

# TRANSITION TIMES

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

FIRST QUARTER 2011

## COOK-OFF WINNERS



Jennifer Wolfe and Leah Hemrick



The winning table

Jennifer Wolfe and Leah Hemrick from the Women's Center kitchen were chosen as winners of the most recent cooking competition held in March. A panel of five staff members judged the culinary competition.

Hemrick and Wolfe created a menu including appetizers of shrimp and pork egg rolls and pork and beef won tons; a mandarin-almond salad; entrees of cooked pork with noodles and sweet and sour pork; and a dessert of deep-fried eclairs.

Pork was the required ingredient for all three kitchens. Each set of cooks determined their own menu and could have no help from their staff cooks in the preparation of the menu items. The East Campus men came in second and the West Campus men came in third. Congratulations to all of the cooks for the great menus they prepared.

## STAFF NOTES

Anniversaries:

20-Year: **Roger Lesofski**, Jobs Developer

5-Year: **Bill McLean**, Assistant Maintenance, and **Micaela Stroop**, Aftercare Correctional Treatment Assistant and Urinalysis Supervisor/technician

1-Year: CO **Thomas Hillstrand** and CTS **Shannon Mahoney**

New employees for the quarter include CO's **Jeremiah Denton**, **Meghan Kelly**, **Lynn Lee**, **Aaron Newell**, **Glenn Restvedt** and Assistant Cook **Cathy Couch**.



Bill McLean



Roger Lesofski



Micaela Stroop

## VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT DIANE KLIEWER AND DEBBIE OLSON



Diane and Debbie first took some training in team mentoring in Billings to work with women coming out of prison. Then they began volunteering at the Women's Center here in Great Falls about six years ago, first as mentors and then as crafters. This dynamic duo found their niche conducting craft training every other Thursday evening. This includes beading, card-making, seasonal crafts, and anything else that is of interest to the women.

Christmas time includes a pizza party of renown for the residents.

Debbie Kliewer and Diane Olson Sheena Jarvey, Volunteer Coordinator noted, "We are so very pleased to have Diane and Debbie on our Pre-Release Volunteer Staff. They put a huge sparkle into Thursday night crafts. Diane and Debbie are committed and caring. They always give their very best. They are women of faith who put their faith into action. They believe the power to have a better life is fueled by faith and creativity along with a big dose of laughter and fun. They want each resident they work with to shine in life. Along with crafts they take the time to do individual mentoring, helping female residents find their stability and good future. Diane and Debbie are an inspiration. They have combined their talents into a powerful force of good will and good energy. Diane and Debbie have made Thursday night crafts a Pre-Release tradition that we hope will continue for many years. Our thanks to these two remarkable ladies."

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## CULINARY TRAINING



Culinary training continued during the quarter with two individuals presenting programs to food service workers and anyone else interested.

In January Mark McKee of Lowe and Associates (pictured left) gave a very informative presentation on french fries, sauces, and portion control.

In February Barbara Hardy of Job Service (pictured right with Food Service Manager Bruce Vallier) discussed the do's and don't's of job search and included

information on resumes, applications, job interviews, etc.





l to r: Robert Mavros, Nathan Brian, Jarrod Veilleux, Jessie Finley, Rosanne Rains, Jesse Mauhar, Jonathan Witham, Ricky Santos

### **BOOTERS AND YWCA EMPTY BOWLS**

Several booters helped recently with the YWCA Empty Bowls event. Each year the YWCA puts on this event to raise money for the domestic violence shelter and raise awareness of the correlation between poverty and domestic violence. For \$20 patrons receive a handmade pottery bowl and a soup lunch. The bowls are created by 22 area potters. Rosanne Rains, YWCA Board of Directors member and Membership Director of the Great Falls Area Chamber of Commerce, had this to say about the booters in a thank you letter to Transition Center Administrator Paul Cory: "I would like to tell you what a fine job your guys did for the YWCA Empty Bowls this year. They were courteous, helpful and proficient in their jobs....I was impressed with their ability to be helpful with not knowing anyone and never having done this before in a formal setting. What a wonderful thing to see in action." Ms. Rains rewarded the booters with brownies.

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### **INVESTMENT IN EXCELLENCE**

Another round of Investment in Excellence training conducted by Curt Swenson, Bureau Chief of the Training Division for the Department of Corrections, was held in January and February for 15 additional staff members.

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"You can have it all. You just can't have it all at once." ~ Oprah Winfrey

"No one can make you feel inferior without your consent." ~ Eleanor Roosevelt

## ***Transition Times***

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Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc., provides a cost-effective alternative to incarceration for offenders through a variety of community-based correctional treatment programs. Great Falls Pre-Release Services, Inc., is dedicated to ensuring public safety and trust through professional, quality services which facilitate personal growth through positive change and individual responsibility of assigned offenders.

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