

RIDOC Happenings

Volume VI, Issue 6

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

June 27, 2012

*"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



Director Wall has announced the promotion of Susan Lamkins to Programming Services Officer, a role which encompasses the responsibilities filled by Ann Fortin prior to her retirement last June. Susan has been in the role in an acting capacity for a year.

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) should be submitted to Tracey E. Zekhausen, Chief of Information & Public Relations
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House Dedication

On Saturday, June 23rd, the Habitat for Humanity house at **20 Newcomb Street** in Providence, was dedicated and officially handed over to its proud owner, Ruth Cedeño, her partner, and their four children. Among those in attendance were Providence Mayor Angel Tavares, Director A.T. Wall, Sen. Jack Reed, Acting Warden of the Women's Facilities Donna Collins, and the crew of women inmates who nearly exclusively built the home under the supervision of RIDOC C.O.s Vernett Estrada and Lee Brierly and Site Supervisor Andrew Castonguay. The dedication was featured on Steve Klamkin's WPRO morning show and included C.O. Grace Ellis speaking about the importance of the project for the inmates and staff involved.



Left: Director Wall chats with Sen. Reed; **Center:** the crew of inmates, along with Officers Brierly and Estrada, pose on the steps of the house and **Right:** Providence Mayor Angel Tavares emerges, having had a tour of the house.

Departmental Celebration of Roberta Richman's 33-Year Career

On Tuesday, June 26th, the Department held a celebration of the long and productive career of retiring Assistant Director of Rehabilitative Services Roberta Richman. At noon, a tree planted outside of the newly renovated Bernadette Women's Minimum Security Facility was dedicated in her name, and from 1-3 a reception was held in her honor. The weeping cherry was selected, purchased and nurtured by Dr. Fred Vohr prior to being planted. A plaque, designed by Correctional Industries' Ron Gizzarelli, is on permanent display beside the tree and reads: "In Honor of Roberta Richman: Recognizing her compassion and courage in serving inmates and families of the ACI." A lacquered plaque of a "license plate" featuring Roberta's name was presented by Correctional Industries' Joe Flaherty at the reception held in Admin-A, along with a citation from Governor Chafee presented by Director Wall. The community celebration will take place on **Thursday, June 28th, from 4:30 - 7 p.m.** at the Roger Williams Park Casino in Providence. Tickets can be purchased electronically or at the door. Call Mary Louise Joseph at ext. 20608 for information.



A plaque made by Correctional Industries is on permanent display beside the Weeping Cherry presented to Roberta in her honor at the in-house farewell celebration on Tuesday, June 26th. She holds a copy of the plaque, presented to her by Teresa Foley, and stands beside the tree with Director Wall.

Summer Food Drive Underway

Please remember to be generous when donating to the Rhode Island Community Food Bank's Summer Food Drive. Collection boxes have been delivered to all RIDOC buildings. The drive continues through August 31st.

Congratulations to P&P Officers in Kent County Office

Probation and Parole Officers Judith Willard and Jen Donovan received certificates of appreciation from Thundermist Health Center in recognition of their valuable contributions and support while serving on the West Warwick Advisory Committee - a subgroup of the West Warwick Reentry Council. At right, Jen is seen with Thundermist Executive Director Xavier Arinez.



RIDOC-Made Sun Dial Donated

This beautiful garden sun dial designed and created by recently retired Sheet Metal and Welding Program Instructor Paul Carty and his inmate students at the John J. Moran Facility, was donated recently to the Kingston Improvement Association in celebration of the life of committed and valuable volunteer David Heffron. The sun dial is now situated in the gardens at the historic Fayerweather House in Kingston.

Hepatitis A/B Clinic

The next Hepatitis A/B Clinic will be held at the Training Academy, 2nd floor of the Pinel Building, on **Monday, July 2nd, from 2:30 - 3:30 p.m.** There is no cost for RIDOC employees. Just bring your UHC card.

PHOTO GALLERY

LINDA OSBOURNE RETIRES



At the party celebrating her retirement, Linda Osbourne holds an engraved glass vase (top) and (above) hugs Parole Coordinator Kim Avedesian. Retiring with 23 years of state service, Osbourne began as an adult counselor, went on to clinical psychologist and then school psychologist, a position she held for 21 years.

THE FAREWELL CONTINUES



Roberta Richman holds a framed photo of her with the inmates at the GM Facility taken by School Principal Ralph Orleck at the GM graduation. Orleck presented the gift to Richman at the Education Unit's final staff meeting with Richman at the helm.

LEADERSHIP RI



Last Wednesday, Leadership Rhode Island held its Crime/Incarceration day at the ACI, touring two facilities and then hearing from Assistant Director Roberta Richman.