



Grafton County
 Department of Corrections
 3865 Dartmouth College Highway
 North Haverhill, NH 03774

“Serving our Community”

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DOC/Farm donates winter vegetables

Each year at the end of the growing season the Department of Corrections (DOC) and the County Farm donate various winter vegetables such as squash and potato's to County agencies and non-profits. Many of the recipients are Senior Centers, food pantries, shelters, and soup kitchens. This year is no exception and we are finding that many agencies have greater needs than we can meet.

Under the coordination of Sgt. Dale Paronto, Cpl. Dan Webster and Administrative Assistant Brenda Paronto agencies are contacted to determine their needs. The produce is then packed and sorted by inmates and readied for delivery. Deliveries are coordinated by region and then



delivered by supervised inmates.

The inmates that participate in the program find satisfaction in being able to help their communities. Many of the inmates that deliver the produce also participate in the planting, growing and harvesting of the crops.

This year we project that

close to 200 50lb bags of potato's alone will be donated throughout the County. That's roughly 5 tons of farm fresh potato's to help the needy!

Many of the agencies are grateful for the fresh vegetables and those that they serve are appreciative of the County's support.

Message from the Superintendent

Why another newsletter?

Good question. During a recent tour of the facility with a resident from Rumney and an out of County resident from Sanbornton they asked me point blank why they never hear about all the “good things” that the Department of Corrections and County in general is doing. I really didn't have much of an answer other than it seems that the only interest is in negativity and controversial issues. Both gentlemen being successful writers suggested that I resume the newsletter that was developed to educate residents about the jail pro-

ject but with a focus on the positive programs and issues that makes our department unique in comparison to other facilities throughout the State.

So, after much thought I've decided to do just that. We plan on publishing a quarterly newsletter that will focus on the many positive things that go on in and around the facility that no one really knows about.

Inmate programs, staff achievements and profiles, community programs, news from the farm, community corrections, drug court and many other topics will be covered.

Part of my goal has always been to educate the public about our mission, philosophy, and how we live and work.

We routinely find that many people know where we are located but have limited knowledge about what we do unless they know someone that works or volunteers at the facility or knows someone who is incarcerated.

Sincerely,
 Glenn Libby

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Special points of interest:

- County Corrections Officers are required to receive thirty hours of training each year to maintain certification—in comparison police officers are only required to receive eight hours of annual training
- The age of majority in the State of New Hampshire for incarceration is 17 years old
- Female inmates comprise the fastest growing population in jails across the Country



The 2008 Top Dawg competition attracted Correctional Officers from Belknap and Strafford Counties as well as Grafton County Commissioner Ray Burton

Physical Fitness & Corrections

Grafton County Correctional Officers are required to participate in physical fitness training at least once per year. The Cooper's Physical Fitness test has several categories that measure fitness, endurance, and stamina. Like most law enforcement professions, corrections is demanding both physically and mentally.

Each May the annual "Top Dawg" physical fitness challenge is held to determine the most physically fit law enforcement officer. There are two categories— individual and team. 2008 winners were Officer Glenn Keyes from the Belknap County Department of Corrections and the Grafton County Department of Corrections team consisting of Officer Christopher Cadreact, Corporal Jason Stanton, Sgt. Aaron Vannamee, Sgt Kevin Locke and Superintendent Glenn Libby

NHAC Corrections Academy

In September the New Hampshire Association of Counties sponsored a joint Corrections Academy between Grafton and Carroll County's. The 76th Academy was coordinated by Captain Roland Lafond of Grafton County and Captain Jason Johnson of Carroll County. Corrections academies are held to provide the required training to become a certified correctional officer. A set curriculum is delivered that includes topics such as dealing with suicidal inmates, defensive tactics, report writing, officer safety, inmate supervision, communicable diseases, and communication skills. All courses are

taught by certified instructors and total 160 hours of training.

The 76th Academy graduated on September 29, 2008 in a ceremony at the James Morrill building that was attended by family and friends. The guest speaker was Grafton County Attorney Rick St. Hilaire. Commissioners from both Carroll and Grafton County attended the event as well.

Grafton County Correctional Officer Adam Veilleaux was recognized as the Honor Graduate.



Capt. Lafond leads academy participants on their daily physical fitness run from the County Complex to the Morrill Building in North Haverhill. The flag was carried on this date (9/11/08) to honor all 911 victims



GED Program

In September we held our first GED graduation ceremony. In the past the State had funded special education programs including GED. This past year the State discontinued funding and we were able to contract with Kenn Stransky to provide educational services. Since coming on board Kenn has made a wonderful difference in the delivery of educational assistance. In addition to the seven graduates honored in this ceremony another eight inmates are scheduled for a Fall graduation.

The graduation was attended by family and friends and by County Commissioners Michael Cryans, Raymond Burton and Martha Richards, Executive Director Julie Clough, Officer Mark Deem and Superintendent Glenn Libby.

Great job and congratulations graduates.



Program Assistant Officer Mark Deem and Education Director Kenn Stransky pose with the graduates

Community Corrections Community Work Projects



(top) Inmate work crew raking and cleaning up the Sanborn Cemetery in Bristol

(below) Crew scraping and painting Church in Glenciff



The Grafton County Community Corrections Department utilizes inmate labor throughout the County to provide assistance to Towns and non-profits. The program averages over 4000 inmate work hours over the course of the year providing help to clean up cemeteries, painting buildings, light carpentry work and other types of labor. In FY08 projects were completed in Ashland, Bath, Bristol, Woodsville, North Haverhill, Dorchester,

Orford, Plymouth, Wentworth, Warren, Piermont, Hebron, Campton, Littleton, and Glenciff.

The program is a “win—win” situation because it allows inmates to give something back to their communities and at the same time it is valuable to communities by providing manpower to undertake jobs that might otherwise be delayed.

To learn more about the program contact Sgt. DaleParonto



Inmate worker prepping a vehicle for painting at the Littleton Public Works Dept.



Grand Opening of the farm stand l to r Rick Alpers, Bristol Selectman and Primex Rep., Commissioner Raymond Burton, NH Dept. of Agriculture Commissioner Lorraine Merrill, Commissioner Martha Richards, Supt. Glenn Libby, NH Dept. of Corrections Commissioner William Wrenn and Commissioner Michael Cryans

Facts and Figures

* Grafton County Department of Corrections is one of the original recipients of funds for substance abuse treatment through the Governor's Commission on Alcohol and Drugs.

* Supervision Officers from our Community Corrections Division traveled over 30,000 miles, performed 564 supervision compliance checks and collected 546 urine samples while supervising Drug Court clients.

* Our Operation Impact Program saw 8,902 North Country children participate in the program. There were 37 presentations conducted in the facility and a number of presentations outside the facility.

* Our Substance Abuse treatment team headed by Counselor William O'Malley placed 45 inmates in residential treatment programs of at least 28 days during FY07 which resulted in a decrease of inmate bed days in the facility by almost 3.5 inmates per day.



The Board of Commissioners tagging along for a recent potato donation at the Littleton Senior Center

* The age of majority in New Hampshire is 17 years old. In FY07 22 people under the age of 18 were entered into the facility.

* The average age of inmates during FY07 was 33 years old.

* Grafton County Department of Corrections assisted the Farm with planting seven tons of potato's and harvesting close to forty tons.

* Our Thresholds and Decisions Program is in its eighteenth year. There have been thirty-six graduating classes. The program has won two national awards, former President George H. Bush's Points of Light Award and the National Association of Counties Acts of Caring Award. Over fifty different volunteers from the Grafton County Retired Seniors Volunteer Program (RSVP) have mentored inmates during this period.

* The oldest part of the facility houses roughly 65% of the inmate population.

New Hampshire Association of Counties Honors Grafton County Employees

At their annual awards banquet held at the Mount Washington Hotel the New Hampshire Association of Counties recognized several Grafton County employee's for their hard work and dedication.

Department of Corrections employee's receiving awards were Medical Coordinator Auralie Achilles who was awarded the 2008 Corrections Medical Employee of the Year. Farm Manager Donnie Kimball, Sgt. Dale Paronto and Administrative Assistant Brenda Paronto were awarded the 2008 Team Award for their efforts with the Farmstand.

Former Grafton County Executive

Director and longtime Department of Corrections volunteer Evelyn Smith received the distinguished New Hampshire Association of Counties Profile Award for her lengthy service to the County.

Other County employee's receiving awards were: Executive Director Julie Clough, Human Services Director Nancy Bishop, Ms. Tammy Robbins, and Human Resource Director Joanne Mann.

Grafton County is very proud of all of its employee's.



Left to right: Farm Manager Donnie Kimball, Administrative Assistant Brenda Paronto and Sgt. Dale Paronto

Volunteer Profile: Patsy Bouley

Patsy will say that it's a calling from the Lord that led her to minister to inmates. Inmates that have met Patsy will say that they have been blessed by her faith. Sometime back in 1997 or 1998 Patsy and her late husband Stubby started volunteering their time to minister to inmates in Grafton County. Over the years she has developed and maintained special relationships with the people she has met behind bars many of whom still keep in touch with her. The DOC staff consider Patsy a very special woman—not only for her ability to reach out to some of the most hardened offenders but as someone who thinks they are special for the jobs that they perform as well .

Patsy warns those that she brings along to minister with her that "you'll never be the same" after they experience the interactions. Patsy receives correspondence from many incarcerated individuals each month and routinely receives poems, pictures, testimonies, and stories from those she meets.

Patsy says that she has no set plan when she comes into the facility each week. Passing out bibles, singing hymns, talking one on one or in groups, or reaching out to someone who is in need. She relies on her faith to get her through each day and says that her faith in the Lord led her to her ministry.

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