

Hotline

National Crime
Victims' Rights Week

April 26-May 2

www.ojp.usdoj.gov/ovc/ncvrw



DOC NEWS

Sentencing to Service (STS) and Institution/Community Work Crews (ICWC) are assisting with **flood prevention efforts** across northwestern Minnesota. As many as 15 ICWC and STS crews are filling and placing sandbags in communities along the Red River and other areas to protect homes, businesses and public buildings. Cold, rain, and snowstorms are making flood prevention work more difficult. Crews from Wilkin, Otter Tail, Douglas, Pope, Clay, Hubbard, Mahnomen, Becker, Roseau, Beltrami and Pennington counties were involved in the effort. Mike Stoltman, Moorhead district supervisor, is working through local emergency management officials and sheriffs' departments to determine areas of need and coordinate crews. Information about Minnesota's disaster relief and recovery efforts is available at www.MinnesotaRecovers.org.

The annual **Day of Peace** was held March 30 at the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Red Wing. During this event, approximately 140 young male residents at the facility interacted with Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Adolfo Perez Esquivel. Esquivel spoke to residents about *Breaking the Cycle of Violence – Creating Lasting Peace*. The **Day of Peace** is a collaborative effort between the MCF-Red Wing and the nonprofit youthrive. For more information, visit <http://youthrive.net>.

Governor Tim Pawlenty released his **revised budget** for FY10-11 following the February forecast. The governor's budget continues to recognize public safety as a key priority. One notable change from the January budget would repeal the requirement for short-term offenders (STOs) – felony offenders with 180 day or less to serve at the time of sentencing – to serve their sentences in local jails. Instead, STOs would serve their time at a Minnesota Department of Corrections' (DOC) facility. This change will provide relief for counties and is projected to cost approximately \$8.2 million in the next two years.

Thanks to a deck of **cold case playing cards**, the Bureau of Criminal Apprehension (BCA) has positively identified skeletal remains found in 1989 as Deanna Patnode. Each card in the cold case deck features an unsolved homicide, missing person or unidentified re-

mains case from throughout Minnesota in the past 50 years. A facial reconstruction photo from Patnode's remains was featured on the four of diamonds in the cold case deck. A member of the public saw the cards on the BCA's website and recognized her. DNA testing confirmed her identity.

The playing card initiative was announced in October 2008 by the BCA and the DOC. The decks of cards were distributed to 10,000 offenders in Minnesota prisons, as well as police and sheriff's departments and jail facilities. View the cards at www.bca.state.mn.us/ColdCase/UnsolvedCards.asp.

The Pew Center on the States released **One in 31: The Long Reach of American Corrections**, a report that examines the scale and cost of prison, jail, probation and parole in the United States. Nationally, 1 in 31 or 7.3 million adults are under some form of correctional supervision – prison, jail, probation or supervised release (parole). In Minnesota, that number is 1 in 26 or 152,319 adults. Overall, two-thirds of offenders are supervised in the community, not behind bars. For Minnesota, which has the 49th lowest incarceration rate, 1 in 211 people are incarcerated and 1 in 30 is under community supervision. Visit www.pewtrusts.org/our_work_report_detail.aspx?id=49694&category=74 to view the full report.

The January 1, 2009, **Adult Inmate Profile Card** is now available on the DOC's website. The profile card is published twice annually, providing a snapshot of the adult inmate population on January 1 and July 1 of each year. The profile includes general statistics about the number of inmates, offense type by category, average age, education level and population by facility. Data about STOs and the number of admissions and releases is also available. Visit www.doc.state.mn.us/aboutdoc/stats/documents/01-09AdultProfile.pdf to view the card.

A **\$500 scholarship** is available from the Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA). Applicants must be a dependent of a current MCA member and an incoming student or currently enrolled in an accredited two- or four-year college. The deadline



to apply is September 1, 2009. Visit www.mn-ca.org/Organization/2008PostSecondaryEducationScholarship/tabid/264/Default.aspx for information about scholarship criteria and an application form.

A **toolkit** has been developed for Second Chance Act (SCA) reentry demonstration project grant applicants. The toolkit includes a checklist to help applicants meet requirements and a resource guide to help develop a successful reentry initiative. The SCA is federal legislation that provides grants to government agencies and community organizations to provide employment assistance, housing, mentoring and other services that can help reduce recidivism. The toolkit is available at www.reentrypolicy.org/government_affairs/second_chance_act.

STAFF CHANGES

Eddie Miles has been named warden of the MCF-Lino Lakes. Miles, whose appointment is effective April 15, began working for the department in 1992 as a corrections officer at the MCF-Lino Lakes. In 1997, he became an investigator with the Office of Special Investigations, working at central office, Shakopee, Oak Park Heights, and Stillwater prisons. Miles accepted a program director position at the MCF-Stillwater in 2005 and, for the past year, has served as associate warden of operations. "Eddie's experiences and demonstrated leadership make him highly qualified for the varied and challenging duties of a Minnesota warden," said Corrections Commissioner Joan Fabian. Miles succeeds Robert Feneis who has announced his retirement.

Karen Thorsen has accepted the associate warden of administration position at the MCF-Faribault effective March 30. Thorsen has worked in corrections for 24 years, as a corrections officer, case manager, program director and an institution services director. Her experience includes managing offender housing units, administrative functions and staff supervision. Thorsen succeeds Jim Reiser who accepted the associate warden of operations position at the MCF-Rush City.

Deb Kerschner has been named information & technology director, effective March 18 – a position she has held in an acting capacity since October 2008. Kerschner began working for the DOC in 2000 as the project manager for the Statewide Supervision System and later as manager of the information services unit.

Prior to working at the DOC, she served in IT positions for Dakota and Dodge-Filmore-Olmsted Community Corrections.

UPCOMING EVENTS

A new training cycle for **Minnesota Circles of Support and Accountability (MnCoSA)** volunteers will begin April 25. MnCoSA strives to reduce the risk of future victimization by supporting sex offenders as they reenter the community following incarceration. To learn more about this volunteer opportunity, visit www.doc.state.mn.us/volunteer/mncosa.htm.

Joe Davis, a professor in the Department of Sociology and Corrections at Minnesota State University (MSU)-Mankato, is retiring in May. Faculty and former students are invited to a retirement reception on May 2 from 2-4 p.m. at MSU's Student Center. Cards may also be sent to: Dr. Joe Davis, Department of Sociology and Corrections, AH113, Minnesota State University, Mankato, Minnesota 56001 or to joe.davis@msu.edu.

The MCF-Red Wing will host the 27th annual **Field Services Conference** May 14-15. On the 14th, Tommy Watson, author of *A Face of Courage*, will present *Changing the Behavior*, and Phil Chalmers will present *Inside the Mind of a Teen Killer*. A Youth Level of Service (YLS) booster will be offered on Friday, with registration limited to 24. Deadline for early registration is May 1 at a cost of \$25. For more information or to register, contact Judi Mickelson at 651/267-3672.

MCA is offering a training opportunity, **Officer Safety/ Search & Seizure**, May 15 at the Redwood Falls Community Center. The workshop will include managing aggressive behavior, officer safety, defensive tactics, and search & seizure/field safety considerations. For more information or to register, visit www.mn-ca.org/CalendarofEvents/tabid/86/ModuleID/447/ItemID/13/mctl/EventDetails/Default.aspx?selecteddate=5/15/2009.

The **Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers'** 52nd annual spring conference is scheduled for May 20-21 at Breezy Point Resort near Brainerd, Minnesota. Visit www.macpo.org for more information as it becomes available.