

The Arizona Department Of Corrections



Volume 14, Issue 02

Director Charles L. Ryan



**COTA CELEBRATES
1000th CLASS
GRADUATION**



THE DIRECTOR'S PERSPECTIVE

From the desk of ADC Director Charles L. Ryan

The Arizona Department of Corrections has an impressive track record for creating great career opportunities for women. Decades ago, the presence of a female officer might be considered noteworthy, but that was a much different era than the present day.

Today, the Arizona Department of Corrections employs thousands of women everywhere in the uniform ranks, all the way up to the position of Warden. Add to that the many women who fill important leadership roles in the administrative ranks at the Central Office.

This is a positive development in our department and in the corrections profession as a whole, but not enough of the general public may be aware of it.

In July, a step was taken to change that as Channel 9 in Tucson did a lengthy profile on three of ADC's female corrections professionals.

The piece focused on CO II Elvira Vasquez from the South Unit at ASPC-Florence, Florence Complex Maj. Wendy Hackney and DWOP Juli Roberts. All represented their profession with class and did an outstanding job!

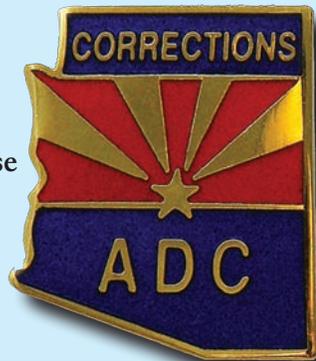
To view the story, please go to the Youtube link on www.azcorrections.gov.



Florence Major Wendy Hackney was one of three ADC women who were interviewed by a crew from KGUN-TV for a special news show they aired in July.

*Sincerely,
Charles L. Ryan*

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Directions is an official publication of the Arizona Department of Corrections.

This publication is to promote the work of ADC and the achievements of its staff. Questions and comments are welcomed and encouraged at Directions@azcorrections.gov

Familiar faces in new places

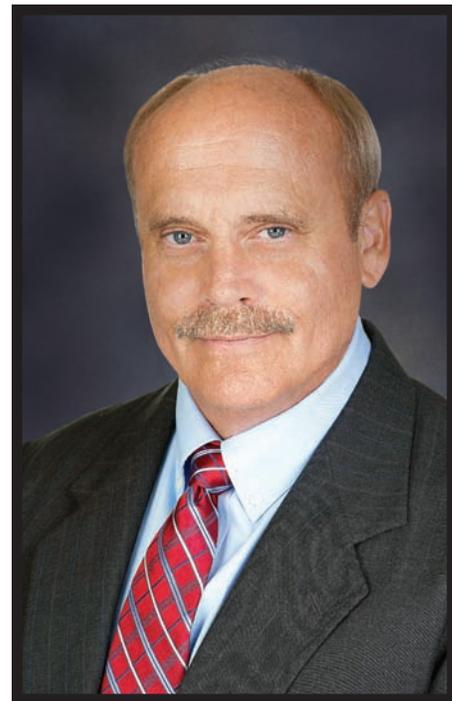
Article by Communications Director Doug Nick, Photos by Media Relations



*Offender Operations Director
Carson McWilliams*



*Health Services Assistant
Director Richard Pratt*



*Florence Warden
Greg Fizer*

Two high-level ADC staffers have had the “interim” label removed from their positions, and ASPC-Florence welcomes a new Warden who didn’t have to travel far to change offices.

Carson McWilliams, who has been with the department since 1978, was formally announced as the permanent Division Director for Offender Operations at the department’s senior leadership strategic planning event at COTA July 29th.

McWilliams started as an Officer at the Central Unit in 1978 and has held multiple leadership positions throughout the agency in his 36 years at ADC prior to being handed the reins in “Ops” when Robert Patton was named Director of the Oklahoma DOC earlier this year.

Also taking a permanent role in his job after a number of months on an interim basis is Health Services Bureau Assistant Director Richard Pratt, succeeding Art Gross, who retired several months ago.

Pratt started with ADC in 2000 after a stint with the Colorado DOC. He took a detour in 2009 to be a program administrator in the private sector, before returning to ADC as a regional health

administrator in 2011 and eventually rising to his current position. He has been employed in the health care field since 1992.

With the retirement of Lance Hetmer, the Warden’s position at the Florence complex is now in the hands of Greg Fizer, who was most recently the Deputy Warden of the Central Unit.

Fizer is a nearly 32-year veteran of the department, starting as an Officer in the Central Unit in 1981. His ADC service bookends time spent working with the Federal Bureau of Prisons in Colorado. He recently attained a Master of Arts Degree in criminal justice from Arizona State University.

ADC Director Charles Ryan stated, “All three of these men are well-deserving of these promotions, and I am confident that they will continue to exhibit the qualities of outstanding leadership and professionalism that helped them earn these positions.

The department places a high value on developing the next generation of leaders, and elevating people from within the ranks is an excellent indicator of that accomplishment.”

COTA CLASS 1000

Article provided by AA III Becky Nawrocki, COTA



June 27, 2014 marked a milestone for the State of Arizona Department of Corrections. After 28 years in operation, the Correctional Officer Training Academy graduated Class 1000! Beginning with Class 1 in 1986 and serving an educational need throughout the years to reach Class 1000 in 2014, COTA has graduated over 25,000 State Correctional Officers in addition to Detention Officers from various counties and tribal communities from around the state.

Class 1000 began with 39 Cadets on May 12, 2014. COTA Class Sergeant Gabriela Cimarrusti and Class Advisors Gerald Cone, ASPC- Perryville and Carrie Seo, ASPC-Safford supported the class.

Graduation day brought a record number of visitors and guests. ADC Director Charles L. Ryan honored the class as Keynote Speaker and swore them in as new officers. In addition to family and friends, all state Wardens, many administrators and several class representatives from every 100th class (beginning with Class 1!) were present. Commander Ivan Bartos commented, “1000 COTA classes is

a unique milestone in our history and it mattered, deeply to those cadets, and the cadre of COTA, to see our top leadership in attendance. This reinforces the important mission of the academy, and will continue to inspire all of us to continue to improve the pre-service education of future corrections officers.”

Activities included formation of all COTA classes and pinning of badges by the Director before the graduation ceremony as well as a slideshow of COTA scenes over the years. The ADC Honor Guard posted colors and Lt. Katina Murphy sang the National Anthem. Director Ryan presented a keynote address and swore in the new officers. Fernando Dicochea, COTA Facility Coordinator shared “28 Years of Wisdom,” advice from selected former COTA class representatives from every 100th class and from Wardens, Division Directors and Regional Operations Directors. The day ended with a special graduation cake decorated with super-imposed badges from 1986 and 2014 and served in the staff dining hall.



Before the Graduation ceremony began, Director Ryan presented each of the Graduates their badges.



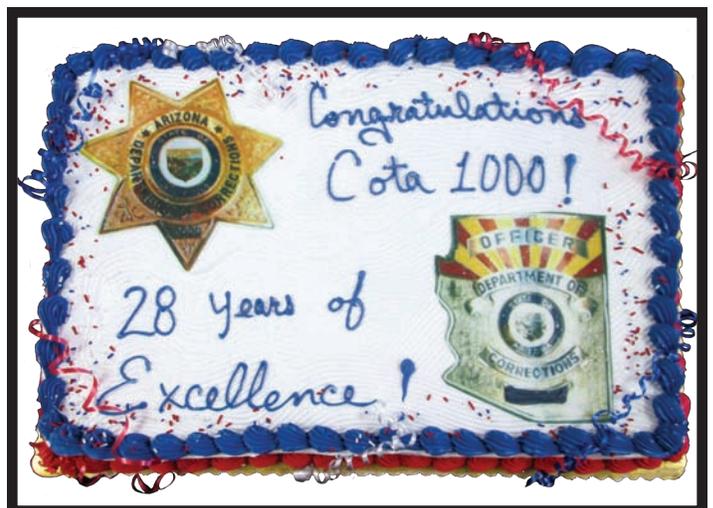
Lt. Katina Murphy lent her beautiful voice to open the graduation ceremony with the National Anthem.



After receiving their badges from Director Ryan, the new cadets joined family and friends and took their Oath of Office, becoming sworn Correctional Officers.



The graduation plaque was presented to Commander Bartos by Ashton E. Allison, Class 1000 speaker.



A special cake made for the 1000th graduation celebration says it all!!!

Border Clean-up Surprise!

Article and photo provided by AA III Vince Neil / ASPC-Tucson

In Early June, CO II C. Zepp was conducting the Border Clean-up Project in the Arivaca Mountain range area when he ran across two bales of an unknown substance located in a wash in the desert.

Officer Zepp conducted a closer examination of the items and found them to contain a green leafy substance consistent with marijuana. CO II Zepp activated ICS, notified work crew supervisor Sgt. Romero and secured all the inmates in the transportation van.

CO II Zepp also contacted United States Border Patrol and advised them of his location and the finding. A short time later, a Border Patrol Agent arrived on scene and tested and weighed the bales. Testing showed positive for marijuana.

K-9 Sgt. Valenzuela and CO II Tutas conducted a sniff of all inmates and the van assigned to the Border Crew at the incident location with negative results. Border Patrol sent a report with the exact weight of the marijuana at 42.9 lbs, with an estimated value of over \$34,000. Great job by Complex Work Crew Officer C. Zepp!!!



Community Corrections Engaged in Offender Compliance Activities

Article and photo provided by CC Manager Holly Dorman



The Tucson compliance check group is, L-R: CCO Senior Raul Maza, CCO Brandon Estrella, CCO Senior Robin Kozakiewicz and CCS Pam Jensen.

The Community Corrections Bureau strives to be an active partner in the community in keeping its neighborhoods safe and free from criminal behavior. In fulfilling that purpose, Community Corrections Officers conduct “compliance checks” to ensure its offenders remain good citizens and in compliance

with their conditions of supervised release.

In the southern part of the state, the Tucson Regional Parole Office conducted a similar compliance check operation and during their search they located what appeared to be illegal drugs in an offender’s possession. Pima County Sheriff Deputies were called and they conducted field tests that latter confirmed the presence of illegal drugs. As a result, the offender was taken into custody and booked with new felony charges.

In another compliance check, officers of the Prescott Parole Office received information concerning possible illegal behavior by one of the offenders on supervision. In response, a team of Northern Region Parole Officers searched the offender’s residence and discovered large quantities of marijuana and drug paraphernalia. The offender and his girl friend were arrested and booked into the Yavapai County Jail for possession of drugs for sale, possession of dangerous drugs and manufacturing dangerous drugs.

Through these officers’ dedication and commitment to their responsibilities, our communities are a safer place to live.

ACI Horse Program

Article and photo provided by By Glen Davis, SVP Operations / ACI

On June 25, 2014 the Equestrian Division of the Border Patrol comprised of the respective Sector Supervisors met at the ACI Wild Horse Training site to look at ACI's Wild Horse Training Program. There were 17 representatives ranging from the Washington DC office, New York, Washington, Texas, California, and Arizona to name a few.

The Sector Supervisors are responsible for the maintenance and care of their respective equestrian programs which range from 17 horses to upward of 50 horses assigned to their respective Sectors. Each of the attendees are responsible for training their assigned staff on how to use horses in their regional environment while keeping this country's borders safe.

This group was provided a tour of the ACI Wild Horse Training Facility, located beside the ASPC-Florence Complex kennel area, by Randy Helm the Wild Horse Program Supervisor, and Glen Davis ACI Operations. The group reviewed the tack rooms, corrals, training round pens, and associated equipment.

The group then proceeded to the obstacle course, located just North of the training facility, to

observe a group of horses that are in training on the obstacle course. Discussion was present that included what type of additional training needs the Border Patrol needs to have on horses that they are looking at purchasing from ACI. Border patrol needs to have the horses to be able to cross water, wide ditches, dry river beds, and high vegetation such as Johnson grass.

From the ACI Wild Horse Training Facility the group then went to the ACI Wild Horse Holding Facility. The group observed the in-processing facility as well as the numerous pens of Wild Horses. Several members of the group were looking over the horses finding replacements for their existing horses that are coming into the age of replacement.

The Border Patrol was impressed with ACI's ability to manufacture equipment at our industrial yard and our ability to refurbish equipment such as their horse trailers, tack rooms, and leather articles. Positive comments were made by all of the Border Patrol staff as to the extent of our training exceeding what they are used to receiving at the present time and they are looking forward to conducting business with ACI and the Wild Horse Program.



On June 25, 2014 the Equestrian Division of the Border Patrol comprised of the respective Sector Supervisors met at the ACI Wild Horse Training site to look at ACI's Wild Horse Training Program.

Probation, Parole and Community Corrections Week



From left to Right, Northern Region Operations Director Carson McWilliams, CCO Richard Ayala / Electronic Monitoring Unit, Deputy Director Jeff Hood, CCO William Hlavaty / Mesa Regional Office, CCO Marlon Booth / Sex Offender Coordination Unit, Director Charles L. Ryan, Governor Janice K. Brewer, CCO Adrienne Sambora / Mesa Regional Office and Community Corrections Operations Director Paul O'Connell.

Arizona Governor Janice K. Brewer signed a proclamation declaring July 13-19 as Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Week, a time to honor the men and women who monitor the activities of both adult and juvenile offenders who remain under the supervision of the State of Arizona and the courts.

To commemorate the event, four ADC Community Corrections Officers were chosen to attend the proclamation ceremony with Governor Brewer at the State Capitol. Director Ryan met with the officers before the proclamation signing and presented each officer with a Directors Medallion.

Community Corrections, Probation and Parole professionals work hard to ensure that offenders receive services and guidance in making the transition from incarceration to a productive life in the communities they reside.

The Department of Corrections is pleased to honor these men and women who face tremendous challenges in a dangerous profession every day.



Training and Badge Presentation for ADC OSC staff members

Article provided by By AS II Maureen Worman-Kerr



Front row seated, L-R: OSC Lenora Shannon / ASPC-Eyman, Administrative Secretary II Maureen Worman-Kerr, OSC Sabine Ludwig / ASPC-Douglas, OSC Joe Winckler / ASPC-Winslow and OSC Brent Herbert / ASPC-Safford. Back row standing, L-R: Fire & Life Safety Administrator Mike Foster, OSC Jeff Warren / ASPC-Tucson, OSC Brian Downen / ASPC-Lewis, OSC Kurt Hinkle / ASPC-Florence, OSC Nate Whitt / ASPC-Perryville/Phoenix, OSC Bill Mroczkowski / ASPC-Tucson and OSC Mike Wagner / ASPC-Yuma.

In late June, the Quarterly Occupational Safety Consultant (OSC) training-meeting was held in the Smurthwaite House at the Pioneer Cemetery. OSC's Ludwig, Shannon, Hinkle, Downen, Whitt, Herbert, Mroczkowski, Warren, Winckler, Wagner, as well as Admin. Assistant, Maureen Worman-Kerr and Administrator, Mike Foster attended. Industrial Hygienist, Dee Amen from ADOA Risk Management delivered training, "Building Indoor Air Quality," with a special emphasis on "Mold."

The OSC sustains an agency-wide culture of safety while advocating for the highest ethical and professional standards that protect the welfare of the staff, inmates and the public. The OSC provides consistent guidance, oversight, and enforcement of safety concerning work environments, conditions, and programs to ensure code compliance that is in accordance with the ADC policy and that also meets or exceeds local, state, and federal regulations. The organization members serve as consultants within the ADC performing specialized fire detection & protection and

life safety functions, inspections, investigations and training as well as providing oversight of mandatory workplace safety, loss prevention and environmental health programs.

Division Director, Mr. Michael Kearns, along with Engineering and Facilities Bureau Administrator Mr. Mike Landry, joined the group for a special badge presentation and oath swearing for all OSC's, as well as Mike Foster, the Fire & Life Safety Administrator.

A special highlight at the end of the meeting was a "Cold Water Challenge," in which Mike Foster was challenged to participate. Once Mike accepted, he challenged five other colleagues of past or present, by shouting out their names. Mike was then drenched with a huge bucket of ice cold water. Each named colleague has a time frame in which to accept and donate \$10 or pass on the challenge and donate \$100 to benefit the National Fallen Firefighters Fund.

Everyone learned much and had a great time!

Meet “Justice,” ACI’s New Colt

Article and photos provided by By Glen Davis, SVP Operations / ACI



On Thursday, May 22, staff arrived to discover a healthy looking little foal standing with mom in the pen. “Justice” has a star blaze on his forehead and one white sock on his left ankle just like mom.

We have a first at the Florence Complex where the ACI Wild Horse Inmate Program (WHIP) just added an extra member to the herd recently rounded up from Nevada. Meet our new foal born May 22, 2014.

In early May the six year old mare was placed in one of the round training pens and the area was prepared with straw, wood shavings for soft bedding and privacy fencing to help keep the expectant mom calm. ACI staff and the inmates assigned to the program watched her carefully for signs of stress and the progression of her labor.

This included keeping an eye on the moon and any barometric pressure changes in the weather... an old wives tale, but if you ask anyone with livestock, they

will say there’s a little something to it! On Thursday morning, they arrived to discover a healthy looking little foal standing with mom in the pen.

The little guy has a star blaze on his forehead and one white sock on his left ankle just like mom. He has started exploring a little but stays close to mom. Wild Horse Program staff hope to make him WHIP mascot.

The department staff was invited to submit name suggestions for this handsome foal and after some deep discussion, the committee chose the name “Justice” sent in by ACI General Manager Brian Radecki,.

As a bonus, the three remaining top name choices are going to be given to horses in the program that need names. They are...:

- **Doc** (or D.O.C.) submitted by: Sgt. Don Parker, East Unit; CO II Gail Delio, Central U n i t ; Deborah Webster, Globe Unit; Jerry Statler, Globe Unit, Physical Plant
- **Bandit** submitted by Sandra Walker, Globe Unit
- **Stir Crazy** (for those who didn't know the movie was filmed here at Florence Complex!) submitted by CO II Joseph O'Alloran, East Unit

“Justice” will be visiting the ACI Central Office every other week where he can trim the front lawn and, no doubt, endlessly distract the staff there and at the nearby businesses.

There will be updates about Justice in the newsletter so watch for them and follow his progress. And thank you again for helping create a little piece of history at Florence Complex.

New ACI arrivals

Article provided by William A. Foster, CLSSGB / ACI

The ACI Wild Horse and Burro (WHB) program recently received four shipments of 36 horses, bringing our inventory to just over 570 animals in the program.

The WHB staff have been working long hours preparing the facility and they are expected to receive hundreds of horses in the coming weeks.

ACI is proud to partner with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to provide this service as well as providing a successful and rewarding inmate work program for the inmates housed at ASPC-Florence North Unit.

Congratulations and a job well done to Randy Helm, Vickie Knowles, Shawn McKinley and Chance Gray, the hard working staff who run the WHB program.



ACI General Manager Brian Radecki supplied the name “Justice” to the new Colt. The Wild Horse Program staff hope to make Justice the WHIP mascot.

Fire Crew One Responds To Slide Fire

Article and photos provided by CO III Clifford Fewel / ASPC-Winslow



From left to right: CO II Simpson, Sgt. Righi, CO II Petersen make up Coronado Fire Crew 1, while, CO II Shirley, Sgt. Albert, CO II Lesueur are in charge of Coronado Fire Crew 2.

After a full day of thinning heavy brush, Coronado Fire Crew 1 Supervisors Sergeant Albert, CO II R. McIntyre and CO II E. LeSueur and their crew of 20 inmates were ready to return to Coronado Unit. Little did they know their work wasn't done yet. At 1645 on May 20, they received a call from the statewide fire crew coordinator directing them to report to the just-erupted Slide Fire in Oak Creek Canyon. "We headed back toward Complex," recalls Albert, "made proper notifications and headed west on I-40 to 89A and the Slide Fire."

Once in Oak Creek Canyon, Fire Crew 1 made camp at the Slide Rock parking lot and began protecting the fire line at the highway by snuffing and/or reporting any sparks or embers that crossed the roadway. "Fires are managed under the same Incident Command System we use at the prison," says Albert, who noted that his, McIntyre's and LeSueur's main job is security, maintaining accountability of all inmates at all times, and addressing any issues that go against policy. "We had no issues in this event," he said, noting that issues he has had in the past ranged from horseplay to finding a weapon in the woods. "That actually happened on a project," says Albert. "After they (the inmates) let us know they came across it we immediately sat the guys down away from the item, activated ICS and waited for law enforcement

to come and remove the threat."

As crews from around the state got the upper hand on the blaze and brought it under control, the Coronado supervisors and crew stayed on task rolling hoses, digging lines, monitoring hot spots and chipping brush until June 1st, when they were advised they could leave Oak Creek Canyon and head back to Coronado Unit, where they arrived tired but proud of the job they had done.

In a statement to the media, former Winslow Warden and ADC Director Charles Ryan said, "Inmate fire crews and their Corrections supervisors are dedicated and hardworking firefighters who perform a valuable service for Arizona. The state may experience a long and difficult wildfire season, and the Department of Corrections, as always, is prepared to respond."

To that end, a second crew of 15 inmates is currently in training under the watchful supervision of Sergeant Righi, CO II Peterson and CO II Simpson. "The crew performed extraordinarily well," says Albert. "There were homeowners and business owners who posted big signs saying 'thank you' for saving their homes and businesses. They called us heroes for what we did, which was doing what we were hired to do and keeping the fire from spreading."

Perryville Officer Receives Purple Heart

Article and photo provided by Allison Messerschmidt / ASPC-Perryville



CO II / Sgt. Donald May received the Purple Heart for wounds he suffered in April, 2007.

On July 13, 2014, Sergeant Donald May, who works as a CO II at ASPC-Perryville, received a Purple Heart from the Arizona National Guard. The Purple Heart is the oldest military award still given to U.S. military members today. It is a decoration which has been awarded in the name of the President of the United States to those who have sustained wounds or were mortally wounded during combat operations since April 5, 1917.

In August 2006, CO II May was deployed to Kuwait in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom with the 222nd Transportation Company of the Arizona National Guard. During

this deployment, Sgt. May was tasked with convoy operations and served as the Lead Vehicle Commander during many missions when supplies were delivered to Soldiers stationed throughout many Forward Operating Bases in Iraq.

In April 2007, during a night mission, and while Sgt. May was the Lead Vehicle Commander, his truck was struck by an improvised explosive device (IED) which ultimately destroyed the truck he was driving. During the incident, Sgt. May managed to maintain control of the truck and bring it to a stop which allowed him and a fellow Soldier to immediately exit the vehicle before it was destroyed. Sgt. May and the other Soldier were both wounded during the incident.

CO II May continues to serve with the Arizona National Guard and is presently assigned to the 850th Military Police Battalion as a staff sergeant.



**Special
Olympics
Arizona**



SAVE THE DATE FOR THE 8TH ANNUAL

**BREAKFAST
with
CHAMPIONS**

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 23, 2014

Registration 6:45 – 7:30am / Program 7:30 – 9:00

Arizona Biltmore, Frank Lloyd Wright Ballroom

2400 East Missouri Avenue, Phoenix, AZ 85016

Contact(s):

**Annie Bakemeier
Special Events Coordinator**

Aircraft crash training drill

Article and photo provided by AA III Vince Neil / ASPC-Tucson



As part of the exercise, ADC staff, along with Tucson Fire Department, respond to an airplane crash into ASPC-Tucson / Winchester housing units. Parts of planes were brought to help with the simulation. In the above photo, first responders rush to assist victims of the plane crash, played by TSU staff.

In June, ASPC-Tucson, in cooperation with Tucson Police, Tucson Fire Department, Tucson International Airport Fire Department, Pima County and many other first responders, conducted a large scale exercise in response to a simulated aircraft crash into Winchester housing units.

Major Josefowicz thought aircraft wreckage would better simulate and enhance the drill. Terry, with Aircraft Restoration and Marketing, allowed an inmate crew and a flatbed truck to load up some vintage aircraft parts to spread outside Winchester unit.

The drill went well. TSU staff played the victims. Tucson Fire set up triage areas to treat victims, and Tucson Police provided the security to ensure the curious stayed out and helped keep inmates in with our simulated 300 foot perimeter fence breach.

The Chase team and K9 staff were also on the trail quickly of two simulated escapees. The emergency operations center opened with DW Pacheco as IC.

By the end of the day, Winchester was saved and we all had some great practice that we hope to never need!



A triage area is set up near the simulated 300 foot perimeter fence breach of Manzanita Unit.



During the exercise, ADC staff worked side by side with Police and fire officials to make sure public safety and prison security was intact.

ADC Responders Recognized

Article and photo provided by ESA Erin Reese,

In May of this year, ASPC-Yuma/Cibola unit had a disturbance. Additional staff were sent from ASPC-Tucson, ASPC-Florence, ASPC-Eyman, ASPC-Douglas and ASPC-Perryville to assist TSU, SSU and K-9 for appropriate coverage.

Warden Laura Escapule, DW Edwin Jensen and ADW Felipe Solis presented plaques of appreciation for all the assistance and working as a team to accomplish the goal.



Yuma Thanks ASPC-Tucson



Yuma thanks ASPC-Florence and ASPC-Eyman



Yuma Thanks ASPC-Douglas



Yuma Thanks ASPC-Perryville

Mexico donates books to ADC

Article and photo provided by Communications Director Doug Nick

The government of Mexico has graciously donated more than 1,600 Spanish-language textbooks to the Department of Corrections.

These are now being distributed to our prison complexes throughout Arizona, where they will be made available in prison education libraries.

This donation goes beyond generosity. It addresses a fundamental need for this department, because books of this kind are an essential part of helping every inmate get an education.

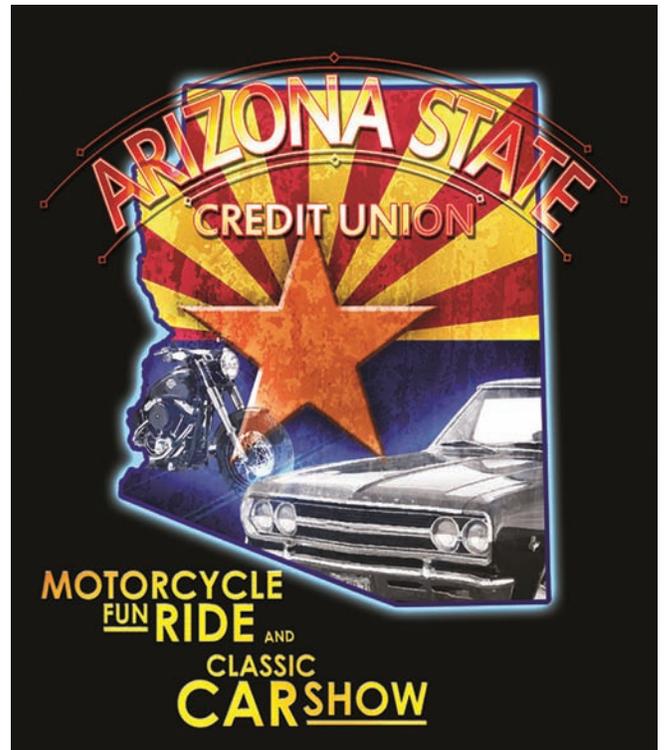
In a typical month, approximately 6,000 inmates are enrolled in some form of educational program such as functional literacy, career and technical education, special education or high school equivalency.

A significant portion of our inmates speak Spanish as their primary or only language, and it's important that they have the resources they need in order to fulfill their responsibility to get an education.

This donation represents the best kind of partnership between two countries because it meets a substantial need and it will get tangible results.



Ambassador Roberto Rodriguez Hernandez, Director Ryan and Felix Herrera Herrera at the book donation event



The Arizona Department of Transportation & the SECC will be hosting the motorcycle ride through the valley and a classic car show at the Arizona State Capitol to benefit the 100 Club of Arizona and the Ronald McDonald House Charities of Phoenix.

The motorcycle ride check-in begins at 7 a.m., with the ride departing at 8 a.m.

The motorcycle ride will begin at the Arizona State Credit Union, 2355 W. Pinnacle Peak Road in Phoenix and end at the Arizona State Capitol parking lot.

The classic car show check-in begins at 7 a.m., with the show opening to the public at 9 a.m.

The classic car show will be held at the Arizona State Capitol parking lot.

To register go to: <https://secc.az.gov/motocar>

9th Annual Bearcat Pull for Special Olympics
Sunday, September 21, 2014
Veteran's Memorial Park
3105 E. Fry Blvd.,
Sierra Vista, AZ

This year's challenge will involve Sierra Vista Police Department's 18,500 Lenco Bearcat.

Each team will be required to pull the apparatus 25 feet! Each team is allowed two pulls. The team that pulls the Bearcat in the fastest time in each category wins.

Early Registration:
\$20.00 per person.*

Contact: Officer Grady
(520) 452-7500

All of the proceeds of this event benefit Special Olympics and are 100% tax deductible.