

Behind the Fence



JUNE 2020

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH



Congratulations to Personnel Clerk, Ginger Cordes for being TCC's Employee of the Month for June, 2020. Ms. Cordes has shown numerous ways in which she handles issues as they arise. From helping to straighten out banking issues for direct deposits, to learning how to fill out electronic leave slips with signatures, to answering countless questions. She is a team player and a great asset to Tipton Correctional Center.



Summer Solstice 2020: The First Day of Summer

What You Need to Know About the Longest Day of the Year.

In 2020, June solstice occurs on Saturday, June 20, marking the start of summer in the Northern Hemisphere.

WHEN IS THE SUMMER SOLSTICE?

In 2020, the June solstice is **Saturday, June 20, at 5:44 P.M. EDT**. This date marks the official beginning of summer in the Northern Hemisphere, occurring when Earth arrives at the point in its orbit where the North Pole is at its maximum tilt (about 23.5 degrees) toward the Sun, resulting in the longest day and shortest night of the calendar year. (By longest “day,” we mean the longest period of sunlight.) At the June solstice, the Northern Hemisphere receives sunlight at the most direct angle of the year.

Note: In the Southern Hemisphere, the June solstice marks the beginning of winter.

WHAT IS THE SUMMER SOLSTICE?

In the Northern Hemisphere, the **June solstice** (aka **summer solstice**) occurs when **the Sun reaches both its highest and northernmost points in the sky**. It marks the start of summer in the northern half of the globe. (In contrast, the June solstice in the Southern Hemisphere is when the Sun is at its lowest point in the sky, marking the start of winter.)

The word “solstice” comes from Latin *solstitium*—from *sol* (Sun) and *stitium* (still or stopped), reflecting the fact that on the solstice, the Sun appears to stop “moving” in the sky as it reaches its northern- or southernmost point (declination) for the year, as seen from Earth.

After the solstice, the Sun appears to reverse course and head back in the opposite direction. The motion referred to here is the apparent path of the Sun when one views its position in the sky at the same time each day, for example at local noon. Over the year, its path forms a sort of flattened figure eight, called an Analemma. Of course, the Sun itself is not moving (unless you consider its own orbit around the Milky Way galaxy); instead, this change in position in the sky that we on Earth notice is caused by the tilt of Earth’s axis as it orbits the Sun, as well as Earth’s elliptical, rather than circular, orbit.

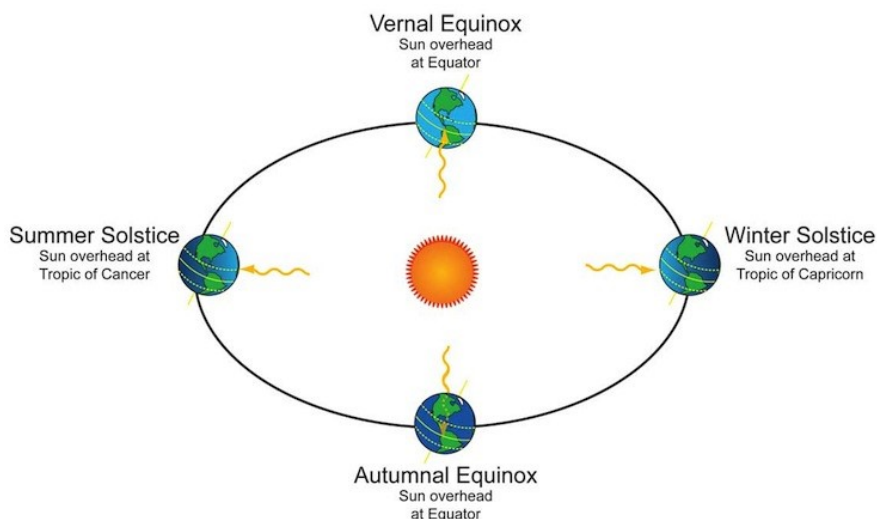
DOES THE SOLSTICE ALWAYS OCCUR ON THE SAME DAY?

The timing of the June solstice is not based on a specific calendar date or time; it all depends on when the Sun reaches its northernmost point from the equator. Therefore, the solstice won’t always occur on the same day. Currently, it shifts between June 20, 21, and 22.

THE YEAR’S LONGEST DAY

The Summer Solstice is the day with the longest period of sunlight. Notice how the Sun appears highest in the sky at the solstice; its rays strike Earth at a more direct angle, causing the efficient warming we call summer. Because the Sun is highest in the sky on this day, you’ll notice that your shadow (at local, or solar, noon, not clock-time noon) is the shortest that it will be all year. [Local noon is when the Sun crosses the local meridian (an imaginary line between the North and South poles) and is highest in the sky for the day.]

For those who live in the Southern Hemisphere, this is the shortest day of the year and marks the arrival of winter.

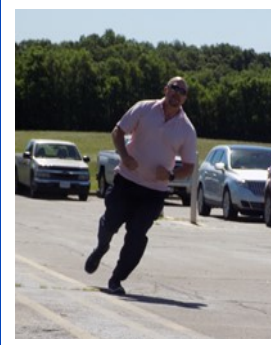
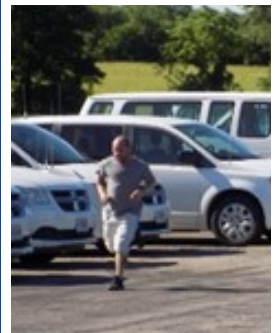
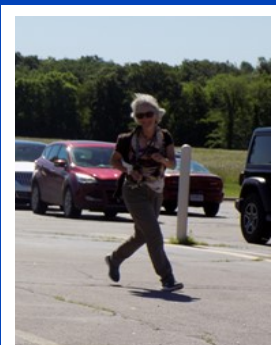




SOMO Virtual Torch Run 2020

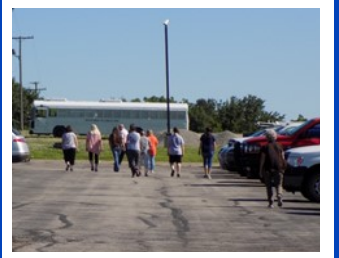
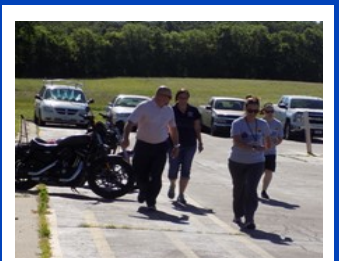
FROM FRONT LEFT: DARLEEN LONG, DEBBIE THIMMESCH, EMILY ANDERSON, ARYN RAMSEY, SHEILA JUSTIS, LISA VANLOO, SHERI KNIPP. BACK ROW: PAM HODGES, LAURA SANNING, BROCK VANLOO AND DENA BEMBOOM.

TCC'S VIRTUAL TORCH RUN



On this beautiful Thursday morning at TCC, there were 11 participants who walked/jogged/ran to support the 35th Annual Torch Run. Staff who participated walked for a total of one hour, which took place in the parking lot across the street.

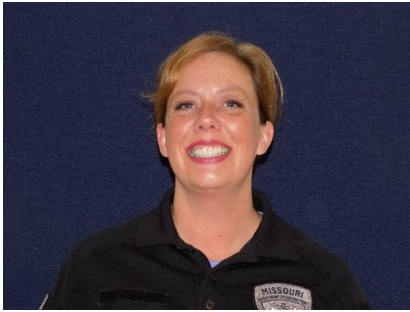
Due to COVID-19, the Torch Run which is typically reserved for law enforcement officers, was open for everyone.



Photos taken by OSA, Miranda Neel.

WELCOME!
TO THE TEAM!

TCC's New Employees



COI, Jennifer
Staggs



COI, Jennifer
Forsee



COI, Brock
Cooper



JOB WELL DONE!



On June 20, 2020, while COI Leonard Montes was packing property in housing unit 18, he discovered a homemade weapon. He found a razor blade attached to a comb in the offender's property. He issued a CDV and placed the weapon in a sharps container which he submitted to the evidence locker. He got a positive entry in his file and received the coin from Major Shewmaker.

Submitted by SGT D'Ann Cagle

At the end of the day, the goals are simple: safety and security.

Jodi Rell

A Cup and Coffee



A group of highly established alumni got together to visit their old university professor. The conversation among them soon turned into complaints about their stressful work and life. The professor went to his kitchen and returned with a large pot of coffee and an assortment of cups, including porcelain, plastic, glass, and crystal, some were plain-looking, some expensive and some exquisite. The professor told them to help themselves to the coffee.

After all the students had a cup of coffee in their hands, the professor said: "Did you notice all the nice looking cups are taken and only the plain inexpensive ones are left behind? It is normal for everyone to want the best for themselves, but that is the source of problems and stress in your life. The cup itself adds no quality to the coffee. In most of the cases, it's just more expensive and hides what we drink," the professor continued.

"What all of you really wanted was coffee, not the cup, but all of you consciously went for good looking expensive cups and then began eyeing each other's cups."

"Let's consider that life is the coffee and the jobs, houses, cars, things, money and position are the cups. The type of cup we have, does not define or change the quality of our lives."

Moral: Sometimes we fail to enjoy the coffee by concentrating only on the cup we have. Being happy doesn't mean everything around you is perfect. It means you've decided to see beyond the imperfections and find peace. And the peace lies within you, not in your career, jobs, or the houses you have.

THE
difference
BETWEEN A
workplace
AND A
nice place
TO WORK
IS THE
good people
WHO MAKE IT SO.



There is a new trend in our office; everyone is putting names on their food. I saw it today while I was eating a sandwich named Kevin.

My doctor told me that jogging could add years to my life. He was right—I feel ten years older already.

According to most studies, people's number one fear is public speaking. Number two is death. Death is number two. Does that sound right? This means to the average person, if you go to a funeral, you're better off in the casket than doing the eulogy.

I changed my password to "incorrect." So whenever I forget what it is, the computer will say, "Your password is incorrect".

Whatever you do always give 100%... Unless you are donating blood.

Thank you to everyone who came and donated blood on June 10th!



**American
Red Cross**

Thank you!



**Share life
Give blood**



Sponsor Group
Tipton Correctional Center

Date of Drive

June 10, 2020

21 Total Number of Donors	6 First Time Donors
15 Units Collected	45 Potential Number of Lives Saved

When you made the decision to host a blood drive, you helped change lives.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR DONATION...

Staff who came to donate blood:

Patty Stafford
Lisa Van Loo
Josh Harkins
Lyssa Turner
Dena Bemboom
Debbie Thimmesch
Aryn Ramsey
Sheri Knipp
Konnie Welty



Thank you to everyone who signed up to give blood - whether you were able to donate or not. Thank you also to those of you who volunteered to be back-ups. This wouldn't have been such a success without everyone! We had 21 presenting donors, and a total of 15 units collected. The next blood drive is scheduled for November 18th, 2020.



Teena Ekstam
Abby Clifford
Reginald Hathaway
Emily Greer
Sally Arredondo
Tim Lynn
Brock VanLoo
Tyler Tubbs
Shawn Watts
Dominique Morris
Venessa Davis
Tena Potts



YOUR KINDNESS IS APPRECIATED

Best Wishes

— On Your —

Retirement



Congratulations on your retirement on July 1st, Food Service Manager II, Marshall Galbreath.

Mr. Galbreath has been working with the DOC for over 25 years. He started working for the DOC in 1995 as a Cook II at the new Renz Correctional Center which was named MSU, (Minimum Security Unit) located behind Church Farm. He then promoted to Cook III at Vandalia Correctional Center in 1997, and then to his current position as FSMII at Tipton Correctional Center in 2000.

While being TCC's Food Service Manager, Galbreath has been known to have the cleanest kitchen in the state. This was pronounced by the state of Missouri Food Service Coordinator and also the Deputy Director at the time.

Galbreath was in the Army Active Duty from 1985-1994 as a 94 Bravo (Cook). He went to Basic Training at Ft. Leonard wood, MO and AIT at Ft. Lee VA. During his career, he was stationed in South Korea, Ft. Hood, SHAPE, Belgium and Ft. Riley.

Upon retirement, he plans on golfing, fishing, and just taking it easy.



Congratulations on your retirement on July 1st, COI Brad Lahmeyer.

Mr. Lahmeyer will be retiring after working with the DOC for 24 years. He started out working at JCCC in 1996, and then transferred to TCC in 1999 where he has worked ever since.

Mr. Lahmeyer worked as a utility officer for a great deal of his career until he bid on Vehicle Patrol where he worked for several years. He has currently been working in his current job bid, Key Issue/Armory for the past 5 years. Mr. Lahmeyer is one of a kind, as he is always professional, has a smile on his face, and is kind to everyone.

Lahmeyer is also retired with 20 years from the National Guard. He went to Basic Training at Ft. Leonard Wood, MO in 1999 and AIT at Ft. Gordon, GA. His MOS was a 29 Juliette (Radio and teletype repair). He later went to AIT again and finished out his career as Chaplain Assistant.

Upon retirement, he plans on traveling with his wife, and camping in their RV.

The Life and Death of Renz Prison

By Christine Jackson April 1, 2015

Heading toward Jefferson City on Highway 63, you can see the old water tower before any other part of the building. In the early morning, when the sun hasn't yet burned off the fields' mist, the imposing white block of cement sits eerily among the soybeans. The mist still lingers around busted out windows and creeping ivy. It clearly used to be something. It's exactly the kind of place an idiot in a horror movie would wander into, and it's not hard to see why some people think the building is haunted.



Photo taken March 23, 1986. Photo courtesy of the Columbia Missourian.

There aren't many remnants of what it used to be, no sign outside the building to explain the institutional 3-story amid the crops.

According to the [Missouri Department of Corrections](#), Renz and the surrounding farmland, nearly 500 acres, was sold for \$500,000 to the Smart family. With their purchase, the family obtained a building full of two things: history and asbestos.

The land expanded the Smart family's crop production, but the prison has become a source of frustration and sometimes loss. What once was one of Missouri's most productive facilities is now a roadside hazard and a magnet for trespassers.

Footnotes in the history books

The main building of Farm No. 2, the original prison name, was built in 1926. Inmates, who tended livestock and worked within the building's concrete walls, farmed the fertile floodplain surrounding the institution. Col. Paul V. Renz, a farm manager turned prison director who managed several work farms in the area, oversaw the land. Farm No. 2 and Church Farm, now the Central Missouri Correctional Center nine miles north-west of Farm No. 2, were the largest tracts under his direction.

Col. Renz received national recognition in the agricultural and correctional world for his management of the farms. He produced most of the food needed for the inmates on his farms. The *Macon Chronicle-Herald* described him in 1939 as, "A busy man who knows his business and does it like a farmer who mixes brains with industry and experimentation." Col. Renz died in May 1957 at the age of 65. In November of that year, the Department of Corrections renamed Farm No. 2 the Paul V. Renz Prison Farm in his honor.



"Renz Prison Farm Inmate Escapes by Taking Hike." - Kansas City Times headline

After that, Renz was rarely in the news, but if it was, it was because of escapes. And those barely made the local wire. One day in 1975, a 26-year-old prisoner named John E. Light, who was serving 10 years for armed robbery, simply walked off the property. The headline in the *Kansas City Times* read, "Renz Prison Farm Inmate Escapes by Taking Hike." The prison's most noteworthy escape wasn't by one of its own inmates. On April 23, 1967, a truck left the Missouri State Penitentiary headed toward Renz Prison. It held a shipment of bread and one inmate. Prisoner #00416 was hiding inside one of the boxes of bread, waiting to make his escape. He was serving a 20-year sentence for the robbery of two St. Louis grocery stores and another store in Alton, Illinois, as well as breaking parole. Prisoner #00416 was James Earl Ray, who, a little less than a year later, shot Martin Luther King Jr. at a hotel in Memphis.

Renz was a men's institution then. It wasn't until September 1975 that the prison went co-ed. Twenty-nine women transferred from the women's facility at [Tipton, Missouri](#), and the farm became the first state prison to house men and women together. At the time, Mark Steward of the Division of Corrections said the move was something that had to be done. Tipton was experiencing issues with violence and overcrowding. The day before the move, Tipton's superintendent, Carolyn Atkins, was stabbed by an inmate. "We had really exhausted all possibilities," Steward said. "This was our only alternative."

By March 1976, 33 women and 157 men were living at Renz. There was only one rule added when the women arrived: No physical contact between members of the opposite sex. Some men liked the change. Six months into it, one inmate told reporter Charlie Nye of the *Columbia Missourian*: "This is heaven. You ain't never gonna see another place like this." Others complained that Renz was "mellower" before the women came, and that guards were spending more time looking out for rule violations, especially the no-contact rule. "They should ship 'em all back," one 23-year-old inmate said. "We used to have more freedom before they came."



Ferrato writes in 'Living With the Enemy,' "Many (inmates) are mothers and even grandmothers who've left children behind."
Photo courtesy of Donna Ferrato

Sometimes, though, the rules were loosened. About once a month, prisoners were treated to a dance, and a live band played. A photo from 1976 shows inmates Cindy Pate and Rick Mims embracing during a dance. The caption says the two planned to be married upon their release. They did eventually marry, though Pate filed for divorce in 1991.

By 1990, Renz housed only women, and the prison made news again as a part of photojournalist [Donna Ferrato's](#) project documenting the domestic violence problem in America. Ferrato, who is based in New York, included the photographs in her book, *Living With The Enemy*. She ate, slept and talked with the women during her stay.

At the time, Missouri ranked the worst in the country for women who had killed their partners in response to domestic or child abuse, Ferrato says. Renz held many women who claimed to murder their husbands or boyfriends in self-defense, but they were convicted for 30 to 50 years without parole.

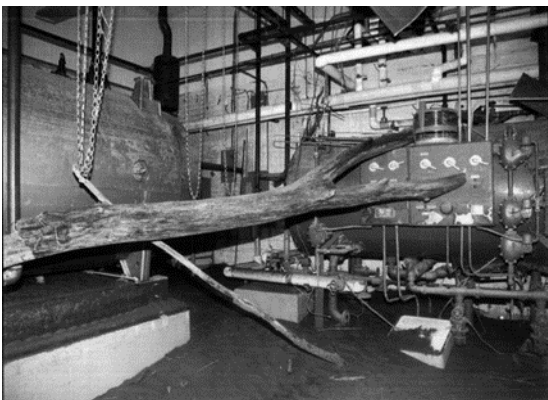
The women Ferrato captured in her photographs were among Renz's last inmates.

Rising Waters

The fall of 1992 was wet, and that winter was snowy. The spring brought storms, and by the time the summer thunderstorms came, the ground was saturated. The water of the Missouri River swelled, but the low-lying farmlands that surrounded Renz remained untouched by it. The river was high, but the water level had dropped. Goeke and the others in charge thought they had "dodged a bullet." Goeke felt comfortable heading up to Canada in June for an annual fishing trip with his father and brother.

When he returned, nothing seemed out of the ordinary. The weather was still wet, but not enough to be concerned about. Goeke left again, this time for a camping trip at the [Lake of the Ozarks](#) with his wife and daughters. They planned to stay a few days, but the rain began. The land around Renz became inundated with water from local creeks. The Missouri was still holding behind its levee, but the valves that allowed water to drain out of the fields couldn't do their job with high waters on both sides. The water, mud and silt began flowing into lower areas of the property and into the prison basement. In the beginning the staff could still drive in and out, but the rains kept coming. The building could handle up to 32 feet of water, but once it got close to that number, Goeke and other administrators began planning the evacuation.

"That whole next several days we were making plans to evacuate the offenders and try to get everything up out of the floodplain," Goeke says. The women were sent to other facilities such as Church Farm and the Chillicothe Correctional Center, located about two-and-a-half hours from Jefferson City. They slept in rows in the wings of the prisons and on the gymnasium floors.



The Flood of '93 caused too much damage for Renz to stay open. This tree was carried into the boiler room by the flood.
Photo courtesy of the Missouri State Archives

A group of around 20 staff members had returned to the prison with Goeke and then-director of the Division of Adult Institutions George Lombardi. They parked two semis on the highest ground they could and took flat-bottomed Jon boats back to the buildings, where they pulled into stoops to retrieve inmates' valuables. Back and forth from the trucks to the housing units over and over again they went, loading as many lockers as possible into the boats and onto the semis for storage.

When that was done, Goeke and other staff members pulled the boats into the stairs leading to the second floor of the prison. They tied up to the railing and moved medical equipment to the top floor. When everything that could be done had been done, they left Renz. The future of the staff, the offenders and the building was uncertain. While the prisoners stayed in their temporary homes, officers stationed themselves in an old school bus outside the Renz property for security.

For days the current was so swift that no one could get to the property. When the water finally settled down, Goeke, prison administrators and a few state legislators returned to Renz by boat to assess the damage. No one knew when or if the inmates would be returning to Renz.

Knocked down fences and caved-in walls of the maintenance buildings comprised some of the exterior damage. "Propane tanks, sides and roofs of buildings, some of the metal buildings — they were just gone," Goeke says. "I can still remember being in the boat with the director (of Missouri Department of Corrections) at the time, and he asked me a question, something to the effect of, 'Well, Mr. Goeke, when do you think you can get back in here?' I was as honest as I could be. I said, 'Director, I don't know if we'll ever be able to come back.'"

An Unlikely Demolition



Renz is situated on nearly 500 acres of farmland, currently owned by the Smart family.
Loren Elliott

Twenty-two years later, just before 8 a.m. a white pickup rolls into the parking lot, and a short tan man emerges from it. Josh Smart's family owns the prison, but he's not the one to talk to. "That would be Dad, or Grandma," he says, taking a slow drink from the cup in his hand.

Before long, a shiny black pickup turns in and parks in front of the office. A small man with a plastic John Deere mug steps down from the cab, and it's not hard to guess what Josh Smart will look like in a couple of decades. Greg Smart puts out a cigarette and walks inside the office, stopping to lean on the front counter. It will be a while before anyone else shows up this morning, and there's time to discuss Renz.

The Smarts knew the land and the buildings long before they owned them. The family had already been farming the land around Renz Prison for years before the '93 flood forced the prisoners out. The Smarts rented the land around it since the 1970's.

"Really it's the same, except where the actual complex was," Greg Smart says between sips from the giant mug. "It had a big chain-link fence around it, but the water tore that out in '93. Then they tore several buildings and barns down, the state did, when they were getting ready to sell it. It had, I think, three wells on it, which they capped with concrete. It was all self-contained."

That was 22 years ago, but 4 or 5 feet of mud still sit in the basement of the now-crumbling main building. The paint the state used to seal the walls is peeling now, and vandals have broken most of the windows. The rubber-roofed gymnasium behind the main building once held the Smart's farm equipment, but Greg Smart says they've long since given up on keeping anything of value there.



The endless corridors of Renz Prison are now filled with graffiti instead of inmates.
Loren Elliott

"Several law enforcement agencies use it for training, but the state has nothing to do with it," he says. "We just let 'em use it, and they do a little extra watching up there. We have a lot of trouble with thefts and break-ins. And it didn't matter what we did, locked it or boarded it up or whatever, people found a way to get in."

Then the question remains, why keep the building around at all? It's dangerous; there are holes in the upper floor and asbestos in the walls. A thick layer of mud keeps anyone from getting downstairs. There's broken glass inside. "People come in, and they can't stand it when they see a window intact," Greg Smart says. "They have to throw something through it."

The place could be knocked down and the extra five or six acres farmed, but Renz Prison won't be demolished anytime soon. To do so would require a contractor licensed to dispose of the hazardous materials inside, and though the owners are unwilling to say exactly how much a demolition would cost, Greg's mother, Peggy Smart, says it is something the family cannot afford.

"It's just an old building that everyone seems to be fascinated with." - Greg Smart, owner of Renz Prison

Now what?

The future of Renz Prison looks much the same as its past. The prison will stand in its field, and people will drive past, wondering, "What's that?" and making plans to revisit the spooky location armed with a camera or some friends. The best course of action, it seems, is to leave the building alone. Renz has been around for 89 years. It's now part of the landscape.

As long as it stands, people will continue to drive past and wonder about its history, not ever guessing the real story is more interesting than any horror tale.



Find out what our offenders at TCC are wanting to know...

Offender Council Meeting June 19, 2020

"Improving Lives for Safer Communities"

Q: Is it possible to have an offender from every housing unit take pictures?

A: No. RO III Rhorer has agreed to have a Recreation Officer take the pictures. We still have to figure out how we are going to take pictures for 15 house but once we do we will let you know.

Q: Can we wear shower shoes in the Recreation yard?

A: No. There was an error in the Institutional Rules and Regulations and that has been fixed and will be sent out. Closed toed shoes are required outside the housing units.

Q: Can we get a new Recreation schedule with additional Recreation time.

A: We have chosen to implement a new Recreation schedule that was submitted that will allow more time for everyone in the zone yards. There are a few minor changes that will need to be made. It should be implemented sometime this week.

Q: Can we get an advance notice when the bug guys spray guys are coming?

A: No. Everything needs to be moved out from the walls in your areas. If we announced it just before the pest control's arrival, we would be waiting on things to get moved.

Q: Can the large cracks in the sidewalk on the way to Recreation be fixed?

A: A temporary fix has been made. Eventually, it will need to be re-poured.

Q: Can we have more time to access the law library? We currently have to pick between Recreation and going to the law library.

A: That is not currently an option. You will have to make the choice of what is more important.

Q: Are we able to get another handball court since there is only one?

A: No. We are not able to put a court in every yard.

Q: We are unable to get floss loops and other items in canteen. It says it is available but we are unable to order it.

A: According to Canteen Manager, Langton, floss hoops have been ordered and expected to arrive at TCC on Jun 25, 2020. This is also the case with several other items. Understand that the delivery date depends on several variables such as the Canteen Warehouse, vendors, delivery services, etc.

Q: Since we are unable to have visits, can they finish setting up the visiting kiosks or can we have no contact visits?

A: We will be checking with Central Office on the kiosks, we too would like to have the install completed on them.

Q: The Wi-Fi has not been working in housing unit 16 for several weeks.

A: We have submitted a ticket on this issue.

Q: Wi-Fi is slow in all the housing units.

A: It is possible it is slow in the evening because everyone is on it. We will also have them check when they check the Wi-Fi for Housing Unit 16.

Q: Has there been any more information on the cable?

A: The cable company is coming next week and will check to see if there is anything they can do to help fix the issue.

Q: After Covid-19 stuff is over will there be another mass movement?

A: We don't plan on it, but there is always a possibility. Be advised that COVID-19 may be around for awhile.

Q: Will Workforce Development come back once we are able to open up again?

A: We will have to see what programs come back once we are allowed to reopen. We know that some funds have been cut which may not allow for certain programs to continue.

Q: Can we get different items to be sold as P4P fundraiser items? The turkey sausage would be good for those not allowed to eat pork items. Also, the sandwiches being sold are really small and cost more than expected.

A: Any requests/concerns regarding P4P should be sent to Case Manager Stafford since she is the P4P Coordinator.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

Beginning July 1, 2020 offenders being released will be allowed to have dress out clothing sent into the institution prior to release. However, due to limited space, items will only be accepted within the 30 days prior to the date of their release. Any items sent in outside the 30 days will be returned at the offender's expense. Offenders being released can still have their people provide dress-out clothing the day of their release. Once parked in the parking lot designated for pick up, an officer will make contact with them at which time the individual will identify who they are there to pick up and provide the dress out clothing to the officer.

Brock H. Van Loo, Warden



Sudoku

					3		8	5
		1		2				
			5		7			
		4				1		
	9							
5							7	3
		2		1				
				4				9

What happened in history during the month of June?

June 4, 1972 - An express train packed with more than 600 people rammed into a stalled train at full speed in the main station of Jessore, Bangladesh, killing 76 and injuring over 500 persons.

June 4, 1989 - The Chinese government ordered its troops to open fire on unarmed protesters in Tiananmen Square in Beijing. The protest had started on April 16 as about 1,000 students marched to mourn the death of Hu Yaobang, a pro-reform leader within the Chinese government. Despite government warnings, pro-reform and pro-democracy demonstrations continued for a month drawing ever-larger crowds of young people, eventually totaling over a million persons. On May 13, three thousand students began an eight-day hunger strike. The government imposed martial law on May 20 and brought in troops. On June 2, in their first clash with the People's Army, demonstrators turned back an advance of unarmed troops. However, in the pre-dawn hours of June 4, the People's Army, using tanks, machine-guns, clubs and tear gas, opened fire on the unarmed protesters. Armored personnel carriers then rolled into the square crushing students still sleeping in their tents. The Chinese government later claimed only 300 died in the attack. U.S. estimates put the toll at over 3,000. Following the massacre, over 1,600 demonstrators were rounded up and jailed, with 27 being executed.



June 5, 1968 - Robert F. Kennedy was shot and mortally wounded while leaving the Hotel Ambassador in Los Angeles. The shooting occurred after a celebration of Kennedy's victory in the California presidential primary. He died at 1:44 a.m., June 6, at age 42, leaving behind his wife Ethel and eleven children, the last one born after his death. President John F. Kennedy had named his brother and campaign manager, Robert Francis Kennedy, to the post of U.S. Attorney General in 1961. Robert served as the president's closest confidant. After the assassination of JFK, Robert remained as Attorney General until 1964, when he resigned to make a successful run for the U.S. Senate from New York. Allied with the plight of the poor and disadvantaged in America, he spoke out against racial discrimination, economic injustice and the Vietnam War. In March of 1968, he had announced his candidacy for the presidency. And with the win in California, appeared headed for the nomination.

June 6, 1872 - Pioneering feminist Susan B. Anthony was fined for voting in a presidential election at Rochester, New York. After voting rights had been granted to African American males by the 15th Amendment, she attempted to extend the same rights to women. She led a group of women that voted illegally, to test their status as citizens. She was arrested, tried and sentenced to pay \$100, which she refused. Following her death in 1906 after five decades of tireless work, the Democratic and Republican parties both endorsed women's right to vote. In August of 1920, the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution was finally ratified, allowing women to vote.

June 7, 1965 - The U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Connecticut law banning contraception. In *Griswold v. Connecticut*, the Supreme Court guaranteed the right to privacy, including freedom from government intrusion into matters of birth control.

June 13, 1966 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled (5-4) in the case of *Miranda v. Arizona* that an accused person must be apprised of certain rights before police questioning including the right to remain silent, the right to know that anything said can be used against the individual in court, and the right to have a defense attorney present during interrogation. American police officers now routinely read prisoners their 'Miranda' (constitutional) rights before questioning.

June 18, 1983 - Dr. Sally Ride, a 32-year-old physicist and pilot, became the first American woman in space, beginning a six-day mission aboard the space shuttle *Challenger*, launched from Cape Canaveral, Florida.

June 25, 1876 - General George A. Custer, leading 250 men, attacked an encampment of Sioux Indians near Little Bighorn River in Montana. Custer and his men were then attacked by 2000-4000 Indian braves. Only one scout and a single horse survived 'Custer's Last Stand' on the Little Bighorn Battlefield. News of the humiliating defeat infuriated Americans and led to all out war. Within a year, the Sioux Indians were a broken and defeated nation.

June 29, 1972 - The U.S. Supreme Court ruled (5-4) that capital punishment was a violation of the Eighth Amendment prohibiting "cruel and unusual punishment." The decision spared the lives of 600 individuals then sitting on death row. Four years later, in another ruling, the Court reversed itself and determined the death penalty was not cruel and unusual punishment. On October 4, 1976, the ban was lifted on the death penalty in cases involving murder.

