Cardinals fan. The only team he liked better was Noah's and he did not miss a game that Noah played. He was generous and was always open to anyone who needed help.

He is survived by his son, Noah Carraway of Sheridan; brothers, Steve Carraway of Springfield, Ohio and Richard Carraway and wife Jessica of Newport, Arkansas; sister, Cindy Crouch and husband David of Columbus, Ohio.

Parting Shots

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.



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The *ADC Advocate* newsletter is published bimonthly by the Public Information 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.

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.

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.

Send information for *The Advocate* to Kathy at katherine.kelly@arkansas.gov.

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

Happy New Year

