



The RapSheet

Capt. Halcomb, left, and Capt. Caruthers, right, pin Cpl. Sherry Lineberry

Wyoming Department of
Corrections Employee
Newsletter
October 2009, Vol. 13, Issue 9

WDOC Offers Opportunities for Women

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WDOC Mission Statement

The Wyoming Department of Corrections contributes to public safety by exercising reasonable, safe, secure, and humane management, while actively providing offenders opportunities to become law-abiding citizens.

Two women in the Wyoming Department of Corrections are breaking down barriers and changing perception as the first two female captains at the Wyoming State Penitentiary.

Captains Carrie Caruthers and Patricia Halcomb achieved rank as the first and second female captains, respectively. Halcomb is also the first female Hispanic captain at WSP.

The Journey Begins

Carrie began her career in 1995 with the Arizona Department of Corrections in a minimum/medium security yard. At the time she was a newly-divorced, single mother with no self esteem. She was required to attend a nine-week boot camp and made the difficult decision to leave her baby in her sister's care. "There I learned the core basics of who I am and what I do. It taught me self esteem," Carrie said. It was during her time in Arizona that Carrie decided she wanted to be a warden.

Next, she worked in Burlington, Colorado for the Corrections Corporation of America managing the commissary and

canteen, as well as being part-time warehouse manager. Then she took a break for her family.

She resumed her career as an officer with the Kansas Department of Corrections and worked her way to master sergeant. She also worked as a corrections counselor, grant writer and wellness coordinator, and dispatcher for local law enforcement. "When I was burned out on corrections, I'd go back to dispatch, but then I realized that corrections was in my blood," she said.

She came to WDOC in 2007 with hopes of making this her final stop. "In the last 13 years, we've moved 12 times for career moves," she said. "I was born and raised in Wyoming, and my family lives here. This is where we want to spend the rest of our lives."

Patricia is the first in her family to take up a career in law enforcement and she began her career in 1995 as a jailer at the Anderson County Jail in East Texas. She was quickly promoted to jail supervisor working night shift, then patrolling until 2 a.m. "The irony was that

I was only 22 years old, Hispanic and female, and supervised other jailers that had been there longer than me. I had no supervisory skills, so I did the best I could and always treated people with respect," she said. "I never knew that I would go this far."

She also worked in juvenile court as a translator; she is fluent in Spanish. Her translating skills were quickly recognized and she was told she was better suited in the jail where she could handle the female intakes. She was soon allowed to patrol after shift and assist in serving warrants. She learned a lot working there, mostly from the people she supervised.

In July 1997 Patricia's mother became ill and she came to Wyoming to be near her. She was hired at WSP in August 1997. She realized the opportunity for advancement and moved up the ladder fairly quickly. She promoted from

Respect — continued on page 3



Overall Department

Wellness Awards

Please join me in recognizing the following individuals for their participation in the WDOC Employee Wellness program. Due to their continued participation in wellness activities at the required level for a six month period, each is being awarded 4 hours of administrative leave.

Wyoming Women's Center:

Trista Nichols, Phil Myer, Dee Krejci, Tennille Henry, Barbara Elder, Cheri Clark, Sherrie Baldwin and Cala Swenson

Wyoming Honor Conservation/Boot Camp: Pat Gray and John Holloway, Michael David, Michael Sepke, Timothy McCarty, Jon Martin

Rock Springs Field Services: Sonya Middlemas and Carol Cottle

Buffalo Field Services: Vi Gardner

Cheyenne Central Office: Scott Abbott, Teresa Canjar, Brenda Crawford, Christy Hahn, Beth Mathews and Jamie Spezzano, Jennifer Crockett, Ric O'Connor, Courtney Herceg and Jona Fletcher

Casper Field Services: Kenifer Zimmer. Kristin Stoner

— *Director Bob Lampert*

Note: If you're not a member of the WDOC Wellness Program and are interested, please contact Brenda Crawford, Wellness Program Coordinator, at 307.777.3362 or at BCRAWF@wdoc.state.wy.us

Prison Division

New Admin Assistant in Industries

Kaila Rohrer is the new Administrative Assistant for Prison Industries.

She joined the Industries team on September 8.

Kaila is a native Wyomingite having been born and raised on a small ranch just outside of Ten Sleep. Growing up, Kaila was active in Future Farmers of America and 4H which explains her "cowgirl" roots. She has two horses, Dakota and Kiah, and a cat named Barney not-so-patiently waiting for her return visits to Ten Sleep.

After graduating from Ten Sleep High School, Kaila moved to Cheyenne four years ago to attend Laramie County Community College where she earned her Associate's degree in Equine Management and Training. Not one to be content with that accomplishment, Kaila is currently pursuing her Bachelor's degree in Business Administration through Regis University.

Kaila's office is on the second floor of the Central Office. Stop by and introduce yourself and welcome Kaila to the WDOC family!

— *Dutch FlaHavban, Business Manager, Correctional Industries*

The Rap Sheet

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Overall Department

Service Awards

Congratulations to the following staff members who have earned significant years of service to the State.

Division of Field Services

Newcastle Tim Spencer, Traditional Agent, 5 years on September 7

Sheridan Stephanie Wagner, Drug Court Agent, 5 years on September 7

Division of Prisons

Wyoming Honor Conservation/Boot Camp Ed Beason, Caseworker, 10 years on September 20

Wyoming Honor Farm Chad McDonald, Correctional Officer, 5 years on September 28

Wyoming State Penitentiary

Samuel Bustos, Food Service Specialist, 25 years on September 1; John Gonzales, Correctional Officer, 15 years on September 1; Elizabeth Quintana, Senior Mail Clerk, 25 years on September 1; and Ricky Smith, Correctional Officer, 10 years on September 7



Respect — continued from page 1

corporal to sergeant then transferred to the Training Academy when it was first developed and spent four-and-a-half years there. “This position allowed me to understand policy, procedure and industry standards. It opened my eyes to so much more,” she said.

Patricia then decided to move on and applied for lieutenant at WSP and, once promoted, she assumed the role as a watch commander. “Coming back into security was a challenge because, even though I knew policy and procedure, I had not been able to apply my knowledge until this point,” she said. “I quickly went back to the basics of doing corrections and supervising staff while applying everything I knew about managing and leading people.”

Moving Up Ranks

Both women have worked hard to prove themselves, but feel respected and have a good support system. Their decisions to try for the rank of captain were well supported, especially by their husbands. Coincidentally, both have husbands who work for the department in the rank of sergeant.

Carrie says a lot of credit goes to her husband, Richard, who she met four to five years after she started in corrections. “The only reason I sit where I do is because of him. He created my self esteem,” she said.

It isn’t an issue that Carrie is two ranks above her husband. “He is truly a man of integrity and it’s all about OUR success. When I told him I thought about going for captain, he said, ‘Why wouldn’t you?’ Hav-

ing a partner truly willing to care about my success more than his own...I’m so fortunate and very lucky.”

“(WSP) Warden (Eddie) Wilson was a huge factor in why I’m captain. He took the time to mentor me and he taught me a lot,” she said. “He felt if you’re qualified, you’re capable whether you’re male or female. It’s not common to have a warden feel that way. He has that special place in my heart and mind.”

Patricia says she has always been her own biggest encourager and critic, but her husband, Brian, and her mother have always supported everything she does. Her mother, especially, pushed her to be somebody and never give up.

“My husband is very supportive and because he knows what the stresses of our jobs are, even though we do different things, its basic understanding,” she said. “He’s my best friend and we keep work in perspective.”

“We don’t discuss our perspectives of handling issues, although sometimes we give each other advice, we don’t argue about how we perceive corrections should be. It’s pointless, I’m right anyway and he will have to learn his own way!” she jokes.

Her decision to throw in her hat for captain was very thought out. She knew the position was salaried and included long hours and uncertain hours at times. “I also knew that I was ready for another challenge. I did not make it the first time or second time I interviewed. I won’t say how many times I interviewed, but I was persistent!” she said.

Once becoming captain, Patricia realized how effective her position can be. “The responsibility is huge and being part of a Unit Management team is a balancing act, while still balancing the needs of your staff and inmate safety. It is very challenging,” she said. She is also an Emergency Preparedness Instructor and a Defensive Tactics Instructor.

Challenges and Rewards

Carrie loves corrections – you can see it on her face and hear it in her voice. “It’s exciting and I ask if this is real!” she said. “It’s attainable, it’s enjoyable, it’s rewarding. It makes me feel like I fit.”

She garners respect from her peers, supervisors and subordinates, but cautions: “Anytime you achieve success as a female, don’t get arrogant. You can’t get your team to follow you if you are.”

Carrie says while being a female captain is significant, it should not be *so* significant, and she wants other women to know that corrections is not a career for males only. “We are taught a great deal when men and women work together,” she said. “And the Equality State *really* means the Equality State in Wyoming.”

Patricia says women can be an integral part of corrections, she has felt this herself. “I have always felt that I am obligated to represent WSP and women in corrections where ever I go and what ever I do,” she said. “I grew up in corrections at WSP and have always been loyal and true to what is directed of me. At times I have had to push back and stand my ground, but that is who I am.”

“Learning to be yourself and

having confidence in everything you do will be the most effective strategy. Don’t try to be someone you are not,” she said.

Other personal challenges for Patricia include her minority and her stature (she is 5’4”), and she had to prove she was “just as smart and capable as anyone else in those positions.” After being at WSP for 14 years she has seen changes and acceptance in diversity: “We had two female captains at WSP. How often do you hear of that?”

The Journey Continues

Carrie and Patricia have a very close relationship, as do their families, and they became friends after working shift together as lieutenants.

“I found that we had quite a bit in common, as far as growing up, our goals, when we started our careers. Our personalities are very different and I think that is why we worked well together,” Patricia said. “Our children became friends and I miss her.”

“They made us feel welcome in Rawlins,” Carrie said. “Our families would hang out, go to church together, our kids are friends...I’m going to miss her.”

Carrie has recently transferred as captain to WMCI where she will continue toward her goal of warden. Patricia is now the only female captain at WSP and, right now, she is comfortable remaining in that position.

— Courtney Herveg, Field Public Information Officer

Central Office

Hahn Selected as Re-Entry Coordinator



Christy Hahn

We are pleased to announce that Christy Hahn has been selected for the Re-Entry Coordinator position for the DOC. She will begin her new duties on August 31. The selection process was difficult due to the caliber of applicant experience that was interviewed for this job.

Christy graduated from Northern Illinois University in 2000 with a Bachelor's degree in psychology. Upon graduation she worked as a crisis stabilization counselor in Chicago, Illinois. Moving to Riverton in 2004, she worked for Fremont County School District #1 as the Neglected and Delinquent and Safe and Drug Free

Schools Grant and Program Manager.

Since April 2007, she has worked for the Wyoming Department of Corrections, first as the PREA Coordinator; she continues to assist in ensuring we are incorporating the new standards and helping to develop and audit for the standards. In January 2009, she took over the responsibilities as the PRI Grant Coordinator. Christy has successfully worked with the institutions, field and ACCs to ensure all entities understand what the grant offers to inmates inside and upon release from prison. Currently 200 inmate participants have been accepted for this grant.

We are excited to have Christy in her new position and she understands that the job will be a very busy one with a restricted budget. However, she also knows the importance of bridging the communication within our department and also with outside agencies and other entities to make the transition as seamless as possible for our releasing offenders.

Please welcome Christy into her new endeavors with this department.

—Deputy Administrator
Dawn Sides

Wyoming Women's Center

Congratulations for 25 Years



The Women's Center in Summer 2009

The Niobrara Chamber of Commerce would like to commend Warden Dan Shannon and staff for the remarkable job they do at the Wyoming Women's Center. The correctional facility has been located in Lusk for 25 years and it has been a great asset for the community. The economic factor is just one of many.

The facility has provided long-term employment for many with great opportunities for advancement as well as social networking in the community.

We also want to thank the staff members and inmates for their contributions to the community. It has been great seeing the

staff involved in softball, the Legend of Rawhide and other community events. The inmates do a great service in helping keep the downtown area clean in addition to their on-site jobs. Congratulations to the Wyoming Women's Center for 25 years!

—Jackie Bredthauer, Executive
Director, Niobrara Chamber of
Commerce

Overall Department

What About HSM?

A Holistic Stress Management (HSM) Program addresses overload of stress, change and challenge WDOC employees know far too well.

Change equals stress. And, depending on what the change is, it can be particularly challenging and stressful to respond to, both effectively and in a timely manner. What one person finds fun might induce resistance or even fear from another. Either way all change affects us and each of us benefits by effectively and efficiently handling change well; each of us is stressed when we respond poorly to changes and challenges.

Holistic Stress Management takes into account that stress is indeed ubiquitous and continuous, and no one has discovered a way around it. **Holistic Stress Management's**

response to this awareness is a variety of classes designed to educate and relax us, and help us cope with the unending demands which compete against finding and sustaining balance and harmony in our lives and relationships.

Are you having problems sleeping? Are you a junk food junkie? No time for exercise? Sleep, nutrition, exercise and physical activity are some of what you'd expect from any program proclaiming to help with managing stress. What you

may not expect are modules designed to improve problem solving skills, communication skills, time and money management, and other coping techniques. Limitations in any of these areas can cause us significant anxiety and stress.

Of course, any keys to managing stress will include relaxation techniques and breathing exercises. **Holistic Stress Management** includes these, plus a serious focus and emphasis on



stress and human spirituality. These and other components broaden the conversation and seek to represent a total approach to health, wellness, and living a balanced life.

The categories mentioned still do not include all of the subjects addressed and classes offered in this **Holistic Stress Management Program**. Our goal in the WDOC Wellness Program is to offer a variety of these classes to our employees, over time.

Both I, Brenda Crawford, EAP

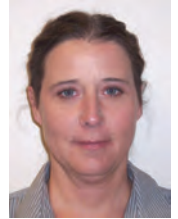
Manager, and Tracy Rose, Wyoming Honor Conservation/Boot Camp Recreation Specialist, have completed the *HSM Instructor Certification Course*. Some courses have already been conducted at Central Office and WHCC for employees. Our goal is to begin with two subjects (Humor Therapy and Guided Imagery), and continue to add new topics as our schedules and time allow and our skills in the various

areas increases and improves. Both one-hour classes will bring an opportunity for participants to relax, refocus, and renew themselves. Staff can develop skills to find and maintain balance in handling work and personal life. Feedback has been overwhelmingly positive regarding the classes that we and our team members already presented.

If you have any questions or interests in Holistic Stress Management and the benefits it offers, feel free to call me at 307.777.3362 or e-mail at BCRAWF@wdoc.state.wy.us

— *Brenda Crawford, Employee Assistance Program Manager*

Wyoming Honor Farm New Case Team Leader



Hope Sterling

I am very pleased to announce that Ms. Hope Sterling from Orofino, Idaho has been selected for and accepted the Casework Team Leader position at the Wyoming Honor Farm in Riverton.

Ms. Sterling comes to the WHF and WDOC from Idaho Department of Corrections where She was a Psychosocial Rehabilitation Specialist. She also was the Treatment Coordinator helping design and implement the Park County Drug Court program for nonviolent offenders. Prior to moving to Cody, Wyoming she worked a period of time for Wexford Health Sources, Inc. as a counselor assigned to Rawlins State Penitentiary, Intensive Treatment Unit, Rawlins Wyoming.

Ms. Sterling has a Bachelor's degree in Psychology from Ohio State University. She has also studied in the Master's of Rehabilitation Counseling degree program with the Bowling Green State University and is working on her Master's of Science in Criminal Justice with the University of Cincinnati. She comes with an extensive background and experience in security and program aspects. Ms. Sterling began her CTL position at WHF on August 31.

— *Warden Ken Keller*



Wyoming Honor Conservation/Boot Camp *Smokebusters Clean-up*

The following article appeared in the August 20, 2009 edition of the Moorcroft Leader.

Smoke Busters help clean-up tornado damage

By Evonna Schelling

Smoke Busters was in the area recently helping with the clean up effort following the tornado that cut through the county last month. The July 13 storm caused heavy damage and devastation along Queens Road near Sundance where the homes of Sonny and Alice Queen and Adolph Wilhelm suffered catastrophic damages, along with a barn and other outbuildings.

At a special meeting on July 27, the Crook County commissioners approved a request for assistance from Wyoming State Forestry in the clean up operations. On July 29, two crews and three supervisors from the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp (WHCC), through a Forestry Conservation program called Smoke Busters, arrived on scene to assist in removing timber and debris from heavily damaged areas.

Twenty Smoke Busters worked for three days to clear debris and cut down damaged trees from the Queens Road right-of-way and near the residences from which debris was scattered nearly a mile away.

On arrival at the disaster site, the team supervisors assessed the situation and deployed the crews to begin the large task of cleaning debris and downed timber from the county road right-of-way and surrounding areas.

Retrieving debris and adding it to piles started by earlier clean up volunteers, the Smoke Busters "performed the job with enthusiasm and professionalism," said Jim Pridgeon, Director of Crook County Homeland Security. "After three days, the site looked vastly different. The debris covered hills and fields were cleared and huge piles of wood and other material were stacked for later disposal."

Pridgeon noted that supervisors Jim Husckly, Ted Drake and Damon Shirk worked alongside the crews, cutting and stacking wood, piling tin and other debris from the site and providing order and direction to the crews.

"We really enjoy these community projects, it's good to be able to help people in need," said Ted Drake. "It's truly amazing no one was injured during the tornado."

The Smoke Busters perform many types of community service. Each year, they work on the Aladdin Coal Mine Historic Tipple Site, perform maintenance work at the Vore Buffalo Jump, and assist in wildfire suppression throughout the county. They also supported disaster relief efforts during the Wright tornado and Newcastle flood.



Lost Time Accidents

Number of days since a lost time accident as of August 31, 2009

Wyoming State Penitentiary

Staff

Physical Plant/Warehouse	17 days
Administration Building	597 days
South Facility	39 days
Central Production Facility....	750 days
Industries Building.....	294 days

Wyoming State Penitentiary

Inmates

Physical Plant/Warehouse	506 days
South Facility	794 days
Central Production Facility....	223 days
Industries Building.....	256 days

Wyoming Honor Conservation/ Boot Camp

Staff.....	185 days
Inmates.....	81 days

Wyoming Women's Center

Staff.....	256 days
Inmates.....	10 days

Wyoming Honor Farm

Staff.....	365 days
Inmates.....	22 days

Overall Department

Community Safety Training

From September 22-24, I had an opportunity to participate in the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training in Cheyenne, offered by the Wyoming Department of Homeland Security, at no charge. The primary course objective was to prepare community members on the basics of assisting community residents at home, in their neighborhoods, workplaces and

in the broader community in the event of a disaster situation of any kind, particularly prior to official emergency personnel or law enforcement's arrival at the scene.

The disasters addressed included natural disasters, man made disasters, mass casualty accidents. Treating injuries, extinguishing fires, conducting light search and rescue efforts and helping to relieve survivor

stress rounded out the various training modules.

Obtaining this CERT education is a plus for the Wyoming Department of Corrections in our efforts to be proactive and prepared in the event of an emergency. I hope that other staff will take advantage of this opportunity in the future.

For information contact Kelly Ruiz, Citizen Corps Program Manager, 307.777.4909.

— Brenda Cranford, Employee Assistance Program Manager

Wellness Program

Get on the Ball

Did you know that while sitting on an exercise ball, your body is constantly making small adjustments with the postural muscles, abdominals, gluteals and leg muscles? It is “active sitting” rather than the slumping and poor posture we develop even in ergonomic desk chairs.

When I sit in a chair, I don’t really sit, I lounge. I lean into the chair back, relax into the arm rests, and remain that way for hours. I think you’d agree that sitting at your desk all day isn’t very good for your body, and lounging is even worse for your back and spine and can result in muscle pain and soreness. Plus, it’s a really passive way to sit in an already passive desk job.

The *stability ball* has many functions. It can help to facilitate the neuromuscular system, increase core strength, balance, and posture. Most commonly, it is used as a bench during exercise but it can also be used while sitting at a desk or watching TV. By doing so you receive the benefits of better posture, core strength, and endurance without putting much thought into it. You will also increase your total caloric expenditure at rest.

Other benefits of sitting on the ball include:

- It allows active-dynamic, and therefore, mobile sitting
- It is the ideal training apparatus for the improvement of the endurance of sitting and postural muscles.

- As a dynamic balance apparatus, it improves sensory perception, especially of changes in gravity or, rather, changes in the center of gravity. It acts as a stimulus for regulation of posture.

It improves, via improved blood circulation, the effectiveness of all the organ systems, especially the brain.

Getting Started

Stability balls can be purchased from any sporting goods store, Target, Wal-Mart, various other stores, or online for \$12-\$35. If you would like to get started using a stability ball in your own office, there are a few guidelines to follow. The first step is choosing the proper size ball. When you sit on the ball there should be a 90 degree angle in your hips and knees, with your hips slightly higher than your knees. There are a number of sizes to choose from when selecting your own stability ball. The recommendations come from the American College of Sports Medicine, the chart to the right.

On the Ball

When using a stability ball for the first time you should sit on it as long as you feel comfortable. Times will be different for everyone, so go by what your body tells you. Some people choose to sit on a stability ball for their entire work day, while others alternate between a ball and a chair. While research is still being conducted, there are currently no recommendations for the amount of time spent sitting on the ball; so just go by

how you feel and what your body can handle.

Stuart McGill, PhD. in “Low Back Disorders” cautions against use of an exercise ball as a chair for those with lower back pain. Certainly, those with back pain and other musculoskeletal disorders need to use caution when changing chairs

Height	Ball Size
Less than 4 ft. 10 inches	30-35 cm
4 ft. 8 inches to 5 ft. 5 inches	45 cm
5 ft 6 inches to 6 ft.	55 cm
6 ft. to 6 ft. 5 inches	65 cm
More than 6 ft. 5 inches	75 cm
Heavier or long legged	85 cm

for hours of sitting. If you experience increased lower back pain when using the exercise ball as a chair, discuss it with your medical provider and consider discontinuing use.

Exercises you can try today

Saddle ups: Grab your desk firmly and straddle the ball, then lift your feet off the ground Squeeze with your inner thighs and slowly let your body pull away from your desk as your arms straighten. Then engage your abs and slowly pull yourself back toward your desk. Repeat 10-20 times.

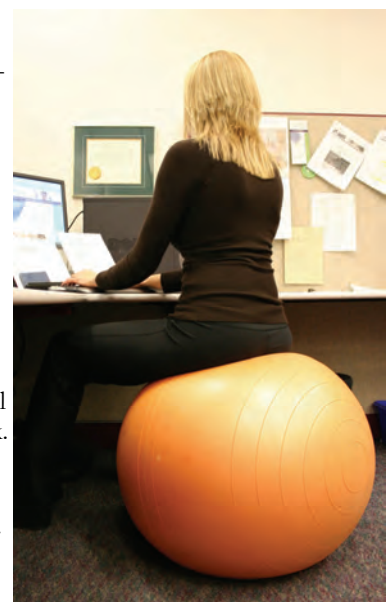
Heel digger: Dig your heels into the ground and point your toes towards the ceiling.

Squeezing your butt, slightly lift off the ball. Slow squeeze, relax... squeeze, relax... squeeze, relax. Repeat fifteen to twenty times.

The Creep: While sitting on your ball, slowly, stealthily, and steadily creep under your desk. Take four steps forward. As you step, allow your spine to make contact with the ball, one vertebrae at a time. Just as slowly, walk back out and repeat ten times.

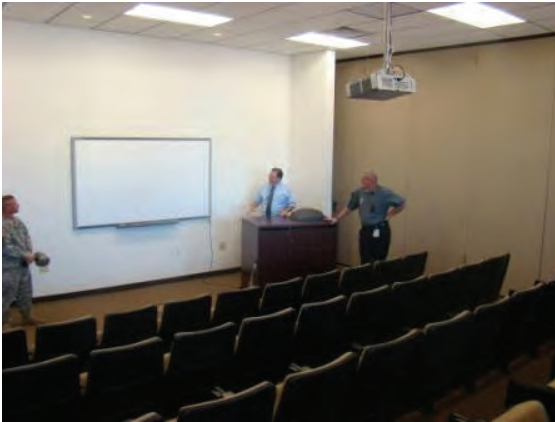
The key to stability ball exercises is that balance must be maintained, creating the need to continually engage several muscles throughout the body, even while just sitting.

—Tracy Rose, *Wellness Champion, Wyoming Honor Conservation/ Boot Camp*





WDOC Training Academy *On the Move to Guernsey*



A classroom at Camp Guernsey



The Guernsey Camp chow hall



A typical Guernsey Camp dorm room

Good morning, WDOC. Beginning Sunday, September 13, 2009, the WDOC Training Academy will be working predominately at Camp

Guernsey in Guernsey, Wyoming, while we train the staff for the Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution in Torrington (the other facilities will have a limited number of slots each class).

We will conduct eight Academy classes in the six months we will be there. The last class graduates March 5, 2010. We will then resume more normal operations in the renovated Wayne Martinez Training Center on the grounds of the Wyoming State Penitentiary.

Students and trainers (including all you folks who will be helping with classes like Emergency Pre-

paredness, Pressure Point Control Techniques, Motivational Interviewing) will live in barracks with eight-person rooms and dormitory style showers. The dining facility at the Camp

will provide three meals a day. I estimate this will save the state well over \$1.5 million as opposed to housing people in motels.

Captain Carrie Caruthers, WMCI, will be working with us at Guernsey. She is the person assigning rooms and issuing keys on the Sunday before each class starts. The first class will be held in Building 218, so this is where we will meet the first Sunday. WMCI's new staff will arrive at 10:00 a.m. to begin the HR process.

Miss Kerry Lessard will stay in Rawlins to keep up with the daily requirements and to provide support from the home base. Ms. Jenny Brown, WMCI, will provide administrative support at Guernsey.

At Guernsey we will be using cell phones for voice communications and air-cards for e-mail. This should not present a problem other than large attachments will be very slow over the e-mail. Instead of a fax machine we will use a scanner and e-mail documents as pdf files.

Here's our contact information:

Kerry Lessard —
307.328.7484

Pete Norris — 307.321.3217

Jenny Brown — 307.575.5704

Officer-In-Charge —
307.321.1640

Captain Carrie Caruthers —
307.575.5633

— *Pete Norris, Training Academy Manager*

Overall Department *Wellness!*

Have you heard? WDOC has four more winners in the State of Wyoming *Healthier Wyoming* wellness effort, for their participation in the August "Fun in the Sun" challenge. Our latest winners are Leslie Daniels (WMCI), Heather Heth (WWC), Dena Knox (Gillette Field Services), and Trista Nichols (WWC). Each has won herself a \$50 gift card for completing the "Fun in The Sun" challenge. Congratulations, ladies!

For everyone else, you still have time to register for the next challenge which begins in October at

<http://www.healthierWY.org/1unch>. Participation in three of these challenges over the next year will qualify you to receive the \$480 reduction in insurance premiums for 2011. As with this year, you'll also need to have a physical examination, and take the Health Risk Appraisal to be eligible for the premium reduction of \$480 in 2011.

Not a bad deal, be proactive about your health, learn new skills to make wellness a habit, and earn \$50 for taking the Health Risk Appraisal, earn \$480 reduction in your insurance premiums, keep your health in check, and be eligible to win \$50 gift cards every time you satisfactorily complete a health challenge.

For more info contact me at BCRAWF@wdoc.state.wy.us

— *Brenda Cranford, Employee Assistance Manager and Wellness Program Coordinator*



Wyoming Women's Center *Service Awards*

Major Garry Halter

Major Garry Halter has been with the Department of Corrections for 19 years. He worked six years with the Highway Patrol before that for a total of 25 years of State service. Major Halter spent 16 years at WSP, rising through the ranks. From July 2006 through March 2008 he was a Lieutenant with the DOC Investigative Unit. In March 2008, he moved to Lusk and was promoted to a new Captain. Associate Warden Martha Buchanan commented on his many successes just since he's been at WWC. She credited his professional demeanor and communication skills as key factors. She also commends his knowledge of WDOC policies and WWC procedures and that he operates within these boundaries at all times. Major Halter was promoted to the rank of Major for the Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution on September 13, 2009.

Education Director Virginia Pullen

Virginia Pullen began working for the Women's Center in August 1984 as a Vocational Educator. Over the past 25 years she has been promoted to Education Program Supervisor, then on to Certified Academic Manager.

The Education Department has expanded from two staff members to a complement of five. This Department has received recognition for the GED program that they administer, provided non-traditional courses for the female offender, and oversees

the Prison Industries. Ms. Pullen has seen and been part of numerous changes within the Education area but has never compromised their high standards and expectations. She is dedicated to her job, her students and to their success.

Corporal Karen Jassman

Corporal Karen Jassman has spent 25 years with the Department of Corrections at WWC. Corporal Jassman has worn many hats while working here: Correctional Officer, Commissary Specialist, Financial Specialist, and since November 2005, Supply Corporal. It is she who ensures that the inmates are within their property allowance and ensures the facility is spotless.

Caseworker Debby Bayne

Ms. Debby Bayne began working for the Women's Center in December 1989. She spent 13 years as a Food Services Support Specialist. During this time Ms. Bayne obtained her Sociology/Psychology degree and was promoted to Casework Manager in November 2002. Prior to this, she worked from 1971-1972 at the Wyoming State Training School in Lander. She is very knowledgeable and helpful with all things case-related. She has been a Team Leader for the Crisis Negotiation Team for approximately 11 years. She is exemplary of working at self development and reaching a professional goal.

Sergeant Larry Seaman

Sergeant Larry Seaman started with the Women's Center September 28, 2004 and has com-

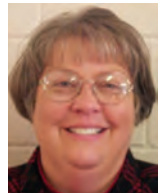
pleted five years. Previously he worked at the Wyoming Honor Conservation Camp and then transferred to WWC. During that time he has been promoted from an Officer to the rank of Sergeant.

Tina Kitras-Seaman

Tina Kitras-Seaman also has been with WDOC five years. Ms. Kitras-Seaman started October 1, 2004 and transferred from the Honor Camp. She is an instructor in the Education Department.

These staff people represent almost 100 years of experience. Congratulations and thanks again to all of you for the dedication you show everyday to the Department of Corrections, the Women's Center, and to the community.

— Trista Nichols, Field Public Information Officer



Top photo, Virginia Pullen and Administrator Pat Keppler; above, Karen Jassman and Mr. Keppler; right top, Debby Bayne; middle, Larry Seaman; below, Tina Kitras-Seaman and Garry Halter



Wyoming Honor Conservation/Boot Camp *Golf, Golf, Golf!*



Warden Steve and Donna Hargett



Joey Johnson sinks the ball for the longest putt



Michael David and Ron Behnke watch Al Costello

A big thank you to all that participated in the WHCC Golf Tournament and made it a success. I hope that everyone had fun and took home new memories.

First, the thank yous...

- To the Newcastle Country Club... make sure to thank them for allowing us to use the course and to bring in our own lunch. Sharon did a wonderful job!
- As always, the WHCC kitchen did a wonderful job with lunch. Thanks, Pat, for playing the role of caterer. And, please be sure to thank your crew.
- The Pepsi Co. donated t-shirts for prizes so if you see any of their personnel around town, please be sure to say "thanks." Also, thank Marni for doing the ground work.
- Wanda donated some water bottles as well from her stash of goodies.
- For all of those who purchased mulligans and string, you donated an additional \$98 that was used in the door prizes.
- Finally, thanks to everyone who had the patience to put up with me putting together my first golf tournament. It was a learning experience for me and it will be bigger and better (more organized) next year.

Door Prize Winners

T-Shirt - Steve Hargett, April Jackson-Wright, Keith Culver, Marni Hossfeld, Mike Turner, Frank Butler, and Lana Culver
Water Bottle - Jennifer Tysdal, Tim Rysell, and Michael David
\$49.00 - Kendra Butler and Joey Johnson

Pin Prize Contest Winners

Closest to the Pin—Gary Underberg

Longest Drive—Ron Behnke

Longest Putt—Joey Johnson

Tournament Winners

1st Place with a score of 59—Gary Underberg, Lana Culver, Keith Culver, and Tracy Rose (\$36 gift certificate to pro shop each)

2nd Place with a score of 65—Marni Hossfeld, Joey Johnson, Susan Turner, and Mike Turner (\$18 gift certificate to pro shop each)

3rd Place with a score of 70—Al Costello, Ron Behnke, Michael David, and Jennifer Tysdal (\$6 gift certificate to pro shop each)

Again, thank you to everyone that participated. There are a few of us that have already started to plan next year's tournament. We hope to have a date out in early spring so that everyone can plan their vacations and things. I promise to be more organized now that I know exactly how much work goes into these types of functions.

— Tracy Rose, Recreation Specialist

Wyoming Women's Center

Chamber Directors' Tour

Community Chamber of Commerce Directors from around the State of Wyoming toured the Wyoming Women's Center, Tuesday, September 15. Eleven Directors visited the facility as part of their annual Chamber of Commerce Directors' Conference.

Security Manager Garry Halter assisted Unit Manager Phil Myer in conducting the tour which began in the visiting area. Beverages and refreshments were provided by the Culinary Department. Food Service Manager Kathy Wedemeyer supervised inmates participating in the Dietary Manager's Course who prepared wonderful snacks.

The group was appreciative of the chance to tour and to learn about the positive things going on at WWC.

At the conclusion of the tour the directors asked numerous questions and left with a new understanding of the operation, improved enthusiasm toward the department, safety and security of the facility and confidence in the well being of their communities.

A "thank you" card was received by the facility a few days after the tour. The directors expressed appreciation for the hospitality, tour and the snacks.

—Chris Thayer, Field Public Information Officer

Division of Prisons

Trainers are Certified

The WDOC Prison Division's New Emergency Preparedness Trainers recently received their certification in the LETRA program. These newly certified trainers will also serve as Facility Emergency Preparedness Coordinators at their respective facilities.

As newly certified trainers and coordinators they were in attendance at the quarterly Emergency Preparedness Coordinators meeting, held recently in Casper, to discuss facility emergency readiness, training, and drills.

As you can see from the following e-mail from Jeff Peterson (Nebraska DOC) our new trainers represented themselves very well during their training and during their certification requirements at the academy. They went through four weeks of intensive training in Lincoln,

Nebraska, this past summer for the certification.

— Jerry Steele, Program Manager,
Audits and Accreditation

E-mail from Jeff Peterson

(To) Mr. (Pete) Norris:

Just got back to the office from the Wyoming LETRA class and I was very impressed with all eight instructors. All displayed great teaching ability, knowledge of the EP system and used their WDOC experience to teach the class. As I stated at close out yesterday, and as Mr. Hansen has stated, WDOC did a great job during the selection process. Identifying the right candidates to teach an intensive EP program can be challenging process and WDOC

mastered this task by selecting eight candidates that were not only great students but are and will be outstanding instructors for WDOC. Needless to say, all eight instructors have been certified. If you need anything, please let me know.

—Jeff Peterson, Program/Criminal
Analyst, Nebraska Department of
Corrections



Front row, l-r, Sgt. Tim Rysell (WHCC), Cpl. Colt Peterson (WHCC), Lt. Gary Borah (WSP), and Cpl. Sarah Countryman (WHF). Back row, l-r, Lt. Brian Smeltzer (WMCI), Sgt. Tom Derring (WWC), and Officer Adam Schmidt (WHF). Not pictured is Capt. Patricia Halcomb (WSP).

Division of Field Services/District 5

Annual Meeting

On August 25, District 5, that consists of Evanston, Lyman, Kemmerer, Pinedale, Jackson and Afton offices, had our annual meeting. Steve Lindly and Linda Swartwood attended and we would like to thank both of them for being able to take time out of their schedules to join us.

Also, Heather Carter, from the Re-Entry Program was in attendance and explained how the Re-Entry Program works, the benefits for the offenders as well as the agents and the steps and procedures of the

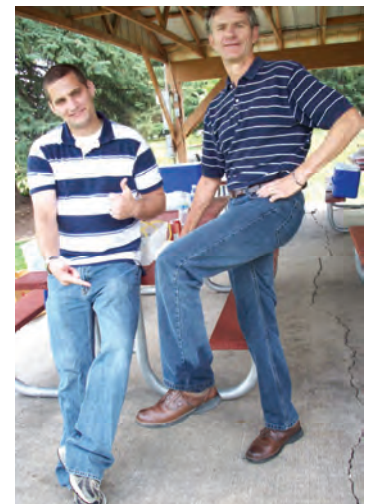
Re-Entry Program. Thank you, Heather, for taking the time to come to our area and explain the program to us.

Our meeting was conducted with business as usual but as you can see from the attached photos it's ok to have fun. It is always nice to get together. We go through our job day-to-day and week-to-week sometimes forgetting to unwind as a group. I want to thank everyone for the great food and fun that was contributed to this event.

—Tammy Knight, Evanston Office



Linda Swartwood readying the giant sling shot



Steve Lindly showing off a wet cuff from a water balloon?



Overall Department

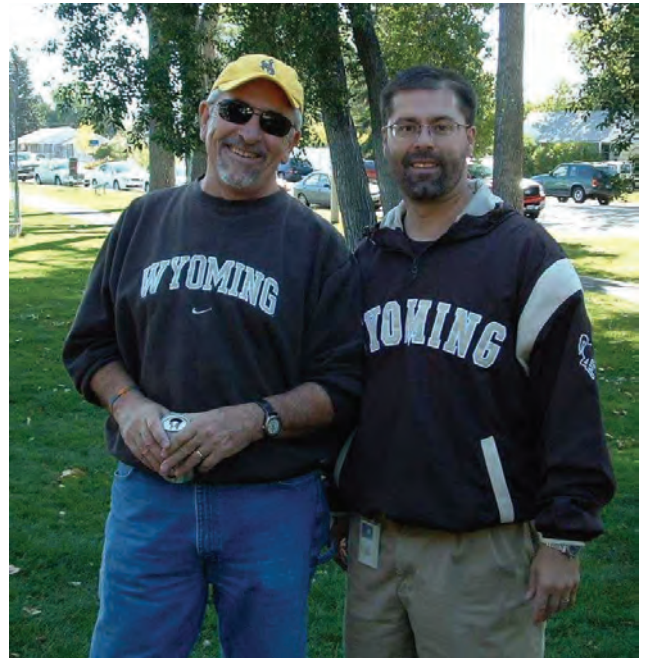
UW Football and Tailgate

Rob Doty reports that the department enjoyed the 4th annual Tailgate and Football Game in Laramie on Saturday, September 26. The game was UW vs UNLV and, it was fabulous – UW won! Around 80 people from around the department, including past employees and friends, enjoyed the tailgate

and game. They feasted on chili made and supplied by the participants in the Cheyenne 2009 WDOC Chili Cook-off and other assorted goodies. The weather couldn't have been better.



Courtney Herceg and her daughters



Top right, Heather Carter, right, and her family; middle, l-r, Rob Branbam and Rob Doty; bottom, l-r, Rob Doty and Christy Hahn



Top, l-r, Carrie Stanley and Christina Russell; above, Sara Williams and her daughter



MainLine to WMCI

October 2009

From the Outside Looking In *The Shift East*

About the WMCI

The Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution (WMCI) is being built in Torrington, Wyoming and is slated to open in January 2010. It will be the fifth institution in the Wyoming Department of Corrections system.

The WMCI will have 700+ beds for medium custody male inmates and will contain a high needs medical and mental health unit and a long term substance abuse treatment unit.

Hiring for the bulk of the positions has begun with training for employees beginning in September 2009. The length of training required is determined by the job description. All training is paid for by the WDOC and will take place in Guernsey, Wyoming at Camp Guernsey.

To access job information, go to <http://www.wdoc.jobs/>

Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution

Michael Murphy
Warden

Mike Pacheco
Deputy Warden



Rick Patterson

Dr. Rick Patterson, a Criminal Justice professor at Eastern Wyoming College, is on sabbatical for one year. During

this time he'll be working with our staff and observing the process of opening the Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution in Torrington. This is the second of several articles he'll write.

During the last two weeks in August, I observed a noticeable change in both the tone and intensity of activity occurring in WDOC facilities when I visited them. Each time I returned, there appeared to be a notching up in both motion and the level of anxiety among the staff.

Even though they are located 150 miles apart, the WMCI Transition Team, temporarily located at Central Office in Cheyenne, and the WDOC Training Academy, located on the grounds of the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins, equally reflected this change. Final preparations for the move to Torrington had begun!

To better accommodate the nearly 400 new employees required to staff WMCI, the Training Academy is temporarily moving from Rawlins to Camp Guernsey, a Wyoming Army National Guard camp,

located 32 miles west of Torrington. Beginning in September, eight basic training classes will be conducted at Camp Guernsey, with a new one starting every two weeks. At its peak, five classes will be in session simultaneously. Moving the instructional materials and relocating the training staff poses a huge logistical challenge for Mr. Pete Norris and his crew.

When I visited in late August, their offices and classroom were piled high with training materials, plastic totes, office supplies, clipboards, stop-watches, etc., as they staged materials for transport to Guernsey. The Training Academy staff members were working to sort the right things into the right boxes. A very detailed operations plan was developed and distributed. It included minute detail about every phase of the transition and operation of the training department. The entire process put one in mind of a military operation and Mr. Norris' background as an army officer served him well as he planned and prepared for the shift.

My visits with the WMCI Transition Team in Cheyenne reflected a similar level of intensity. They were preparing to move to Torrington. Unable to move into WMCI due to ongo-

ing construction, temporary facilities had to be located and prepared. Four different sites in Torrington were located. The main Transition Team, including the business office, would be located on the campus of Eastern Wyoming College, where temporary office space was found. The Human Resources staff would be housed in the conference room at the Torrington Field Services office (Probation and Parole). A closed roller skating rink in Torrington was leased for use as a temporary warehouse and the Transition Team's security staff members were to be housed in a construction trailer on-site at WMCI. Each location required telephone, data lines, supplies, and furniture.

Warden Murphy, Deputy Warden Pacheco, and the Transition Team worked at an intense pace to prepare for and arrange the move. Throughout the work space allotted to them at Central Office, I observed color-coded timelines posted, as if to remind them of how much needed to be done and how little time remained. As was the case in Rawlins, it was easy to visualize the Chey-

Shift East — continued on page 2



Shift East — continued from page 1

enne/Torrington transition as a military operation. Mr. Pacheco, as befitting a former Marine, was directing the establishment of a “beachhead” in anticipation of the landing of the main body of personnel in coming weeks and months. He pushed hard and the staff members met the challenges.

By the second week in September, the move was completed and Transition Team opera-

tions were underway in Torrington. Bernice Madvig and her Human Resources crew were interviewing, testing, and performing background checks of applicants. Supplies and equipment were being ordered. Planning was continuing. All the hundreds of details preparing for the opening and operation of WMCI were being carried out. The levels of anxiety and activity did not appear to decrease at all, but now they

were done closer to “home.”

Basic Academy Class 09-03 graduated at the armory in Rawlins on September 9. Two days later the students of Basic Academy Class G-1 will report to Camp Guernsey and the shift will have been made. During that brief time, the entire Training Academy will have moved 175 miles, set up classrooms and living accommodations, and made all necessary

arrangements to train WMCI employees. Adjunct instructors, who have been training in Rawlins, will be in Guernsey to meet new recruits as will the regular Training staff members, who are to be stationed at Guernsey until the last of the eight classes is completed in March 2010.

— Dr. Rick Patterson

Being Welcomed into the Community

Hometown Neighbors Make Positive Impact



Captain Carrie Caruthers and Sergeant Richard Caruthers and their family

On September 19 the Platte Valley Bank and Holiday Inn Express in Torrington

hosted the

first welcoming party for the WMCI employees and the first training class of recruits headed to the Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution (WMCI) in Torrington. Thanks to the hard work of the members of Hometown Neighbors and the sponsorship of numerous local businesses, approximately 70 WMCI employees, new recruits and their family members enjoyed the hospitality of the good people of Torrington area at the Platte Valley Bank.

Each participant experienced a warm and friendly atmosphere, lots of good food and plenty of

door prizes and gifts from local businesses. This positive experience will stay with them for a long time.

The residents of the Town of Torrington and surrounding Goshen County play a big part in the success of the WMCI; and though we are successfully recruiting from Goshen County, many of these new staff members are coming from out-of-state and have never before been in Torrington or Wyoming. One of their first impressions is the warm hospitality expressed, which will determine their attitude about their jobs and about our area.

From now through January 2010, the WMCI will have seven more 10-week Training Academy classes starting every two weeks at Camp Guernsey. Hometown Neighbors has been lining up sponsorship of several more

area businesses to host the reception for each of the seven upcoming classes.

Thanks to everyone involved!

— Dee Herdt

(more photos on page 8)



Left to right: Cheryl Yeik, chairman of the Hometown Neighbors; Julie and Warden Mike Murphy; and Brett Malm, Platte Valley Bank

October 2009

MainLine to WMCI

produced by the

Wyoming

Department of Corrections

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Cheyenne, WY 82002

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On the web:

<http://corrections.wy.gov/>



New Staff on Board

Welcome to New Staff

Carrie Caruthers, Captain, transferred to WMCI on 9/1/09. Captain Caruthers transferred from the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins, Wyoming. She grew up in Tensleep and Buffalo, Wyoming. Her experience includes 15 years in corrections; she worked for Arizona DOC, Colorado CCA and Kansas DOC. Carrie chose WDOC since Wyoming was her home state and she wanted to be close to her family, parents and siblings. Carrie's family includes her husband, Sgt. Richard Caruthers, and their three children. Her hobbies include scrap booking, making gift baskets and church activities. Carrie loves working in corrections!



Carrie Caruthers

Brian Smeltzer, Lieutenant, started with WMCI on 7/1/09, transferring from the WDOC Investigations Unit. Lt. Smeltzer is from Pennsylvania and has 14 years in corrections and has helped open two facilities in Pennsylvania. Brian chose to come to WMCI for advancement, pension and staff. Brian's wife is Lori. His hobbies include hunting, fishing, golf, and poker. Brian has enjoyed his experience in Wyoming and looks forward to opening a new facility.



Brian Smeltzer

Richard Caruthers, Sergeant, transferred to WMCI on 9/14/09 from WSP. He grew up in Marquette, Kansas. His experience includes six years with Kansas DOC as a Sergeant 2001-2007 and two and a half years with the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Training and as an Armory Sergeant. Richard chose to come to WMCI because it was closer to his wife's family and it was a great opportunity as a correctional professional. Richard's family includes his wife, Carrie, and their three children, Austin, Katie and Duncan. His hobbies are fishing, camping and gardening.



Richard Caruthers

Timothy McCarty, Correctional Officer, started with WMCI as key master on 9/21/09. Officer McCarty transferred from WHCC. He grew up in Sibley, Iowa. Timothy's prior work experience included Gateway Computers, Downtown Sioux Fall Nonprofit Organization, construction and WDOC. He chose to work for WDOC after attending a job fair when he had just graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in criminal justice. His family includes two brothers, one sister and his mother. His hobbies include lifting weights and target shooting. Timothy is working on his Master's degree



Timothy McCarty

through Boston University online.

Justin Hostetter, Correctional Officer, transferred to WMCI on 9/21/09. Officer Hostetter is from Riverton, Wyoming. He grew up in Dupree, South Dakota. Justin transferred to WMCI after four and a half years as a correctional officer at WHF and four years of being in charge of the PBA System. He chose to come to WMCI for a career change from electronic technician. Justin is married and has two children, a son, age 24 and daughter, age 18. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, motorcycling, and shooting.



Justin Hostetter

Mike Quillen, Certified Academic Instructor, transferred to WMCI on 9/14/09. Mr. Quillen is from Torrington and he grew up in Wyoming and Montana. Mike has 28+ years experience as a teacher, with the past three and a half years teaching at WSP. He chose to come to WMCI for a new challenge. Mike's family includes his wife, Christine, and two adult children in college. His hobbies are fishing, woodworking, home repair and home improvement.



Mike Quillen

Leslie Daniels, Administrative Specialist 3, transferred to WMCI on 7/1/09. Ms. Daniels is from Newcastle, Wyoming.

Her prior work experience includes customer service, sales, bartending, horse training, and graphic design. Leslie originally chose corrections because she was looking for a position with stability and she has stayed because of the challenge. Her hobbies include travel, horse showing, reading, photography, and yoga. Leslie believes WDOC is awesome!



Leslie Daniels

Jenny Brown, Administrative Specialist 3, transferred to WMCI from WSP on 9/14/09. Ms. Brown is from Encampment, Wyoming. She grew up in Wyoming, South Dakota, Utah, and Colorado. Jenny has been in corrections for almost two years; her prior experience includes being a ranch hand for four years and working retail most of her life. Jenny chose corrections for the benefits and the opportunity to have a career. Jenny is single and she enjoys hiking, cross-country skiing and some crafts.



Jenny Brown

Donna Radford, HR Professional, started 7/1/09. Donna is from Torrington but she grew up in Gering, Nebraska. Donna's experi-



New Staff — continued from page 3

ence includes being a Workforce Specialist with the Wyoming Department of Workforces Services in Torrington; Human Resources Assistant for Banner Health in Torrington; and prior experience with an insurance claims office and in an attorney's office. Donna's family includes her husband, Dale; her daughter and son-in-law, Shenna and Sam Schuler, in Idaho; her daughter, Shae, in Idaho; her son, Stuart, in college; and her son, Reo, in the 7th grade. Donna wanted to come to WMCI because she thought it would be exciting to be a part of WMCI at the very beginning and also to get back into HR.



Donna Radford

Shari Zwiebel, HR Specialist started 7/7/2009.

Shari was born and raised in Scottsbluff, Nebraska and she resided in the valley all her life with the exception of 14 years in Torrington and a few years in Greeley and Cheyenne. The majority of Shari's work experience has been in the health care field. She was looking for a position that would allow her to join her husband in Torrington and be closer to all of their family. She was encouraged by several friends to consider a position with the WDOC and apply for the position that she currently holds. Shari's husband is Rod and she has three sons and three grandchildren. Her hob-



Shari Zwiebel

bies include college football and basketball, junior college basketball, collecting basketball memorabilia, and, of course, attending grandchildren's sporting events. She is so glad to be a part of the WMCI adventure.

Sandra Landeros, Fiscal Specialist 5, transferred to WMCI on 7/20/2009. Sandra is from Torrington but she grew up in Laramie. Sandra has previously worked for WDOC as an administrative assistant for Bob Kiser and as purchasing assistant for Central Office. Sandra chose to transfer to WMCI for the opportunity to come home to Torrington. Sandra's mom lives in Torrington. Sandra enjoys spectator sports.



Sandra Landeros

Marlena Miller, Casework Specialist 4,

transferred to WMCI on 9/28/09. Marlena is from Helena, Georgia. Her work experience includes one and a half years as Foster Care Case Manager at the Department of Family and Children Services in Georgia, and three years with WSP as a Casework Specialist. She chose the WDOC for stability and the work location is near family. She is the middle child with an older sister and younger brother; her parents live in Georgia while siblings and their families live in Douglas, Wyoming. She has six nieces and nephews (one is currently serving in Afghanistan). Marlena's hobbies are



Marlena Miller

bowling, traveling, and spending time with nieces and nephews.

Rob Branham, Casework Specialist 2,

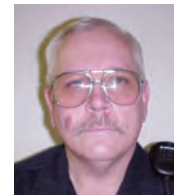
started with DOC in November 1997 and transferred to WMCI on 7/1/09. Rob is from Torrington and grew up in Oklahoma. Rob's work experience includes substance abuse counselor, social work, juvenile probation officer, and adult probation officer. Rob chose to come to work for WDOC because it was a natural transition from the juvenile system to the adult system. Rob's family consists of his wife, Holly, and three sons, Will, Wyatt and Sam. His hobbies are golf, motorcycles and Oklahoma football.



Rob Branham

Perry Baird, Sergeant, is from Wyoming and he grew up in Torrington.

Sgt. Baird's work experience is as follows: Army MP from '78-'81; worked at grocery store from '81-'90, worked at WSP from May '90-'95; transferred to WHF where he worked until July 2009, and he is currently working as Adjunct Trainer with WDOC Training Department. He chose to come to WDOC because he wanted to do something different; he wanted to work the corrections side of law enforcement. Perry is single but has a fiancée. Perry enjoys hunting, fishing and camping.



Perry Baird

Tate Thompson, Casework Specialist 2, is from Star Valley,

Wyoming and has been in corrections since March 2006. Previously, Tate was a foreman of a construction crew for a lot of years; he did some tele-marketing, worked at Taco Bell, Blockbuster and worked for numerous golf courses. He chose to come to WDOC when he took a tour of the prison in college and he liked the idea of working in a prison. It was also the first job offered to him right out of college. Tate is the baby in his family; he has two brothers and one sister. He enjoys fishing, hunting, golf, snowmobiling, hiking, and four-wheeling. He loves to shoot things!



Tate Thompson

Jessica Cisneros, Corporal, transferred to WMCI on

9/14/09. Corporal Cisneros is from WHCC; she grew up in Lusk, Wyoming. Jessica started law enforcement in April 2005 at Niobrara County Detention Center. She completed detention officer basics in October 2005. Jessica started working for WHCC in June 2006 and promoted to Corporal in February 2008. Her hobbies are hunting, fishing, outdoors, and art.



Jessica Cisneros

The first Training Academy for WMCI started September 13, 2009, at Camp Guernsey, Guernsey, Wyoming. The following are the new employees who are attending

New Staff — continued next page

New Staff— continued from previous page

the first academy.

Alex Haislip, Sergeant. Sergeant Haislip is from Buckingham, Virginia. He has 14 years of corrections experience in Virginia. He chose to come to WMCI because he likes the state and wanted a change of scenery. He has two sons, two daughters, Mom and Dad, one brother, and one sister. His hobbies are hunting and fishing and spending time outdoors with good friends.



Alex Haislip

Thomas R. Rowley, Correctional Officer. Officer Rowley is from Michigan. He worked the last 30 years in the automotive design business. The last eight years he was design supervisor for Jeep chassis and supervised a team of 20 designers. He chose to come to WMCI to start a new career away from the auto business that had stability and a future. His wife is Anita and his daughter is Jennifer and she is in the 9th grade. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, camping, golf, and snow skiing. Thomas and his family have been in Wyoming for a month and they love the state. He feels the people are fantastic and the scenery is spectacular.



Thomas Rowley

Patrick Grabowski, Correctional Officer. Officer Grabowski is from St. Paul, Minnesota. He worked with inner city students at Minne-

apolis public schools and has ten years of experience in the restaurant business with duties ranging from server to chef. He chose to come to WMCI because of the awesome benefits package along with Wyoming being a wonderful place to work, live and play. Patrick has grandparents in Thermopolis and family in Colorado. His immediate family is back in Minneapolis. His hobbies include reading, traveling, snowboarding, cooking, working out, music and four days off! Patrick spent the fall of 1999 and spring of 2000 in Japan studying Japanese. He has driven 15K miles in the last nine months.



Patrick Grabowski

Karl Emigh, Correctional Officer. Officer Emigh is from Flint, Michigan, and he has ten years experience with the Michigan Department of Corrections. He chose to come to WMCI for the opportunity of advancement with the Wyoming Department of Corrections. Karl has two children, ages 18 and 19, in Florida, and one child, age 21, in Michigan. His hobbies include working out, fishing, hunting, and playing guitar. Karl stated that everyone in the State of Wyoming that he has met has been very kind and made him feel very welcome.



Karl Emigh

Ryan Layle, Correctional Officer. Officer Layle is from Wyoming, Michigan, and he was maintenance manager for Loeks Theatres, Inc. for nearly 20 years. He chose to come to

WMCI since he was laid off from his job in Michigan and this opportunity sounded interesting and he was up for a change. Ryan's family includes his father, Rick, mother, Darleen, brother, Chris, sister, Kerry, sister, Hillary, and dog, Kurbee (boxer). His hobbies include physical fitness, golf, tennis, and, most of all, dog psychology and rehabilitation.



Ryan Layle

Chad Hilborn, Correctional Officer. Officer Hilborn is from Caro, Michigan. For the past two years he worked for GM and he has also done many types of construction. He chose to come to WMCI because he wanted a career with benefits. Chad has an amazing wife and hopes for a future with kids. His hobbies are taekwon do, basketball, hunting, and golf. Chad hopes to open a taekwon do gym once he gets settled into the area.



Chad Hilborn

Samuel J. Szott, Correctional Officer. Officer Szott is from Cheyenne, Wyoming, and was a library shelver and dormitory resident assistant. He chose to come to WMCI since it was a good starting point for working in criminal justice. Samuel's family includes his mother, Patty, father, David, brothers, Thomas and Frank, and sisters, Libby and Gemma. His hobbies are history and sports.



Samuel Szott

Caleb Beeson, Correctional Officer. Officer Beeson is from Colorado and he has worked at a sugar factory, a hog farm, and has done a lot of construction and roofing. He chose to come to WMCI to get set up so that he can begin a long career in law enforcement. Caleb has five sisters, four nephews and two nieces. His hobbies are paint ball, watching movies and playing with his golden retriever, Chloe. Caleb hopes to marry his fiancée of two years soon so that they can start a family.



Caleb Beeson

Joshua Jones, Correctional Officer. Officer Jones is from Linden, Michigan, and worked in the manufacturing and retail fields to pay his way through college where he earned his criminal justice degree. He was hired by Wyoming DOC soon after. He chose to come to WMCI since he wanted to start his career in the law enforcement and criminal justice field. Joshua's family includes his father, Keith, his mother, Chanda, and two brothers, Jeremy and Justin. His hobbies are spending time with his fiancée, Ann Marie, and watching and playing sports and working out. Joshua is excited to get to know Wyoming and the people and everything they have to offer.



Joshua Jones



New Staff — continued from page 5

Jacob Atwood, Correctional Officer. Officer Atwood is from Belding, Michigan, with prior experience in factory work, auto detailing, sheet metal/ heating/cooling, and lawn care. He chose to come to WMCI since there isn't much work in Michigan. Jacob's family includes his wife, Melissa, his son, Malaki, and his daughter, Ariana. Jacob loves hunting, fishing, camping, hiking and canoeing.



Jacob Atwood

Jyl Hagan, Correctional Officer. Officer Hagan is from Grant, Nebraska. She worked in various jobs while going to school and has her Bachelor's degree in criminal justice. She chose to come to WMCI because it was a great opportunity. Jyl's hobbies include watching TV, reading crime books, painting and canning.



Jyl Hagan

John Wilson, Correctional Officer. Officer Wilson is from Hale, Michigan, and his experience includes four years' active duty in the Air Force security forces. He chose to come to WMCI since he needed a change of pace and a job. John has a wonderful and supportive girlfriend whose name is Casi Sulser. His hobbies include



John Wilson

hunting, fishing, motorcycle riding and 4X4s.

Jeffery Campbell, Correctional Officer.

Officer Campbell is from Osseo, Michigan, where he worked 16½ years for an automotive manufacturing business. He recently attended college and received two Associate's degrees. He chose to come to WMCI for a new beginning in the work force with stable employment. Jeffrey's family includes his wife, Christine, his daughter, Alicia, and his son, Isaiah. His hobbies include spending quality time with his family. Jeffrey is thankful for being able to be a part of the WDOC.



Jeffery Campbell

Quang Dinh, Correctional Officer. Officer Dinh is from Phoenix, Arizona, but grew up in Orlando, Florida. He worked seven months at a county jail in Volusia County, Florida. He chose to come to WMCI because it is a great organization. Quang enjoys watching sports.



Quang Dinh

Rebecca Wright, Correctional Officer. Officer Wright is from Fallon, Nevada, but grew up in Oakdale, California. She worked with Amazon.com for the last nine years. She chose to come to WMCI since she loved the State of Wyoming. Rebecca's family includes her husband,



Rebecca Wright

one daughter, and five grandchildren. Her hobbies include riding horses and taking her grandchildren camping.

Christopher Flewwellin, Correctional Officer.

Officer Flewwellin is from Colorado and North Carolina. He has over six years of experience with the North Carolina DOC and 16 years experience as an exterminator. He chose to come to WMCI because he moved to the Midwest and wanted to stay in corrections. Christopher's family includes his wife, Edith, one son, one daughter, four grandkids, two dogs, seven brothers and two sisters. His hobby is model trains and he loves it here. He enjoys working in corrections and his wife backs him up and supports his choice of work.



Christopher Flewwellin

Thomas Hood, Correctional Officer. Officer Hood is from Abson, Ohio, and was in the U.S. Marine Corps. He chose to come to WMCI for the nearby wildlife and the job. Thomas



Thomas Hood

comes from a big family with seven sisters and one brother. His hobbies are martial arts and the outdoors. He is happy to be here and believes WDOC will be a great place to retire from.

Brad Mechem, Correctional

Officer. Officer Mechem is from Torrington, Wyoming, and was previously working with the Union Pacific Rail-



Brad Mechem

road. He chose to come to WMCI for long-term employment. Brad is married with two children.

Michael Butler, Correctional

Officer. Officer Butler is from Port Charlotte, Florida. He chose to come to WMCI for a better life. Michael's family includes his wife, Lori, son, Matthew and daughter, Mikayla. His hobbies are bow hunting, hiking, camping and football.



Michael Butler

Benjamin Sherlund, Correctional Officer.

Officer Sherlund is from Cedarville, Michigan, and he worked two years as a part-time correctional officer for the Chippewa County Sheriff's Office. He chose to come to WMCI for a change of scenery from Michigan and a new career opportunity. Benjamin is single. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, horse back riding and camping.



Benjamin Sherlund

Matthew Allen, Correctional

Officer. Officer Allen is from Durham, Arkansas. He was a Military Medic with 1/75 Ranger Bn. He has worked many construction jobs, often self-employed landscape and masonry as well as tree trimming. He chose to come to WMCI because of the cooler



Matthew Allen

New Staff — continued next page

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climate here, the scenery, and a sense of belonging to a unit with a rank-structure as well as using his Ranger (Airborne) background. Matthew moved here with his wife and eight-year-old son. He left behind his 18- and 21-year-old daughters and a 22-year-old son. His hobbies are riding horses and working cattle, hunting and fishing. He also enjoys singing and playing country and rock music. Matthew is happy to be where he's always wanted to live.

Robert Babbitt, Correctional Officer. Officer Babbitt is from Gratiot County, Michigan, and he has worked as a construction laborer and dairy farmer. He chose to come to



Robert Babbitt

WMCI to live in his dream state with a good job. His hobbies are video games, movies, hunting and shooting.

Jordan Farrell, Correctional Officer. Officer Farrell is from Otisville, Michigan, and he worked in an automotive factory until they shut down. He has attended college majoring in criminal justice. He chose to come to WMCI because it sounded like a great place to start a career. Most of Jordan's family still reside in Michigan. His hobbies include hunting, fishing and playing the guitar.



Jordan Farrell

Gabe Miller, Correctional Officer. Officer Miller is from Maple Rapids/Perrington, Michigan, where he worked at his mother's hardware store and at Willow Creek Farms and Grunhaven Tree Farm. His father works for the Michigan DOC and that is how he got interested in corrections. He went to college for corrections back home and then found out there was a hiring freeze – so he came out here and he's glad he did. Patrick's family includes his father, Pat Miller, his step-mother, Debra Miller; his mother, Melissa Matson, and his step-father, Matt Matson. His hobbies include hunting, snowmobiling, and motocross. Gabe has three stepbrothers and two other brothers. He is very glad to be here and glad to be part of the WDOC team.



Gabe Miller

Bryan Potratz, Correctional Officer. Officer Potratz is from the North Indiana/Chicago area but grew up in Lander, Wyoming. His work experience includes the U.S. Army, military contractor, private security, M.I.S./office administration, and various temporary positions. He chose to come to WMCI because he has always been involved in law enforcement. He feels it is also a career – a position that allows for promotion, in his home state (far away from Chicago), unlikely to be affected by the economy. Bryan's family includes his wife and two cats.



Bryan Potratz

His hobbies are hunting, reloading, bullet casting, aikido, philosophy, horseback, "cowboying," mountaineering, and competitive shooting.

Paul W. Kistler, Correctional Officer. Officer Kistler is from Vandalia, Illinois, and his previous work experience includes four years plastering and three years at a Chevrolet dealership. He chose to come to WMCI for a great opportunity to live and work in Wyoming. His hobbies are hunting, fishing, camping, golfing, and football. Paul has been trying to get into corrections in Illinois for four years. In Illinois he applied and tested four times and he only had to do that once in Wyoming. He is thankful for this opportunity.



Paul Kistler

Greg Matlock, Correctional Officer. Officer Matlock is from Torrington, Wyoming. His work experience includes Kurt Manufacturing, machine repair and facility maintenance. He chose to come to WMCI for a state pension and benefits. Greg's family includes his wife, Kelly, son, Matt, and daughter, Kayla. His hobbies are golf, fishing, hunting and hot-rods.



Greg Matlock

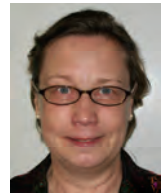
Matthew Boyd, Computer Tech Specialist. Mr. Boyd is from Hidden Valley Lake, California. He grew up in Truth or Consequences,



Matthew Boyd

New Mexico and in Torrington. His work experience includes St. Joseph's Children's Home as a teacher/teacher's aide, and systems administration and math teacher at Rincon Valley Christian School, Santa Rosa, California. He chose to come to WMCI since this was the first job that came available after his last position was downsized. Matthew's family includes his wife, Robin, of 11 years who is expecting and seven boys ages 2 to 10. His hobbies include *Settlers of Catan*, programming, construction, his wife, politics, woodworking, theology, and cars.

Katherine Laursen, Records Manager. Ms. Laursen is from Montana but she grew up in St. Paul, Minnesota,



Kathy Laursen

and has worked as a paralegal/librarian in private settings and in a felony probation/parole office at the county level. Kathy chose to come to WMCI because it was an excellent opportunity to use her training and experience in a correctional setting in a great state. Her hobbies are crossword puzzles, reading, walking/hiking and cooking.

Being Welcomed into the Community

More Photos from the Reception



New officers at Wyoming Medium Correctional Institution



The Campbells, left, and the Rowleys, right



Sergeant Haislip, left; Lt. Smeltzer and his wife, center; Donna Radford, second from right, and her husband