



AROUND THE STATE: INMATE CAPTURED AFTER ESCAPE FROM NEWBERRY THIS MORNING; RMI INMATES PROTEST SUBPAR FOOD; MTU INMATES TICKETED AFTER SHOUTING THREATS

A Newberry prisoner escaped early this morning and threatened to take a hostage during his brief breakout.

The inmate climbed both perimeter fences, triggering a zone alarm shortly after 2 a.m. Staff immediately responded, but the inmate climbed the fences quickly.

The perimeter security vehicle (PSV) was activated. The inmate was also pursued on foot. MDOC's Emergency Response Team, Michigan State Police, U.S. Border Patrol, and local police searched for the inmate.

The prisoner crossed M-123 before going to a hotel on M-28 in Newberry, where he threatened to take a hostage. The escapee was apprehended at the hotel.

Inmate Alize Montague, 19, was captured less than two hours after making his break. He was hospitalized for injuries sustained while scaling the fence. He is now at a higher-level facility.

Montague is in prison for assault by strangulation or suffocation and other convictions. He started serving a 5 to 10-year sentence in January. NCF officers say he had been at the prison for about two weeks.

MCO will conduct an independent re-

view of the incident. We have confirmed that two officer positions were closed at the time of the escape. Positions are routinely closed at several, if not all, prisons in the state to save money. Corrections officers have spoken out for years against budget-driven corrections, and we will continue to do so.

We will also be examining whether this inmate was properly classified. Montague was a Level I, the lowest security classification.

"Our concern is that this could be yet another example of how budget-driven corrections make prisons and communities like Newberry less safe," MCO President Tom Tylutki said. "We are grateful for the corrections officers and law enforcement whose quick actions led to the escapee's arrest."

About 60 inmates at the Michigan Reformatory marched in a peaceful protest of Trinity food Sunday.

The march started at about 8 p.m. during the Level II night yard, officers tell MCO.

Level II inmates from about five housing units participated. Their chief complaints are food shortages and subpar

turkey, which is served several times a week, officers said.

The protest was peaceful, and no one was hurt, officers said. Prisoners were escorted back to their cells without incident.

A few MTU inmates received incite-to-riot tickets and at least half a dozen prisoners were sent to seg after an incident in B-unit Aug. 10.

Two weapons had been found in the unit. As officers were escorting prisoners out of the unit, a few prisoners started shouting threats. No one was hurt. Officers say the situation was gang-related. Two inmates were sent to another facility.

MTU is a Level II prison.

A Macomb inmate bit an officer Aug. 7.

That afternoon, an RTP (Residential Treatment Program) prisoner became resistant while being moved to A-Wing (segregation wing). While officers were trying to gain control of the inmate, he bit an officer in his right arm, breaking the skin.

The officer was taken to a clinic for treatment.

Join other MDOC staff for summer fun at these events!

If you're headed to the UP State Fair, make sure to stop by the MDOC table!

The fair is going on now through Sunday at the Upper Peninsula State Fairgrounds in Escanaba. MDOC will have a table set up in the Ruth Butler building. Stop by and say hello! The kids can get pencils, candy, MCO swag, and more.

Fair hours today through Saturday are 10:30 a.m. to 10:30 p.m. Sunday

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MDOC participated in the 2015 fair for the first time in many years, MBP member Pam Basal said.

"The response was incredible," Basal said. "It gave me the opportunity to show officers in a positive light and educate the public on what our job is."

See you at the fair!

MDOC staff at Detroit-area facilities and all MCO members are invited to

the Children's Day Picnic on Saturday, Aug. 27 at Lower Huron Metro Park in Belleville.

The picnic will include bounce houses, music, airbrush tattoos, Disney characters, lots of great food, and more. Plus, kids can get a backpack full of school supplies!

The fun starts at 11 a.m. and lasts all day. The annual picnic brings together corrections staff and their families for a day of fun and fellowship.