

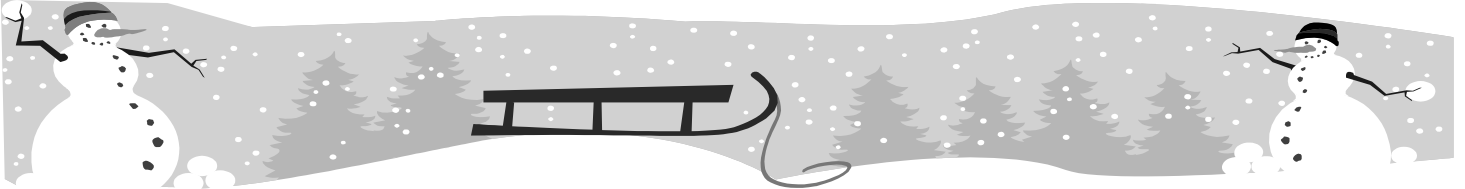


Strafford County Department of Corrections

FAMILY NEWSLETTER

December 2006

Published by Strafford County Jail Industries and
generously supported by a Justice Grant from the



Dear Readers,

It seems unbelievable that a year has passed since the first publication of our inmate and family newsletters. The Family Reception Center wishes to thank the New Hampshire Bar Foundation for assisting us with the publication of the Family Newsletter over the past year. We hope to continue the publication of both newsletters. We also wish to thank all of the inmates who supported the inmate newsletter by sharing their talents and activities with both the inmate population and the families. Most poems and other positive efforts of those incarcerated were published in both newsletters.

We want to remind families that all of the family newsletters published in 2006 can be found on the Strafford County Department of Corrections website at: www.co.strafford.nh.us/jail. When you get to that site you will see a link for *Family Reception Center* on the left side of the screen. Click there and you will find the links for all of the newsletters. Publications took place in February, April, June, August, October, and now our final 2006 December issue.

I am inviting those who wish to see both newsletters continue, to please contribute materials, whether it be poems, special activities, or suggestions for additions to our newsletters. I would love to see a comic strip (positive please) done by an inmate who really feels he/she has that talent to share. Perhaps sharing inspirational readings that have helped you might help others. Please become partners in making the newsletters as great as we can!

As we begin a New Year, "I have a Dream". I believe that the world can be a gentler, kinder place by the power of attitude and how we treat one another. I believe that all of you, whether you are an inmate, a family member, or a corrections staff person, know how it feels when someone speaks kindly and positively to you. If we all try it maybe it will be contagious! Begin by sharing in the upcoming newsletters the kind of material that may lift people up and bring a laugh or a smile or even a glimmer of hope.

We wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

Marilyn Allen



*“Be always at war with your vices, at peace with your neighbors,
and let each new year find you a better man.”*

~ Benjamin Franklin

Santa Comes to Family Reception Center

A great time was had by all as Santa spent the day at the Family Reception Center, even though he is busy working on toys for Christmas in just 8 days! Pictures were taken and teddy bears passed out to all the little children. Each child visiting also received a gift from Santa.



FRC Coordinator, Marilyn Allen, tells Santa that she's been a good girl all year. Do you think he believes her?



Teddy Bears donated by "Hugs Across America" were given to each child who visited



Thank You Santa!!



The Christmas Picture
By T.B.

As Christmas approached
I knew he was near.
Heard the shuffle of hooves
From seven magic reindeer.

I tried to stay clam
And stay in bed
But images of Santa
Danced in my head.

So I crept to the door
And opened it a crack.
As my eyes adjusted
I saw a giant red back.

The hat on his head
Had white fur as trim.
So I opened the door
Because I knew it was him.

He turned with a start
His cheeks a rosy red.
Handed me a gift

So I opened the gift
Expecting a nice toy
But inside was a picture
Of Santa and Daddy, when
He was a boy.



You're Not Alone By D. L.

Are you by yourself, do you feel alone?
Are you confused, and on your own?
Don't feel sad for someone cares.
That someone is the Lord so wipe your tears.
The Lord is good in every way.
He will listen when you're ready to say,
Lord I believe, and trust in thee.
Cleanse my soul and set me free.
Help me to do right not wrong,
Please give me strength to carry on.
I will try my very best
So I may see you when I rest.
Until that time please watch over me
And someday I'll walk thy path with thee.



Resources for Families

These resource agencies include both civil and some assistance with information as it pertains to criminal matters on a limited basis. Feel free to contact these various agencies if you feel that they could possibly be of any help what so ever. Remember there is no such thing as a dumb question!

NH Help Line: 800-852-3388, www.nhhelpline.org - info. & referral service for service agencies and homeless hot-line.

Lutheran Social Services of New England : www.lssne.org

NH Legal Assistance: www.nhla.org 800-562-3174, some criminal and civil assistance

Legal Advice and Referral Center: 800-639-5290 www.larcnh.org

NH Coalition Against Domestic Violence: 866-644-3574, www.nhcadv.org

NH Bar Association Lawyer Referral Services: 603-229-0002, www.nhbar.org

The Low Income Taxpayer Project: (603) 228-6028