

# DOCS TODAY

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New York State Department of Correctional Services

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## ‘State readies’ in counties fall to new low



Counties last month held the fewest number ever of “state readies” – 180 felons awaiting transfer to prison, versus 4,271 in 1999. Many of them enter and move through the system beginning at Ulster (above). The record reduction is due to Governor George E. Pataki’s initiatives to reduce crime, expand alternative sentences for nonviolent offenders and construct more cells to house violent inmates.

## Questions remain for Attica Task Force's review

### *Attempt to reach fairness will require answers to several complex questions*

I want to update you on the work of the Attica Task Force which I chair, now that my discussion draft report on our work has been made public by an anonymous source.

Let me first say the report is exactly what the name implies: a place to start discussions among task force members without anyone being committed to those initial recommendations.

Here is a summary of those draft recommendations to address the five issues raised by the Forgotten Victims of Attica, the last but the most innocent of the victims of the 1971 riot.

*Compensation* was recommended at \$8 million for the 50-plus victim families, or ten times the average amount a federal court awarded to more than 500 inmates in their lawsuit.

Some have suggested that the families of employees slain in the riot be awarded \$1 million each, the amount they believe a court awarded the widow of one employee. Such a recommendation does not answer these two key questions:

First, the court actually awarded the widow \$550,000 in damages with the balance being interest. Some portion of that money was used to pay her legal fees. Since the task force's work is an extraordinary remedy offered by the state, are today's victims entitled to interest? Should it be offset by Worker's Compensation and any other benefits received?

Second, the award was based upon the court's finding that the officer's death by indiscriminate gunfire was wrong. Does that mean the court's reasoning applies only to employees killed by gunfire?

The court also reasoned that, in order to close the book on Attica for inmates, the damage awards were final. Those needing additional services were to pay for them out of their compensation.

If the task force

were to support special awards such as for *survivor counseling*, should that open the door to awards based upon the varying lengths of state service for hostages? What about for those with several children versus those with fewer? Should awards be offset by benefits already received?

I cannot conceive of conditions under which a Governor or commissioner would not allow victims an *annual ceremony* at the Attica memorial, something the state has conducted since 1972. However, I support legislation authorizing such ceremonies by the victims to ensure their perpetuity. I do not know under what grounds anyone would challenge such a proposal.

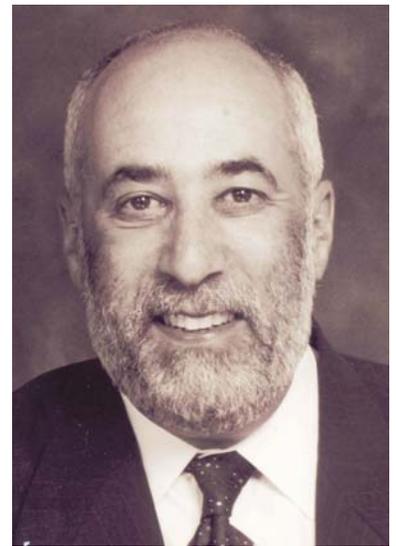
The question of *records access* is one we have researched extensively. We can find no records that were sealed simply because they relate to Attica. In fact, the state archivist will expedite employee victim requests to access those records. State law already allows families who wish to request and receive access to autopsy reports. The courts have sealed the second and third volumes of the sought-after Meyer Commission report: not because it relates to the riot, but because state law in general protects the confidentiality of grand jury testimony. Should such testimony be made public? Should all these records be opened to the general public, or just to the victims?

Whether or not anyone likes the laws that existed in the 1970s that covered compensation for employee victims, the courts have upheld those statutes as legal. So far, we have not found any cases where a *government apology* has been issued for such legal actions by its predecessors. Should one be now?

I agreed to chair the task force because I believe that the employee victims were unfairly treated in the 1970s in the hindsight of today's standards. Do the task force's efforts today obligate the state to apologize for wanting to improve upon decisions made some three decades ago?

Governor Pataki recognized all of these issues and questions when he asked the task force to advise him on how to address the concerns of the Forgotten Victims of Attica.

Toward that end, I await the input of the Legislative task force members to the discussion draft now before us. 📖



Commissioner Goord

### ***This month's articles***

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**ON THE COVER:** The masthead brings DOCS|TODAY together with its past via "Copper John," the Colonial soldier who has stood atop the front gate of Auburn, the state's oldest prison, since 1821. The American flag was affixed to his bayonet in memory of those who lost their lives during the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks upon the United States. The flag itself was taken from a photograph of it flying above Ground Zero.

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## Annual rite of security uniform reissue moves ahead on schedule

### *Clothing produced at Adirondack prisons costs \$3M to supply 20,921 personnel*

The end of the calendar year means the usually-hectic pace at the Department's Corcraft garment shops at Clinton and Franklin becomes even a little more frenzied.

It was not because of the just-concluded holiday season. Instead, it was because Corcraft is in the fourth year of producing Class B pants and uniforms for shipment to each prison in the state for uniformed personnel.

The Department spends less than \$150 annually to provide uniforms for each of its approximately 20,921 security employees per year, at a cost of \$3.16 million.

While Class B pants and uniform shirts are reissued every year, other items – like blue sweaters, black belts and blue chino jackets – are reissued every four years. There are also reissue schedules for other articles of clothing as mandated in Directive 3083. Items can also be reissued on an as-needed basis.

Class B pants and uniform shirts will be distributed during this reissue to 18,967 Correction Officers and 1,268 Sergeants. Uniform shirts manufactured by inmates will also be reissued to 541 Lieutenants, 84 Captains, 60 Deputy Superintendents for Security and the Department's CERT commander. Those individuals receive their pants from a private vendor. That means the nearly 300 inmates in the two garment shops will have little idle time between now and May, when the last shipments of new Class B pants and uniform shirts go out.

Coupled with additional production duties assumed by the garment shop inmates over the past few years, "they're definitely going to be busy up there for a while," said Assistant Director for Correctional Industries Operations Michael Graziano.

Other items that are regularly reissued include hats and caps, winter coats, neckties, blue turtlenecks, Class B jackets, orange raincoats and CERT uniforms. Some are produced by inmates and some are purchased from private vendors.

The first shipment of new Class B pants and shirts started being distributed to prisons in the Green Haven hub in early October. That hub was completed later that month, as were the facilities in the Oneida hub. The Great Meadow hub was completed in November. The remaining hubs are to be completed early this year.

The uniform reissue has always been a big undertaking. It takes a lot of time to turn out this amount of product, and the employees and inmates in the shops produce other garments as well.

At the Franklin shop, there are two 50-inmate shifts each weekday. The Franklin inmates produce the long- and short-sleeve security shirts. They also started making orange raincoats for the Department earlier this summer.



**Inmates at the garment shop at Franklin sew patches onto supervisor shirts and straight seams into slacks.**



About 30 to 35 Clinton APPU inmates produce the blue turtlenecks. Another 100 Clinton inmates make the Class B pants and an additional 50 inmates produce the Class B jackets. They also make inmate uniforms, jockey shorts and thermal underwear. And a little over a year ago, the Clinton inmates began making flame-retardant jump suits. They're used by inmates, Officers and state Department of Environmental Conservation personnel assigned to fighting fires.

The efforts of the inmates assigned to the Clinton shop don't only benefit the Department.

For the past several years, the Department has been selling winter parkas and conductor's coats to the Metropolitan Transit Authority for use by Metro North Railroad employees. They are a flame-retardant orange coat which has reflective tape on the sleeves and back, making employees more visible when they are working along train tracks.

The Department's garment efforts aren't confined solely to the North Country. Coxsackie operates a garment shop that opened in 1996 with the production of inmate boxer shorts. That operation expanded two years ago with the production of tube socks for inmates.

Inmates at Coxsackie also make sheets, lab coats and handkerchiefs.

"These garment shops allow us to provide quality, durable clothing at a very reasonable cost to taxpayers," said Commissioner Goord.

"At the same time, we're providing inmates with marketable job skills which will hopefully allow them to get a job upon their release," he said. 

# DOCS reduces inmate backlog held in county jails to a record low

## Keeping pace with commitments saves space, money for counties

Counties around the state are receiving a well-deserved New Year's jail break after having been forced for years to house felons who rightfully belonged in state prison.

They consist of newly-sentenced felons and certain parole violators who are collectively known as "state readies:" offenders sentenced to state prison who are ready to be transferred from the counties when the state approves their transfer.

Counties have historically complained that, because state prisons were out of space, they were being forced to provide long-term housing for state-sentenced inmates. Further, they argued that county jails were not built to provide the security level needed to house violent offenders sentenced to lengthy prison terms.

That has now changed.

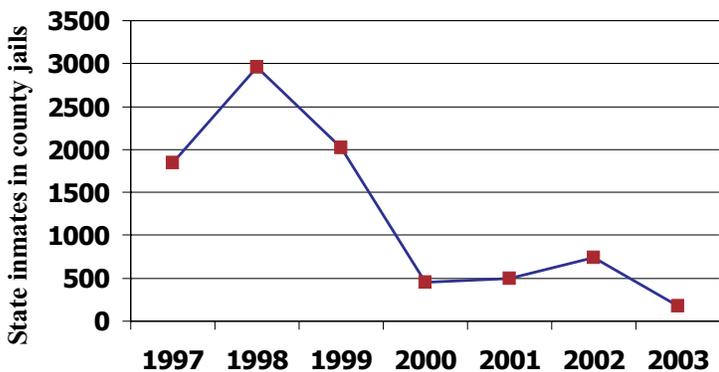
The number of "state readies" fell to 180 on Dec. 3 – only 4 percent of the 4,271 state-sentenced felons who were housed in county jails in July 1999, the highest number ever.

The 180 "state readies" are also the fewest since the Department began maintaining such statistics in 1990. The previous low was 206 in November 1990.

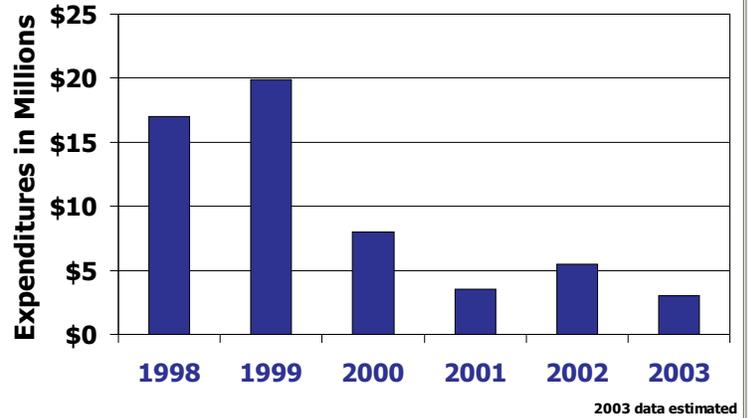
In addition to the "state ready" decline, the prison population itself has dropped by 9 percent, from a high of 71,898 in December 1999 to 65,314 in mid-December. By comparison, state prison populations nationally increased by an average of 6 percent from 1999 through 2002.

Commissioner Goord said, "The reduction in 'state readies' equals 'mandate relief' for county taxpayers. I thank the county sheriffs and other local officials for the patience and teamwork they have extended to us in recent years as we succeeded in addressing the issue of 'state readies.'"

## "State Ready" in county jails (On December 31 of each year)



## "State Ready" aid to counties (Years ending on October 1)



"They performed with incredible professionalism in operating crowded facilities while Governor Pataki addressed our need for space," the commissioner added. "A problem that was once seen as inevitable and intractable has been solved – by the Governor's commitment to fulfilling the state's responsibility to the counties and their taxpayers."

The dramatic decline in the number of "state readies" is a result of three of Governor Pataki's criminal justice initiatives:

- Anti-crime efforts, contributing to an historic 46 percent reduction in violent crime across the state since the Governor took office in January 1995 through June 2003.
- Alternatives to incarceration, allowing more than 50,000 selected nonviolent inmates to earn release from prison prior to completion of their court-set minimum sentences. Those programs include Shock Incarceration, the Willard Drug Treatment Campus and Merit Time.
- Construction of 5,000 maximum-security beds, providing the appropriate prison space to receive and secure violent, predatory and repeat offenders.

### The taxpayer cost for 'state readies'

Counties receive \$34 in state aid for every day that each "state ready" was left in their custody beyond five days. Those payments totaled \$54 million in the five-year period ending Oct. 1, 2002. For the year ending in October 2003, it is estimated the total payment will be in the \$2-3 million range.

However, counties have historically pointed out that those payments were insufficient: It costs New York City, home to 60 percent of sentenced offenders, \$156 daily per inmate to operate Rikers Island.

The inmate cost per day averages \$100 in county jails in the rest of the state.

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Most counties went to court beginning in the 1980s, alleging the state was pushing its crowding problems down to them. Ultimately, the state was ordered to pay them fines totaling \$63 million – all of that paid by taxpayers as well.

Now, with the “state ready” count at its lowest ever, some counties are, according to published reports, actually making money: they rent excess jail space to counties overflowing with their own locally-sentenced offenders. Others reportedly rent space to house federal prisoners.

The number of “state readies” is not expected to drop to zero. It is, instead, expected to continue to fluctuate near the current record low level.

Commissioner Goord explained, “Counties have to transport ‘state readies’ to us. For some, it may be economically smarter to wait until they have two or three ‘state readies’ and then transport them all together.

“There are also the seasonal ‘ups and downs’ to court activity that results in peaks and valleys in the number of ‘state readies’ around the state.

“The fact more felons become ‘state ready’ each day pretty much means there will always be some number of them in the counties,” he explained.

### **The ‘state ready’ process and its history**

Historically, county jails have housed thousands of “state readies,” which include two categories of offenders:

- Felons newly-sentenced to more than one year’s incarceration.
- Parole violators for whom the Board of Parole has affirmed in writing their return to prison.

By law, only those offenders with completed paperwork can be considered “ready” to enter state prison.

That excludes, for example, parole violators who have open warrants on other charges. It also excludes parole violators awaiting revocation hearings and those awaiting the full parole board’s affirmation of a local parole decision to return them to prison.

Counties now alert the state immediately to changes in an offender’s status through a computerized tracking system. Once the state is alerted to a “state ready,” a transfer is scheduled. Most are received at the Department’s main reception centers for males at Downstate and Ulster.

Under current policies, the Department is sometimes accepting custody of “state readies” in as few as three days from their attaining that status.

That’s a far cry from the 1980s and early ’90s when transfer delays were counted in months, not days.

That opened a floodgate of “state ready” litigation brought by the counties in state and federal courts beginning in the 1980s. The courts were unanimous in their rulings that the state’s own crowded conditions were not a legal excuse to leave “state readies” in county jails for long periods of time. The courts ordered reception of inmates within time limits that generally required transfer within 10-14 days after sentencing.

The “state ready” count ballooned in the 1980s as the state engaged in a building frenzy in response to the “crack” epidemic. Soaring illegal drug use was filling prison cells with offenders faster than space could be added.

The prison population grew from 23,558 inmates in January 1981 to 55,564 in December 1990.

During that period, the state housed thousands of medium-security inmates in double bunks and day rooms. “Air bubbles” were erected for recreation space at several medium-security prisons where inmates were housed in gymnasiums.

Even that was not enough to stem the crowding being caused in county jails by the state’s inability to accept felons in a timely fashion.

An act of protest by Saratoga County Sheriff James D. Bowen remains to this day the defining moment illustrating the frustration of county officials over the issue of “state readies.”

On Oct. 26, 1983, Sheriff Bowen invited the media to photograph him handcuffing a “state ready” inmate to the exterior fence at Downstate.

He then departed, leaving the inmate shackled to the state’s main reception center for male inmates.

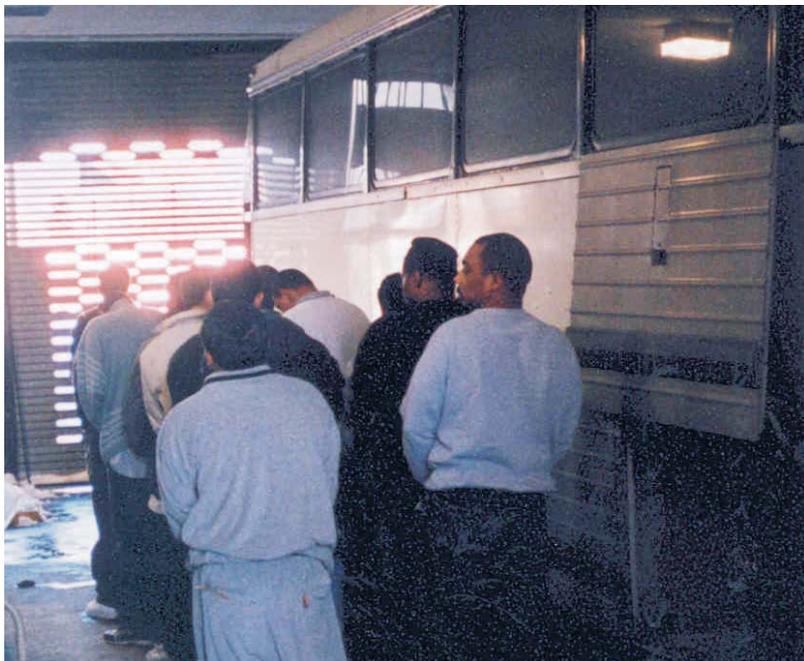
Downstate staff used bolt cutters to release the inmate so that he could be brought into the prison for processing.

That inmate, then 27 years old, had been sentenced to 3-1/2 to 7 years for a Saratoga County burglary. He was released in May 1986.

He is now back in prison, returned on Sep. 9, 2003, on a Saratoga County sentence of 4-1/2 to 9 years for criminal sale of a controlled substance.

He again entered the prison system at Downstate – this time, through the normal reception process.

No sheriff has cuffed a “state ready” to the fence since. 📖



**Inmates being received at Downstate, among the approximately 600 inmates received into the system each week.**



*Meeting many missions*

# Queensboro

Queensboro first opened in 1975 as a medium-security prison in Long Island City in the Borough of Queens. Over the years, the Gotham facility has been transformed several times to address a variety of missions. After meeting those Departmental needs, it is once again a general confinement facility – for now, at least.

In the early 1980's, Queensboro housed parole violators awaiting a determination that they either be returned to prison or released to parole supervision. Soon after, the facility joined most of the other prisons in New York City with a mission of housing only those inmates in temporary release programs, like work release, educational release and furloughs.

In 2001, its mission changed again.

Queensboro today is a minimum-security facility for inmates who have only a short time before they are released to parole supervision.

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Like many other state prisons in New York City, the building which houses Queensboro was not always a prison. In fact, its roots date back to the Great Depression.

The six-story, stately brick building was built in the early-1930's as a YMCA, and for decades it was a popular haunt for neighborhood residents. In the 1950's it was converted to a warehouse for a New York City electrical supply business. In 1968, the building's mission changed yet again. That's when the warehouse was acquired by the state as a Community Rehabilitation Center that operated under the auspices of the state's Narcotics Addiction Control Commission. Those types of facilities began to be phased out in the 1970's, paving the way for the opening of Queensboro.

Queensboro, which today has the capacity to house 424 inmates in barracks-style housing units, at one time housed many more convicted felons. Its population peaked at 924 work release inmates in 1997 at a time when the facility was double bunked.

Queensboro is divided into separate programming, residential and administrative areas. The top two floors are comprised of four residential housing units. Each housing unit has dedicated toilet, sink and shower areas. Each also features two day rooms where inmates can watch television, pursue other recreational endeavors and converse among themselves.

The fourth floor houses the counseling, state Division of Parole and community agency offices, the teleconferencing center and a new commissary.

Queensboro's third floor is devoted to programs with classrooms, staff offices, the general and law libraries, offices where inmates can meet with their counselors and a multi-denominational chapel.

The second floor houses administrative offices and space for support staff, the medical and dental units, the Inmate Records Coordinator and a modestly-sized disciplinary unit.

Located on the first floor are the mess hall and visiting area, arsenal and draft processing area, maintenance shops and a gymnasium. Down in the basement there are also three medium-sized maintenance workshops, as well as storage areas and a small office.

### **Unique inmates with unique needs**

Queensboro was last accredited by the American Correctional Association in 2002, reaffirming that it meets, and in many cases exceeds, strict ACA operational standards designed to ensure the safety of prisons throughout the country. Queensboro is scheduled for its next accreditation in 2005.

Queensboro's inmates have already appeared before parole boards at upstate facilities and have been designated as open-date cases. That means they've been approved for parole back into the community as of a certain date. However, Queensboro's inmates can still be detained beyond their open date if they don't come with an acceptable post-release supervision program that deals with issues like employment, substance abuse treatment and housing arrangements.

Turnover for Queensboro's inmates is quite high, because their open dates are generally scheduled for within 60 days of their reception at the facility. That means staff has to hustle to help inmates complete suitable post-release supervision plans so inmates can go home when their open date arrives.

Queensboro's program curriculum is tightly scheduled, fast-paced and intensive. It covers a wide range of community integration issues.

The program is derived from an ambitious pilot project initiated in the spring of 2002 as a joint effort of the Department, the Division of Parole and the VERA Institute of Justice. The original curriculum, designed by T3 Associates-Training and Consulting, Inc., has been modified significantly to better address the needs of Queensboro's highly-transient, short-term population. The program is planned on inmate enrollment of five weeks and is called "Cognitive and Social Interaction Skills for Re-Entry: A Program for Offenders Approaching Release."

It requires that intensive program participation commences immediately upon reception at Queensboro. The orientation phase addresses issues such as a presentation on routine facility functions, initiation of a parole discharge plan, initiation of Medicaid processing and an introduction to the program curriculum.

Upon completion of this phase, inmates are enrolled in an 18-session program of classes under the direction of an assigned counselor focusing on basic life skills and critical re-entry issues. These classes are highly interactive and common areas of concern are openly presented for review and discussion. Inmates are challenged to develop methods of proper resolution of these issues and proven techniques for successful reintegration are presented and comprehensively reviewed.

An integral part of the programming at Queensboro is the on-site comprehensive participation of local community agencies that specialize in providing assorted transitional services.

Like the employees at Queensboro, the agencies have proven vital in providing inmates with the assorted tools, knowledge and coping skills needed to succeed upon release. They've been a key component in Queensboro's mission for years and they've logged many successes, despite not having all that much time to work with the inmates.



**CO Barbara DeYounge conducts test on inmate urine.**

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Consider: Between 85 and 100 inmates are paroled from Queensboro in a typical week, and the cycle begins again with new transfers of inmates received from other upstate prisons.

The offerings of the community service agencies are diverse. And their employees' communication skills, keen insight into an inmate's various needs and presentations are polished and effective. Agencies that are currently offering services to Queensboro inmates include Reality House, Hogan House, CUNY Initiative, Spellman Center at St. Clare's Hospital, Strive/East Harlem Employment Services, Inc., the Fortune Society, the Minority Task Force on AIDS, Wildcat Services Corp. and the Center for Employment Opportunities.

Besides job opportunities, education and substance-abuse treatment, other issues covered by the community service agencies include restoring family ties as well as legal and health issues.

The agency offerings are comprehensive, designed to make the inmate whole while striving for ongoing improvement in a variety of disciplines. For instance, Wildcat Services is an outside contractor that is paid to provide job development and placement for the facility's inmates. It also assists in the

preparation of resumes. The agency's staff meets with inmates during their orientation with their goal being to enroll them in their job placement program. Wildcat Services has a performance-based contract with the Department, meaning it is paid according to the number of inmates it enrolls and places in jobs.

"The participation of these agencies is critical to the success of the paroling inmate because it introduces him to valuable resources in the community with which he would be otherwise unfamiliar," said Queensboro Superintendent Dennis Crowley. "Follow-up referrals for the parolee have proven to be a highly-significant factor in the inmate succeeding when he is released."

#### **Assisting inmates with job development programs**

Besides regular counseling sessions and trying to devise a workable post-release supervision plan, Department employees take other proactive steps to help provide inmates with the tools for success. In that regard, Queensboro also offers its own job development program. Full-time experienced job developers are a vital component of the Department's mission. They're charged with assisting inmates in securing suitable and meaningful employment so they're able to provide for themselves and their families upon release.

One of the primary duties of the job developers is to understand the trends in the local labor market. They must be familiar with the needs of local employers and unions and thus must

have an established and multi-faceted pool of area resources. Those resources include the state Department of Labor, local colleges and universities, directors of local personnel departments, community churches, educational opportunity centers and personal contacts.

Queensboro's job developers also scour the Web and newspaper classified sections for available openings. They also need to be well-versed when it comes to recognizing the job skills and interests of individual inmates as they are crucial elements in ensuring a successful transition back into the community.

To qualify for the job development program, inmates must either be on temporary release or preparing for transition back into the community.

Cognizant of the fact that inmates have other needs, the Department recently enacted a new initiative in partnership with the federal Human Resources Administration. Upon reception, each inmate is encouraged to complete a Medicaid application. Once completed, the inmate may be provided with a supervision plan to include referrals to employment vendors and the National Association of Drug Abuse Problems.

Counselors also assist inmates if they need to fill out applications for a birth certificate, driver's license, Social Security card or other important documents.

"The challenges facing the inmate upon his return to the community are substantial and can at times be overwhelming," said Mr. Crowley. "The varied programs and counseling that are offered here at Queensboro provide an invaluable tool to assist the parolee and his family in getting back on the right path."

During the past several years, staff at Queensboro has also been diligent in using its state-of-the-art teleconference equipment to benefit staff and inmates alike. Besides being able to provide education on a host of issues, teleconferencing negates the need for staff to have to travel out of town, sometimes long distances, for seminars, meetings and training. That has helped to substantially save taxpayer dollars, a big plus in these austere times.

Through this technology, Queensboro staff and those in other prisons receive regular education, training, updates and input from legal staff, substance abuse counselors, education staff, Central Office staff, vocational staff and invited guests with expertise in a host of relevant areas.

These regular teleconferencing sessions have helped security and civilian staff do their jobs better. They're updated on the latest treatment techniques, security enhancements and other issues. The end result is not only a better-trained and knowledgeable employee, but safer prisons across New York.



**New York City Education Supervisor Jaik Schubert meets with incoming Queensboro inmates for orientation.**

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On the inmate side of the ledger, teleconferencing has addressed vital issues such as HIV/AIDS education, secondary education and a variety of other transitional issues. Former inmates who have been successful on the outside are also frequent guest speakers. They tell Queensboro inmates how they've managed on the streets and advise the inmates to work their programs so they, too, can succeed upon release.



**CO Elgin Jiggetts staffs the arsenal.**

Teleconferencing has clearly provided the inmates with another tool to try to help ensure that they don't re-offend and return to prison. Teleconferencing also provides the inmate with another perspective that might help him fine-tune and hone his post-release supervision program.

The daily work assignments of Queensboro security em-



**CO Cheryl Byer at her housing unit station.**

ployees are not solely confined to the inside of the facility. Queensboro is responsible for operating a centralized transportation unit that transports inmates from all the Department's correctional facilities for male inmates in New York City. Queensboro employees are also responsible for separately moving female inmates in and out of the New York City area.

### **Pitching in to help the needy**

Because of its unique mission, the intensity of the programming and the reality that Queensboro inmates won't be around all that long, the facility does not offer any supervised community crews to work on behalf of municipalities and not-for-profit agencies. It used to provide such crews years ago, when it was classified as a medium-security facility. Today, however, the focus has shifted, and coming up with an acceptable post-release supervision program for its inmates is Queensboro's sole objective.

But that doesn't mean the local community has been neglected by its prison neighbor.

Queensboro staff are a vital component of the Long Island City community. They're homeowners and good neighbors who often hold fund-raisers for those in need. They collect holiday gifts for disadvantaged children and volunteer their time to feed the hungry. They sponsor child identification programs throughout the community and also serve as mentors to area children through their roles as sports coaches and scout leaders.

Every year, staff and inmates at prisons across the state participate in Make a Difference Day (MADD) projects to benefit the needy in area communities. As part of its 2003 activities, employees at Queensboro targeted St. John's Bread and Life Program, a Brooklyn-based ministry that assists the needy, as its primary MADD beneficiary. Among other things, staff donated non-perishable food items and assorted personal hygiene products and delivered them to the agency. The donations were distributed under the agency's More Than a Meal initiative, which provides personal hygiene products to the needy, and the Family Food Pantry, which helps to ensure that needy area children do not go hungry.

Queensboro employees also donated used cell phones to the agency for use by victims of domestic violence.

"We've always prided ourselves on being active in the community and we're always making ourselves available to anyone who needs assistance," said Mr. Crowley.

Just as Queensboro employees have embraced the community, the community has embraced them.

Registered volunteers visit the facility regularly to assist inmates in devising an appropriate post-release supervision program and also assist many of the facility's inmates with their ongoing recovery from substance or alcohol abuse. Among other things, they conduct AA and NA meetings and religious services.

Their hope is to make the inmates stronger as well as more focused and dedicated. 

# Facility Highlights

## Facilities make a difference in their communities for the 10th year

### *Staff, inmate annual contributions make life a bit easier for the needy*

**F**or the 10th consecutive year, thousands of Department employees and inmates across New York state made a difference in their local communities and beyond in conjunction with the national Make a Difference Day (MADD) 2003 program, officially held in late October.

The efforts of more than 5,000 employees, inmates and others came together to assist tens of thousands of needy people throughout New York state.

The grateful recipients were many. They included senior citizens, the poor and the hungry, the sick and sheltered, disadvantaged children, the homeless, victims of domestic violence, at-risk youth and countless others.

“Once again our employees and inmates showed their generosity and concern for the needy,” Commissioner Goord said. “Everyone who participated deserves our thanks for their fine work. We truly made a difference in many lives and I look forward to 2004, when we will once again make a difference in the lives of our needy neighbors.”

The Department’s continued efforts to go above and beyond have not gone unnoticed. In conjunction with its 2001 MADD activities, the Department received a prestigious national award for its efforts to help the survivors of the thousands of innocent people killed in the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center in New York City. Staff and inmates donated more than \$162,000 among their donations to the victims of terrorism.

Here’s a partial sampling of the efforts of the Department during MADD 2003:

**Collins** employees raised \$675 through the sale of floral arrangements and donated that money to the local Hospice chapter. They also raised \$350 by selling chocolate rabbits and that money was donated to the

Gowanda Lions Club, which will use the funds to assist area children with special needs. Inmates also made 45 butterfly houses that were donated to area camps.

**Monterey** Maintenance Assistant Douglas Mosher and a crew of inmates built a shed and donated it to the Schuyler County Head Start program. Children enrolled in the program, typically aged two and three, were in need of a secure place to store their bicycles.

**Cape Vincent** employees conducted a fund drive to raise school supplies for distribution to needy area students in several schools.

**Edgecombe** staff participated in the annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk to raise funds for the American Cancer Society.

They did so by securing pledges from their coworkers and others.

**Eastern** inmate Daytoine Shaw crafted an elegant and elaborate doghouse that was donated to Puppies Behind Bars to be sold at auction to benefit that agency. The doghouse sold for \$2,600 and the winning bidder was actor Chevy Chase. Staff also collected items to benefit the Sullivan County Association for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals.

Employees at **Gouverneur** and other prisons in the Watertown hub remembered the needs of their own. They donated \$5,250 to the daughter of Gouverneur Correction Officer Daniel Horne. Twelve-year-old Kendra Horne was paralyzed as a result of a car accident two years ago and has endured many costly medical procedures.

**Upstate** employees collected sneakers and mittens for distribution to needy area children in a drive they dubbed “Put Your Best Foot Forward.”

*Continued on facing page*



**Proceeds from a roast beef meal at Gowanda benefitted a local family with a seriously-ill child and community agencies.**



**ASAT program assistant Michelle Krause delivers goodies during a party Hale Creek hosted for senior citizens.**

Continued from facing page

Staff and inmates at **Otisville** collected non-perishable food items and donated them to various Orange County food pantries including the Middletown Food Pantry, the Holy Name Society and the Pine Island Hispanic Retreat. Staff also collected and donated items including personal hygiene products, board games, greeting cards and photo albums to the Orange County Residential Heath Care Center.

**Greene** staff donated money to a local food pantry. The facility also adopted a local needy family for the holidays with employees donating items like toys and games, a television and \$230 in cash.

**Riverview** employees held a hot dog sale and 50/50 raffle to benefit the Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center. Inmate organizations also donated money to the center.

**Walkill** employees collected donations of clothing and non-perishable food items and inmates also collected food. The clothing and food items were donated to St. Patrick's Church in Newburgh.

**Downstate** staff and inmates again teamed up to help the needy in area communities. They donated 30 cases of non-perishable food items to benefit the Fishkill Food Pantry, which is part of the Hudson Valley Food Bank. The Inmate Liaison Committee also donated \$500 toward the cause.

**Hudson** staff and inmates refurbished bicycles for distribution to needy area children. Using bikes donated by employees and local police agencies, a crew of inmate volunteers under the supervision of security staff cleaned, repaired and painted the bikes as necessary.

**Elmira** employees raised \$1,000 to benefit the son of a former coworker, retired Correction Counselor Louis Adessa. Mr. Adessa's son is battling a cancerous tumor on his leg. Staff also held assorted fund-raisers to benefit several agencies including Mark Twain Little League, the American Cancer Society, the Southern Tier Food Bank and Rape Crisis of the Southern Tier.

**Southport** employees held fund-raisers to benefit a host of area organizations and agencies including the St. Mary's



**Mid-Orange Capt. Gene Niles and Trooper Jeff Ulatowski examine cell phones donated to the victims of domestic violence.**

Church Social Ministry, the Salvation Army Safe House and the Southport Recreation Department.

**Wyoming** staff participated in "Operation Coin Drop" to benefit the Special Olympics, depositing loose change and cash in a large box that had been set up in the facility's lobby.

Employees at **Cayuga** held a bake sale to raise money to buy Christmas gifts for needy area children. Approximately \$550 was raised.

Staff and inmates at **Mount McGregor** cut, delivered and stacked firewood for the area's needy senior citizens and the disabled in cooperation with the Saratoga County Office for the Aging. The project involved one Sergeant, 16 Officers and 167 supervised inmates.

For the third straight year, **Hale Creek** employees visited the Senior Citizens' Center of Gloversville to spread a little Halloween cheer. Staff arrived dressed in festive holiday costumes and entertained the appreciative seniors with their music, songs and goodies like cake, ice cream, cookies, donuts, apple cider, coffee and, of course, candy.

At **Rochester**, staff supervised a crew of inmates in assisting the Finger Lakes Chapter for Habitat in the rehabilitation of a city home not too far from the facility.

**Central Office** employees held a number of fund-raisers – like the sale of donated baked goods and 50/50 raffles – to benefit the Capital City Rescue Mission. A total of \$1,500 was donated.

**Adirondack's** MADD committee sponsored an annual plant sale in the visitor's center, foliage which was grown in the facility's horticulture programs. They raised \$1,048 which was donated to Holiday Helpers, which assists the needy in the area.

Staff at **Buffalo** collected cash, paper products, food and other items that were donated to the Ronald McDonald House on West Ferry Street in Buffalo.

At the **Coxsackie** print shop, staff and inmates printed 300 raffle tickets and 200 posters to assist an area sixth-grade student raise the money needed to attend a Student Ambassadorship Program overseas. Ten security employees also participated in an airplane pull to benefit Special Olympics. They raised \$7,000 and finished first out of 14 teams.



**Chateaugay CO Stanley LaBarre and Secretary II Judy Bradley donate to the Domestic Violence Women's Shelter in Malone.**

Continued on next page

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**Gowanda** employees and inmates raised \$2,500 through a series of fund-raisers to benefit several people and local agencies in need. A local family whose child has a life-threatening illness received a donation of \$1,200. The remainder of the funds was divided among Love Inc., the Lions Club, the Hospice Foundation, the Breast Cancer Research Foundation and the Gowanda Food Pantry.

**Livingston** held several fund-raisers to benefit a local shelter for victims of domestic violence, Chances and Changes, and the Rochester Open Door Mission, which assists the homeless.

Staff from **Woodbourne** visited Sullivan County Head Start and painted two large offices. They also replaced several exterior floodlights.

Employees at **Ulster** collected winter apparel and blankets which were donated to Family of Ellenville, which assists the area's needy. They also collected cellular phones and donated them to the Crime Victims Association in Kingston for use in its Domestic Violence Program.

**Willard** employees and inmates raised vegetables throughout the year for distribution to area food pantries, soup kitchens and other organizations, including the Cayutaville Church, the Ithaca Food Pantry and the Seneca House of Concern.

Nearly two dozen **Oneida** employees participated in America's Greatest Heart Run and Walk, donating \$1,565 in pledges that they obtained from coworkers and others to fight heart disease and stroke. Employees also donated \$850, and inmates pitched in \$200, to support the annual Ride for Exploited and Missing Children.

**Great Meadow** employees once again held their annual golf tournament, which included facility employees and staff from other prisons and Central Office. A total of \$2,100 was raised and donated to the Warren/Washington County Cancer Society. Staff in the facility's Business Office also collected holiday gifts and other items for a local single mother and her four children.

**Orleans** staff and inmates raised money to benefit several worthy area organizations, often relying on regular fund-raisers that were held throughout the year. The grateful recipients included the Association of Retarded Children of Orleans/Rainbow Pre-School in Albion, the Dimitri House in Rochester,

which assists the homeless, and the Hope Lodge in Buffalo, which provides temporary housing and support to out-of-area cancer patients who are being treated in Buffalo.

**Taconic** staff and inmates collected non-perishable food items that were donated to the nearby Mount Kisco Interfaith Food Pantry. The food pantry, which serves 10 area congregations, was established in 1991 and has gotten a welcomed helping hand from Taconic in the past.

Staff at **Greene** joined forces with their coworkers at



**CO George Piersal poses with Hudson inmates who repair donated bikes for distribution to the needy.**

**Coxsackie** to participate in the annual National Multiple Sclerosis Society Walk-a-thon, raising just under \$1,000 in pledges. Inmates also donated money to a local charity – Alright Center, Inc., – a non-profit ministry dedicated to the spiritual, physical, emotional and other needs of mothers and fathers facing unintended pregnancies.

**Camp Pharsalia** staff collected 100 winter coats for the area's needy children and adults. The garments were delivered to Roots and Wings in Norwich for proper disbursement.

Employees at **Shawangunk** donated and delivered a truck-

load of clothing items to the Newburgh Ministry to be parceled out to the area's needy. The donated items included blankets, sheets, towels, coats, hats, socks, mittens, shampoo, Pampers, mouthwash, toothbrushes and toothpaste.



**Raffle ticket seller at Wende points out donations should be according to one's means.**

**Queensboro** employees targeted St. John's Bread and Life Program, a Brooklyn-based ministry that assists the area's needy, as its 2003 MADD beneficiary. Among other things, staff donated personal

hygiene items and cell phones for use by victims of domestic violence.

**Moriah** staff and inmates continued their annual tradition of cutting, delivering and stacking firewood for senior citizens and others. Staff also donated more than 300 pounds of clothing to the St. Joseph Rehabilitation Center and Halfway House.

*Continued on facing page*

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**Camp Georgetown**, staff and inmates donated 42 pounds of can-top tabs to members of the Shriners of Zyhara Temple in Utica. That will help them fund their children's hospital. Inmates also collected and donated 220 pounds of non-perishable food items to the Georgetown Food Pantry.

**Attica's** year-round activities were highlighted in May when a Mercy Flight helicopter landed in front of the prison to collect a check for \$5,508, raised from the sale of a cook book containing employee and spouses' recipes.

At **Mid-Orange**, employees donated 27 cell phones to the local barracks of the Division of State Police for distribution to victims of domestic violence.

**Green Haven** employees once again helped area families in need under its "Make A Child Smile" program. Several area families were "adopted" by staff and given shopping sprees during the holiday season. A supervised inmate community service crew also refurbished an area volunteer firehouse.

**Camp Gabriels** held a spaghetti dinner and raffled off Adirondack chairs made by its inmates to benefit the Steve Wilcox Relief Fund. Mr. Wilcox is a well-known area carpenter who has been unable to return to work since the scaffold he was recently working on collapsed. A total of \$1,300.43 was raised.

**Fulton** employees participated in the annual American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Employees collected \$562 in pledges from their coworkers and others.

Staff and inmates at **Bedford Hills** joined forces to assist the Hole in the Wall Gang Camp of nearby Connecticut, which provides a respite for needy children. Staff raised funds through events like 50/50 raffles and dress-down days while inmates crocheted lap blankets for children at the camp.

At **Arthur Kill**, CO Todd Grygo pedaled 100 miles in the annual bike race to benefit the Multiple Sclerosis Society, parlaying his efforts into \$1,060 in pledges from his coworkers and others to benefit MS research. Staff also participated in a blood drive and donated \$500 to the Staten Island AIDS Task Force.

**Marcy** employees collected non-perishable food and other personal items for distribution to three area agencies that deal with children, the needy and victims of domestic violence: Emmaus House, the Thea Bowman House and the St. John's Parish Center.



**Green Haven employees collect gifts and other necessities for local families they "adopted" for the holidays.**

Employees at **Franklin** held a variety of fund-raisers to benefit the Family Support Group of the Army National Guard, Company B, Second Battalion, 108th Infantry. This local unit was activated to serve in Iraq.

At **Five Points**, the Inmate Liaison

Committee donated more than \$1,000 worth of food and household items to the Ovid Federated Church for distribution to the needy. Staff also sponsored 50 Seneca County children, ensuring that they would have a gift of their liking for the holidays.

Employees at **Albion** held a blood drive to benefit the local chapter of the American Red Cross. They also held a food and clothing drive to benefit the Orleans Community Action Committee, Inc., which assists the area's needy.

**Sing Sing** employees donated more than 70 cell phones to the local barracks of the Division of State Police for distribution to victims of domestic violence. Sixteen employees and members of their families also participated in the American Cancer Society's Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk. Additionally, Sing Sing inmates donated more than 90,000 aluminum can tabs to the Shriners to assist in the treatment of critically-burned children.

Employees at **Mid-State** once again sponsored a Halloween party for the area's underprivileged children. Employees also prepared and served meals to the needy at the Utica Rescue Mission's Rome Community Hall and donated pumpkins that had been raised and painted by inmates to pediatric wards at three local hospitals. Inmates also donated money to two shelters for victims of domestic violence.

**Bare Hill** employees purchased a complete computer system, including a printer, for a local senior citizen center. They also provided outdoor furniture and a roll-away bed for a local shelter for victims of domestic violence.

**Altona** employees pitched in to purchase a new television VCR/DVD player for a local senior citizen home. They also sponsored a free breakfast for area seniors at the facility's Quality of Work Life Building.



**Fishkill staff spruce up Beacon Community Center grounds.**

Continued on page 15

# Transitions

November 2003

| Name                             | Title                                  | Facility      |                                  |   |              |
|----------------------------------|--|---------------|----------------------------------|---|--------------|
| <b>Promotions</b>                |  |               |                                  |   |              |
| Name                             | Title                                  | Facility      |                                  |   |              |
| Deborah A. Stoner . . . . .      | Commissary Clerk 3 . . . . .           | Altona        | Donald C. Holmes . . . . .       | Stores Clerk 2 . . . . .                | Butler       |
| Barbara A. Quinn . . . . .       | Stores Clerk 2 . . . . .               | Attica        | Mary D. Nisoff . . . . .         | Nurse 2 . . . . .                       | Clinton      |
| David B. Casterline . . . . .    | Dep Supt Administration 3 . . . . .    | Bedford Hills | Patricia A. Wing . . . . .       | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .          | Clinton      |
| Derrica Dickes . . . . .         | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Butler        | Arthur L. Davis . . . . .        | Chaplain . . . . .                      | Collins      |
| Jeanne A. Barker . . . . .       | Secretary 2 . . . . .                  | Cape Vincent  | Geneva P. Harvey . . . . .       | Nurse 2 . . . . .                       | Collins      |
| Barbara A. Roberts . . . . .     | Secretary 1 . . . . .                  | Clinton       | Kathleen A. Richardson . . . . . | Correction Counselor . . . . .          | Eastern      |
| Andrew M. Recore . . . . .       | General Mechanic . . . . .             | Clinton       | Clifford Booth . . . . .         | Carpenter . . . . .                     | Eastern      |
| Nancy L. Provost . . . . .       | Commissary Clerk 3 . . . . .           | Clinton       | Mary J. Wade . . . . .           | Secretary 2 . . . . .                   | Elmira       |
| Richard C. Peters . . . . .      | Senior Filter Plant Operator . . . . . | Coxsackie     | Rudolph P. Frommhold . . . . .   | Vocational Instructor 4 . . . . .       | Fishkill     |
| Edwin Valentin . . . . .         | Maintenance Supervisor 1 . . . . .     | Downstate     | Patricia Decarlo . . . . .       | Head Laundry Supervisor . . . . .       | Fishkill     |
| Lori L. Wood . . . . .           | Principal Stores Clerk . . . . .       | Downstate     | David O'Connell . . . . .        | Pharmacist 3 . . . . .                  | Great Meadow |
| Mary Burns . . . . .             | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Downstate     | John Goodspeed . . . . .         | Plant Utilities Assistant . . . . .     | Great Meadow |
| Joyce Donnachie . . . . .        | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Downstate     | Edward J. Magee . . . . .        | Pasteurization Plant Operator . . . . . | Greene       |
| Adeline Etienne . . . . .        | Institution Steward . . . . .          | Edgecombe     | John M. Rybka, Sr. . . . .       | Plant Superintendent C. . . . .         | Hudson       |
| Lisa M. Gonzalez . . . . .       | Stores Clerk 2 . . . . .               | Fishkill      | Thomas E. McAfee . . . . .       | Correction Counselor ASAT . . . . .     | Livingston   |
| Suzette L. Pettorossi . . . . .  | Institution Steward . . . . .          | Fishkill      | Gary J. Matthews . . . . .       | Purchasing Agent . . . . .              | Main Office  |
| Kim Dodd . . . . .               | Stores Clerk 2 . . . . .               | Fishkill      | John S. Luther . . . . .         | Clerk 1 . . . . .                       | Main Office  |
| Angela M. Dixon . . . . .        | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Fishkill      | Angus B. MacDonald . . . . .     | Roofer & Tinsmith . . . . .             | Mid-State    |
| Louis C. Bower, III . . . . .    | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Five Points   | Joseph J. Costello . . . . .     | Superintendent . . . . .                | Mid-State    |
| Christina M. Roberts . . . . .   | Principal Stores Clerk . . . . .       | Franklin      | Keith Weaver . . . . .           | Plant Superintendent C. . . . .         | Mt. McGregor |
| Melissa E. Lee . . . . .         | Commissary Clerk 3 . . . . .           | Great Meadow  | James Handlin, Jr. . . . .       | Dep Supt Security Services 3 . . . . .  | Queensboro   |
| Angela M. Baffi . . . . .        | Counselor (Spanish) . . . . .          | Green Haven   | William W. Verity . . . . .      | Plumber & Steamfitter . . . . .         | Southport    |
| Henry C. Jenkins . . . . .       | Principal Stores Clerk . . . . .       | Green Haven   | Barry I Rosencrance . . . . .    | Senior Librarian . . . . .              | Upstate      |
| Frederick N. Bernstein . . . . . | Clinical Physician 2 . . . . .         | Green Haven   | Rosemarie Flannery . . . . .     | Keyboard Specialist 1 . . . . .         | Washington   |
| Ivy S. Lombardo . . . . .        | Reg Coord Food Services . . . . .      | Groveland     | Olga Ortiz . . . . .             | Keyboard Specialist 1 . . . . .         | Wende        |
| John P. Lutz, Jr. . . . .        | Maintenance Supervisor 2 . . . . .     | Hale Creek    | Albert W. Gerow . . . . .        | Plant Utilities Engineer 3 . . . . .    | Woodbourne   |
| Paul Cushman . . . . .           | Ed Supervisor (Voc) . . . . .          | Hudson        | Ihor Sirko . . . . .             | Counselor (Spanish) . . . . .           | Woodbourne   |
| Terrance Coon . . . . .          | Plant Utilities Engineer 1 . . . . .   | Hudson        | William E. Madden . . . . .      | Correction Lieutenant . . . . .         | Albion       |
| Betty J. Gabel . . . . .         | Ed Supervisor (General) . . . . .      | Livingston    | Keith F. Swan . . . . .          | Correction Lieutenant . . . . .         | Marcy        |
| Edward R. Bly . . . . .          | Facility Ops Specialist . . . . .      | Main Office   | Robert T. Cary . . . . .         | Correction Lieutenant . . . . .         | Ulster       |
| Linda Schneider . . . . .        | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Main Office   | Ralph Fielitz . . . . .          | Correction Lieutenant . . . . .         | Ulster       |
| Judy L. Palmer . . . . .         | Inmate Records Coordinator 1 . . . . . | Mohawk        | Miguel A. Negron . . . . .       | Correction Lieutenant . . . . .         | Washington   |
| Dominick Mauro . . . . .         | Reg Coord Food Service . . . . .       | Oneida        | James Williams . . . . .         | Correction Sergeant . . . . .           | Fishkill     |
| Dorothy L. Rood . . . . .        | Laundry Supervisor . . . . .           | Oneida        | Alexander C. Miller . . . . .    | Correction Sergeant . . . . .           | Green Haven  |
| Caroline Marven . . . . .        | Principal Account Clerk . . . . .      | Sing Sing     |                                  |   |              |
| Simon Onwe . . . . .             | Stores Clerk 2 . . . . .               | Sing Sing     |                                  |   |              |
| Paul Lepke . . . . .             | Maintenance Supervisor 3 . . . . .     | Sullivan      |                                  |   |              |
| Benjamin E. Curns, Jr. . . . .   | Head Cook . . . . .                    | Summit        |                                  |   |              |
| Sreekumarbabu Unnithan . . . . . | Calculations Clerk 2 . . . . .         | Taconic       |                                  |   |              |

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## Retirements

|                              |                                 |             |
|------------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------|
| Belencia Pangasnan . . . . . | Calculations Clerk 1 . . . . .  | Arthur Kill |
| John G. Librock . . . . .    | Carpenter . . . . .             | Attica      |
| Peter J. Scrobback . . . . . | Plumber & Steamfitter . . . . . | Attica      |
| Alcides Torres . . . . .     | Chaplain . . . . .              | Auburn      |
| Karen Winters . . . . .      | Keyboard Specialist 2 . . . . . | Bare Hill   |

## On the web ...

Readers with Internet access can obtain information on the world wide web from the offices of both Governor Pataki and Commissioner Goord. Their addresses:

Governor Pataki: <http://www.state.ny.us>

Commissioner Goord: <http://www.docs.state.ny.us>

Colorized editions of DOCS|TODAY, beginning with the January 2003 edition, now appear on the DOCS website. Editions are posted as PDFs when they are sent to the Elmira print shop for publication. 

# Make a difference ...

*Continued from page 13*

At **Chateaugay**, staff and inmates conducted a non-perishable food drive to benefit the Chateaugay Food Pantry. Staff also sponsored a luncheon to benefit the Chateaugay Central School's Needy Children Fund and raised proceeds from dress-down days that were turned over to a local shelter for victims of domestic violence.

**Mohawk** employees raised over \$3,000 in pledges from their coworkers and others to take part in the annual American Heart Association Walk and Run. They also purchased needed personal items for victims of domestic abuse housed at a local shelter.

**Butler** employees conducted a Support a Child's Education Drive and donated school supply items to the Red Creek and North Rose/Wolcott elementary schools.

With the help of staff donations, inmates at **Watertown** constructed several sturdy wooden picnic tables that were donated to the Ronald McDonald House. Inmates also built two ticket booths for the Jefferson County Fair.

Staff and inmates at **Wende** donated money and held a variety of fund-raisers to benefit the nearby Promise House. The agency provides residential care for males who are between the ages of 13 and 20 and have completed an inpatient rehabilitation program for chemical dependency.



**Supervised Monterey inmates build a bike storage shed for the Schuyler County's Head Start program.**

Staff at **Beacon** visited the Castle Points Veterans Hospital, with inmate-grown plants in tow, as gifts for all the residents. Staff also helped spruce up the Beacon Community Center, a children's day care and senior citizen center.

At **Bayview**, staff participated in the American Cancer Society's annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk-a-thon, raising \$1,400 in pledges from their coworkers, inmates and others.

**Ogdensburg's** employees participated in a dunking booth event. The beneficiaries were the Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center and Special Olympics. 📖

booth event. The beneficiaries were the Ogdensburg Neighborhood Center and Special Olympics. 📖



**Arthur Kill staff participate in the American Cancer Society's walk-a-thon in Central Park.**

*Continued from facing page*

|                              |                               |               |
|------------------------------|-------------------------------|---------------|
| Paul Hansen . . . . .        | Correction Sergeant . . . . . | Groveland     |
| Christine Caraway . . . . .  | Correction Sergeant . . . . . | Lincoln       |
| James Facteau . . . . .      | Correction Sergeant . . . . . | Lyon Mountain |
| Anthony Cantiello . . . . .  | Correction Sergeant . . . . . | Washington    |
| Lewis L. Damon . . . . .     | Correction Sergeant . . . . . | Woodbourne    |
| Hugh Springer . . . . .      | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Arthur Kill   |
| Walter T. Bartlett . . . . . | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Attica        |
| William Hoffnagle. . . . .   | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Gabriels      |
| Edward Duvall . . . . .      | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Georgetown    |
| Wayne Laranway . . . . .     | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Clinton       |
| P. Krawczyk . . . . .        | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Clinton       |
| Mary S. Devine . . . . .     | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Elmira        |
| Daniel P. Gingrich . . . . . | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Elmira        |
| Donald B. Doland . . . . .   | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Elmira        |
| Vincent Chorney . . . . .    | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Elmira        |
| Gregory F. Sykes. . . . .    | Correction Officer. . . . .   | Elmira        |

|                                |                             |              |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Henry Negron . . . . .         | Correction Officer. . . . . | Fulton       |
| Robert S. Tomlinson . . . . .  | Correction Officer. . . . . | Hale Creek   |
| Derick Clement. . . . .        | Correction Officer. . . . . | Hudson       |
| Jerome J. Kasprzyk . . . . .   | Correction Officer. . . . . | Livingston   |
| Charles K. Gressler . . . . .  | Correction Officer. . . . . | Mid-State    |
| Vincent J. Burvee . . . . .    | Correction Officer. . . . . | Monterey     |
| Morris Duquette . . . . .      | Correction Officer. . . . . | Moriah       |
| Bruce G. Sears. . . . .        | Correction Officer. . . . . | Mt. McGregor |
| Michael A. Middleton . . . . . | Correction Officer. . . . . | Mt. McGeogro |
| Catherine Good . . . . .       | Correction Officer. . . . . | Queensboro   |
| David J. Empie . . . . .       | Correction Officer. . . . . | Summit       |
| Michael D. Howarth . . . . .   | Correction Officer. . . . . | Ulster       |
| Donald Foley . . . . .         | Correction Officer. . . . . | Watertown    |

## Deaths

|                               |                             |              |
|-------------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------|
| Theresa M. Ciaffone . . . . . | Clerk 2 . . . . .           | Mohawk       |
| Verna E. Devins . . . . .     | Correction Officer. . . . . | Green Haven  |
| R. J. Winters . . . . .       | Correction Officer. . . . . | Washington 📖 |

## Community crew CO enjoys job's diversity, aiding communities

**M**id-Orange Correction Officer Victor Pajak encounters a lot of people every day he's on the job.

And a lot of them aren't inmates.

CO Pajak's assignment at the medium-security facility in Orange County is to supervise an inmate community service crew that goes out into the community on most weekdays to work on behalf of municipalities and not-for-profit groups.

CO Pajak should know his job pretty well by now. He began his career with the Department in 1981 and has been a community service crew Officer at Mid-Orange since 1982.

"I enjoy what I do," said CO Pajak. "It's nice to be able to go out into the community and help to make a difference. And I get to meet a lot of people who really appreciate what we're doing, whatever it is."

Last year, inmates from Mid-Orange worked 29,867 hours on community service projects while staff provided an additional 5,871 hours in supervision. Across the state in 2002, community service crew inmates from 41 facilities provided 1,252,019 hours worth of community service work with security staff spending an additional 232,269 hours supervising them.

The duties of the Department's community service crews are varied, depending on the need. They could be renovating Little League fields or senior citizen centers, clearing debris from cemeteries and along local roadways, cleaning fire trucks and helping set up chairs for community events and helping New Yorkers recover from natural disasters like floods, blizzards, ice storms and tornados. As a result of their efforts, many needed community projects that might not otherwise be accomplished because of local fiscal restraints get done.

CO Pajak said that he, along with the inmates assigned to his crew, are proud of the varied jobs they perform in the community. And he said municipal leaders, representatives from not-for-profit agencies and just regular members of the community are constantly extending kudos for their ongoing efforts.

"They're really nice to us out in the community and we get plenty of 'atta boy' letters that are always sent to the facility," said CO Pajak.

CO Pajak said he takes exceptional pride when his crew is assigned to work at day care centers in the Hudson Valley area.

Among the many feathers in his cap are the construction of outside, wooden and elaborate play centers for children at the Dock Fry and Mount Alverno day care centers in Warwick.

"Now all these kids have something fun to do when they go outside," said CO Pajak. "I like seeing kids have fun."

CO Pajak's crew usually consists of as few as five and as many as 10 inmates, depending on the scope of their job assignment. He said he enjoys the new challenges that he faces on a regular basis, as do the inmates assigned to his crew.

"You're always doing something different," he said. "We try to help out as much as we can. We do everything."

CO Pajak said he takes pride in his work in the community and said he expects the same of the inmates assigned to his crew. He said

there's a certain temperament that inmates must have before they're approved for outside passes by the Deputy Superintendent for Security.

But for those who make the grade, said CO Pajak, "Usually they stay on the crew until they're released and go home."

And for those crew inmates who grow disenfranchised with their job assignments?

"They have to enjoy the job and do it well or they're off the crew," said CO Pajak. "It's that simple."

CO Pajak never envisioned a career in corrections. He was involved in home construction before coming to DOCS, and for a time things were pretty good. But mortgage rates skyrocketed in the early 1980's, and the demand for construction dried up.

"That's when I figured I'd better find something else to do, so I went into corrections," CO Pajak said.

"I didn't expect to stay this long, but here I am."

CO Pajak said his construction skills have served him well in his position, and he has been able to pass along a lot of job skills and knowledge to the inmates assigned to his crew.

I've done it all in construction, and that's a big advantage in my position," he said.

"We're always doing a lot of building." 



**CO Victor Pajak supervises a community service crew working at the New York State Academy of Fire Science Annex.**