

RIDOC Happenings

Volume III, Issue 9

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

June 5, 2009



*“Life is an
adventure in
forgiveness.”*

Norman Cousins
US editor & essayist
(1915 - 1990)

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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Share your News and Photo Opps

Is someone in your unit or division being presented with a commendation or award? Did you or one of your colleagues recently do something noteworthy in your home community? Please remember to give Tracey Zeckhausen, editor of this publication and the *RIDOC Review*, our quarterly magazine, a call whenever you are aware of something newsworthy going on in or around the department. Good news can't be publicized unless it's known about!

Upcoming NEO and Hep B Clinics at the Training Academy

The next New Employee Orientation session will take place **Monday through Wednesday, June 15th - 17th**, in the Pinel Building, 2nd floor. All supervisors must call to register their new employees, interns, or volunteers in advance. Volunteers are only required to attend the first day. The next Hep B clinic for employees will take place on **Monday, June 22nd from noon - 1 p.m.**, also in the Pinel Building, 2nd floor.

New Link for Transparency Portal on RIDOC Website

If you go to home page of the RIDOC website (www.doc.ri.gov), you will see a link on the right pull-down menu for the state's new transparency portal. This provides two methods to track government spending. The first is the RIPAY website; this allows users to search for expenditures by vendor. The second method is the Open Government expenditure search; this provides the ability to review spending in the context of expenditure classifications. The data presented for each method is updated weekly from the State accounting system and is presented in a user-friendly format.

Changes in SIU

Special Investigators now report to facility wardens. Inmate-related inquiries and correspondence should be forwarded to the appropriate investigator. The SIU team will maintain its offices in the basement of Admin-A. Joe Forgue is serving as the Administrative Investigator, and general inquiries should be directed to him. Bill Devine is covering the Intake Service Center; Steve Cabral is at High Security and Maximum Security; Linda Rose covers Moran; Michael Boffi is at Price; Phil Cummings covers Minimum; and William Begones handles the women's facilities.

The RIDOC's ShapeUp RI Team Wants You!

The RIDOC has once again put together a ShapeUp RI Team, this time for a summer competition. If you are interested in joining, it's a fun way to get to know some of your colleagues, get into better shape, and possibly shed some pounds if that is a goal. The 8-week program begins June 15th and all are welcome. The access code for those who wish to register (at www.shapeupri.org) is TEAM 8704.

Support the Back to School Program

RIDOC employees have been big supporters of community initiatives for the needy of our state, even during challenging economic times. Here is another opportunity to make a difference. Maggie Picot, Administrator of Community Confinement, is a sponsor for the *Back to School Program*, a non-profit that provides backpacks full of school supplies to elementary school students from Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls, Cranston, and Warwick. The program also encourages parents to get involved with the school system and their children's education. To support this program, please send a check, made out to "Back to School Program" to Maggie Picot in the Pinel Building. The RIDOC will get credit for your contribution and will be mentioned at a banquet recognizing the donors. If you have questions, contact Maggie at 25135. Thank you in advance for your support.



Spring 2009 Media Day



Reporters at Spring 2009 Media Day listen to Deputy Warden Sergio DeSousa prior to touring Price.

A dozen reporters from local media outlets joined Director Wall and Chief of Information Tracey Zeckhausen on Thursday morning for *Spring 2009 Media Day*. They included 9 *Providence Journal* reporters, and one each from WPRO and WHJJ Radio and *The Narragansett Times*. Many thanks to the Wardens, facility staff, and Training Academy staff who led the guests on tours of Maximum, Price, and Minimum. They were very impressed with what they saw and heard.

PHOTO GALLERY

SOMETHING'S DIFFERENT OUTSIDE OF MINIMUM!



Loved ones and friends of Minimum Security inmates now have cover overhead while waiting in line to visit thanks to the new overhang outside of the facility. Staff say this has resulted in much happier visitors.

BAPTISTA FAREWELL



A retirement celebration for 30-year Department veteran David Baptista was held last Friday. David and Warden Jim Vierra began their careers at the RIDOC together. Below, colleagues admire the eagle statue with the names of all who have served in SIU which was presented to David as a parting gift of appreciation.



P&P STAFF RECOGNIZED



Members of the Probation & Parole staff were recognized by Parole Board Chair Kenneth Walker early this week for their assistance in making the APAI (Association of Paroling Authorities International) conference in Newport such a success.

SPRING 2009 MEDIA DAY



Director Wall and Warden Weeden speak to reporters attending Spring 2009 Media Day in the Max Dining Room.