

# RIDOC Happenings

Volume V, Issue 16

Upcoming & Recent Events & News of Interest to the RIDOC Community

October 13, 2011

*"Only as high  
as I reach can  
I grow, only as  
far as I seek  
can I go,  
only as deep as  
I look can I see,  
only as much as  
I dream can  
I be."*

Karen Ravn

## Be Sure to Tune In!

Tune in to WPRI Channel 12 tonight (October 13) at 6:15 for coverage of today's NEADS client visit at Moran. Photos and details will be shared in the next issue. On Friday night, October 15, also at 6:15, WPRI will air a story on Miss Demeanor the Pumpkin as part of Walt Buteau's Street Stories series. Both stories will be posted on WPRI's website.

Listings or photos for the e-calendar *RIDOC Happenings*, the quarterly newsletter *RIDOC Review*, or changes or updates to the Department's Intranet site or external website ([www.doc.ri.gov](http://www.doc.ri.gov)) should be submitted to Tracey E. Zeckhausen, Chief of Information & Public Relations  
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## Congratulations to Probation & Parole's Laura Queenan

Laura Queenan, Probation & Parole Aide with the Interstate Compact Office, was presented with the Angelo R. Musto Award by the New England Council on Crime and Delinquency (NECCD) earlier this month for her service to the organization.

## Four RIDOC Employees Participate in Operation Immersion

RIDOC staffers Teresa Foley, Margaret Oliver, James Plante, and Corinne Henry walked in the boots of a U.S. soldier in a two-day event called Operation Immersion. Sponsored by BHDDH, the RI National Guard, and SAMHSA, the event was held at Camp Fogarty and included an optional overnight. It provided participants with much greater insight into what it's like to serve in the military. At right, Corinne Henry, Probation & Parole Officer, at target practice.



## RIDOC's Education Unit Receives Sunshine Lady Foundation Grant

The RIDOC recently received a grant from the Sunshine Lady Foundation, run by Doris Buffet, sister of Warren Buffet. The grant will fund A.A. degrees for 20 inmates at Moran. The individuals were carefully selected and will take 2 courses per semester. Kudos to Will Jackson, CCRI Coordinator, for his hard work in obtaining these funds.

## Rallies For Recovery Held in Four Facilities

*Rallies for Recovery* were held in the men's Minimum and Moran facilities and the two women's facilities in recent weeks. The first-ever in-prison rallies in the nation brought inmates in recovery together to celebrate their success with RIDOC staff and community service providers. Music, poetry, and personal stories were shared and inmates were given the chance to pin a leaf with their name and recovery date onto a paper tree. The rallies were part of *National Recovery Month*.



(Far left): BHDDH Executive Director Craig Stenning and Jim Gillen, Administrator of Anchor Recovery, participated in all four rallies. (2nd from left): Assistant Director Roberta Richman speaks at the New Women's Rally. (3rd from left): An inmate pins her leaf to the Recovery Tree, and (right): Deputy Warden Donna Collins speaks about the important of sustaining recovery after release.

## Habitat for Humanity Project Underway in Providence

A crew of women from Minimum Security is transported to Providence's Newcomb Street on Fridays and Saturdays to work on a Habitat for Humanity house that will be donated to a needy family. The women have been working since July and have made great progress. The home should be completed and ready to be dedicated by next July. Channel 10 ran a story on the project last Saturday night. While working recently, the inmates found a tiny kitten stranded in a deep hole. It so happened that Lt. Joe Avila and Chief of Info. and P.R. Tracey Zeckhausen had just arrived on the scene so Tracey could take photos for a press release. She had recently lost a cat and promised her kids a kitten. The rest is history.



(Far left): C.O. Rachel Kowalski, Lt. Joe Avila, inmate workers, and Site Supervisor Andre Castonguay pose at the Habitat site with the rescued kitten. (2nd from left): the hole in which the tiny kitten was discovered, (3rd from left): Tracey Zeckhausen and her three kids with their new pet, Max; and (right): Lt. Mark Moore is interviewed about the project for Channel 10.

## New NEADS Pups

There are some awfully cute puppies now in training at the Moran Facility as part of the *Prison Pup Partnership*. Owen, Magee, and Blaze recently posed for a photo.



## PHOTO GALLERY

### NEW CHAPLAIN



The Rev. Carson Byers, spouse of Protestant Chaplain (at Moran) Janice Thompson, has been serving as Chaplain at Minimum since January.

### P.R. INTERN



Stephanie Ceballos is a senior at URI majoring in Criminal Justice and is doing an internship with Chief of Information & P.R. Tracey Zeckhausen this semester. Others who have fall interns are encouraged to send their information to the editor for the next edition.

### RETIREE NEWS



Deborah Rotundo, formerly of the H.R. staff, is seen here with Cody, her Coton de Tulcar from the island of Madagascar.

### MISS Demeanor UPDATE!!



An inmate crew was enlisted to carefully lift Miss Demeanor, the pumpkin grown outside of the old GM Building. She was driven by C.O. Grace Ellis and her husband to the Big E's Great Pumpkin contest in Springfield, MA. She placed 12th out of 12, but it was worth the experience, according to Officer Ellis!