“There is a sacredness in tears. They are not the mark of weakness, but of power. They speak more eloquently than ten thousand tongues. They are the messengers of overwhelming grief, of deep contrition, and of unspeakable love.”

Washington Irving

It’s Been a Rough Year
As the year draws to a close we tend to reflect on all that has happened. For the RIDOC 2014 has been a difficult year. We have lost one too many of the great people who make our department a safe and successful agency. Let’s keep the families and friends of all those we have lost in our thoughts and prayers. “We don’t even know how strong we are until we are forced to bring that hidden strength forward. In times of tragedy, of war, of necessity, people do amazing things. The human capacity for survival and renewal is awesome.” Isabel Allende

Another Great Loss
On Thursday, 11/27/14, we lost Correctional Officer Jeffrey Golding as a result of serious injuries suffered in a horrible motor vehicle accident. Jeff joined our ranks in 1991 and spent his entire career at the Intake Service Center. A wonderful son, brother and uncle who will be missed greatly, not only by his family and friends, but by all who knew him. Jeff had a great sense of humor and zest for life. May he rest in peace. Please keep his family in your thoughts and prayers during this trying time.

Congratulations Investigator Figueiredo!
On Thursday, 11/20/14, SIU Investigator Nuno Figueiredo was sworn in as a Deputy U.S. Marshal to solidify his place as DOC’s representative on the FBI’s Safe Streets Task Force.

Pictured from left to right: U.S. Marshal Jamie Hainsworth, Investigator Nuno Figueiredo and Director A.T. Wall.

We Recycle for the Earth and for a Cause
Correctional Officer Joe Machado was bothered by the fact that bags and bags of scrap material were being thrown away and not recycled. So, he took it upon himself to start a recycling plan for them. With the help of Joe Flaherty and other staff. These rags are collected and then the bags delivered to the Big Brother s Big Sisters on Pontiac Avenue, Cranston. They can then recycle them for money. Not only are we keeping this material out of the landfills but we are giving to a great organization. Way to go, Joe!

Good Luck Patrick
On Monday, 12/1/14, we said goodbye to Senior Legal Counsel Patrick Carroll. Although Patrick had only been here a short time, he quickly developed positive professional relationships throughout the RIDOC. We will miss you Patrick, good luck in your future endeavors.

Social Network
The RIDOC is now on Facebook and Twitter. We want to show just how awesome you are. Please send me your stories or the stories of your co-workers and friends. They do not need to be just about the great job you do here, but also about the terrific things you do in the community as well. “Like” us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/RhodeIslandDOC and “follow” us on Twitter at https://twitter.com/RhodelandDOC.
Lending a Helping Hand
Minimum Security staff was called upon to assist the Salvation Army in preparing Thanksgiving food baskets for families in need. As they always do, the call was answered and, as a result, the Correctional Officers and crews who participated were able to prepare over 3,000 baskets in four days. Job well done!

SECA
It’s that time of year again. If you have not already done so, please remember to complete your pledge cards and give them to Pauline Marcussen at Admin B no later than 12/19/14. Do not give them to payroll.

Saving Lives is What We Do
On Sunday, 10/25/14, Correctional Officer Raymond Bryant witnessed an inmate at the Women’s Facilities having a seizure. He immediately responded and called a code white. With the help of medical staff the, then conscious, inmate was placed in a wheelchair. Upon exiting the dormitory area the woman started to have another seizure which rendered her unconscious and without a pulse. Medical staff placed her on the floor and prepared the defibrillator. In the meantime, Officer Bryant began chest compressions. As a result of his actions and the efforts of medical staff, the inmate regained her pulse and consciousness. Had Officer Bryant not responded as promptly and taken the initiative to start CPR the outcome could have been much different. We are so proud of you Officer Bryant, you are a true hero!

Congratulations Director Wall
RIDOC Staff would like to congratulate our Director A.T. Wall on his reappointment as Corrections Director by Governor-elect Gina Raimondo. We look forward to many more years under your leadership.

New Employee Orientation
The next New Employee Orientation (NEO) for permanent and contract employees is scheduled for Monday and Tuesday, December 15th and 16th from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Mentors, volunteers and interns only need to attend on Monday, December 15th from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.