

# The Courterly

## Adult Probation Attacks Youth Violence

*Youth Violence Reduction Partners & New Ideas Form Global Approach*



**Civil Employee of the Year!** Claire Kelly is surprised and very happy as she wins Civil Section Employee of the Year at the Annual Holiday Party.

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**Special points of interest:**

- YVRP Works to Prevent Violence
- READS Volunteers Giving Their Time and Attention
- Holiday Scenes

The last time the Youth Violence Reduction Partnership (YVRP) appeared here, the story concentrated on the contributions of the Juvenile Probation Officers who were working hard to stem the violence on the streets of Philadelphia. This article provides a glance at their counterparts from the Adult Probation and Parole Department (APPD). You'll recall that the "partnership" in YVRP is two-fold. First, Probation Officers partner with employees and representatives from justice stakeholder agencies including the District Attorney's Office, the Philadelphia Anti-Drug Anti-Violence Network (PAAN), the Police Department and 10 other agencies. Second, the young people on probation – those between 14

and 24 who have been identified as most at risk to kill or be killed – are perhaps the most important partners in the relationship. They

are called the Youth Partners. It's those partners who are the subject of all the effort — a great deal of (See APPD on page 5)



**West 5 (12th District) YVRP Officers** Front Row (left to right): Dana King, Lutando Hamilton, Kinshasa Rodgers; Back Row: Leonard Ford, Michael Gagliardi, Frances Harrison

## READS Volunteers Enjoy Helping Others

Invariably, the faces in room 380 City Hall on Wednesday at noon are smiling. Not just some of them, ALL of them. While the young students enjoy polishing their reading skills, they are also very obviously happy that caring FJD employees are devoting their time and effort for the students benefit. Just as apparent however, is the fact that the volunteers are enjoying a rewarding experience working with eager learners and probably learning a lot themselves.



Laura Paone and her reading buddy pause for a photo



**E-A-G-L-E-S**  
**Banner Hung on City Hall**  
(For size, see workman on bottom right)



## READS Program: Employees Volunteer to Help Others, Again



With the exception of the picture at top right of the opposite page, all photos are of FJD READS Volunteers involved with the City Hall program led by **Deputy Prothonotary Bonnie O'Kane**. Another READS program meets at the CJC, and that is led by **Carey Widman**. While the children with whom the volunteers work are surely learning and broadening their horizons, the volunteers also report that they themselves are learning a lot too. The right-hand photo on the top row of the opposite page is of the teacher Mrs. Jordan and one of her students.



## Volunteers, Children Both Gain Knowledge & Understanding

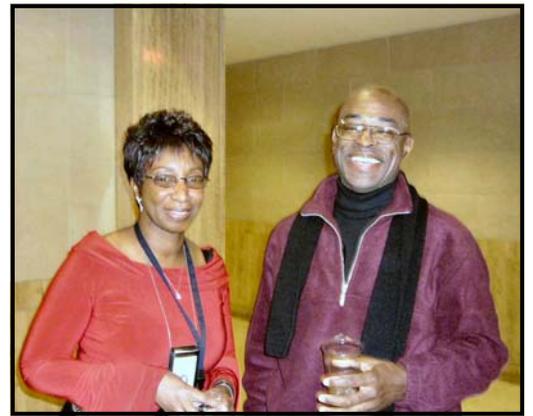


**READS Volunteers (alphabetical order):** Christine Adair, Lestine Banks, Lea Bryant, Donna Candelora, Margie Canterino, Jaqueline Courtney, Esther Dalturis, Linda Williams, Charles Pelletreau, Fran DeMuro, Maryalice Devlin, Anna Marie Gibson, Winnie Gilmore, Robin Lowe, Jacqueline Mansfield, Norma McNeil, Carla O'Shea, Laura Paone, Lori Perez, Patricia Roa-Torriero, Lillian Ryant-Davis, Gretchen Schmidt, Darlene Servance, Lee Swiacki, Desiree Vincent, Kristin Wojnar, Reneé Washington-Myrick, Sara Witmayer, Marilyn Young



## Family Court Holiday Photos

On December 8, 2006, the Annual Family Court Holiday Celebration was held in the rotunda of Family Court Building at 1802 Vine Street. Following the tree lighting ceremony, refreshments and good times were had by all.





## APPD

*(Continued from page 1)*

effort.

For this segment of YVRP coverage, I first met with four APPD Supervisors who provided a lot of detailed background on the theory and practice of the YVRP operations. They reiterated the protocol of intensive supervision with targeted nighttime visits to homes, and daytime visits to schools, jobs, and other places where the young people congregate. The targeted nighttime visits by POs include police officers who accompany them for greater security and to help cultivate and maintain a positive relationship in the neighborhoods. The original neighborhoods were located in two police districts: the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 25<sup>th</sup> Districts. To work well in those areas, the POs initially chosen for YVRP had to have good people skills, and a good knowledge of the Spanish culture. The program has expanded to include four areas: the 24<sup>th</sup>/25<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, and 22<sup>nd</sup> Police Districts. Each has six POs and one supervisor.

There are benchmarks established for the numbers of visits that POs are supposed to conduct in order to accomplish their real task: through guidance and counseling, the POs, PAAN Streetworkers, and Youth Partners work toward the “establishment and support of positive goals and the removal of barriers to such goals, starting with substance abuse, illiteracy, and unemployment.” The benchmarks for each month require the POs to have four successful night visits. The word “successful” is emphasized because four successful face-to-face contacts with probationers may require 10 to 20 attempts by the POs. The Probation Officers must make at least 8 attempts to visit the home every month.

Aside from the four successful nighttime home contacts, probationers should be seen in the office at

least twice, in the “field” (neighborhood, job, etc.) twice, and the POs should have 2 collateral visits with others involved with the case each month. It should be remembered that the people on probation are moving targets for the POs attentions. Each YVRP PO should have a caseload of 25 people on probation (regular probation caseloads run up to 150 per officer). But with the YVRP program calling for 10 contacts per month, that’s 250 sessions with probationers and others. It also means that if POs are making 10 to 20 visits to accomplish just the nighttime visits alone, that’s a possible 500 visits to meet that benchmark in itself. Even the minimum of 8 attempts translates to 200 visits. This is intensive supervision indeed. PAAN Streetworkers must see the Youth Partners 16 times per month as part of the cooperative effort.

It’s also a lot of information and statistics to compile into usable format. The actual information, not just the math, is shared with the YVRP stakeholders in periodic meetings. These begin at a level

where POs report on each person on their caseload during weekly operations command (OPSCOM) meetings. At one of the weekly OBSCOM meetings, representatives from the District Attorney’s Office, the Office of the Managing Director, and PAAN participated. With PAAN Streetworkers contributing their information, Probation Officers reported in great detail about the status of their Youth Partners. Their facts and impressions went a long way toward showing that they knew their stuff and they were taking the steps needed to really help the youth involved in the YVRP program.

The YVRP program has been called one of the few really successful efforts at stemming youth violence in our city. As has been said before, YVRP works. It works because like the rest of the FJD workforce, the people involved in YVRP, including all the Probation Officers, their supervisors, judges, and other court officials also work – as a team. To-

*(Continued on page 6)*



**East 2 (24th/25th District) YVRP Officers** Back Row (left to right): William Crowley, Scott Stevens, Preston Wickes. Front Row: Lisette Giron, Rosa Ramos.

## Anniversaries

(August 1 through December 31, 2006)

Name, Assignment, & Years of Service

Broodno,Harvey G	ADULT PROBATION	35
Daigre,Charles A	ADULT PROBATION	35
Edwards,Deborah T	COURT REPORTERS	35
Guerrera,John A	BUILDING/FACILITIE	35
Hutton,George W	DATA PROCESSING	35
Kelly,Claire S	CIVIL ADMINISTRATI	35
Myers,James F	GENERAL TIPSTAFF	35
Reibel,Michelle M	JUVENILE BRANCH	35
Ricci,Rita M	JUVENILE BRANCH	35
Schrass,Gerald L	JUVENILE BRANCH	35
Seravalli,Joan C	GENERAL TIPSTAFF	35
Adams,Sarah F	GENERAL TIPSTAFF	T 30
Arnold,Clementine M	PRETRIAL SERVICES	30
Bryant-Johnson,Leora E	ADULT PROBATION	30
Dickerman,Stephen	COURT REPORTERS	30
Ferrara,Joseph A	BUILDING/FACILITIE	30
Joell,Russell S	CRIMINAL LISTINGS	30
Phy,Carol	COURT REPORTERS	30
Richard,Linda M	JUVENILE BRANCH	30
Rivera Cruz,Frank A	GENERAL TIPSTAFF	30
Smith Jr,Christopher L	JUVENILE BRANCH	30
Teti,Kathleen A	ACTIVE CRIMINAL R	30
Brown,Patricia A	DR CHILD SUPPORT	25
Capobianco,Bernice A	MC CIVIL	25
Cavallaro,Richard J	GENERAL TC	25
DiGirolamo,Vincent O	COURT REPORTERS	25
Garrett,Stephanie N	PROTHONOTARY PRJ	25
Stephens,Bonita E	JUVENILE BRANCH	25

## Retirements

(August 1 through December 31, 2006)

Name, Assignment, & Years of Service

McDonald,Patrick O	Law Clerk	2
Haurin,Eugene J	Tipstaff	24
Hinton,Carla Y	Legal Clerk	22
Hoffman,Andrea	Dir Child/Yth Ser	34
Franklin Jr,Stanley B	Probation Ofcr	34
Mariani,Leon T	Court Reporter MC	39
Stevenson,Daniel F	P/T Warrant Invest	6
Stephens,Bonita E	Probation Ofcr	25
Zeller,Kathleen A	Tipstaff	23
Bedell,Joan B	Probation Ofcr	16
Checkovage,Frank E	Manager,Disp Res	33
Facey,Jacqueline	Legal Clerk	18
Razzano,Theresa M	Probation Ofcr	28
Broussard,Sherrian	Legal Unit Sup	34
Newton,AbdusShaheed	Security Guard	18

# APPD

(Continued from page 5)

gether, along with the many other agencies and stakeholders involved in the partnership, they work to reduce youth violence.

Many lives have been taken in Philadelphia, but some have been saved. Each one is important, and our FJD colleagues continue to devote all their effort toward helping to save every life that they can. We're proud of their efforts, and if just one life has been saved, we're also very proud of their accomplishments.

**West 4 (19th District) YVRP Officers** Front Row (left to right): Kathres Davis, Christine Gaskill, Lisa Poe-Dickens. Back Row: Damon Green, William Butler, Larry Gardner.

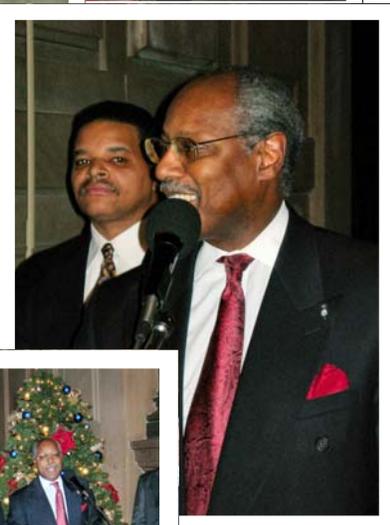


# The Most Wonderful Time of the Year!

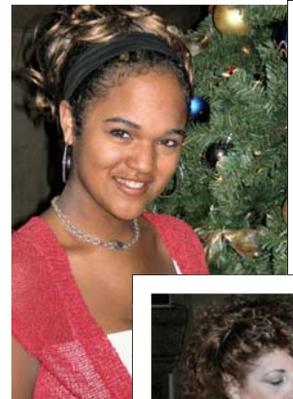
## Other Holiday Scenes: Court Reporters, Civil,

See Page 8 for Prothonotary Photos

The Court Reporters, led by Janet Fasy, put on a holiday luncheon along with the help of Victor Pospischill (right).



Claire Kelly (above) was honored as the Civil Section Employee of the Year at a party that was also the occasion for President Judge Jones to present a painting of the City Hall Supreme Court Courtroom to thank her for her help and guidance as the liaison justice between the FJD and the Supreme Court.



(above) President Judge C. Darnell Jones, III

Madam Justice Newman

See Page 8 for Prothonotary Photos

**FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT  
NEWSLETTER**

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# Prothonotary Holiday Party



Clockwise, from top right, 1) Prothonotary Joe Evers (left) and Deputy Prothonotaries Bonnie O'Kane and Stan Chmielewski; 2) Prothonotary employees Back (l-r) Chaundaya Vincent, Kristin Wojnar, and Jason Waterman, Front (l-r) Al Hall and Desiree Vincent; 3) Bonnie and Joe greet Judge Cosgrove; 4) Judges Overton, Silverstein, Maser-Moss, and an unidentified friend appear with Joe for the party; 5) Judge Cosgrove and Joe Evers congratulate Civil Employee of the Year, Claire Kelly.

