

NEWS IN CORRECTIONS

Nobel Peace Prize Laureate Betty Williams of Northern Ireland will participate in a *Day of Peace* with residents of the Minnesota Correctional Facility (MCF)-Red Wing on April 13, 2006. Facility residents will interact with Williams about her experiences as a peacemaker and discuss community-based solutions to violence. The *Day of Peace* is a collaborative effort of the Minnesota Department of Corrections (DOC) and a new nonprofit called youthrive. The purpose of the *Day of Peace* is to give residents the opportunity to learn from and be exposed to individuals who have used nonviolent means to make change in their communities – and to look at themselves as peacebuilders as they prepare to transition back into their communities. “The Day of Peace is an important opportunity for youth to learn about positive alternatives to violence,” said Corrections Commissioner Joan Fabian. “Ms. Williams is living proof that a commitment to peace can make an incredible difference in the world.” The day also features concurrent workshops.

youthrive is a nonprofit organization that provides youth with leadership and community service opportunities and is an affiliate of the PeaceJam Foundation based in Colorado. For more information on youthrive, visit www.youthrive.net. ■

The National Geographic Channel is scheduled to air *Lockdown: Inside Maximum Security*, a documentary filmed at the MCF-Oak Park Heights, on the evening of May 7. The facility was selected because of its longstanding, positive reputation of offering programming to offenders in a maximum-security setting – unique compared to most facilities at this security level. The documentary hopes to provide an insider’s view of the facility’s daily operation, including interviews with staff and offenders. *Lockdown* also features two additional segments: *Predators Behind Bars* (Lebanon, Ohio) and *Gangs vs. Guards* (Pelican Bay, California). Broadcast date is subject to change; check local listings for time and channel. ■

Sentencing to Service (STS) crew members are again helping with flood control efforts in northwest Minnesota. Clay County crews filled sandbags for residents to take to threatened areas. In Polk County, crews

helped build dikes around homes, farms, and community areas to protect against rising water. Crews from Marshall, Kittson, and Pennington Counties are performing similar work. When the flood waters recede, STS crews will also be on hand to help with cleanup efforts. ■

The **DOC Housing Program** has a new fund for female offender housing. Rental assistance money in the amount of \$100,000 annually has been set aside as a transitional housing resource during the current biennium. The DOC’s Grants & Subsidies Unit will administer the fund. Requests for rental assistance need to be initiated by the supervising agent. Rental assistance will be distributed to vendors in 30-day increments, for a maximum of 90 days. For further information and/or request forms, contact Rubina Khan at 651/603-0004. ■

Joseph Cosgrove, Associate Warden/Administration at the MCF-Rush City, is retiring June 2, 2006. Cosgrove started his corrections career as an intern at the MCF-St. Cloud in 1970. After graduating from St. Cloud State in 1971, he served in the U.S. Coast Guard for four years. In 1975, he was hired as a parole agent for Blue Earth and surrounding counties and shortly thereafter was made a county probation officer for Blue Earth County. He joined the DOC in 1977 as a case manager at the MCF-St. Cloud. In 1979, Cosgrove transferred to the MCF-Stillwater, where he was later promoted to security caseworker career, corrections supervisor, and cell hall director. He was named as the DOC’s first security director in 1997. Cosgrove accepted his current position at Rush City in 2003. A retirement celebration will be held on May 31, 2006, at 1:30 p.m. in the MCF-Rush City visiting waiting area. For additional information, contact Susy Wolfe at 320/358-0442.

Greg Smith has been appointed to succeed Cosgrove effective June 5, 2006. Smith started his DOC career at the MCF-Oak Park Heights in 1986 as a corrections officer. In 1992, he advanced to corrections security caseworker and in 1998 to career caseworker. Smith was promoted to discipline unit supervisor at the MCF-Rush City in 1999 and later to corrections program director. ■

Mike Fall, Intensive Supervised Release (ISR) District Supervisor, has announced his retirement. Fall began his corrections career in 1969 as a social worker at a private residential treatment center for youth. In 1974, he joined the staff of the Northwest Juvenile Training Center. Three years later, he was appointed county probation officer for Hubbard/Cass Counties. Fall joined the staff of the DOC in 1992 as an agent and later became an ISR agent. In 2001, he was appointed to his current position. Fall's retirement is effective April 18, 2006. ■

Staff of the MCF-Stillwater recently held a drive to collect items for the local women's shelter. The clothing, food, toys, and other articles, valued at \$600, were presented to the Tubman Family Alliance. The donation will be used to support families in crisis. For information about services and resources available through Tubman, visit www.stopfamilyviolence.com. ■

Staff of the MCF-Willow River/Moose Lake donated \$1,610 to the Moose Lake Area Food Shelf through its annual March Check Drive. In the past four years, staff donations totaled nearly \$5,200 and went toward helping those in need in their local area. ■

The **Minnesota Corrections Association** is seeking nominations for awards recognizing excellence by individuals and programs in the field of corrections. Awards will be presented at the MCA Fall Training Institute in October. Nominations must be received by August 15. For nomination categories and procedures, contact Chuck Ness, Box 278, Pipestone, Minnesota 56164 (507/825-6890). ■

OPENINGS

180 Degrees, Inc., seeks a leader to serve as **President/Chief Executive Officer**. Founded in 1973, this Minneapolis-based nonprofit organization provides an array of residential and nonresidential corrections and prevention programs for adults and youth to federal, state, and local units of government. The Board of Directors is seeking a dynamic leader to design and implement evidence-based practices, develop staff, and efficiently manage resources. The incumbent will assure delivery of the highest quality services to clients and customers, manage all agency resources with the highest level of professionalism and ethics, and oversee finances of the organization. Interested candidates must have a minimum of a bachelor's degree in human services, corrections, or business administration. Preferred qualifications are five years of experience in a criminal justice related field, three years administrative and/or public relations experience, grant writing, and nonprofit management experience. The position offers a generous compensation package and benefits. Interested and qualified candidates should send/email a resume with salary expectations to: Paul Schnell, Board Chair, 180 De-

grees, 236 Clifton Avenue, Minneapolis, Minnesota 55403, or email Paul Schnell c/o Lisa@180degrees.org. Applications will be accepted until April 30, 2006. Questions can be directed to 612/813-5022. ■

Applications are being accepted for a current **Corrections Counselor** vacancy with the St. Louis County Jail in Duluth, Minnesota. This position is responsible for counseling inmates and assisting in the planning and development of jail programs. Salary: \$3,215 per month (2005 pay rate). Minimum qualifications: Graduation from an accredited college or university with a bachelor's degree in counseling, psychology, sociology, criminology, or a related field; AND two years of full-time paid experience in a corrections or social services agency with responsibility for the psychosocial counseling of individuals; AND possession of a valid driver's license. For an application, contact the St. Louis County Civil Service/Personnel Department, 100 North 5th Avenue West, Room 1, Duluth, Minnesota 55802, or call 218/726-2422, TTY 218/725-5198, Job Hotline 218/725-5065, or visit www.co.st-louis.mn.us. Apply by April 14, 2006. ■

UPCOMING EVENTS

Moorhead State University Violence & Abuse Studies Institute is pleased to announce its 12th Annual Workshop to be held May 15-17, 2006, in Moorhead. **Methamphetamine: Truths & Consequences** will focus on *policy issues*, including legislative attempts to control use, legal consequences, and recovery programs for abusers; *effects* such as medical health and environmental impacts and the effects on "non-involved" segments of society; *beliefs* entailing popular conceptions and misconceptions; and *future proposals*. For additional information and/or a registration form, visit www.mnstate.edu/vasi. ■

OTHER NEWS

The **Children of Prisoners (COPS) Motorcycle Rally** is scheduled on June 10, 2006, starting in Apple Valley. This event is a fundraiser for Parenting With Purpose, an organization that works with incarcerated parents and their children. Cost is \$30 for a single rider and \$10 for each additional passenger. For information or to register, visit www.copsrun.org or phone Lori at 612/483-8562. ■

Fore! The Minnesota Correctional Education Foundation (MCEF) second annual **Golf Open - Best Ball Scramble** will be held August 18, 2006, at Majestic Oaks Golf Course in Ham Lake, Minnesota. MCEF is seeking golfers, sponsors, and volunteers to staff the tournament. Contact Liz Evensen at 651/642-0285 or liz.evensen@state.mn.us for more tournament information or to learn how to support MCEF in other ways. ■