

RIDOC Happenings

Volume III, Issue 2

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

January 16, 2009



*"If you are
never scared,
embarrassed,
or hurt,
it means
you never
take chances."*

Julia Soul

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. Zeckhausen, Chief of Information & Public Relations
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Congratulations, Graduates

Graduation ceremonies will take place **this afternoon** at RIC's Sapinsley Hall for Correctional Officer Training Academy Class 77, beginning with the Inspection of the Graduates at **1:45 p.m.** The ceremony will begin at 2 p.m. Attorney General Patrick Lynch will be the guest speaker. Fifty-four men and women will graduate today and 21 will go on line as of Sunday. The others will be called up in order of their test scores as officers leave or retire.

New Parole Board Member

Governor Carcieri has appointed Cranston attorney Nancy Garcia Ponte to the RI Parole Board. She will fill the seat vacated when Kenneth Walker became chair. A graduate of Providence College and New England School of Law, Ms. Garcia Ponte is in private practice in Providence.

Pastore Center Blood Drive



The first John O. Pastore Center Blood Drive for 2009 will be held on **Friday, January 23rd, from 10 a.m. 4 p.m.** in the Aime Forand Building (Rusty Bucket), 600 New London Ave. Pizza is available for all donors. Make an appointment by visiting www.ribc.org. Click on the eDonor link, log onto your account, and use sponsor code 0257.

New In-State Mileage Reimbursement Rate

The in-state mileage reimbursement rate has increased to 0.585 cents per mile. All requests for reimbursement must be submitted 90 days prior to the end of the month in which the travel occurred. A new form has been posted on the RIDOC Intranet under DOC Forms/Business Office reflecting the new rate. Please check the site often for updated forms and information.

Departmental Awards Ceremony

The annual departmental awards will be presented at the Arnold Conference Center's Regan Auditorium on **Thursday, February 19th, at 9 a.m.** Award recipients, their families and loved ones, and all staff are invited and encouraged to attend

Mark Your Calendars for Health Fair

Bring your United Healthcare ID to an on-site health fair in the Arnold Conference Center on **February 2nd, between 11 a.m. and 2 p.m.** and earn up to a \$100 co-share credit for participating in a screening. Call 877-239-3557 to preregister.

Hep B Clinic

The next Hepatitis B clinic will be held on **February 9th, from noon - 1 p.m.** at the Training Academy, 2nd floor of the Pinel Building. All employees are eligible and should bring their UHC ID card.



NEOs Scheduled

The next regular NEO for volunteers, interns, and new employees will take place **Tuesday - Thursday, January 20th - 22nd.** Note the Tuesday - Thursday schedule due to the Monday MLK Day holiday. An evening NEO will take place **Mondays, January 26th, and February 2nd, from 6 - 9:30 p.m.** Supervisors must preregister attendees. The sessions will be held at the Training Academy, second floor of Pinel.



Officer at Max Has Interesting Side Business

Look to the next edition of the quarterly newsletter, *RIDOC Review*, or to the press release on our website (www.doc.ri.gov) to read about CO Aubrey (Buster) Andrews' off-duty passion - showing and selling prize-winning Red & White Holsteins. He's seen here with one of his prizewinners and his older daughter.

Shape Up RI Deadline Looming

All staff interested in participating in this year's Shape Up RI statewide exercise and weight loss challenge must register by **January 31st.** The 12-week competition includes a \$20 per person registration fee. RIDOC personnel interested in joining a RIDOC team can contact Al Alba in Education, a team captain. Any other RIDOC teams are encouraged to contact Tracey Zeckhausen to share your progress.

PHOTO GALLERY

DOLLS FOR CHARITY



Joy Johnson, left, a volunteer from Community Covenant Church in Rebooth, Mass., comes to both women's facilities every Tuesday to work with inmates on making fleece dolls which are then donated to charities. A press release about the project is on the RIDOC website at www.doc.ri.gov.

ZERO FATALITIES CONTINUES



Dan Converse of Barrington, whose son, Jon, was killed by a drunk driver in November of 2007, speaks to a group of students from Narragansett High at a recent Zero Fatalities Project presentation at Moran. Behind him is a photo of Jon taken shortly before his death. Ironically, Jon is in front of a poster in his classroom which reads, "In life there are no make-up exams. Choose carefully."

"ROBBIE" IS THE RIDOC'S NEWEST K-9



"Robbie," a Belgian Malinois from the Netherlands, has only been on the job a short time, but has already proven his worth. He recently uncovered 24 pounds of marijuana in a search involving a partner agency in law enforcement.