



SHIFT CHANGE



Newsletter of the Philadelphia Prison System

May 2008

Opening Day for the Enforcers.

Join the PPS Enforcers on Monday evening, May 5, at 7:30 PM as the Prisons' softball team takes the field in their first game of the SEPTA/CITY League season.

The team has existed for years. James Nesmith says he's been on the team for most of the 26 years he's worked at PPS. When no one stepped up to coach the team this year, Nesmith got together with Officers M. Jennings and C. Benson to reorganize and reenergize.

"We made the playoffs for the past 4 years straight – that's part of the reason we're so optimistic about this team," said Nesmith. "We're better organized. We had a recruiting drive like never before: Now, we have to figure out who the stars are and this is the first year we've had that problem – so much talent."

"We've also got the support of the administration like never before. The Wardens, the Deputy Commissioners, and Commissioner Giorla have all helped to make this happen."

"We want to expand and bring PPS staff and their families to the games," Said Benson. "Our 'home' field is the Olney Rec Center at Front and Godfrey. For our first home game, we'll have bar-be-cue and refreshments. And we'll be selling official team t-shirts as a fund-raiser."

The team schedule (they play twice a week), locations and scores will be posted at www.phila.gov/prisons or call 5-7846.

Looking for Results through PhillyStat

Mayor Michael A. Nutter has codified his vision for city agencies in the unifying language of broad civic achievement. These are the core service areas in which the Prison System – like all city agencies -- needs to demonstrate its performance.

1. **Public Safety:** Philadelphia becomes the safest large city in the country.
2. **Education:** Philadelphia becomes the country's premier education city
3. **Jobs and Economic Development:** Philadelphia grows as a great city
4. **Healthy and Sustainable Neighborhoods:** Philadelphia neighborhoods are vibrant and liveable
5. **Ethics:** Philadelphia demonstrates the highest standards for ethics and accountability
6. **Customer Service and a High Performing Government:** Philadelphia becomes a national customer service leader

"This affects all of us," said Commissioner Giorla. "It is easy to see how the Prison System is deeply involved in each one of these service areas. What we do here affects the rest of the city, and we need to demonstrate our effectiveness – show our results."

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Looking for Results, continued...

Public safety is our business. We ultimately can have a larger impact on public safety than any other agency in the city – if we re-direct the lives of offenders.

We're involved in **education**, thanks to the excellent work of the Pennypack House School, the PLATO program, the WHYY initiative and the efforts of our many volunteers.

Our Philacor Program, JEVs, Work Release Program, Aramark's Culinary Arts courses, the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's program and other efforts offer training in basic job skills and in some cases offer entrepreneurial skills that will lead to **economic development**.

Public Health has always been part of our mission – and we are acutely aware today of the relationships between healthy inmates and **healthy communities**. The Reentry programs of the past six years, and reconstituted Mayor's Office for the Reentry of Ex-Offenders have brought into sharp definition the relationship between what we accomplish in jail, and the ongoing life of our neighborhoods.

Ethics has to be at the center of our worklife: In a jail setting, unethical behavior can have disastrous consequences, far beyond political or media embarrassment.

Finally, the emphasis on **Customer Service** for this city agency has staggering potential repercussions. Who are our customers? The public generally, our neighbors, our colleagues in other criminal justice agencies, our colleagues in community-based health and social service agencies, the hundreds of volunteers who devote part of their lives to fellowship and good work, the families and friends of inmates who visit their loved-ones. Most importantly, the inmates themselves are the primary consumers of our services, and in many cases have needs that demand attention from different components of

our system, and multiple agencies across the city.

“We are going to improve service delivery on a lot of fronts,” said Giorla. “It's going to require a lot from our staff, but ultimately, it will bring some clarity to issues that haven't been address, and new resources to problems that we have been facing for years. We will become more efficient, faster and better.”

How do we measure our results? Just as CORESTAR has, over the past five years, developed a consistent in-house measure of Prison System performance in areas of fiscal control, safety and service delivery, Phillystat will apply a similar systematic, analytic examination to our fundamental practices and results, identify performance measures, and draw resources and attention to those areas that require improvement. Chaired by Managing Director Dr. Claire Barnett, Phillystat has become the crucible in which city departments focus their attention on measurable outcomes for all of the “Results” listed above. Commissioner Giorla presented at Phillystat in March and April. Look for us again on May 12, 2008 at 1 PM. The meetings are open to the public, and re-broadcast on the City's Cable Channel 64.

Giorla Appointed Commissioner Drafts Strategic Plan

Philadelphia Mayor Michael A. Nutter announced on Wednesday, March 25, 2008 that RCF Warden Louis Giorla was his choice for Commissioner of the Philadelphia Prison System. Giorla had been serving as Acting Commissioner since January 10, appointed shortly after Nutter took Office.

At the same time, the Mayor gave the new Commissioner his orders in the form of Executive Order 7-08, directing Giorla to develop a report on the current state of the Philadelphia Prison System and a plan to reduce the prison population in the interest of public safety. Working with with Deputy Mayor for Public Safety Everett Gillison, Giorla was charged to develop recommendations for short, medium and long-term reforms both inside the prison system, and for potential reforms to other parts of the criminal justice system. The report was presented to the Mayor by April 24, 2008 and is available at will be made available to the public in the weeks ahead.

Giorla began his career as a Correctional Officer in July of 1982 and rose through the ranks. He was head of the Internal Affairs Division for five years, and then Deputy Warden at Alternative & Special Detention, before being promoted to Warden in 2005. Since May 2006 he served as Warden at the Riverside Correctional Facility.

Between his new duties as Commissioner, two presentations for PhillyStat – the city’s new performance management system – and development of the Strategic Plan, Giorla has been busy.

“Thankfully, we have a lot to work with. There’s the Mayor’s Transition Document, the Goldkamp Report, [former Commissioner] King’s recommendations – a lot of excellent work has already been assembled.”

“The Plan will look at short term, medium and long term strategies to reduce the prison population,” said Giorla; “and it’s very straight forward: we will seek additional out-of-county placement and contracted housing short term; we will look to re-direct some of the mentally ill inmates and some of the drug offenders to community-based treatment; and find a way to get those with one case and low bail out of jail. We’re going to ask for a moratorium on State Sentences in the County – anticipating passage of state law to that effect, but if we start now we can expect to see some relief sooner than the two years it will take under proposed legislation.” Medium Term, Giorla recommends studying feasibility of employing GPS technology to an expanded population of inmates on conditional release.

Believing that population reduction will create opportunities to focus program resources on the people who need to be in jail, Giorla is also anticipating benefits from the recommendations of Dr. Marjorie Dugan, who is preparing her report on the organization, content and delivery of inmate



Officer Giorla (front row, third from the right) with class of September 17, 1982. Charles Shovlin (left) was training Sergeant; Willie Gray (right, now retired) was Training Director.

services at PPS. “We need to have annual reporting of recidivism that will give us some useful feedback on the effectiveness of the programs that we run,” said Giorla.

“We also need to hire more Correctional Officers. Right now our hiring is not keeping up with our attrition. We’re going to fix that. We’re going to accelerate the hiring process.” Giorla says he’s willing to explore a number of options to make the job more attractive, including more flexible schedules, expanding tuition support, and increased pay for Correctional Officers.

The most difficult recommendation is likely to be the long term goal of replacing both the House of Correction and the Detention Center – the two oldest active facilities that are currently housing 3200 inmates. “Eventually, the cost of maintenance and repair will outrun the cost of new construction. We have to start planning for this now, and factor in an increase in bed space.”

Giorla succeeded Leon A. King II, Esq., who served as Prisons Commissioner from 2002 to 2008, and served as Chief Counsel for the Prisons from 1996 to 2002. King has since joined the staff of Councilman Frank Rizzo, as Director of Legislation.

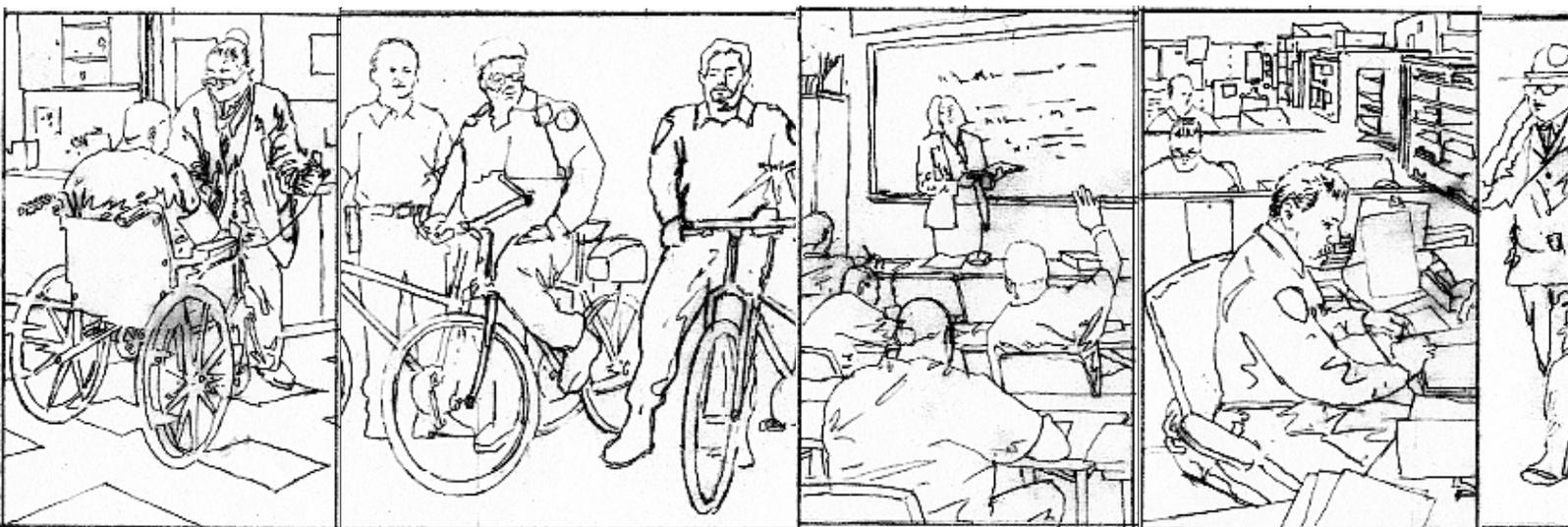
Mural Dedication Set for May 5

A Year in the Making, “The Team” Celebrates PPS Staff

At the Opening Ceremonies of Correctional Employees Week, on Monday, May 5, 2008, Mayor Nutter will join Commissioner Giorla, former Commissioner Leon A. King, Lead Artist Michael Webb, and Mural Arts Program Director Jane Golden to dedicate the latest in a series of outdoor murals produced by inmates working with program artists. The concept of “The Team” was designed by Michael Webb in a series of meetings with Commissioner King during the spring and summer of 2007.

As King tells the story, “After the success of Ann Northrup’s “Coming Home” mural at Riverside Correctional Facility, I couldn’t look at a blank wall without envisioning a mural. From my office window I could see the large empty wall facing the CFCF parking lot, and thought “what a great place for another mural”.

Continued...



“The concept for this mural started from my memory of staff commenting on how it seemed that no one cared about them, and that it was too often the inmates who got all the attention. I also thought about how most taxpayers and visitors to our jails had no idea about the breadth of experience and specialization among our staff. I wanted a project that would showcase our staff and provide vocational training to inmates in a useful skill with the possibility of employment upon re-entry.

“I made two primary artistic choices as I recall. One was that the Honor Guard be the centerpiece of the mural. They are our public face and an excellent group of officers. I also wanted to make sure that each specialized unit's patch was displayed, because it proved to be difficult to include everyone one in the mural.

“I am thankful to Commissioner Giorla for continuing with this project, and while a Mural is not the same as a very well deserved big fat raise, it does help show the world the spectrum of professional occupations that are brought together at PPS. I hope staff feel just a bit more appreciated and I know that Mural Arts Program will find employment for suitable inmate participants upon their release.



In the photo-based preparatory sketches, Mural Artist Michael Webb laid out the sequence of panels that would be painted by inmate program participants and applied to the CFCF wall. They include Medical, Bicycle Unit, Pennypack House School, Honor Guard Unit, PHILACOR (Print Shop), CERT Unit, and a Pod or Housing Unit Officer. The OPTIONS Panel, shown above, was the final addition.



Celebrate Correctional Employees Week 2008



Photo Credit: Jack Ramsdale

The Team

Lead Artist: Michael Webb

Mural assistants: Katharine Clark Gray, Brad Carney, Kathryn Sclavi, the inmates of the Philadelphia Prison System

With the support of the entire staff of CFCF- the flagship of the Philadelphia Prison System

Commissioned by: Leon A. King II, Esq., Commissioner of Prisons (2002-2008)

Mural Sponsored By: The Philadelphia Prison System and the City of Philadelphia, Louis Giorla, Commissioner

Dedicated May 5, 2008

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Calendar of Events

May 5-9, 2008: Correctional Employee Week (Look for complete calendar in *Program Book*)

- May 3 Wreath Laying Ceremony and Honor Guard Competition, National Law Enforcement Officers Memorial, Judiciary Square, Washington, DC. Call Sgt. E. Cruz 5-8342
- May 5 **Opening Ceremony at CFCF at 9:30 AM**
Dedication of "The Team" Mural
- May 7 PPS Night at Please Touch Museum
- May 8 City Council Presentation honoring Correctional Employee Week at 10 AM
- May 8 Picnic at the Pavilion at 10 AM
- May 9 Annual Awards Banquet, Cannstatters' Hall at 7 PM
- May 12 American Red Cross Blood Drive at CFCF and PICC at 6 AM- 6 PM
Contact: Lt. Harvey 5-7849 or C/O Dennis 5-8895
- May 14 PA SAVIN Announcement at 10:30 AM at the Office of District Attorney Lynne Abraham
- May 15 Volunteer Services Banquet, at the National Guard Armory, 6 PM
Contact: William Chaney 5-8509
- May 15 Re-entry Summit "From the Blocks to the Board Room" Temple University Health System Executive Campus, 2450 Hunting Park. Contact : M.O.R.E. 215 685-3370
- May 16 American Red Cross Blood Drive at DC, 6 AM- 6 PM Contact: C/O Jackson 5-8443
- May 20 27th Annual Law Enforcement Appreciation Day Luncheon at Belleview Park Hyatt at 12 Noon see: www.crimecommission.org or 215 546 6532
- May 30 – June 1 AFSC National StopMax Conference, Temple University see <http://www.afsc.org/stopmax>
- May 31 Curran-Fromhold Anniversary Observance at 12 Noon
- June 3 14th Annual AIDS Education Month at Radisson Plaza-Warwick Hotel
5:30-7:30 PM. Opening Reception Honoring former Commissioner King.
- June 11 Beyond the Walls: The 6th Annual Prison Health Care Summit at The Student Center, Temple University, 1766 N. 13th St. see www.fight.org
- June 14 Correctional Explorers' Program at Prisons' Training Academy,
8215 Torresdale Avenue at 10 AM For details, call C/O Willis at 5-7075
- June 15 Perfect Attendance Luncheon, Councilio Ballroom, 12 Noon
- June 25 Graduation of Class 08-02 at Independence Mall, 10 AM
- Sept. 6 Brothers for Flight 93 Ride, CFCF at 8:30 AM
For more information, see: www.brothersforflight93.com.
- Sept. 21 Great American Heart Walk, Citizens Bank Park. Contact: C/O Moore at HOC (5-8524)



Philadelphia Prison System Office of the Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: All Executive and PPS Staff
From: Louis Giorla, Commissioner
Date: April 18, 2008
Subject: Commissioner's Awards for 2007

On behalf of the Prison Board of Trustees and the executive staff, I am proud to announce the recipients of the Commissioner's Awards for Correctional Employee Week 2008 in the following categories:

Recipient of Commissioner's Award for Distinguished Service:

Saeeda Abdul-Hadi, HSA PHS – PICC
Bruce Herdman, Ph.D. MBA, Chief of Medical Operations

The PPS Administrator of the Year Award:

Marvin Porter, Deputy Warden – HOC

The PPS Unit (s) of the Year Award:

US Facilities
Prison Maintenance

PPS Lifetime Achievement Award:

Lorraine Mann, Plato Supervisor (Retired)

Commissioner's Award for Outstanding Re-entry Services:

John Barnum, M.O.R.E.

You are an elite group of Philadelphia Prison System employees, who, collectively, demonstrate the highest levels of achievements in a cross-section of our workforce. Congratulations and keep up the good work!



Philadelphia Prison System

Office of the Commissioner

MEMORANDUM

To: All Executive and PPS Staff
From: Louis Giorla, Commissioner
Date: April 18, 2008
Subject: PPS 2007 Employees of the Year

The Philadelphia Prison System Salutes the Employees of the Year for 2007:

Administrative Services	Mrs. Jill Sweeney
Alternative Special Detention	Sgt. Mary Williams and C/O Peter Shaw
ARAMARK	Mr. Walt Flaherty
CERT Unit	Lt. Ellwood Talbot and C/O Terrance Clark
Classification, Movement & Registration	C/O Eric S. Graham
Curran Fromhold Correctional Facility	Capt. Charles Harmer, Lt. Roy Barksdale, C/O Reginald Drew, C/O Edgar Martinez and Mrs. Donna Huffnagle
Detention Center	C/O Patrick Nefferdorf and Mrs. Debra Scollon
Executive Office Staff	Sgt. Thomas Golla, Mrs. Rovinia Betts and Joy Yoshida
Honor Guard Unit	C/O Frederick Johnson
House of Correction	C/O Anthony Perrone and C/O Gilbert Hamilton
JEVS	Mr. Paul Choi
KEEFE Commissary	Lt. Julius Brent
Maintenance Division	Mr. Lionel Drummond and Mr. George Ruff
MIS Division	C/O Dumitru Paun
Office of Community Justice & Outreach	Mr. Russell Seawright
Office of Professional Compliance	C/O Katina Green
Pennypack House School	Mr. Robert Leyrer
Personnel and Payroll	Mrs. Naffeza McCoy
PHILACOR	Kevin Gallagher
Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center	C/O Michael Moran and C/O Cornelius Frye
Policy and Audit Division	Sgt. Tammy Swinton
Prison Health Services/MHM	Ms. Elmeada Frias, Dr. James Armone and Ms. Alexandra Haidet, LMSW
Restorative and Transitional Services	Mr. Louis D'Amico, Ms. Iris Pizarro, SWII, Chaplain Robert Falkenstein, Mr. Philip Fox, Ms. Alethia Murphy and Ms. Kim Ragan
Riverside Correctional Facility	C/O John Harrison Jr. and C/O Charles Lawrence
Training Academy	C/O Juan Ortiz
Transportation Unit	C/O Khun Chhiev
U.S. Facilities	Mr. Paul Deccio and Mr. Dan Lee

CITY OF PHILADELPHIA

Proclamation

More than 2,300 Philadelphians have taken an oath to uphold the City Charter, the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Constitution of the United States through their work in the Philadelphia Prison System.

Correctional officers, maintenance and social workers and administrative personnel work daily to foster the values of respect, service and integrity while they protect our communities and ensure the security and welfare of more than 9,000 inmates.

These correctional employees carry out programs that respect the dignity of those who are incarcerated, support the smooth functioning of our criminal justice system and create an environment in which people can change their lives to become law-abiding, constructive residents of our city.

While maintaining a controlled environment, Philadelphia's correctional employees also work with neighborhood organizations to build a citywide network of coordinated assistance to help those who are released from prison to achieve a successful reintegration into our communities.

THEREFORE ...

I, Michael A. Nutter, Mayor of the City of Philadelphia, do hereby proclaim the week of May 5-12, 2008, as

CORRECTIONAL EMPLOYEES WEEK

in Philadelphia, and I encourage all citizens to recognize the vital work these employees perform in carrying out the mission of a respectful, productive and beneficial society.



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael A. Nutter".

Michael A. Nutter
Mayor

Given under my hand and the
Seal of the City of
Philadelphia this fifth day of
May, two thousand and eight.

Got Blood?

Your Blood Type Matches A Patient.

Blood Drives are coming to CFCF and PICC on Monday, May 12, and at DC on Friday, May 16. Prison staff contributed over 200 pints of blood last year, and the target for this spring is 180 pints. (Inmates are not legally eligible to donate blood. This is a *staff only* blood drive).

Among the frequent donors at CFCF is Officer Carlton Lane, who says he began donating blood when the Red Cross first started coming up to CFCF. "I was curious to see if I could give blood and I gave blood," says Lane. "I learned that I'm O Negative – that's a rare type of blood that anybody can receive. I'm a universal donor, so I feel the importance of donating. I learned that I can give blood every 56 days, so I've upped the ante, and now I give blood every time they're up here. Now, I'm in it for life. As long as I can give it, I'll do it."

Officer Jerome Barmore at DC feels the same way: "I have this rare blood – it's like it's my duty to donate." Officer Lane works the 11-7 shift and usually walks into the donor center (the roll call room at CFCF) at the end of his shift. "I get the email – the Prisons_All email – and just show up." But it's better to plan ahead:

Please sign up now with Lt. Harvey at CFCF (685-7849), Officer Dennis at PICC (685-8895) or Officer Jackson at DC (685-8443) to schedule an appointment.

Be an African American Hero to a Child with Sickle Cell Disease

Through a one-of-a-kind program, the American Red Cross and The Children's Hospital of Philadelphia are improving care for children with sickle cell disease --- and we need your help!

African-American staff have the option of tagging their blood, designating it for use by local hospitals in the treatment of Sickle Cell Disease.

Sickle cell is an inherited disease that affects more than 70,000 people in the US, ninety percent of whom are of African descent. Sickle cell disease causes anemia; jaundice; damage to the lungs, kidney and spleen; acute pain; and strokes. Patients with sickle cell disease, especially young children, may be easily overwhelmed by infections.

There is no cure for sickle cell disease, but good medical care, including blood transfusions, can help manage and prevent the pain and avoid serious complications.

Blood donors are the real heroes in this story because some patients with sickle cell disease need many units of blood every month! The best matches for these patients will come from African American donors. African American donors who want to help can choose to give blood for a child with sickle cell disease by using a special blue tag available at all Red Cross blood drives.

Red Cross Blood Services were last at CFCF on July 26, 2007 and held a drive at PICC in August of last year. The staff at PICC earned recognition for being one of the regional leaders in Sickle-Cell Tag Collection program.

Graduation of Classes 07-03 and 07-04

On Wednesday, February 27, 2008, newly-appointed Deputy Mayor Everett Gillison joined then-Acting Commissioner Giorla, City Controller Alan Butkovitz, and John Appledorn from the Crime Commission to welcome, congratulate and swear-in the 23 new Correctional Officers of Class 07-04, and the 16 Officers promoted to Sergeant. Gerald May and Karen Bryant celebrated their promotions to Deputy Warden (at CFCF and PICC, respectively).

On December 4, 2007 it was Julio Algarin, the Warden of the Montgomery County Jail, who was the keynote speaker, offering words of wisdom to the 19 new C/Os of Class 07-03, and the 16 promotees.

But at both events, the real performance was after the ceremonies were over, and staff and family and friends relaxed for a moment in each other's arms, in the high-school hallways.



Above: 07-04 cadets Tiffany McCullough and Latifa Baashit; Top Right: Lt. Dofredo Pieretti with Angelo Carmona; Center: 07-04 Cadet Lyric Little and family; Bottom: 07-03 cadets Roshanda Corley and Kelly Sellers (whose ribbon identifies her as best overall in her class).

Below: Kelly Sellers with Akaida Kendall and Training Instructor Juan Ortiz; Bottom: 07-03 Cadet Ramel Young with friend; Top Right: 07-03 Cadet Sabrina Miller with family; Center: Captain Adrian Christmas with 04 Cadet Andrea Chaney, whose ribbon indicates Academic Honors; Bottom: Social Worker Kau Our with 07-04 Cadet Rith Our.



Introducing a New Tool for Victim-Witness Notification

Philadelphians are now able to call or log onto an independent service that will automatically provide victims and witnesses with notification of an inmate's release from PPS. Anyone who registers with the service can log on and check the status of an offender to find out whether or not he or she is in jail. The system – called PA SAVIN (for State-wide Victim Information and Notification) – is set up to provide automated email or telephone notification of release or change in an inmate's status.

Call 1-866-9PA-SAVIN (1-866-972-7284) or visit www.pacrimevictims.state.pa.us, a website maintained by the PA Commission on Crime and Delinquency, which offers Crime Victims a range of services in addition to the notification program; or visit www.vinelink.com to locate information, register for notification and receive automated notification by email or telephone.

Consumers can register to be notified when an inmate is released, escapes, is put on work release, is transferred, or is placed on probation or parole.

This start-up is the result of months of work by MIS, CMR, the District Attorney's Office of Victim's Services, the Pennsylvania District Attorney's Institute and the PA Commission on Crime & Delinquency, coordinated on PPS campus by Capt. Nancy Giannetta.

Philadelphia has joined 23 other Pennsylvania counties and 27 other states in providing this service.

Record Room staff at the Prison System have been providing Victim-Witness Notification since 1995, pursuant to State Law; but the work has been conducted manually. Most often referred by Police Officers or by the District Attorney's Office of Victim Assistance

Programs, callers give their information to Record Room staff who transcribe keep the log and manually flag the offender's file – to alert staff that notification needs to be made prior to release. This was done by then-Sergeant Nancy Giannetta working with Mary Achilles, Governor Ridge's Victim Advocate. The following year, those with protection orders were made eligible to register. "It's a good system, said Sgt. Slade, who has responsibility, along with Officers Landis, Bufford and Brandon. "We have an active log of about 200 participants in the program."

Record Room staff will still be involved in maintenance and registration in the PA SAVIN system. But the new system will give victims a direct link to information, enhance communication, and allow them to stay informed. "PA SAVIN empowers and protects victims," said Capt. Giannetta. "It's free. Anyone can use it. It's anonymous. It's available all the time. It's available in English and Spanish and translation services are available. This is an important new tool for victim-witness notification."

Lindback Award and Employee of the Year for Teacher Robert Leyrer



Rob Leyrer, who teaches social studies and special education courses for the male juveniles at PICC, was among 61 Philadelphia teachers to receive the \$3,500 Lindback Foundation Award for teaching excellence in Philadelphia on April 16. He will also be recognized during Correctional Employee Week as Pennypack's Employee of the Year.

"Mr. Leyrer deserves recognition for his work – as do all the Pennypack staff – and I'm delighted and proud that he received this prestigious award," said Commissioner Giorla.

Leyrer has taught for the past 7 years with Pennypack – the last 5 years spent with the Direct File and Certified Juveniles. Leyrer's leadership has guided Pennypack House School – the School District's program at the PPS – through annual audits and inquiries with stellar results. His colleagues admire his rapport with students. They say he has successfully managed to break down the walls that often come between students and teachers. He is the only teacher on the staff who allows students to call him by his first name and is probably the only one who can keep the respect and admiration of his students.

Continued ...

Abdul-Hadi and Herdman Share Commissioner's Award for Distinguished Service



Health Services Administrator for the Philadelphia Industrial Correctional Center (PICC), Saeeda Abdul-Hadi – or Ms. Hadi as she is known throughout PPS – shares the Commissioner's Award for Distinguished Service this year with Chief Medical Officer Bruce Herdman.

"I was very surprised and excited to be named," said Ms. Hadi. "I felt very, very, very honored. I've gotten recognition from Prison Health Services, but this is from the Prisons. "

"We got a 100 percent on our NCCHC Accreditation. My staff is excellent. They are wonderful: my nurses, my medical records clerks (you know you've got to have good medical records), my medical assistants. The medical department has to work together."

She should know. Her mother was a nurse at the Naval Hospital in South Philadelphia. Hadi began working for Prison Health Services in 1994 when they were first awarded the medical contract. "My daughter was studying to be a

Continued ...

Leyrer awarded Lindback Prize, continued...

“I enjoy working with the juveniles because so many of them haven’t had the breaks they need in the outside world. So I’ve got a chance to make a difference, to give them what they need here and help them understand the value of education and the need to remove themselves from negative stimuli.”

“A lot of us [teachers] get letters from former students – about how they’re doing, where they’re at. Some have gone on to college. Some are upstate. They tell us how they’re doing and they say ‘thank you.’ It’s a good feeling.”

Abdul-Hadi and Herdman, continued...

physician’s assistant [she was later hired by PHS and worked here for 9 years] and one of her instructors worked for PHS and mentioned that there were openings.” For her job interview she entered Holmesburg Prison and walked through C Block to get to the hospital. It made quite an impression.

She began as a nurse, became a nurse manager, and moved up eventually to Health Services Administrator, responsible for services to the 1100 inmates at PICC.

“When I started I was working with a lot of city nurses – women who had worked for the City, and then for [Dr.] Lomax and now worked for PHS. They had a world of experience and they really helped me through.

“I really enjoy my job. I love to teach, and to make sure that everyone has exactly what they need to do bigger and better things. Since I’ve been here we’ve made the conditions so much better. It took a 180—degree turn. It’s wonderful to see that we give all of the inmates what they need – not what they want – but what they need. My thing as a supervisor to treat them as patients – the prison isn’t an easy place to work – but remember that, and everything will be all-right.