2017 is in the books and in review it was another year of triumphs and tragedies. I have keenly observed both near and far the goodness in men and women willing to help strangers. No matter what has occurred, be it crime, addiction, homelessness or any other hardship that occurs, our community unfailingly answers the call to help.

My spirit is buoyed by the kindness and caring that individuals of this county exhibit in times of need. I view this same kindness and dedication to others in this facility every day. I perform the work of administrating the facility knowing that my team is doing the right thing. Not for accolades or special recognition, but in service and commitment to our community.

To the end, I once again thank you very much for all of your efforts. I implore you to continue to fight the good fight and help us recruit new volunteers or anyone seeking a fulfilling career as a Pike County Correctional Officer. I look forward to a productive and prosperous 2018.
From Assistant Warden McLaughlin’s Office

As I mentally scroll through the events and occurrences of 2017 here at the Pike County Correctional Facility I note that it has once again been a banner year. As you page through this year’s newsletter, I hope you’ll be pleased to observe the many positive contributions and accomplishments of both our wonderful volunteers and dedicated staff members. In 2017 we also said goodbye to some familiar faces, and welcomed some new folks to assist in pursuing our mission. In addition to the volunteer roster and programs menu which continues to be robust, our support agencies have consistently contributed to post incarceration offender success. Catholic Social Services continues to conduct drug and alcohol treatment programs for male and female inmates, and we now have a Vivitrol case manager on site at the facility. Vivitrol is a drug which diminishes the effects of drugs and alcohol, eliminating the ability for addicts to become intoxicated. When administered to participants who request it, they have a greater chance of maintaining sobriety in the community. In 2017 eleven offenders received a Vivitrol injection. This past year there has been a heightened emphasis in addressing and treating offenders with mental health issues. In early December, Treatment Counselors DeCroce and Kingston attended a Stepping Up Initiative conference at Penn State, and returned to convey that our efforts in programming and treatment are on the forefront. In December, we were once again able to support our four legged friends at the Pike County Humane Society with nice warm beds fashioned from discarded mattresses and sheets. I must say with your help we have done it again, another year of positively contributing to the offenders we house, and the community we serve. Thank you very much and best wishes for a prosperous 2018!
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<td>1.</td>
<td>Pay it Backward: buy coffee for the person behind you in line.</td>
<td>18.</td>
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<td>2.</td>
<td>Compliment the first three people you talk to today.</td>
<td>19.</td>
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<td>3.</td>
<td>Send a positive text message to five different people right now.</td>
<td>20.</td>
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<td>4.</td>
<td>Post inspirational sticky notes around your neighborhood, office, school, etc.</td>
<td>21.</td>
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<td>5.</td>
<td>Tell someone they dropped a dollar (even though they didn’t). Then give them a dollar.</td>
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<td>6.</td>
<td>Donate old towels or blankets to an animal shelter.</td>
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<td>7.</td>
<td>Say hi to the person next to you on the elevator.</td>
<td>24.</td>
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<td>8.</td>
<td>Surprise a neighbor with freshly baked cookies or treats!</td>
<td>25.</td>
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<td>9.</td>
<td>Let someone go in front of you in line who only has a few items.</td>
<td>26.</td>
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<td>10.</td>
<td>Leave a gas gift card at a gas pump.</td>
<td>27.</td>
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<td>11.</td>
<td>Throw a party to celebrate someone just for being who they are, which is awesome.</td>
<td>28.</td>
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<td>12.</td>
<td>Have a LinkedIn account? Write a recommendation for coworker or connection.</td>
<td>29.</td>
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<td>13.</td>
<td>Leave quarters at the laundromat.</td>
<td>30.</td>
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<td>14.</td>
<td>Encounter someone in customer service who is especially kind? Take an extra five minutes to tell their manager.</td>
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<td>15.</td>
<td>Leave unused coupons next to corresponding products in the grocery store.</td>
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<td>16.</td>
<td>Leave a note on someone’s car saying something nice.</td>
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<td>17.</td>
<td>Try to make sure every person in a group conversation feels included.</td>
<td>34.</td>
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<td>35.</td>
<td>Pay the toll for the person behind you.</td>
<td>36.</td>
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<td>37.</td>
<td>Everyone is important. Learn the names of people you see every day. Greet them by name. And say hello to strangers.</td>
<td>38.</td>
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<td>39.</td>
<td>Purchase extra dog or cat food and bring it to an animal shelter.</td>
<td>40.</td>
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<td>41.</td>
<td>Take muffins or cookies to your local librarians.</td>
<td>42.</td>
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<td>43.</td>
<td>Send a ‘Thank you’ card or note to a policeman or fireman.</td>
<td>44.</td>
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<td>45.</td>
<td>Run errands for a family member who is busy.</td>
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Correctional Officer Thomas Schwartz has been selected as “Officer of the Year” for 2017. He has been employed at the facility since October 2003 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission. We are happy to convey that Officer Schwartz was promoted to the rank of Sergeant on July 10,
EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

Jennifer Hughson
October 1, 2016-December 31, 2016

Personnel Liaison Jennifer Hughson has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for October 1, 2016-December 31, 2016. Ms. Hughson has been employed by the county of Pike since September 1998 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Scott Eckhoff
January 1, 2017– March 31, 2017

Director of Food Service, Scott Eckhoff has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for January 1, 2017– March 31, 2017. Mr. Eckhoff has been employed at the facility since June 2010 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
Maintenance Technician Darren Schmitt has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for April 1, 2017–June 30, 2017. Mr. Schmitt has been employed at the facility since May 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Maintenance Technician William Deleeuw has been selected as “Employee of the Quarter” for July 1, 2017–September 30, 2017. Mr. Deleeuw has been employed at the facility since October 1995 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

Christopher Marzan
October 1, 2016 - December 31, 2016

Correctional Officer Christopher Marzan has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for October 1, 2016—December 31, 2017. Officer Marzan has been employed at the facility since July 2014 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

James Wipperman
January 1, 2017 – March 31, 2017

Correctional Officer James Wipperman has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for January 1, 2017 – March 30, 2017. Officer Wipperman was been employed at the facility in March 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
OFFICER OF THE QUARTER

Amanda Mills
April 1, 2017-June 30, 2017

Correctional Officer Amanda Mills has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for April 1, 2017—June 30, 2017. Officer Mills has been employed at the facility since April 2016 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.

Ray Kimble
July 1, 2017—September 30, 2017

Correctional Officer Ray Kimble has been selected as “Officer of the Quarter” for July 1, 2017—September 30, 2017. Officer Kimble has been employed at the facility since March 2004 and has exhibited professionalism and dedication to the facility mission.
The Pike County Correctional Facility has welcomed a new Treatment Counselor this year. Amy is a Pike County resident and resides in Shohola, PA. She graduated from Delaware Valley High School and then set off to serve our country in the United States Air Force for five years. After saying farewell to her military career, she realized that exploring was her passion and decided to move to Alaska and Montana to seek out adventure. After a while, Amy then began attending college at Park University and narrowing in on a specific path. She majored in Social Psychology and minored in Criminal Justice in hopes of becoming a counselor of some sort in the juvenile setting.

Moving back home to Pike County, Amy was having difficulty finding an opportunity that matched her degrees. She began doing odd jobs, such as a Site Security Supervisor for a distributor, Rehab Technician working with aging adults, and Therapeutic Staff Support working with children. When the opportunity to become a Treatment Counselor opened up at the Pike County Correctional Facility, she jumped on it. She is very excited about this new journey. She finds there is a need to reduce the recidivism rate, that preventing recidivism starts at first incarceration, and that reducing the rate of recidivism is a community effort. Amy provides oversight for the M.O.R.E. program and finds helping others very rewarding. We eagerly anticipate all the contributions Amy makes as a Pike County Correctional Treatment Counselor.

The Pike County Correctional Facility is proud to introduce a New Administrative Clerk! JoAnna grew up in Staten Island, New York. JoAnna's dad is a retired NYC Fire Dep't Captain and her mom is a retiree from AT&T. JoAnna studied at St. John's University, Staten Island Campus- while working in the Maritime Industry as a cargo planner at The New York Container Terminal for fifteen years.

JoAnna has recently gotten married and along with her husband decided to start the next chapter of their lives in Milford, PA. She considers herself very fortunate to have built a new home in the local area, close to immediate family members. When the Administrative Clerk position became available, she jumped at the opportunity to take on the task of learning the daily operations of the facility. We welcome JoAnna as a new addition to our administration team and wish her lots of luck with all of her new beginnings.
The Pike County Correctional Facility is excited to introduce Kari Dobrzynski, who is our new Catholic Social Services Vivitrol Case Manager. Kari, who obtained her Bachelor of Arts in Psychology from Thomas Edison State University, has past experience working with children who have special needs. Kari will be providing outpatient outreach services to clients involved in the ninety day CSS Drug and Alcohol program. Her primary focus is to interview, screen, and enroll recruits into the Vivitrol MAT (Medication Assisted Treatment) program. Vivitrol is an injection intended to nullify the effects of addictive drugs and alcohol. It heightens the probability that those who receive the drug will be less likely to use illicit drugs upon release from incarceration. Vivitrol participants also ordinarily need to participate in the CSS program conducted at the facility along with attendance at outpatient treatment.

Kari has always enjoyed helping other people and is considering going back to school to obtain a Masters degree in Counseling to become an LPC (Licensed Professional Counselor) or a Masters degree in Social Work to become an LSW (Licensed Social Worker). Kari enjoys the outdoors, poetry and reading and has an interest in Science Fiction. Kari was inspired to want to help people since she was 14 years old and was fascinated by the mental health field. Kari hopes to make a difference in the lives of individuals at Pike County Correctional Facility, providing support and compassion to help in the most efficient way possible.

Susan Kenthack is an inspiring new addition to Catholic Social Services as a Drug and Alcohol Treatment Counselor. She was born in Queens NY, then with her parents moved to Pennsylvania and attended Wallenpaupack Area High School. After graduation she continued her education at East Stroudsburg University of PA, studying both Sociology and Human Services. With her passion for children, she began working in the Mental Health Counseling field becoming a specialist in Autism and Safe Crisis Management and continued that career for over ten years. Susan has a love for movies and the outdoors and she loves practicing with and watching her daughter sing and perform at concerts.

When accepting the position with Catholic Social Services she has decided to make the career move to the Drug and Alcohol treatment field. She facilitates the male offender group and conducts individual treatment counseling for the ninety day CSS Drug and Alcohol Program conducted at Pike County Facility. Susan has conveyed that this is an exciting move in her career; she has the dedication and passion to help others succeed in reaching lifelong sobriety.
Zelideh was born in Puerto Rico and raised in Jersey City, NJ. She previously worked in the shipping industry specifically importing and exporting items from Denmark. When she moved to Northeast Pennsylvania she ran a restaurant for a few years. Most recently Zelideh became the PCCF commissary Distribution Manager for the Keefe Commissary Company. She spends her days trying to keep up with the hungry inmates by ensuring that the commissary orders are delivered and snack vending machines which were recently installed on all housing units are stocked. She has three grown children and she is very excited for the holidays. When she isn’t working she likes to relax and craft.

We are proud to convey that the Pike County Correctional Facility is the first correctional facility in the state to have snack vending machines installed on housing units. Inmates purchase various types of snacks to enjoy during their free time.
As a high school teacher at Wallenpaupack Area School District (WASD), I am fortunate to work with a variety of different students. The classroom is an exciting and dynamic work environment; every day is different and brings with it new challenges, surprises and lessons.

In my classroom, posted on the wall is an original quote that I find to be motivating and applicable to different facets of life. “Success is earned, bit by bit, through small steps of accomplishment.” The credit recovery program available to school-age inmates (18-21) at Pike County Correctional Facility is an opportunity for students to take an important step towards success.

The program allows students to resume where they left off in their education. Often, the students I work with began high school but did not earn enough credits to graduate. My job is to help them finish what they started. After obtaining their high school transcript, I sit down with the student and map out which course credits they need to complete. From here, the students are given textbooks, work books and other educational print resources to help them with their course work. Throughout the week, I meet with the students and assist them with their work.

I began this position in 2014 and have had six students successfully earn their high school diplomas. Working with these students has been extremely rewarding. Many students I teach have had life circumstances and patterns of behavior that impeded their academic progress. They now find themselves at a very young age in prison and without a high school diploma. After reflecting on their previous school experience, they admit that they could have achieved more. They now understand the importance of education and are appreciative of having an opportunity to learn and earn their diploma.

Wayne Pike Adult Literature Program Tutor Workshop

In a cozy room above the Fauchere Patisserie in Milford on October 12, 2017 Annette Petry, Board President of the Wayne Pike Adult Literacy Program along with Gary Linton, the newly appointed Executive Director, conducted a detailed training for the newest GED tutors. It was pleasant and very informative, and in the end, the Pike County Correctional Facility added two more volunteers to its roster, Jim Maneval who specializes in Math and tutors also at the Wayne County jail and Bob Levine who is facilitating our Money Management class for the county male population in the A.R.R.O.W. program (Actively Reducing Recidivism Opens Windows). And of course, our Stephanie Tsaptsinos who is our GED tutor and whose father comes in on Friday nights to offer Catholic Church service to the inmates.

The Wayne Pike Adult Literacy Program mission statement is to provide educational skills improvement for adults who face barriers and challenges to their educational and employment goals. We are very pleased to report that these wonderful volunteers are the life blood of the PCCF GED Program!

Thank you so much to our cherished and dedicated volunteers!

Dan Marcus, Stephanie Tsaptsinos, Jim Maneval, & Bob Levine!
“New Correctional Program at PCCF

“A National Initiative to Reduce the Number of People with Mental Illnesses in Jails”

By: Michelle

The Pike County Correctional Facility is proud to be taking part in The Stepping Up Initiative. The Stepping Up Initiative is a national movement to provide counties with the tools they need to develop strategies that can lead to measurable reductions in the number of people with mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders in jails. As of now, Pike County Correctional Facility is one of the 17 counties in the state of Pennsylvania who have joined this cause. With support from public and private entities, the initiative builds on many innovative and proven practices being implemented across the country. In conjunction with our many recidivism reduction programs in the facility our current relationships with organizations in the community such as Catholic Social Services, RedCo, Safe Haven and Carbon, Monroe and Pike MHDS, ensure that our offenders with mental illnesses and co-occurring disorders are receiving the appropriate treatment to reduce recidivism in our area. We continue to strive to address any perceived challenges to help reduce the number of offenders cycling through the criminal justice system. We would like to thank our volunteers for their continued efforts in support of this initiative possible!

StepUpTogether.org
Another beautiful autumn day for this year’s Volunteer Appreciation Brunch. Our volunteers play a key role in reducing recidivism and have a huge impact on offender morale in the facility. We are very thankful for the donated time, commitment and effort each volunteer bestows. It was a wonderful sight watching each volunteer walk in and showing them how much we really appreciate what they do. They all mingled and discussed the brilliant ways they contribute to the overall efforts of the facility and bettering the lives of many.

This year’s feast was just delightful with all the savory foods. There was plenty to keep us full. The view that overlooks the lake was the perfect setting to recognize these volunteers. After filling our bellies we recognized our outstanding tenured staff members of the facility: Lieutenant Todd Schweyer (20 years of service), Officer Kimberly Graham (15 years of service) and Officer Patrick Petrakian (10 years of service). We congratulate these facility staff members for their hard work and dedication.

Coming to a close, it was time to recognize our Volunteer of the Year, Dan Marcus, who has been volunteering for the past six years for both the male and female population. We are grateful for his devotion and desire in helping rehabilitate individuals returning to society.

We ended our brunch by sending our volunteers off with a certificate of appreciation and their choice of locally made Jams in a basket or homemade delicious fudge from the 84 Country Store. Every volunteer would also receive an adorable crocheted stuffed animal made by our female program participants.

We thank all our volunteers for everything that they do. Our programs would not be successful without you. You truly do make a difference!
The 2017 Pike County Correctional Facility Volunteer of the Year has been generously giving of his time at the Pike County Correctional Facility since November of 2011. All the while, this volunteer has facilitated various programs for both the male and female populations, addressing a wide array of rehabilitative curriculums ranging from computer training to money management, anger management, life skills and healthy relationships, as well as preparing offenders for the GED exams.

In addition to teaching many coping and life skills to our male and female offenders, our award recipient has also entertained them with his banjo and guitar, playing Bluegrass music in the outdoor recreation yard along with a close friend who also volunteered.

We are proud to recognize the fact that our award recipient is a Vietnam era Navy veteran who played for his fellow troops on an aircraft carrier, battleship, and guided missile destroyer. This Volunteer of the Year has had a passion for music his entire life, as a child taking the subway in New York City for banjo lessons, and traveling to various states as an adult to perform concerts and cut albums.

This year’s Volunteer of the Year is also president of the Men’s Club of The Jewish Fellowship of Hemlock Farms as well as serving on the boards of two Scranton based organizations. We are fortunate to have the opportunity to recognize an active community member who lives a life of compassion and generosity toward those in need of mentoring, guidance and rehabilitative support.

Dan Marcus

Thank You
Volunteering at the Pike County Correctional Facility

By “Volunteer of the Year”

Dan Marcus

Not long after moving to the Poconos from northern New Jersey in April of 2011, I realized I would have more free time than I had anticipated due to the realities of the local business climate. I thought I might be able to use my computer experience on a volunteer basis, possibly at the county Senior Center. I did a Google search to find out where it was located and headed over only to find out someone else was already teaching the seniors how to use a computer. During my Google search, I had seen that the Pike County Correctional Facility was a little further down the road. I wondered whether I could be of any use there, so I drove over and ended up speaking with one of the counselors. She told me they didn’t need anyone to teach computer skills, but would I consider other programs?

Six years later, my volunteer efforts at PCCF have evolved into an important and gratifying part of my life. I take great pride in being chosen as this year’s Volunteer of the Year, but any acknowledgement of what I have accomplished must be shared with those who have tirelessly, patiently, and with good humor, directly supported and encouraged me: counselors Terry Mooney, Michelle DeCroce, Amy Kingston, and Assistant Warden Robert McLaughlin.

So, what do I get from all of this? I’ve been asked that question many times over these years by both the men and women I work with. The answer is simple: I have the opportunity to meet people I would have probably never met, and I take pride and pleasure in trying to help those who might benefit from my efforts.

Easy?...no; frustrating?...at times; worth it?...YES!
A Heartfelt Thank you Corry Leuenberger....

for eight years of dedication to teaching our females how to sew!!!

Originally from the Netherlands, Corry learned to sew by hand in Home Economics class while in school. In 1972, she and her husband came to America. He bought her a brand new machine with all kinds of fancy stitches and she taught herself how to use it. She and her husband were married 36 years until he passed away.

Corry says that she’s always a little sad when she leaves the facility after her “Individual Sewing” program. Over the years, she has seen many of the same young women return because they are just not able to change their lives on the outside. She used the opportunity of sewing with them to “say it just the way it is,” she says. She tells them that they see jail just as an interruption of their habit. So many get out and go back to the same situation that got them in jail. She encourages them to make the changes they would like to see in their lives, that they have to want it badly enough.

Corry says, “It’s a sad story all around that they tell. If I can help just one person it is worth the dedication of coming in every week. And if that person can help just one other person, we’re paying it forward.” Corry says it’s time to let someone else step into her shoes.
Michael Barber facilitates the Life Skills program for our county male population participating in the ninety day A.R.R.O.W. program. His background is in Aerospace engineering which he performed for eighteen years but for the last fifteen years he has been conducting training and development of employees and executives on various topics such as Goal Setting, Strategic Planning, Management and Supervisor Development for a company named P-3 which he owned.

Jim Maneval is our G.E.D. tutor specializing in Math. He was a member of Boy Scouts of America attaining Eagle Scout rank, played sports his entire life, graduated from Rutgers with a BS in Accounting, retired from UPS working in Delivery Systems, has been married fifty years, has two kids and three grandchildren, Jim ran two (2) NYC marathons, and has been tutoring students for the Wayne Pike Adult Literacy Program for two years. We are happy to convey that Jim is now here volunteering with us at PCCF.

Joe Ierubino is formerly C.O.O. and Sr. Vice President of New York based trucking company. Married for sixty one years to his wife Sheila, they have nine children, twenty three grandchildren and are expecting their 10th great-grandchild which makes him an expert in parenting which he facilitates for our A.R.R.O.W. program. Joe has coached football and baseball for forty five years including serving as the Defensive coordinator of the Cincinnati Bengals, and several major league baseball players. He has spent most of his adult life in volunteer service to school districts, community and church, also facilitating Movies of the Bible on Sundays for our General Male population.

Stephanie Tsaptsinos is our latest GED tutor and a member of the Saint Vincent de Paul’s RC Church prison ministry. She has a B.S. in Biology and has enjoyed tutoring in just about every subject in the past. She is a stay-at-home mom who enjoys the outdoors and reading classic literature. She also is a culinary enthusiast and hopes to one day publish her large collection of recipes. She finds tutoring to be a rewarding experience and looks forward to continuing to provide support to those interested in improving their lives.

Thank you Michael, Jim, Joe and Stephanie!!
Our female participants of the H.O.P.E Program made adorable little pet pillows for our local little tikes from Little Wonders Learning Center & Childcare Inc. in Dingmans Ferry, PA. It was wonderful watching their faces light up with joy as they received their cute little pillows.

There were enough pet pillows to go around, so we shared them along with some handmade crocheted blankets and ornaments with the seniors Of Pike County Area of Aging and the Dingmans Senior Center at the American Legion. Local news station BRC13 arrived to witness us wishing the seniors a Happy Holiday at The Pike County Area of Aging, where it would later be broadcasted on the night news that evening. The Dingmans Senior Center folks at the American Legion were very excited to see us arrive with our sack full of goodies for them. They each came up and grabbed a crocheted item and stood by the tree to take a lovely picture together thanking the Pike County Correctional Facility and the H.O.P.E. Program female participants for the lovely gifts and to wish them all a happy holidays.

It warms the hearts of our H.O.P.E. program female participants knowing that their time and efforts of making these gifts make people happy!
Rags to Riches

Once again this year C.O.R.E Program Participants have transformed old bunk mattresses that would normally be thrown away into cozy pet beds for the Pike County Humane Society. The old bunk mattresses are cut into smaller beds and covered with worn bunk sheets and blankets that have been cleaned and colored, that can no longer be used in the facility. These new beds provide a nice soft warm place for the sheltered animals to relax and sleep.

On arrival, the C.O.R.E. Officers pulled their trailer up in front of the Humane Society gate. Dogs from all directions were rushed to the fence barking and wagging their tails in excitement to meet anyone that came to visit. They jumped up for a pat on the head and embraced the attention. Arm loads of beds just kept pouring out of the trailer and were placed in a nearby shed filling it to the top making it very difficult to fit anything else in there.

On this beautiful snowy day, News station BRC13 arrived to film this charitable event, interview the humane society staff and film the many animals that were happy to see what was transpiring. We remind anyone interested in providing a forever home to a pet in need to contact the Pike County Humane Society.
Light of Hope Concert

The Pike County Correctional Facility once again welcomed the Evangelistic “Light of Hope Ministry” to perform concerts for the inmate/detainee population from Friday March 24, 2017 to Sunday, March 26, 2017. The concert was held over the duration of three days and involved old fashion gospel singing, proclaiming hope, building faith and renewing the heart. The ministry is based out of Susquehanna Valley Pennsylvania and was founded in 2002 with the mission of spreading the message of hope through singing and preaching in correctional facilities. A group of men, organized by Amos Stoltzfus, sang a variety of spiritually uplifting hymns and songs for both male and female offenders. As the conclusion of each concert, the group held an open prayer and discussion time for the offenders to speak about the belief in a higher power and how it can positively affect the lives of those behind bars. Thank you Light of Hope Ministry!
It’s the holiday season again and Santa (volunteer Ed Shaffner), made a stop at the Pike County Correctional Facility to give out gift bags to all the Inmates/Detainees. He walked into the housing units proclaiming, “Ho Ho Ho, Merry Christmas”, with every pair of eyes fixed upon him. Inmates came up one by one to be greeted with a Christmas bag from Santa himself. Each bag was filled with candies, cookies, cakes, chips, and crackers along with a handmade card wishing them a Happy Holiday. The cards were created by a child from the Christmas Cards for Inmates Program, facilitated by CentrePeace Inc. The Holiday bags were decorated by our female inmates who were happy to contribute to the holiday cheer. Santa helps lift the spirits of the offenders during the holiday season, which is a very difficult time to be incarcerated for both them and their loved ones. We want to extend a heartfelt thank you to Ed Shaffner for once again serving as the Jolly Old Elf!
The H.O.P.E. Program
“Helping Offenders Promote Excellence”
Written By Monica

The H.O.P.E. Program has educated and helped me in many different ways. I may not have had a drug or alcohol problem but the drug and alcohol education classes have supplied me with knowledge to prevent addiction and provided me with coping mechanisms to deal with issues without the need of a mind altering substance. In the Forgiveness Program, I learned how to forgive myself and others no matter how hard it seems to do so. In the Rough Path Program, I learned that I can move on and grow during difficult times. In the Parenting Skills Program, I learned different ways to properly care for my children as they grow. I was taught to be an example for them and ways to provide them with a better life. In addition to the education I received, I learned how to crochet which I find very soothing and relaxing. In conclusion, the H.O.P.E. Program has taught me to open my mind to the possibility of a better tomorrow.

The M.O.R.E. Program
“Motivating Offenders to Reintegrate Effectively”
Written By Ron

The M.O.R.E. program has taught me that everyone has their own individual strengths and weaknesses and they have to be open to change old habits and develop new life skills that will help them become successful and productive in the community. I have developed some coping skills and new habits on how to deal with my triggers and depression and to reach out to not be ashamed to say I need help or I have a bad day.

I have also learned that through extensive groups like Anger Management, Men’s Issues, and Relapse Prevention, as well as group and individual counseling, that there are some things I can change and other things I cannot change. The main thing I can change is my thought patterns and habits. I have learned to take time to deal with my problems to stop, think, listen, and to try to deal with circumstances in a more beneficial way. Learned to listen to others and try to solve problems and not just react and to take other people’s feelings and emotions to heart, not just my own. I have learned new skills on how to be a better husband, father, and son. I have also learned that everything isn’t always going to go my way and some relationships take time to mend.

Ms. Kingston has been a big help to me just being there to help me work through my anger issues, resentments, family issues, and my mental stability. She has always been there to let me vent and advise me on many issues and subjects. I am thankful to her and this program for helping me get started on becoming the man I needed to be for my wife and family. Thank you.
The A.R.R.O.W. Program
“Actively Reducing Recidivism Opens Windows”
Written By Paul

I appreciate the ARROW program for the skills that are offered from various subjects. Employment Skills has refreshed my knowledge of applying for employment and going on interviews. Mr. B brings a lot of helpful information to the group. Money Management has shown me the right direction on how to pay bills on time and manage my income, how to save. The Life Skills is facilitated by, Michael, a retired life coach. He teaches us how to think before we react which is really important; how to resolve conflict; how to appropriately channel anger. My children are grown; however, the Parenting program focuses on being honest with our children; communication is a big part of having kids. Compromise is also important while setting rules and boundaries. The group setting is valuable because everyone shares their stories and we get to know each other. I would like to thank all of the volunteers that take their personal time to come to the facility to work with us and help us improve our quality of life on the outside. I feel that the Pike County Correctional Facility goes above and beyond to help us in many ways.

The C.O.R.E. Program
“Correctional Offenders Reintegrating Effectively”
Written By Ricky

Leaving the facility each day gives me something to look forward to. Also, another major benefit is that the CORE program offers a positive environment with a structure that provides a healthy, productive routine versus a life centered around drugs. I have learned new skills in the program. Working out in the fresh air greatly helps my morale, and makes me hopeful for when I am released from jail.

The C.S.S. Program
“Catholic Social Services”

The Catholic Social Services Program has helped me deal with a lot of my issues. The counselor is very helpful and understanding of all our problems. It’s a great environment to talk about our problems and try to learn from each other’s mistakes. At class we work through our drug addictions, anger problems, depression, and also learning to deal with anxiety. The counselor will have one on one sessions just in case we are not comfortable talking about something in front of the class. CSS also helps get us into after care programs, so once we are out of here we can continue classes and/or group. I myself enjoy going and will continue after I leave Pike County Correctional Facility. I believe it’s a valuable program and I’m glad I’ve been able to attend. Thank you, from a former addict in fifteen months of recovery. -Chris
From All of Us Here
At the
Pike County Correctional Facility,
Best Wishes
For a Joyous New Year
Filled with
Peace and Happiness!

Happy Holidays
In 1814 work began on the Pike County Courthouse; it was completed in 1815. This structure served as a Courthouse and Jail until 1851 when a small brick building was built in front of the present Courthouse. (This was removed when the present Courthouse was built in 1872-73).

The Pike County Correctional Facility was built in 1995. It is a 87,800 square foot, non-smoking Facility, situated on 268 acres in Blooming Grove Township. Our direct supervision 375 bed Facility houses both male and female offenders. Educational, religious, and rehabilitative programs are provided to assist offenders in reintegrating into society. During their incarceration, female offenders have the opportunity to participate in the H.O.P.E. Program (Helping Offenders Promote Excellence). The A.R.R.O.W. Program (Actively Reducing Recidivism Opens Windows) offers qualified male Pike County offenders the opportunity to change their lives through intensive rehabilitative programming. Upon successful completion, eligible offenders may graduate to the C.O.R.E. Program (Correctional Offenders Reintegrating Effectively) where they will continue their rehabilitative efforts by learning new skills through community service. The M.O.R.E. Program (Motivating Offenders to Reintegrate Effectively) is available to all male offenders interested in making positive changes in their life. The Pike County Correctional Facility is working together to ensure that our community is safer for everyone.