Director’s Message

Some days, the strength of an agency is measured not by how it responds to the ordinary, but how it responds to the extraordinary.

Hurricane Florence offered just such a test for the VADOC.

Late on September 10, as meteorologists predicted the worst for Virginia, VADOC swung into action.

In less than 24 hours, we evacuated 1,000 people from Indian Creek Correctional Center, moving them quickly out of harm's way and over to Greensville Correctional Center, which had done the hard work to prepare for their arrival.

Officers answered the call to travel to where they were needed, we collaborated with a host of outside agencies, and VADOC’s members of the Virginia Emergency Support Team joined with representatives of other agencies at the Emergency Operations Center at Virginia State Police Headquarters.

Our reaction stands as a testament to our strength: we’re able to act quickly because we train and we prepare. Our reaction also serves a testament to the many outstanding corrections professionals who worked together to make this happen.

Probation and parole officers staffed several designated shelters, while other VADOC employees stepped forward ready to give time and energy to those in need.

We were called to meet a challenge, and we answered. Fortunately, we were spared by this hurricane.

But we showed that our people are determined to protect all those in harm’s way. We can be very proud of our response and know that when the next extraordinary circumstance arises, we will be ready. Because we already are.

Harold Clarke

Deputy of Administration Cookie Scott Retires

Deputy Director of Administration N. H. “Cookie” Scott retired on September 30 concluding a 45-year career with the Virginia Department of Corrections; 46 years with the Commonwealth. She became the Deputy Director of Administration in 2002. In that capacity Ms. Scott oversaw the Department of Corrections’ support

VADOC Handles Challenges of Hurricane Florence

The Virginia Department of Corrections wasted little time as Hurricane Florence bore down on Virginia. On September 11, prison officials evacuated approximately 1,000 inmates from its facility most vulnerable to the coming storm, Indian Creek Correctional Center (ICCC) in Chesa-
Deputy Director of Administration N. H. “Cookie” Scott retired on September 30 concluding a 45-year career with the Virginia Department of Corrections; 46 years with the Commonwealth.

She became the Deputy Director of Administration in 2002. In that capacity Ms. Scott oversaw the Department of Corrections’ support functions, furthering the Department’s work to improve long-term public safety and foster societal progress through the successful transformation and reintegration of men and women who have been under the control and care of corrections.

“Deputy Director Scott’s expertise and leadership have helped the Department advance and become a national leader in corrections,” said Director Harold Clarke. “She has been a guiding force, and she cares deeply about her work, her fellow employees and the many people whose lives she has touched.”

Ms. Scott is the first African-American graduate of Farmville’s Longwood University, where she graduated in 1972 with a B.A. in sociology.

She began her Corrections career in 1973 as a Probation Officer in the Sixteenth District Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court in Charlottesville. Ms. Scott rose through the Department, serving as Court Service Unit Director and Employment Manager Senior before becoming Deputy Director for Administration in 2002.

In 2012, she lent her name to Longwood University’s Diversity and Inclusion Center, which will now be called the “N.H. Scott Center for Diversity and Inclusion.”

Ms. Scott spoke at Longwood’s commemoration of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day in January 2012 and was the 2005 convocation speaker.
VADOC Handles Challenges of Hurricane Florence

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On September 11, prison officials evacuated approximately 1,000 inmates from its facility most vulnerable to the coming storm, Indian Creek Correctional Center (ICCC) in Chesapeake.

The Department marshalled all its buses, including several from the western region, to transport ICCC inmates 90 miles west to Greensville Correctional Center in Jarrett.

Less than 24 hours after the buses started rolling, they were done.

“Thanks to the hard work and dedication of all our employees, this operation was a great success,” said the Director of Security and Correctional Enforcement Randy Mathena. The move followed Governor Ralph Northam’s order for a mandatory evacuation. The Governor’s order came well ahead of the storm that ultimately spared greater Virginia and instead wreaked havoc in the lower Carolinas.

VADOC’s maintains an emergency support team that assisted at the Emergency Operation Center at the Virginia State Police headquarters.

Several Probation and Parole Officers assisted at shelters and other employees stood ready to lend VADOC resources as appropriate.

The VADOC’s Operation Logistics Unit Command Center coordinated the transport working in conjunction with the Eastern Region Emergency Command Center.

The return effort four days later went smoothly. With the buses and drivers already in place, the return trip took three hours less.

Above, OLU Command Center; below, buses at Coffeewood Correctional Center line up to head to ICCC. Lower picture credit to Coffeewood Correctional Officer Erica Mullins.
They all remember where they were on that fateful September day in 2001. Seventeen years later, the members of Haynesville Correctional Center’s VETS Dorm gathered together with staff to honor those lost in the most horrific act of terror ever on American soil.
Get on the Bus!

District 10 Probation and Parole, Arlington is participating in the Arlington Transit Adopt a Stop program.

For one year, employees must take care of their stop by picking up trash, shoveling away snow and reporting vandalism and safety issues.
Repurposing Computers at Greensville

Computers intended for scrap have found new life at Greensville Correctional Center and today promote the reentry efforts of men who will soon return to their communities.

Offenders now have access to an array of computers and programs. The men can use these computers to practice job seeking skills, learn money management, prepare for driving courses or simply brush up on their keyboarding.

All this is available thanks to Greensville’s In-Unit Resource Lab, the brainchild of the Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS), Senior for Eastern Region Marion Curry, and the Offender Workforce Development Specialist (OWDS) for Greensville Correctional Center Leo K. Akujuobi.

Little more than a year ago, Mr. Akujuobi gained a few dismissed computers from VADOC technicians, and soon a new computer lab was born.

Mr. Akujuobi doubles as an OWDS and the facility’s In-Unit Lab Resource Program facilitator. He and his crew of students maintain the repurposed computers with the intent of helping returning citizens gain a foothold in an ever-changing workplace.

“The offenders are already at a disadvantage with competitors in the job market because of limited access to computer technology especially the internet,” Mr. Akujuobi said. “The computer lab and resource room allow them to gain necessary computer skills to secure gainful employment,” he added.

These computers are open to all offenders but especially those within six months of release.

Specifically, the lab patrons can learn how to complete electronic applications, review job openings (simulated), and learn how to prepare targeted cover letters and resumes.

They also use the computers to learn money management skills such as budgeting and banking.

Offenders are also able to improve their keyboarding skills using a specific keyboarding software package.

The response to the lab has been most positive, Mr. Akujuobi said. At present, Greensville is the only institution with the “In-Unit” computer labs. “I hope that the success of this pilot program will lead to additional computer labs/resource rooms at other facilities,” Mr. Akujuobi said.
Virginia currently boasts the lowest recidivism rate in the country. That figure, 22.4 percent, measures the recidivism rate of state-responsible releases during FY 2013.

While that fact blares success, it also leaves out an important part of the Department’s story – its community starters.

VADOC supervises a much larger population than it releases from state-responsible (SR) incarceration - five times larger.

That population, known as community starters, is convicted. Some came from jails or SR incarceration. Others go straight from court to supervision without an incarceration sentence.

So how do these folks fare?

A recent report by the Statistical Analysis & Forecast Unit measured the recidivism rate of the community starters. They numbered 30,676 in FY 2013, and within three years, 20.7 percent, 6,339 were sentenced to a terms of state-responsible incarceration.

“Having nearly 80 percent of all community starters still living successfully in the community after three years is excellent,” said VADOC’s Chief of Policy and Planning Dr. Tama Celi. “The remainder will require the more extensive treatment and programs offered through incarceration,” she added.

According to the report, the typical community starter who becomes a state-responsible offender possessed these characteristics:

- Having a recidivism risk level in COMPAS of “Medium” or “High”
- Being supervised in a district that is not in a major metropolitan area
- Starting community supervision at a younger age
- Testing positive for opioid use during their criminal history
- Being male and having more prior terms of SR incarceration

While an average of 20.7 percent became state–responsible, locality figures varied ranging as high as 29.3 percent to as low as 11.3 percent.

“Many factors can influence an offender’s success in the community,” Dr. Celi said. “Those factors include an individual’s personal risk factors, criminogenic needs and the community resources available to address treatment and programming needs associated with successful reentry. In future studies, VADOC will continue to learn from differences in success to help future generations of offenders on supervision succeed,” she added.

To see the first page of the report, click here. The overall averages are here, and a quick breakdown of the recidivism rate by community location is here.
Many people saw a recent news-cast featuring the opening of the Department’s new bakery at the agency’s headquarters in Richmond.

Those “many” include nearly half the nation, thanks to NBC’s Richmond affiliate WWBT’s habit of story-sharing with sister stations.

The bakery feature, a three-minute segment reported September 7 by anchor Karla Redditte, went nationwide October 7.

VADOC’s own Fresh Start Bakery aired on 52 different stations in 29 different states covering the East Coast from Maine down to Florida and west to stations in Idaho and Colorado.

In case you missed it, here’s a link to the WWBT story.

Legend

- Richmond
- Stations outside Richmond that aired Fresh Start Bakery
The United States Department of Agriculture has awarded the Virginia Department of Corrections $88,700 in technical assistance grant funding through their waste management initiative to improve planning and management of solid waste in rural areas. The USDA specifically targeted projects that plan to establish composting programs and emphasize food-waste diversion from landfills. Funding began on October 1, 2018 and will continue through September 30, 2019.

VADOC will use the funds to establish a part-time position responsible for planning, developing and implementing a compost program at 18 prison sites with adjacent farms. This position will work collaboratively with the Environmental Services and Agribusiness units, as well as facility staff, to support the growth of composting programs at these sites. In addition, select VADOC staff will attend training to become certified compost operators in order to continue the oversight of this program once the grant period ends.

Targeted facilities include:

- Appalachian Detention Center
- Baskerville Correctional Center
- Brunswick Women’s Work Center
- Buckingham Correctional Center
- Caroline Correctional Unit
- Coffeewood Correctional Center
- Cold Springs Correctional Unit
- Deerfield Correctional Center
- Dillwyn Correctional Center
- Green Rock Correctional Center
- Greensville Correctional Center
- Halifax Correctional Unit
- Harrisonburg Diversion Center
- Lunenburg Correctional Center
- Marion Correctional Treatment Center
- Nottoway Correctional Center
- Patrick Henry Correctional Unit
- Rustburg Correctional Unit
- Wise Correctional Unit

In 2017, VADOC facilities produced more than 16,400 tons of waste costing the agency nearly a million dollars in landfill fees. This program aims to reduce the amount of landfilled waste in the target facilities, improve the condition of soil nutrients, increase soil absorption capacity, and ultimately save agency resources. In addition, offender workers will gain experience with a variety of composting technologies.

Once completed, a full-scale compost program will save a significant amount of money in the reduction of landfill fees and compactor/dumpster rentals and vastly improve the soil condition at agribusiness farms. This grant provides the VADOC an opportunity to change the course of facility waste management by reducing agency dependence on landfills and turning food-waste into a usable product.

Please contact Lois Fegan, VADOC Recycling & Sustainability Manager, with any questions regarding the grant project at 804-837-1028 or lois.fegan@vadoc.virginia.gov.
On Friday, October 19, District 1 Probation and Parole celebrated its new office location at 6866 Everglades Drive in Richmond with an open house and ribbon cutting ceremony led by District 1 Chief Stephen Holmes.
VA DOC Appreciates Its Employees!

The Department celebrated Employee Appreciation Week in a variety of ways this year, but most often with awards and delicious food! On Wednesday October 3, 2018, two of Haynesville Correctional Center's employees received awards at the Employee Appreciation Awards Ceremony. Congratulations to Food Operations Director Mark Lewis the Haynesville’s Employee of the Year and OWDS Jessica Banks honored for Innovation and the Virginia Department of Corrections Director’s Value Award for Healing Environment. From left: Mark Lewis, Regional Administrator Greg Holloway, Jessica Banks

At Augusta Correctional Center, shown middle left, staff enjoyed the catered meal of pork tenderloin, herb-roasted chicken, green beans, mac n' cheese, and rolls; cake was prepared by the kitchen staff for dessert.

Keen Mountain Correctional Center, lower left, celebrated Employee Appreciation with a catered meal provided by Amazing Southern Grace Catering. Hot dogs and hamburgers were also served on alternate days. HQ, pictured below, celebrated Employee Appreciation on Friday, October 5 with a feast featuring barbecue, hamburgers, hot dogs, beans, slaw, fixin's, ice cream, cold drinks and lots of smiling. Compliments to the Almost Home Café!
Family Panel Offers Greensville Offenders A Glimpse into the Future

Incarcerated men preparing for reentry often consider their future, especially the details: learning where they might live, where they might work, what income opportunities they might have and how they will reclaim their lives in traditional society.

But one aspect that presents challenges is the family aspect – returning to the wife, the children, brothers sisters and parents.

For that reason, Greensville OWDS Leo Akujuobi and Eastern Region OWDS Sr. Marion Curry organized “Family, You, and Incarceration – A panel discussion of ex-offenders and their families.”

Greensville men faced a panel of 12 people including not only several ex-offenders but also three wives, a sister, and an adult child of an offender.

Ex-offenders on the panel reminded their audience that they have responsibility to adapt, which means applying patience, hard work and having the willingness to look for what you need. Ultimately, that means more than relying on family and friends. “It means having more than a family and a good woman,” said ex-offender Hasan K. Zarif. “It means reaching into the community, learning its organization and its resources.”

Antrina Johnson brought a different message, as the wife of an ex-offender, she faced severe hardship when her husband became incarcerated. “We scrambled for decent housing,” she remembered, and she struggled...
Family Panel - Continued

to raise her sons alone. She survived by keeping her faith and doing her best always. Eventually, her husband returned, and today they continue to adjust, she said.

Leteisha Gordon has seen both parents and a brother incarcerated.

When her father left, her life turned upside down. “We went from having to not having,” she said, and remembered selling “icebergs,” frozen Kool Aid, just to have extra money.

Her experience has left her with fears that those she loves will leave her, and today she runs programs to help families affected by incarceration stay connected. Family comes first she said. “If we strengthen the family, we strengthen the community.”

The participating offenders found the event particularly useful because it offered them insight as to how their family members feel about their incarceration, OWDS Leo Akujobi said. Prior to the event, the offenders in their role as returning citizens mostly viewed incarceration from their narrow often inward prism. Many of the offenders rarely discussed their true feelings with people who were never incarcerated because of shame, anger, of fear of the stigma associated with incarceration Mr. Akujobi explained.

On the other hand, their family members also deal with emotions that range from anger, disappointment, happiness and confusion.

“The importance of this event, which is aptly titled “Family, You, & Incarceration (FYI) is that it created an open and safe forum for all participants to hear and feel the diverse views and impacts of incarceration as shared by all the stakeholders. It also offered all sides the framework for the long and arduous task of breaking the cycle of incarceration, rediscovering their deferred dreams, and rebuilding their lives together,” Mr. Akujobi said.
Education Can Make You Unbreakable, Unstoppable, and Unshakeable - HCC Celebrates Grads

The school at Haynesville Correctional Center (HCC) held annual commencement exercises on October 26 with Rappahannock Community College President Elizabeth Crowther serving as keynote speaker. HCC awarded 76 degrees and certificates. That number included 10 Associate’s degrees and four General Studies certificates from Rappahannock Community College. Fourteen men received General Education Development (GED) certificates. The school also issued 48 vocational certificates including: 21 barbering certificates, 12 electrical certificates, five masonry certificates, and three Introduction to Computers certificates. Students also received certificates for Animal Assistance (1), Commercial Arts and Graphic Design (1), Horticulture (1), Hotel & Restaurant Management Apprenticeship (3), and Business Software Applications (1).
RCC President Elizabeth Crowther, upper middle, served as the event's keynote speaker. Barbering Instructor Anthony Fauntleroy, upper right, smiles as he gives a certificate.

Bottom row, it was a happy day for HCC staff, including from left, Principal Dante DaWalt and Librarian Edie Hudgins, Academic Instructor Katra Long, and the school mascot, Fiona.
Education Can Make You Unbreakable, Unstoppable, and Unshakeable - HCC Celebrates Grads

Nine Rappahannock Community College graduates, upper left with members of the community college staff, received their Associates degree on Friday, October 26, 2018, during the school graduation at Haynesville Correctional Center. The graduates were the beneficiaries of the Second Chance Pell Grant. Haynesville Correctional Center and Rappahannock Community College hold the only partnership in Virginia under this program that offers an Associate's degree to the offenders. Danville Community College and Green Rock Correctional Center have the Pell Grant for vocational certificates.

Lower left, an offender receives his Associate's degree from RCC President Elizabeth Crowther.

An aide to Senator Mark Warner joined in the Haynesville graduation celebration in part to recognize HCC's work with Rappahannock Community College to implement the Second Chance Pell Grant. In the lower right photo - from left, HCC Assistant Warden Mike Seville, Rappahannock Community College President Elizabeth Crowther, Outreach Representative for U.S. Senator Mark Warner Charity Howell, and HCC Warden Darrell Miller.
The Virginia Department of Corrections with the Thoroughbred Retirement Foundation hosted an annual Open Barn event September 29 at James River Work Center giving the public an opportunity to see its successful program that trains offenders to care for retired racehorses.

In the upper left, Officer D. Owens feeds a horse an apple.

Upper right, Barn Manager C. J. Weldon poses with her students.

Lower left, an offender takes a moment with his favorite horse.

The crowd, lower middle, enjoyed the day at the barn, while Big Head, lower right, a gray tabby and the program mascot, may have been less impressed.

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Second chances exist for offender, but thy exist for horses too, as demonstrated by one equine resident at James River Work Center – Oligopolist.

Known more commonly as Ollie, the now-retired racehorse was bred by Marylanders, the husband and wife team of Bob and Cathy Hartsock. They followed Ollie’s career quite closely before losing him when he retired almost 10 years ago. The Hartsocks found him again only after news of an October 2015 raid on a farm in Orange County and Ollie’s rescue by the Thoroughbred Horse Foundation. They were on hand for the open barn event on September 29.

“We enjoy visiting with Ollie at the open barn programs at James River and are happy to see that he is doing well,” Bob said. “This program seems to be working well for thoroughbreds and the men. We want to thank the staff and the men in the TRF program for a job well done.”

Bob and Cathy Hartsock visited Ollie during the Open Barn event recently at James River Work Center. Ollie’s home, the barn, is shown at the right.
Wallens Ridge State Prison Staff Organizes Wise County Special Needs Fall Ball
Submitted by Velisa Stallard

WRSP staff organized the Special Needs Fall Ball at Coeburn Middle School on Saturday, September 15. Staff organized The “Mickey’s Magical Ball” working with community volunteers and students from Wise County.

Below, VADOC employees Leslie Hayden and Steve Hughes are pictured with Mr. Hughes’ children. At left, Officer Sherry Miller gets ready to dance. Lower middle, the WRSP staff joined for a group picture.
Annual Women in Corrections Conference Brims with Lead-Her-Ship
Submitted by Holly Aleandro

The annual VADOC Women in Corrections Conference was held September 11-12 at the Four Points Sheraton in Richmond (Midlothian) and focused on a theme of “Lead-Her-Ship” as the group focused on empowerment and women in leadership.

In light of her pending retirement, the group honored Deputy Director for Administration Cookie Scott for all of her contributions to the Department and her on-going support for this conference. Ms. Scott received a lifetime “Golden Boot” award, and participants wore purple in her honor. There was also recognition from the previous Committee Chairs (Ann Wessells, Kathy Hall, and Jennifer Lester) in “passing on the torch” to the new Chairs.

The event hosted the following presenters/speakers:
Director Harold Clarke/CCO David Robinson
Deputy Director Cookie Scott - “Women Leaders Throughout History”
Linda Pierce & Jim Burke - “The Importance of Story”
Annie Wimbish - “Who are These People”
Ruth Nichols - “Voices of Authentic Leadership”
Lisa Hernandez - “Resilience”
Nicole Walters - “The American Dream” (Keynote)

The event was held off-site (from the Academy), which had not been done in several years.

Committee members included:
Toni Cerino, Deputy Chief Probation Office District 31 (Co-chair)
Holly Aleandro, Deputy Chief Probation Office District 19 (Co-chair)
Jennifer Lester, Chief Probation Office District 18
Ann Wessells, Chief Probation Office District 4
Kathy Hall, Chief Probation Office District 2
Sharonda Banks, Senior Probation Officer District 30
Dara Cannaday, Warden Marion Correctional Treatment Center
Mary Knight, Chief Probation Officer District 19
Linda Joyner, Chief Probation Officer Eastern Regional Office
Wendy Ogburn, Eastern Regional Office
Haynesville Correctional Unit 17 Joins with Community First Responders for Fire Drill

On August 8, VADOC conducted a multi-agency drill at Haynesville Correctional Unit 17. The drill consisted of a simulated large fire with a facility evacuation and simulated smoke inhalation-related injuries.

The Richmond County Emergency Medical Services and Fire Department responded to the full-scale drill. After the drill, organizers conducted a hot wash/lessons learned and full facility walk through.

Haynesville Correctional Unit 17 coordinated the drill to meet Department requirements including an annual drill involving outside agencies. The exercise ensures Unit 17 has a viable emergency fire plan that is known and practiced with our local first responders.

After the live exercise, first responders pointed out a few areas of concern that would have otherwise gone unnoticed. The concerns were discussed and resolved, thus preventing issues in a real emergency and helping to save lives.

“We are proud to say we have a great relationship with all of our local first responders,” said Major Robert Lewis. “We have had opportunities in the past to conduct multi-agency drills and trainings with the Virginia State Police, Virginia State Park Services, Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries, multiple Sheriff Offices of the Northern Neck, and multiple Fire and EMS agencies of the Northern Neck. These past events have helped to form lasting friendships with our first responders. We believe that maintaining these friendships, and networking together makes us a better neighbor in our community and helps us fulfill our mission, by allowing us to be more prepared to respond together in a real emergency, by training together in emergency drills,” Major Lewis added.
New Digs Bring It All Together:
Backgrounds and Investigation Enjoys Its New Location

Ron Lucas, left, and members of his Background and Investigations Units staff, including Richard Austin, right, are enjoying a new location in the southeast section of the first floor at VADOC Headquarters. The move consolidates the staff in one area.

District 28, Radford, And Sussex I State Prison Promote Breast Cancer Awareness

At Sussex I, right: Staff held a Pink Shirt Day for Breast Cancer Awareness Month. Seated from left are Sussex I’s two breast cancer survivors: Linda Hall and Charlene Shaw.

At District 28, lower right: For the second consecutive year, District 28 has collected donations for the Blue Ridge Cancer Care Center to recognize October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month. D 28 collected lotions, headphones, candy, and many other miscellaneous items in an effort to provide some comfort and relaxation to those who are otherwise going through a terribly stressful time.
In Case You Missed It: A Whole Lotta Tweetin’ Going On

Tweets to Repeat:

September 12 - VADOC Probation and Parole Officers and ex-offender Jerry Lee are answering phones in the @NBC12 Call12 Center, taking questions about reentry, employment, community resources, housing and other concerns.

September 5 - Co-ed teams from four DOC facilities competed in a softball tournament in Tazewell, VA on 8/25 to raise money for Special Olympics and Kennel Gap Community Fund. Host team Keen Mountain took home 1st place followed by River North, Red Onion and Bland.

September 5 - Ex-offender Paul Taylor visited Cognitive Communities at the Sussex State Prisons, emphasizing the importance of making thoughtful decisions and doing the right thing. Taylor explained how making lifestyle changes during incarceration leads to a smoother reentry.

September 19 - Kristen Mallory, right, talks to offenders in the Victim Impact Program at VCCW. Kristen suffered permanent injuries when she and her mother Susan were hit by a drunk driver. They’re joined by Amber Leake, center, with the Victim Services Unit.

September 15 - Today, the VADOC’s Operation Logistics Unit Command Center coordinated the return of offenders to Indian Creek Correctional Center from Greensville Correctional Center. ICCC offenders were evacuated last week to GCC in anticipation of Hurricane Florence.
Virginia Department of Corrections disputes allegations in lawsuit claiming mentally ill inmate has been in solitary for a dozen years: The Virginia Department of Corrections fired back at claims made in a suit filed by the ACLU of Virginia on behalf of an inmate said to be mentally ill and housed in isolation.

Virginia DOC receives funding to enhance composting efforts and reduce waste: The Harrisonburg Diversion Center is one of 19 correctional centers in Virginia to receive a very specific technical assistance grant from the United States Department of Agriculture.

Richmond bakery offers fresh treats, fresh start for employees: New businesses seem to pop up every week in Richmond, but one new bakery is offering a “fresh start” to both the morning for its customers and life for its employees.

How the Cognitive Community Model changes offender thinking and behavior: Since implementing this model, VADOC has recorded the lowest rate of offender recidivism among 45 states that produce three-year recidivism rates for felons.

Virginia's Indian Creek Correctional Center in Chesapeake evacuated ahead of Florence: Roughly 1,000 inmates at Virginia’s Indian Creek Correctional Center in Chesapeake were evacuated Monday night following Gov. Ralph Northam’s mandatory evacuation order in advance of Hurricane Florence.

VADOC Probation and Parole Officers and returning citizen participate in Call 12 Center: Jerry Lee, an ex-offender join several VADOC staff including several P&P Officers on September 12 to answer questions about the Department and answer a ranges of questions with a special focus on reentry.

Judge recommends dismissal of civil rights complaint filed by former Red Onion State Prison inmate: A federal magistrate judge is recommending the dismissal of a civil rights suit filed by a state prison inmate alleging that officials were preventing him from leaving segregation in retaliation for filing complaints.

Virginia Prison Population Growing Older, More Expensive To Treat: A new report shows more and more people who are over the age of 50 are being sentenced to prison in Virginia. And that’s led to a rise in healthcare costs for the Virginia Department of Corrections.