

# Hotline



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## CORRECTIONS NEWS

April 10-16 was **National Crime Victims' Rights Week**. This event brings together crime victims and service providers to promote victims' rights and services,



Woody Lee and Jon Cummings spoke to offenders about the devastating effects of drunk driving

and educate communities about the devastating impact of crime. Several victims spoke to offenders in Department of Corrections (DOC) prisons, including Jon Cummings of **Minnesotans for Safe Driving**, whose son was killed by a drunk driver, and Woody Lee, who has brain damage and life-long injuries from being hit by a drunk driver.

Other speakers included Mary Johnson who, after some time, forgave her son's killer

and now speaks with him around the state about restorative justice. Offenders also participated in fundraisers for victim programs.

The DOC's **Fugitive Apprehension Unit** unit captured two high-profile level 3 offenders last month. Eugene Glaraton was found in Roseville and Jack Frazier was apprehended in the Norton Park neighborhood of Duluth. Both offenders had absconded from their supervised release and were part of a state-wide manhunt. For more information, see [doc.state.mn.us](http://doc.state.mn.us).



Kelley Heifort with a Girl Scout representative

On April 28, DOC employee **Kelley Heifort** was recognized by the Girl Scouts for her work with the *Mothers with Fabulous Daughters* program at the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Shakopee as a Girl

Scout Troop. The program brings together girls whose mother is incarcerated at Shakopee. The girls have regular meetings in the community, as well as meetings at the facility with their mothers. Heifort coordinated the program at Shakopee for two years before joining the DOC's reentry unit as facilities reentry manager in 2011.

On April 12, the DOC unveiled the **Minnesota CHOICE** website. The site connects victims to a database, that allows them to be notified of an offender's custody status. Victims



The Commissioner of Public Safety looks on as Commissioner Roy speaks at the MN Choice news conference

and advocates can create an account by going to [www.minnesotachoice.com](http://www.minnesotachoice.com) or calling the DOC Victim Assistance Program at 1-800-657-3830. The site also connects users to other victim resources.

Each year, the Minnesota Community Corrections Association presents the Robert H. Robinson Service Award to someone who has demonstrated outstanding achievement and dedication to community corrections. This year's recipient is **Willa Lavamaki**, a release planner for the severely mentally ill. She works diligently to help offenders with mental illnesses transition successfully from prison to the community. Lavamaki was also recently named a



Willa Lavamaki



WCCO Radio Good Neighbor for her work to connect offenders returning to the community with vital brain injury supports and services through the Brain Injury Association of Minnesota.

## STAFF CHANGES

**Andy Doom** is retiring after over 40 years with the DOC. Doom began his career as a corrections agent in 1971. In 1974, he transferred to Marshall, where he covered adult felons and gross misdemeanors in 18 counties. In 1987, Doom was promoted to field services district supervisor in St. Cloud, where he served



Andy Doom

for ten years. Doom took over the supervision of the DOC Special Supervision Unit in 1999, which involved supervising Intensive Supervised Release (ISR) agents and the ISR grants in Community Corrections Act counties. In 2001, Andy was promoted to the northern regional manager, where he remains today. He was given the *Board of Directors Award* from the Minnesota Association of Community Corrections Act Counties and named the Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA)'s *Corrections Person of the Year* in 2009. A gathering is planned for May 25 at 5 p.m. at Michael's in St. Cloud. RSVP to Deb Anderson at [debbie.r.anderson@state.mn.us](mailto:debbie.r.anderson@state.mn.us) or 320-223-7659.

Commissioner Tom Roy has named **John King** warden of the MCF-Lino Lakes. King is currently the warden of Stillwater, a position he has held since 2008.



Warden King

He has a vast range of experience within the DOC. After beginning his career as a correctional officer, he held various accounting and supervisory positions before becoming associate warden of operations and then warden at Stillwater. During his career, King was part of the staff that opened the MCF-Oak Park Heights in 1982 and the MCF-Rush City in 2000. "John brings a wealth of experience and knowledge to his new position at Lino Lakes," said Commissioner Roy. "I'm confident he'll continue to be a strong leader for the department." King's appointment is effective May 11.

Commissioner Roy has named **Michelle Smith** warden of the MCF-Stillwater. Smith is currently the associate warden of operations (AWO) at the facility. Smith started with the DOC as a correctional officer at the MCF-Shakopee. After seven years, she transferred to Stillwater as a lieutenant in 1997. Smith went



Warden Smith

on to serve as a program director and associate warden of administration before being named AWO in 2010. "Michelle's demonstrated leadership at Stillwater, combined with her understanding of corrections issues, will make her a strong addition to our warden team," said Commissioner Roy. In 2007, Smith received the MCA's *Board of Directors Award*. Her appointment is effective May 11.

**Brian Rubenstein** will succeed Shelva Swanson as the Detroit Lakes district supervisor. Brian is currently the Red Wing district supervisor. He has experience as a juvenile counselor, a corrections and police officer and an ISR/Challenge Incarceration Program agent. His new position in the Detroit Lakes District begins June 11.

## JOB OPENINGS

The U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement is seeking a Pakistan Corrections Advisor. For more information, visit <http://www.state.gov/p/inl/>.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

The 2011 **Victim Assistance Academy** is July 31-August 5. Applications are due June 3. For more information, see [www.ojp.state.mn.us/](http://www.ojp.state.mn.us/).

The **Minnesota Association of County Probation Officers Spring Conference** is May 25-26. For more information, visit [www.macpo.net/2011springconfreg.php](http://www.macpo.net/2011springconfreg.php).

The Office of Justice Programs **Conference on Crime and Victimization** is May 25-27 in Brainerd, MN. See [www.ojp.state.mn.us/cvs/conference/index.htm](http://www.ojp.state.mn.us/cvs/conference/index.htm).