

Happenings

Minnesota Community Corrections Association

What price peace? by Sonny Haas

On a bright spring day nine-year-old James Darby finished the letter he wrote to President Clinton, as part of a school class project, begging him to stop the violence in the city "or somebody might kill me." Ten days later, as he walked home from a Mother's Day picnic, James Darby was killed in a drive-by shooting.

I found the tiny article about James Darby by accident, hidden away in the middle pages of the July 14, St. Paul Press. James lived in New Orleans, which may be a relief for some readers. At least it wasn't here in our own city, village, or neighborhood. But let's not get too comfortable. This tragic incident gets played out in various forms every day, right in our own neighborhoods. James' story is the heartbreaking legacy too many children face each day of their lives.

It has long been documented that violent crimes are disproportionately committed by young people, but the tragic numbers of young victims are finally becoming clear. Being a kid today is dangerous to your health. A 13 year-old boy is shot in the stomach while standing outside a church in south Minneapolis. A Minneapolis teen is shot and killed when he confronts another teen he found riding his mother's stolen

bicycle. A St. Paul teen is shot and killed for his starter jacket. A 15 year-old Maple Grove boy shoots and kills a 14 year-old friend. The tragic litany goes on and on. In Minneapolis, homicide has become the leading cause of death for kids between the ages of 15 and 19, trading places with suicide.

In 1993, according to an article in the August 7 Minneapolis Tribune, Minneapolis children from ages 11 to 17 were three times as likely to be murdered, raped, or violently assaulted as adults 25 and older. During the first six months of this year, the rate of child victims of criminal sexual conduct in Ramsey County was more than twice that for adults. Nationally, 74.2 children per 1,000 are victims of violent crime.

Violence and death have become so tightly woven into the fabric of our culture, it is difficult for kids today to visualize anything else. The concept of "peace" is so abstract they do not conceive it. For them, violence is concrete. It is what they know, it is what they think about, it is what they live with, it is what they are afraid of — constantly.

Life for many children isn't about living, it's about staying alive. They struggle to maintain the first basic need of life — SURVIVAL. Most of them do not envision a future beyond today — for some, beyond the instant. When you ask a young person

how they are doing and they answer with a flippant "I'm alive," they are not joking. There is more sad truth in that statement than I would like to think.

As I began working on this article, I wanted to hear for myself what is like out "there." So I decided to see if I could talk to some of the kids who live the statistics. I phoned a friend who is the director of the school program at Katahdin, a day treatment and alternative school facility in Minneapolis for adolescents who are struggling in the "main stream." She arranged for me to meet with five kids, four boys and one girl, ranging in age from 15 to 17.

So much of the focus is always on violence as the issue, I wanted to get these kids' ideas on "peace" and what they think might be done to create more of it. It soon became obvious, no matter what I wanted, they weren't going to talk to me about peace until we mucked around with violence for awhile.

The common belief is that violence is pervasive and we will never be rid of it. "There will always be somebody out to do somebody. It's just the way it is." This bit of reality came from a 16 year-old in the group. There is an acute sense of pending doom with young people today. One never knows when it will be one's turn to die. Another 16 year-old put it this

way: "...it's like having a pit bull follow you and not knowing when he's going to bite you or not." Another added: "...it's not so bad. You sort of get used to it after awhile." Yeah right, meanwhile that old pit bull is there stalking, stiff-legged and growling.

I asked them when it starts, when do they start being afraid and learn to pay attention for their lives? The answer dropped like a rock: "grade school." Then, as an afterthought, someone added that for some kids it starts even younger.

I asked if any of them had been to the funerals of friends who had been killed. No one said anything for a few seconds. Then the only girl in the group, who had been almost completely silent until now, spoke up. She said that in the last couple of years she had been to two funerals of close friends who had been killed. She is 15. I asked her what it was like to bury your friends. Her face was a stoic mask, but there was a glint of deep pain and grief in her eyes. She just shrugged and said: "...you don't feel much. What's done is done, you just go on." I didn't know how to respond to this. I guess I had expected an explanation of the rage and frustration I would have felt. As I sat there struggling in my mind about what to say, I heard one of the other kids in the group say: "At least it's not you." I looked at him and said: "Is that what it's about? At least you're not the one who's dead?" No one said anything, but they all nodded.

I thought this might be a good time to shift the discussion to their ideas on "peace." I asked what peace meant to them and what they would do to make a more peaceful world. They were silent for a long time. No one could come up with anything. They got into a brief, half-hearted discussion around the idea that if drugs were legalized it would take the profit out of trafficking and things would get less violent. But, nobody had any hard thoughts on peace. It was as if they couldn't quite make

the shift in thinking about something positive.

My hour was up. I thanked them for their trust and sharing with me. As a parting thought I asked if they would think about what peace meant to them and write me a short paragraph and mail it. They said they would. I received a packet of hand-written notes a week later. I have included a few excerpts here. The statements are nameless but the feelings and world view come through loud and clear.

"...teach our children everything that's good when they're young..."

"...peace is where you ain't got to worry about getting jumped or shot..."

"Peace has no meaning to me. There is too much violence in this world...and there is no way to achieve it."

"...peace is a word that somebody made up."

"In order to make a more peaceful environment...More opportunities must be created for those individuals whose income is lower than required to live a comfortable life."

"I don't really know how to get peace because everybody doesn't get along..."

"I couldn't tell you what peace is about because I've never been there."

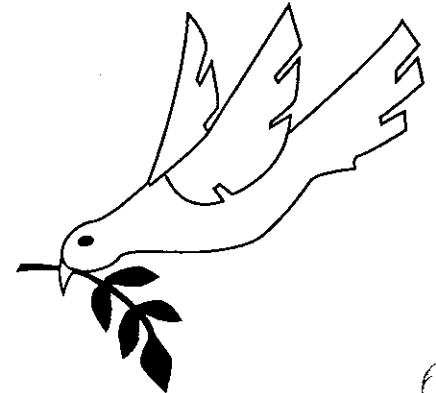
The voices in these statements are a wake-up call for all of us who care about our communities and the children who live in them.

The "crime bill" was filibustered by some politicians who wouldn't accept it because of the provisions written into the bill for funding of much needed prevention and intervention programs. They called it "pork." They would vote on it if these were taken out. Even if we were fortunate enough to be blessed with senators who possess the insight of third graders, we cannot rely on government alone to stop violence. We've tried that already and we can see what a good job they are doing. We all must take

responsibility for violence in our lives, in our families, and with our children. Violence is a community-wide problem and a personal problem.

I need to believe that peace is attainable and not just a pipe dream of my hopeful liberalism. Each one of us must take the problem of violence in our homes and communities seriously. To quote Minneapolis Mayor Sharon Sayles Belton: "Only when violence becomes everyone's problem will it become no one's problem."

We owe it to our children.



Not just another boring lecture

by Sue Eckmaahs

Come and be an integral part of corrections planning at the MCA Fall Institute, October 12, 13 & 14 in Duluth, by participating in the workshop, "Bring Our Corrections Vision for 2013 to Life." The session will take you through a condensed version of the process that 62 corrections professionals went through last fall when they created "Corrections in the Community: Vision 2013."

The seed for change has been planted and support for the vision is growing rapidly in professional associations and in the political arena. However, we need you as corrections professionals to understand and participate in the process and invest in it through day-to-day work and focus. It is with this level of commitment we will ultimately drive the system toward accomplishing the goals for "Vision 2013." Join us in Duluth!

MCCA Board of Directors

Sharen Southard
President
Parole & Victim Services
348-3974

Louise Wolfgramm
Vice President
AMICUS

Mary Scully-Whitaker
Secretary
MN Department of Corrections

Ricki Tuft
Treasurer
Ramsey Co. Comm. Corr.
292-7352

Bruce Clendenen
Reentry Services

William Guelker
MN Department of Corrections

Bob Hanson
Ramsey County

Susanne Lambert
Reentry Metro

David Loftness
Carver Co. Court Svcs.

Lucius Luther
Hennepin County

Deb Moses
Genesis II for Women

William Nelson
VOA

Mike Nichols
Parole & Victim Services

David Pettiford
IBCA

Kay Pranis
MN Citizen's Council

Rick Pung
180 Degrees, Inc.

Mary Scully-Whitaker
MN Department of Correction

Kris Clendenen
XCEL

President's Update



Sharen Southard

For several months the MCCA Board of Directors has been discussing the need for a formalized planning process for our organization. Some of the planning issues have centered around the best use of our volunteer and budget resources, a need for more input on legislative matters, reviewing and possibly restructuring services for our program sponsors, and the growth we have recently experienced in our membership. In short, there has been a great deal of activity in this organization over the last few years and we feel a need to check out where we are, and where we are headed.

To this end, I am pleased to announce that MCCA will be working with the Management Assistance Program for Nonprofits (MAP) over the next several months. MAP will be assisting us by providing management services from the business sector in the form of one or more consultants who will work with us to assure that we are effectively serving our program sponsors, individual members and the corrections community. This process is as exciting as it is necessary for us at this point in time. Given the new challenges in the field of corrections in Minnesota, we need to be in a position of leadership and more proactive than we have ever been in the past. If you have an interest in this planning process, contact me at (612) 348-

3974 and I will be happy to pass along your ideas to the Planning Steering Committee.

Turn Off The Violence: Impact on Elementary Schools

Editor's Note: The following article is being re-printed with permission of TOV newsletter, June 1994. Vol. 1, No. 4.

According to a recent newsletter from Turn Off The Violence, their concepts have been incorporated into the curriculum at a number of Minnesota schools. It is exciting to see how the different schools have creatively used the concepts to promote non-violence and peace issues.

•Luverne Elementary (Luverne, MN)

In January, the Luverne school had a school-wide celebration called Violence-Free Month. They advertised in the school newsletter and on local radio and cable TV stations. They had a contest to design T-shirts with nonviolent themes and slogans. The winner from each grade was awarded a mini-pizza from Pizza hut and their design was printed on a shirt for that grade level. Photos of the winners were published in the local paper.

Cards were printed up that said, "Peace begins with me; I promise to solve my conflicts without violence." Individual students and all the staff members signed each card. The month-long card display near the main office was captioned, "We Are the Peacemakers — Peace Begins With Us."

A Turn Off the Violence bucket was passed around the school, providing a chance for many students and staff to contribute to TOV.

•Little Mountain Elementary (Monticello, MN)

The Monticello police department's deputy officer Terry Dehmer talked to students about

Project DARE focusing on the effect of media distortions on law enforcement. The kids learned this couplet: "We don't punch or kick or bite. We don't play with kids who fight."

The school followed up with a seminar on conflict resolution, using high school peer helpers.

• Triton Dodge Center Elementary (Dodge Center, MN)

Violence Prevention Week at this school featured a different theme each day, including: Tolerance Day, Communication Day, Cooperation Day and Acts of Kindness Day. Buttons were distributed that sported the slogan: "Hands Are Not for Hitting."

• Northeast Middle School (Minneapolis, MN)

Northeast Middle School held its first TOV assembly to recognize 500 students with Peace Awards for exemplary behavior. These honored students were eligible for a drawing for 10 TOV T-shirts, which have become a status symbol at the school. Northeast has held a TOV event each month this school year, with TOV T-shirts drawing eligibility for students who followed the school rules and helped create a positive school climate.

Peace: Is it a fantasy?

by Kris Clendenen

When MCCA President Sharen Southard suggested that we get some of the juvenile offenders incarcerated at Red Wing to write essays about peace, I thought it was an interesting idea. I didn't expect to receive about 100 of the most powerful essays I have read in a long time.

The essays were more than just "interesting." They were powerful, creative, gut wrenching, thought provoking, profound, touching, and deeply honest. These young men took this assignment seriously, and the results of their work were as good as anything I would expect to see from a group of adults writing or

talking about the same topic. They struggled with the concept of peace, and whether or not it was really possible in our world today. They wrote of their own feelings, experiences, and ideas about peace. And, as mentioned in the editorial article of this newsletter, they couldn't write about peace without also writing about violence. (The title of this article was taken from one of the essays which was titled, "Peace is a Fantasy").

I wish that we could include all of the essays in their entirety. It is difficult to use just pieces of them, as they are all so compelling. However, due to the limitations of this issue, I will highlight some of the themes that emerged in many of the essays, and use as many quotes from the actual essays as possible. The quotes are unedited, and uncorrected by me; I found them to be more powerful in their original form.

The first theme that obviously emerged in some form in every essay was whether or not peace was really possible — and if so, what it would take to make it happen. Despite feelings that truly having peace in our world would be very difficult, most of the writers said that they thought it was possible. Some thought it had to start with individuals, others with communities, and still others with the world at large. Some subscribed to the "Noah's Ark" theory; that the only way to have peace is to pick a few good people, and kill off all the rest of the world and start over. Those who didn't believe peace was possible cited that violence is too widespread, and that there is too easy access to guns. They also stated their beliefs that greed and the lack of concern for others stood in the way of ever really having peace.

"Peace will never become a reality because it would be too hard to achieve. It would need cooperation from everybody, and I'm afraid everybody isn't willing to cooperate. I think some people

are scared of change and therefore prefer to live the way they live. Maybe they even like it."

"I believe that peace can only be achieved by everyone as a whole. To do such, it starts with the individual, then as he or she has a peaceful state of mind, he or she can give what he or she has to others in hopes of changing their views and feelings."

"Peace will not just come because we say we want it to come. People have to be courageous and speak out about what is denying us our peace. If you see violence occurring and you do nothing to try and stop it, then you are in no position to complain about it."

"I feel there will never be peace in the community. Some of the younger generation like living the thuggish life. There will always be gangbanging. People will always carry around guns for protection and to hurt other people."

"Peace is love and harmony in schools, parks, and communities throughout the world. Peace is children of many races together, united without racism. Peace is giving your time to help others less fortunate than ourselves. Peace is making things right, instead of making them wrong. Peace is bringing communities and neighborhoods together, working out hatred and madness between our neighbors.

"I feel peace is possible, and the only way I can help out is to come to peace with myself and then do my best to help my community come to peace with itself."

"Peace is something that just won't happen in this world. You'll always have somebody fighting with someone else. I feel no matter how hard we try there will not be peace."

"Some people see peace as freedom from fear. There will always be fear of something in every single person. A lot of people don't feel safe sitting on their front steps, and if you can't feel safe at home you can't feel safe anywhere."

"I think that in order to have peace on every city block, we would have to blow up the world and start time all over again."

"There is a way we could be sure that everyone upheld peace, and that would be to kill everyone off and let god recreate a whole new world, and cross our fingers that Adam and Eve don't make the same mistake twice."

"I believe life will never be peaceful again. It will only get worse and I would bet my life on it. We learn from the generation before us and each generation is getting worse. I don't believe there is a way to stop it except to end mankind."

"Peace only comes in fairy tales and TV shows."

The second major theme that emerged was that gangs, drugs, and money were the biggest roadblocks to peace. The majority of essays talked about these areas, and how difficult a problem it is to overcome.

"Gangs are just ruining peoples lives and families. People in gangs like it because of the money and drugs. Drugs are ruining the neighborhoods for the innocent people who live in them."

"One thing that I think is if all the gangs weren't around the crime rate would decrease. There are a lot of people out there that would like to join gangs and for people that want to join are going to have to do something like steal a car, and do a drive by shooting just to join a gang. The only things gangs do is cause violence."

"Gangs have alot to do with peace too. Some gang members want out of gangs, but their gangs are like family to them. Others are scared that their gang could get mad and hurt them so they stay with them."

"My neighborhood is pretty rough because of all the keg parties and the drugs and alcohol and guns, but mostly parties. My hood also has a little gang only one or two but I think they need to quit trying to prove who is tougher."

"Another problem is drugs and alcohol. I feel kids aren't educated enough about them. Sure, they hear that they're bad and not to do them, but they don't know whats bad about them except that they're harmful to your body. They need to know how they affect a person emotionally, mentally, and how they change your outlook on life. Drugs have done this to me without me even realizing it."

"There are gangs that will shoot a kid if he has a wrong colored rag. Drugs play a big role in fighting or even killing."

"The biggest problem against peace is gangs because they kill, supply drugs, and hurt people over what. Not hatred, just over different colors. They do 30 years in prison over colors!"

"You have a war going on out there whether you know it or not. The Black on Black crime is bad. Young men are killing each other for a territory and colors. You have the Bloods, Crips, VL, GD. All of those I just named off are at war."

"Peace could start at the coasts. Stopping drug and gun trafficking would stop some of the biggest problems in the country. There would be fewer drugs and guns on the streets of America."

"Guns around the world are getting around like candy bars. People shoot innocent by-standers which hurts the innocent by-standers family and friends. I got real hurt when my brother got shot and killed over nothing at all. I don't think people should be scared to walk down the streets late at night. People that carry guns should take a strong look at how they're hurting others. Just because they want to have sex, money, drugs, jewelry, or because they dislike somebody, don't mean people should go out there and get hurt."

"We must try to enforce the laws so we can keep our neighborhoods clean and safe for our kids to walk the street without a drug addict trying to steal their backpack to sell for drugs."

"The state should make more community clubs and programs for teenage youths. Also the government should help adults out on finding nice paying jobs and help them with being a caring parent."

"I feel that Black on Black crimes are wrong. Killing each other is not the way. Blacks need to come together as one. We need to 'love thy Black brother and sisters.' Help your brother, don't hurt your brother. If you don't love your brother then you don't really love yourself."

"I think people need more jobs and more schooling and the kids who are coming up now need to be taught better."

"What I think could be done is that all the people in one town should get together and start to talk about ways that can get (gangs and drugs) off the street. Black and White people need to come together and stop hating each other that would be better."

"In order for there to be peace there has to be a sense of unity, and belonging in the community. People need to get involved in community related things. There also needs to be more programs for young people."

"People should think about what they are doing to the community and the people who live there before they act like starving animals and tear it all apart."

"They should have teachers teach kids at an early age how to relate with others and how to develop good thinking skills. Maybe even have classes for parents to help them raise their kids and how to follow through on discipline. I think they should really work on kids and help them to change the world, and show them things they can do when they have problems instead of getting drunk or high and hurting themselves and others."

Finally, in expressing their personal experiences or wishes about peace, the most poignant thoughts I read were these:

"My own vision of peace is to live the way that the Native Americans lived before the Europeans came. I can see myself living back then on the open prairie with the rest of my tribe. I also see myself going on great buffalo hunts and making decorative clothing. This is my vision of peace."

"My life has been a hard one to live. I sit in a correctional facility and I know this is peace. I don't have to worry about getting shot by enemies...Today I can breathe fresh air, kick back, and relax. This facility has a lot of people who can relate to me...Sitting here in Red Wing is peace and not a difficult life. I used to wonder when the next jealous man would take me under. Now I worry about when the next man gets paroled and takes care of business to stay out. I

been here for five months and they were the most peaceful since I became a teenager in Mpls."

There were many other thoughts shared in these essays; too many to try to share in the limits of this article. On behalf of MCCA, I would like to sincerely thank all of the young adults at the Red Wing Correctional Facility who took the time to write these powerful essays. If possible, we will try to do a follow-up article in the next issue of Happenings, so that we can share even more of their thoughts and ideas from these essays. The authors of these essays did have a variety of suggestions for how we can try to stop the violence and obtain peace — even in limited ways. I found the themes of prevention, as well as ideas for solutions, to be very creative, and very much in line with recent discussions that have taken place at MCCA events. See if you can see that difference between their ideas, and the ones discussed by professionals over the years.

"In order to make this earth peaceful, I think the state would have to get more employment so people wouldn't have to sell drugs. I think another way to get peace is to try to respect gang members like they're regular humans instead of always trying to look at them as bad people or criminals. I think people should try to look at them as people who got off on the wrong track and never had a positive role model in their family life."

"Teaching our children to love and cherish will give a headstart on life. Taking care of elders instead of stealing from them will give a good ending to some people's lives. Children must be taught not to be racist, to kill, and to lie. If we do not teach our children to do all of these things, they will not be performing those acts."

"Adults need to be taught that money and power aren't everything. Those two items produce a lot of hatred in the world."

"Having peace in your family will show the younger generation how to treat others with respect."

"People need to start trying to understand each other a whole lot more. If we took the time to understand each other, we'd know and respect that the next man isn't doing anything but trying just as hard as you make it."

"In order for us to be successful, everyone needs to pull together and try to make our community a better place to live or else your children are going to come into a world of hate and violence."

I believe to achieve peace five of the many things that we need to work on are: communication, compensation, acceptance, swallowing pride, and perseverance."

Working from the heart

by Sharen Southard

Assistant Hennepin County Attorney, Don Johnson, is volunteering at the Hennepin County Home School to assist some of the youth he has prosecuted and sent there. Mr. Johnson, a former youth worker in New York City, has over 17 years of legal experience and has been with Hennepin County for seven years. He has recently been disturbed by the number of children of color who are involved in the system. He wanted to volunteer in a position where youth could see him as a role model. While visiting the County Home School, he inquired about volunteering, and discovered there was a legal education curriculum he could plug into along with Minneapolis Police Officer, Jim

Kaju. Don sees a need for us to "...define ourselves as part of the community these kids are in" instead of separating ourselves and then "doing to them..."

For the last two years, Don has been working with kids at the Home School on several issues: What it is like to be a victim, Attitudes toward women, and Violence. After a showing of the play, "Gunplay," a discussion on violence led to creating a list of friends and/or relatives who had been shot. The youth identified about 65 or 70 people under the age of 18 they had known who are now dead.

In addition to role modeling, Don is working with kids on creating ways of "peaceful resolution." He says, "I haven't met a kid who didn't want peace. If you get a kid at the right moment...every child is going to talk about peace. These kids are driven by fear..."

The Initiative by Cathy Smith

There are not many people I have come in contact with who are passionate about what they are doing. Sure, there are areas of people's jobs they feel excited about — or particular clients that are interesting — but to feel passionate about our jobs as a whole is a rare occurrence. Don Gault feels passionate about what he is doing. What he is doing is working in Public Health with the Initiative for Violence Free Families and Communities in Ramsey County. As Co-director of Community Health Development, he works with the various action teams that make up the Initiative to inspire and facilitate their goal of preventing violence.

When I met with Don Gault to discuss the Initiative, he apologized for his intensity and went to explain he had just finished the preliminary arrangements in signing up October Project to work with the Initiative. October Project is a

musical group who get plenty of air time on the Cities 97 and other "progressive" radio stations. Their lyrics tend to be about real life issues, specifically directed towards children. Don explained how he had heard The October Project on the radio in his car and became enthralled with the music. Don invited October Project to do some work with the Initiative, and they said yes! Don not only got October Project to commit to doing work for the Initiative, he also convinced several other groups in the Twin Cities, among them Channel 2, to help make the October Project's contributions work.

The October Project has agreed to produce a music video helping to underscore the Initiative's goal of preventing violence. The song they are choosing to use for the video, entitled "Eyes of Mercy," was written for the children in Bosnia. The October Project has also agreed to a concert to coincide with the kick-off of the "No Violence on Campus" campaign aimed at stopping violence on college campuses. The October Project is also producing public service messages set to music to be played on college campus monitors in conjunction with the "No Violence on Campus" campaign. Finally they are simulcasting an Ending the Violence Concert next spring on PBS.

The Peace Initiative is a collaborative, community approach committed to ending family violence. Currently, there are 11 teams: Child Abuse Prevention Team, Strong Hearts of the Circle, Workplace Action Team, Education Action Team, Neighborhood Anti-Violence, Inter-Religious Task Force, Media Action Team, Gun Violence Action Team, Community Resource Exchange, Legislative Action Team, and Intervention Action Team.

Each action team is different in terms of goals, area of concern, focus within the metro area, and

Newsletter Committee

Kris Clendenen
EXCEL

(612) 659-9166

Sonny Haas

Project Remand

(612) 298-4932

Lucius Luther

Family Court Services

(612) 348-3819

Mary Malone

Reentry Metro

(612) 644-1951

Mia Olson

Katahdin

(612) 872-4701

Kay Pranis

MN DOC

(612) 642-0329

Cathy Smith

Project Remand

(612) 298-4932

The members of the Happenings Newsletter Committee welcome your suggestions and comments. Please call any of the above members with your ideas.

Thank you

"Articles in the Happenings do not necessarily reflect the opinion of MCCA's Board of Directors."

productivity. Mr. Gault emphasized that Ramsey County's role is not to "lead" these action groups but to facilitate their work and keep them focused. There are over 300 people involved with the Initiative, each involved with forums and projects within their Action Team. The Media Action Team has taken primary responsibility for The October Project and will handle the press conferences and media involvement as a group. The Media Action Team is focusing on reaching 18 - 24 year-olds throughout the Twin Cities in an effort to decrease violence on college campuses and to assist

them in modeling positive, non-violent behaviors to children they come in contact with.

Another example of efforts on the part of the Education Action Team surrounds the Safe Team showing on Channel 9 during the after school cartoons. The Safe Team are six new heroes who model conflict resolution skills focusing on negotiation and respect. They are playing in short public-service-type announcements during the times when children are prone to watching TV. For more information or to volunteer your services, contact Don Gault at (612)266-2404.

Upcoming events

The Minnesota Corrections Association (MCA) 61st Annual Fall Institute (Fall Conference) is headed to the shores of Lake Superior. On October 12, 13, and 14 1994, Duluth will host this year's Institute called "Northern Exposure" at the impressive Duluth Entertainment and Convention Center (DECC). Along with at least 56 extended training opportunities (ETOs) and workshops, there will be several outstanding speakers. Scheduled keynote speakers include *Janet Reno*, U.S. Attorney General; *Sam Cook*, humorist and publisher; and

Don Tubesing, motivational speaker. The Institute will culminate on Friday morning with an engaging panel discussion on the decriminalization of drugs.

With an abundance of space at the DECC, the Institute will have a wide variety of training opportunities for community, institution, and field professionals. Topics include Teaching and Promoting Violence, Automated Reporting, Genetics and Implications for Corrections, Relapse Treatment in a Jail Setting, Judicial Racial Bias, and Media Slanting. For registration materials, contact Jill Carlson at (612) 864-5591.

Minnesota Community Corrections Association
650 Marshall Avenue
St. Paul, MN 55104

NonProfit Org. U.S. Postage PAID Permit No. 1994 Mpls, MN

Fisher, Dale
Hennepin County
1900 Chicago Ave. So.
Mpls. MN 55404