

# KANE COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER

Volume 1 / Issue 1

October, 2017

## MEET THE SUPERINTENDENT

*An Aurora native, Michael Davis has worked with Court Services since 1994 when he started his career at the old Youth Home on Fabyan Parkway as a Youth Counselor. He spent 18 years as a Supervisor at the JJC and the last year as a Supervisor in the Elgin Probation office. Mr. Davis has extensive experience in the implementation and oversight of evidence based programming, including cognitive based interventions that have been shown to reduce recidivism, and he looks forward to continuing this effort at the JJC.*



*Michael Davis, Superintendent*

## A NOTE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT

Having worked at the Juvenile Justice Center for most of my adult life, I genuinely care about the people who work here and the clients we serve. I truly believe that cognitive-based programming and a best-practice approach will have the greatest impact on our residents. By teaching residents to identify negative self-thoughts, modeling/practicing desired outcomes and positive reinforcement, we hope to interrupt thinking patterns which can result in young people making unfortunate decisions. At the same time, we want to provide residents with opportunities for personal growth and expose them to new ideas and opportunities. We're all very proud of the work being done at our facility and want to share it with you. We'd also like to thank our community partners who donate time and materials, as many of our programs wouldn't be possible without them.

Thank you,

*Mike Davis*

Superintendent  
Kane County Juvenile Justice Center

## DID YOU KNOW...

That the Kane County Juvenile Justice Center has intergovernmental agreements with six (6) counties:

DeKalb, DuPage, Kendall, McHenry, Ogle and Stephenson Counties



## EDUCATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

CAREER FAIR – The Kane County Regional Office of Education (ROE) along with the JJC Education Program, held the third annual career fair for the residents. The fair emphasized exhibits that were interactive and engaging. Some of the job fields that were represented were: agriculture, bee keeping, plumbing, building trades, military, college vocational programs, hair styling, yoga, martial arts, Kane County Youth Services and the Urban League.

SUMMER ELECTIVE COURSES – To broaden the horizons of the residents, the Kane County ROE and Education Program, provided summer elective courses that included music, art and yoga, which were taught by highly qualified teachers.

ELGIN COMMUNITY COLLEGE (ECC) DUAL CREDIT COURSES – Through a collaborative effort with the ECC, the Kane County ROE and the JJC, three college-level dual credit courses were offered to qualified JJC students. The courses included College 101 Student Success, GSD 120 Exploring College Majors and Careers and GSD 160 Job Search Strategies.

## GUEST SPEAKERS

The JJC has hosted numerous guest speakers for the residents. Most recently was Rudy Ruettiger from the movie “Rudy”. The residents watched the movie the day before his arrival. Rudy spoke with the residents and also signed a copy of his book for each resident.

Other guest speakers include: Planned Parenthood, Open Door Clinic, Gateway Treatment Centers, Aurora Mayor Richard Irvin, Truancy Officers, motivational speakers and Quentin, a convicted felon who was released from prison and established his own business and was named Entrepreneur of the Year.



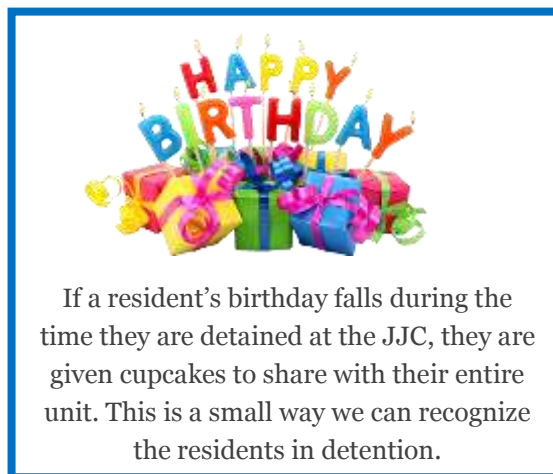
*Rudy Ruettiger*

## THERAPY DOG



*Fox Valley Therapy Dog Club handler Marv Kombrink with Harry, a standard English Poodle.*

The JJC has two therapy dogs that visit the residents once a week on Thursdays at the JJC. Any resident can request to see the dogs.



If a resident's birthday falls during the time they are detained at the JJC, they are given cupcakes to share with their entire unit. This is a small way we can recognize the residents in detention.

## PREA PAM

Pamela Ely, LCPC, has over 30 years of experience in the field of Criminal Justice/Child Abuse. She has dedicated her career to working with at-risk children, having worked as a Juvenile Probation Officer, Child Abuse Investigator and currently as the PREA Coordinator/Program Manager at the JJC. As our first PREA Coordinator, Ms. Ely has been developing and implementing the PREA policies and procedures aimed at assuring a safe environment for juveniles and reducing the risk of sexual assault in detention. In addition to being a Licensed Clinical Professional Counselor, she is an Adjunct Instructor at Aurora University.



*Pam Ely*

## PARTNERS IN PEACE AWARD

Congratulations to Amy Sierra, Assistant Superintendent, Pam Ely, PREA Coordinator/Program Manager and LaTanya Hill, Director of Juvenile Programming, for earning this distinctive award for providing outstanding service to victims of domestic violence and their children.



## DAY OF CARING

The JJC teachers taught a lesson during Health class on the importance of giving and helping others. The residents, teachers and youth counselors, worked together tying the pre-cut blankets together to donate to the victims of Hurricane Harvey and Hurricane Irma through the Red Cross. The residents also included short messages for the recipients.

## FLEX COURT



The JJC recently had a Flex Court multi-game court installed in the outdoor recreation area. The all-weather surface boosts shock absorption to reduce wear and tear on the body and radiates 50% less heat than a traditional court.



Skype is now available for parents with transportation barriers or other special circumstances. Please call Pam Ely at 630-762-2169 for more information.

## GARDEN CLUB PROGRAM

The Kane County Juvenile Justice Center (JJC) Garden Club Program began in June 2017. The program currently has 37 vegetable and fruit plants, 17 flower plants and 12 herbs. The JJC has allowed 23 residents to participate and expand their knowledge in gardening.

The residents, staff and community members contribute their time to maintain the plants in the garden. After completing an application, residents who are on Levels 2 or 3 of our Behavioral Management System, can participate in the Garden Club Program. Every day, members of the Garden Club wake up around 7:30 a.m. to go outside and water the plants. On Saturday, a staff member takes Garden Club members to water, prune and harvest any vegetables or fruits in the garden. On Mondays our volunteers, Ms. B and Ms. P come out to the JJC to educate the Garden Club members about horticulture. Residents are able to benefit from these volunteers by having hands-on learning experience, practicing new skills and partaking in new social interactions. The Garden Club members work as a team to help develop problem-solving strategies, which are important skills that the residents will use in society.



## JJC PSYCHOLOGIST



*Dr. Caryn Andrews*

Dr. Caryn Andrews has over 15 years of experience in the fields of Law Enforcement and Court Services. Additionally, she served in the Navy Reserves for eight (8) years, which consisted of two (2) consecutive tours overseas for Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom. As a sworn law enforcement officer for 12 years, she became passionate about educating first responders on mental health related issues, and responding to calls involving persons with mental illness. In 2010, she was the first police officer at her department to become a certified Crisis Intervention Team (CIT) member in Kane County. Dr. Andrews graduated in 2015 with a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology from the Illinois School of Professional Psychology. She is responsible for delivering psychological services to juveniles in the criminal justice system, as well as being responsible for the psychological safety of juveniles during their detention. Dr. Andrews also provides psychoeducation to both the residents and judicial staff. Training and workshop presentation topics range from LGBTQ+ juveniles in detention, empathy and compassion fatigue, psychotropic medications and common behavior and psychological-related issues among the residents.

