



March - April 2022

Welcome to the Eighteenth Edition of *Some Assembly Required!*



Left: Congratulations to our latest Appreciation Award recipients. Located in Shop 45 (Laundry @ TSCI). Thank you for all your hard work!

Upholstery Department Training New Workers



Above/Left: Shop 16's upholstery department has been hard at work! Pictured are CSI upholstery workers and the first chairs they built themselves. What an accomplishment! CSI Shop 16 (Sewing Shop @ OCC) is excited to see their skills continue to grow and help out this continuously busy shop.



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3 Questions With a CSI Employee - Julia Erikson, Braille Shop Operator

1. Can you describe your position as Braille Shop Operator and what is something no one knows about your position? **The Braille Shop Operator position is similar to the Print Shop Operator position. In addition to the basic security aspects of a Prison Industries Shop the Braille Shop Operator has customer service responsibilities with out of state customers. I don't think people realize how detailed the steps are for braille transcription, tactile production and large print production. The braille guidelines evolve and change continuously. Certified braille transcriptionists have the opportunity to find braille jobs when they are released.**
2. What has surprised you the most about working in the Braille Shop? **What surprises me the most is the dedication of the braille workers to create accurate quality books. This isn't easy, and they do not take the easy way out.**
3. How long have you been with CSI and throughout those years what has been your favorite part about your job? **I have worked for CSI 22 years. I enjoy the opportunity to learn and grow, and pass the knowledge on to others. I like the shift corrections is taking to give the workers certifications and positive skills to help them within the prison as well as when they are released.**

Right: Library Reading Nook for the North Platte Library. Built in Shops 16 (Sewing Shop @ OCC), 29 (Wood Shop @ NSP), Shop 19 (Metal Shop @ NSP), and 20 (Chair/Wood Shop @ NSP).





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CSI Staff Members Win Warden's Award



Left: Congratulations to Phyllis Beaner and Floyd Stinson, CSI Laundry Shop Operators at TSCI! They were awarded the Warden's Award for their outstanding work. "They continue to demonstrate attention to detail, and flexibility in their everyday work while keeping a positive attitude." (Gabel's Gazette, 4/2/2022)
Way to go Phyllis and Floyd!

Welcome to the Team!

Shawn Conrad - Warehouse Manager
Garbe Berglund - Canteen Driver @ TSCI

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Tony Force - Metal Shop Operator on 20 years of service!



Left: Chairs refurbished for Wayne State College President's office. Refurbished in Shop 20 (Chair/Wood Shop @ NSP)

Ideas for future newsletters? Please contact Deidre Boyle via email or by phone! This newsletter wouldn't be possible without the whole staff contributing. Any ideas or information is appreciated. Thank you!



Shop 52's New Chemical Delivery System

Shop 52 (Laundry @ NSP) has had over the last few years an obsolete chemical delivery system. After a having a hard time finding parts the shop was inspired to improve their system.

Shop 52's incarcerated maintenance workers designed a system to pair with the current Beta Technologies pumps to make the process more efficient.

For calibration, they would have to remove multiple hoses and potentially be splashed with the chemicals which was a safety concern, so they built bypasses. Instead of having five barrels of each chemical they built the system so that one set of chemical barrels goes into the two big washers. The other set of chemical barrels runs the three smaller washers. Dan Buchanan, NSP Laundry Supervisor, says "It's a much cleaner setup."

Last but not least they added a sensor that immediately notifies the shop if chemicals stop flowing. It sets off an alert. That alert has saved the shop so many hours of production time. Before the shop wouldn't know if there was a chemical issue and would only know that they needed to rewash the items after they already finished the load. The items also smelled dirty. Now Shop 52 can stop the cycle, fix the chemical issue, then restart the cycle.

Shout out the Shop 52 for finding a more efficient way to do their process!

Below are pictures of some of the equipment.



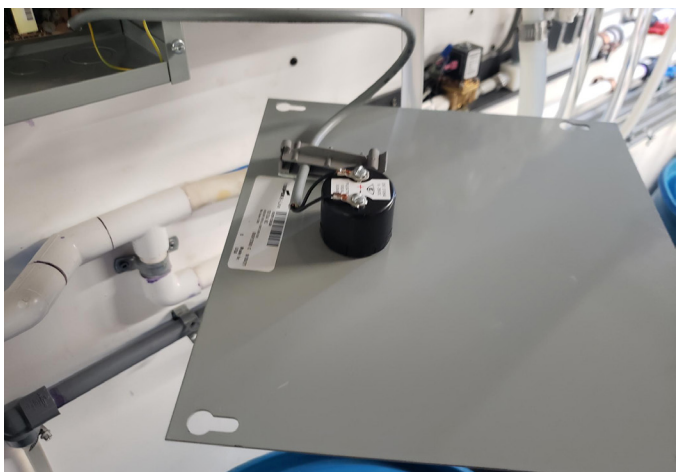
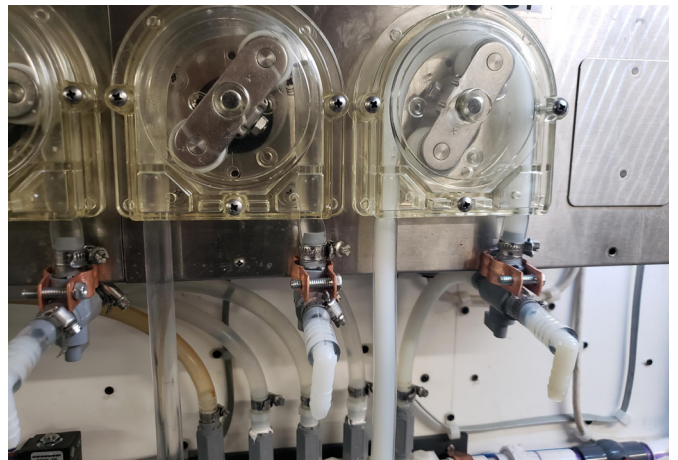


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Shop 52's New Chemical Delivery System

Continued pictures from Shop 52's new chemical delivery system.



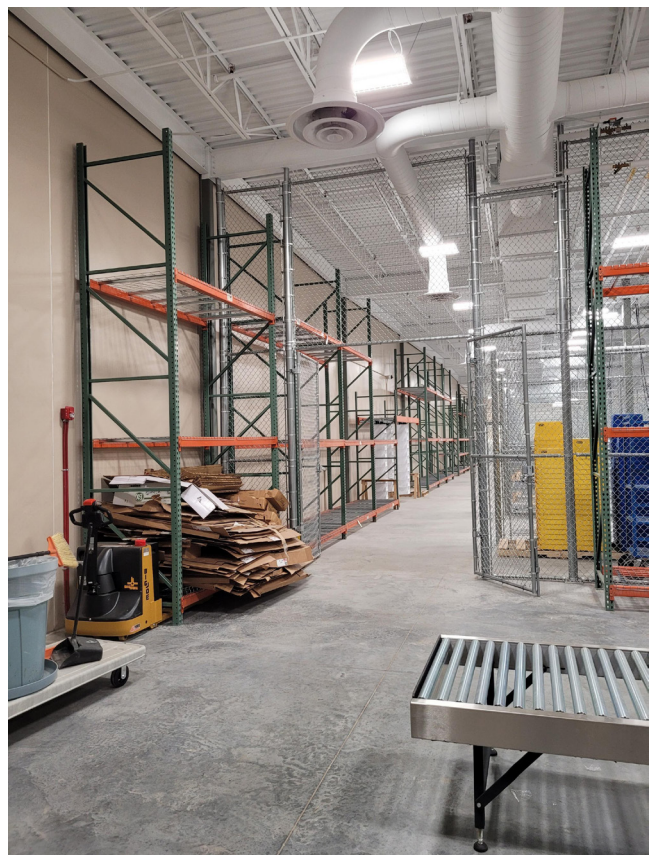


New Canteen Operations Update at TSCI

By Frank James - Canteen Operations Manager at TSCI

The projected open date for the CSI Centralized canteen is slated for 5-2-2022, we will begin with TSCI's population first but then slowly add all the other facilities until all NDCS facilities are being sold canteen out of the consolidated canteen at the Tecumseh State Correctional Institution (with exception of WEC). The consolidated canteen will offer 481 total items to the inmate population. These items were determined by finding the most popular items in each category which are currently offered in all NDCS canteen's. The centralized canteen will have many different jobs to offer the inmate population with various skills needed to do the different jobs. The inmate porters will not only be responsible for pulling the orders, they will be stocking the shelves, helping to receive the product, conducting daily inventories, and ringing in all the orders to send out to each facility. The entire process has been interesting to get started and the building has had it's share of bugs to work out from a HVAC system that used to howl loudly to the pressure in the building being so high doors couldn't be opened. We are excited to get started and offer this valuable service to the NDCS population.

Pictured below are photos from the canteen's set up progress as well as workstations built by Shop 39 (Wood Shop @ RTC)





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