

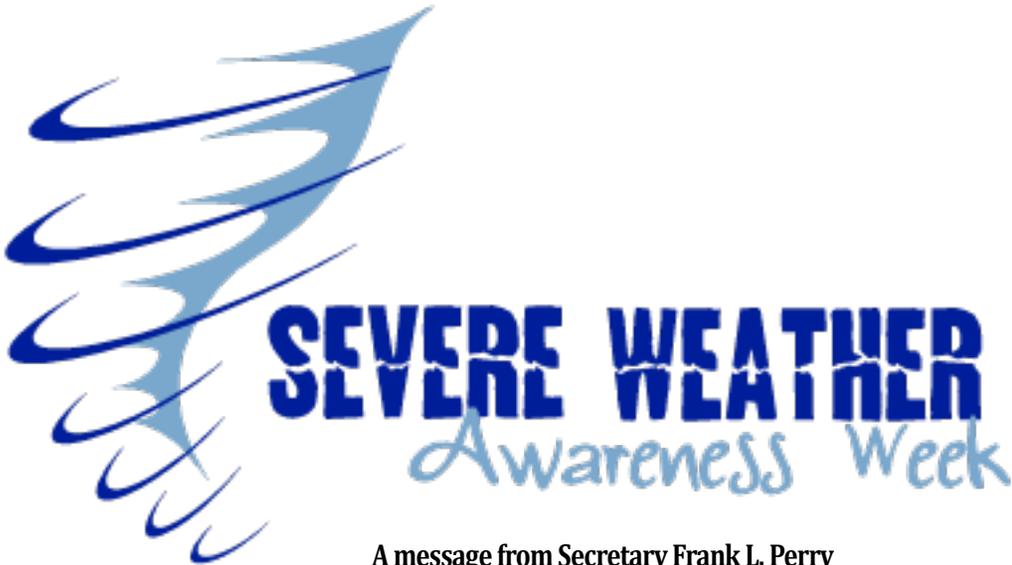
Online

Scene



AWARDS





A message from Secretary Frank L. Perry

North Carolina last year experienced 36 tornadoes that caused more than \$22 million in damages. Nine of those touched down in one day in nine eastern counties, killing one person and injuring 28 others. Gov. McCrory has designated March 1-7 as Severe Weather Preparedness Week in our state to provide all of us with an opportunity to learn and practice what to do during severe storms and tornadoes.

On Wednesday, March 4, schoolchildren from across the state will practice a tornado drill. I encourage you to take 10 minutes and, along with North Carolina's school system, practice the annual drill. Lives can be saved when workers know where to go and what to do in the event of a real emergency as we saw last April in Eastern North Carolina.

The National Weather Service, through the NOAA weather radios and Emergency Alert System, will broadcast the drill at 9:30 a.m. on March 4. When the alert is given, your designated safety officer should instruct employees to go to their building's inner hallway, away from windows, on the lowest floor if possible.

Last year, the National Weather Service in North Carolina:

- ▲ Issued 81 tornado warnings
- ▲ Recorded 36 tornadoes that resulted in one death and 34 injuries
- ▲ Issued more than 632 severe thunderstorm warnings, and
- ▲ Recorded more than 686 incidents of severe thunderstorms with damaging winds and/or large hail that killed three people and injured seven others.

More information on how to be prepared for severe weather is available at www.readync.org. The free ReadyNC mobile app, which provides real-time weather and traffic conditions, is also available at the site. ▲

What's inside?

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Outstanding accomplishments

Badge of Excellence

The Department of Public Safety paid tribute to 28 of its most dedicated and outstanding employees during the first DPS Badge of Excellence Awards Ceremony.

The ceremony acknowledged DPS employees who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments. The Badge of Excellence program promotes departmentwide recognition that acknowledges and celebrates employees' impactful contributions to the overall goals and mission of the department, North Carolina state government and to North Carolinians. Employees are nominated for the award by other DPS employees including their supervisors, co-workers and subordinates.

Photos by
Ryan Guthrie,
staff photographer.

Outstanding Achievement and Performance

The DPS U.S. Open Security Team was recognized for the effort it displayed in overseeing all security and traffic support for the U.S. Open Championships June 9-22, 2014. The team of more than 200 employees was led by **Gregory K. Baker**, commissioner of Law Enforcement; **Ken Pike**, Alcohol Law Enforcement assistant director; **Kelton Brown**, ALE assistant special agent in charge; Capt. **Freddie Johnson** and Capt. **Shane Manuel**, State Highway Patrol; **Janie Sutton**, State Bureau of Investigation assistant director; **Tim Luper**, SBI special agent in charge; **Johnny D. Hawkins**, Adult Correction & Juvenile Justice, Security Services chief; **Brian Neil**, Information Sharing and Analysis Center, special agent in charge; and **Steve Powers**, Emergency Management, central branch manager.

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FROM PAGE 3

Public Service and Volunteerism

Correctional Officer **Darris Williams** works in the support section at Marion Correctional Institution. As the assigned intelligence representative for his housing unit, Williams spent numerous hours outside of his shift, working diligently to track and validate the activities of gang-affiliated inmates. For his outstanding efforts, last spring he was named intelligence officer for the entire prison.

Williams also excels in volunteer work in the community. A former standout high school football player, he works to share his love of the sport with kids, serving as president of the Forest City youth football program, and vice president of the Mid Atlantic Youth Football/Cheer Conference. Williams dedicates untold hours of his personal time to the football programs for no compensation — only the satisfaction that he may be providing a foundation of future success for the youths that they might not otherwise have.

Master Trooper **Donald K. Pearson**, a 12-year veteran assigned to Troop B District 2 Patrol office in Clinton, dedicates many volunteer hours toward organizing, obtaining sponsors, gathering donations and preparing logistics for a golf tournament sponsored by troopers in Clinton. Pearson is the driving force behind the event, the proceeds of which are used to provide five college scholarships for students at local high schools as well as toward the purchase of Christmas gifts for less-fortunate children. As a result of his efforts, children have received scholarships for college and Christmas gifts during the holidays. Trooper Pearson went well above and beyond what is expected of him in order to assist the community where he serves.



Darris Williams



Donald Pearson

Probation/Parole Officer II **Shekarra Crutchfield** not only gives of her own time and efforts, but provides the Division 2, District 14 office in Durham opportunities for service to their community. Crutchfield encourages officers to visibly show the community that the probation officers of Durham care and want to give back to their community. She has implemented projects such as a food drive (“Caring for the Community with Cans”); assisted with the Survivor Project, in which Community Corrections officers provided clothes and other goods or items for women and children leaving abusive relationships to begin new lives; and has promoted office support and issue awareness for the Purple Ribbons domestic violence program and the Go Red for Women heart health.

Customer Service

Deborah Cooley-Godwin, a hazard mitigation specialist at N.C. Emergency Management, was recognized for her outstanding customer service and “outside-the-box” approach in helping a Grifton homeowner qualify for federal funds to protect his home from repeated flooding. Although the home was not in a marked flood plain, the homeowner repeatedly endured damaging floods and sought assistance to either elevate the home or purchase the vulnerable structure so it could be moved to a safer location. Godwin spent a year working diligently with the homeowner, municipal and county officials and the floodplain specialists in N.C. Emergency Management to develop a solution to the complicated case. When federal mitigation requirements changed, Godwin submitted to FEMA paperwork that enabled the homeowner’s property to be declared eligible for federal mitigation funds.



Shekarra Crutchfield



Deborah Cooley-Godwin

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FROM PAGE 4



Robert Buckheit

Innovation and Efficiency

Robert Buckheit, a software developer in the Management Information System section, developed and piloted the Electronic Rounds Tracking System at the request of prisons security management. This new system transitioned a pen and paper process for recording observations of inmates to a more accurate and efficient recording system based on mobile technology. The new system allows correctional officers to record their observations immediately on tablets, using software that provides individualized information about each inmate.

The innovative system enhances the safety of prison staff while documenting the well-being of inmates. Buckheit also secured a grant to purchase hundreds of Samsung tablets for the prison system at a very low cost, and he developed a comprehensive user guide and conducted training classes across the state. Because of Buckheit's outstanding dedication, innovation and hard work, MIS was able to deliver a product tailored to the prison system's needs, at a low cost.



Trooper **Kendell Jackson**, left, with Col. Bill Grey accepting on behalf of retired Trooper Brackman.

Retired Master Trooper Dennis Brackman and Master Trooper **Kendell Jackson** of Troop E, District 9 in Mount Airy took it upon themselves to design, manufacture and amass accessories to the Motor Carrier Enforcement Section's existing scale presses in order to make calibration checks more efficient and less strenuous.

Troopers Jackson and Brackman installed enhancements to the state's nine scale presses, which are used to calibrate and check for accuracy of each of the state's approximately 1,250 operational scales twice yearly. They estimated that the changes could have cost the state \$9,600, but Jackson and Brackman were able to fabricate, add aftermarket parts and implement the project at a total cost of about \$1,200. The enhancements reduced costs, repetition, injury risk and fatigue to scale technicians from continuous handling of the scales, which weigh about 40 pounds each.

Heroism

Training Instructor **Alvin Laws** leads training programs in Greenville with the Office of Staff Development and Training, and also serves his community as a volunteer firefighter. Laws was recognized for his actions of Jan. 21, 2014, when a fire broke out at the home next door to his daughter in Goldsboro. During a visit there, Laws found the house fully engulfed in flames. He had grabbed his turnout gear from his vehicle, when he heard a man yelling from the back of the house and found Gary Diaz hanging out of an upstairs bathroom window. When a nearby ladder proved too short to reach the window, Laws encouraged Diaz to jump into his arms before the flames reached him. He was able to break Diaz's fall enough to minimize his injuries and may have saved Diaz's life.



Alvin Laws

Human Relations

Members of the Yadkin County Community Corrections Office were recognized for their care for each other and for the community. **Scott Cooper, Sandy L. Davis, Joy J. Doub, Mark T. Matthews, Bryan S. Moxley, Thomas Poindexter, Mark Reinhardt, Nikki Long, Shane K. Shore and Glenn C. Oakes** use personal leave time to help residents who cannot afford

such needs as handicapped ramps, small construction jobs or general home repair and improvements. Collectively and individually, they also routinely participate in such projects as: The Yadkin County Angel Tree, collecting money throughout the year to purchase Christmas gifts for children who wouldn't otherwise receive presents; Impact Yadkin, a local mission project; coaching community youths; and chairing an election precinct. Among fellow professionals they enhance the quality of the workplace, strive to create good relationships among collaborative agencies and to provide refreshments to court personnel during court week to show appreciation for all of the partners in serving the county. ▾



Yadkin County Community Corrections personnel who could attend the ceremony were **Bryan S. Moxley, Mark T. Matthews, Nikki Long and Joy J. Doub**.

John Larkins would be proud of her

RALEIGH | Chief Probation/Parole Officer **Robin Griffin** of District 22, Iredell County, received the prestigious John R. Larkins Award on Jan. 16, during the Martin Luther King celebration at First Baptist Church, downtown Raleigh.

An employee of the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice since 1995, Griffin was cited for her compassion, authenticity and optimism as well as being hard working and fairminded in her career and her personal life. She believes in fair treatment of offenders, and takes into account offenders' life circumstances, including socio-economic status.

Griffin embraces and supports new departmental initiatives, such as Justice Reinvestment. Serving on numerous DPS committees, she took part in the Correctional Leadership Development Program and was selected to represent the Department of

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Photo by Katy Warner, N.C. Department of Transportation photographer



Pastor's call: Go to prison

"For I know the plans I have for you," declares the Lord, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.

Jeremiah 29:11 New International Version

By **Tammy Martin**, Communications Specialist
Being called to the ministry is special gift. Answering the call to be a correctional chaplain is an honor. That is the perspective of **Teresa "Terri" Stratton**, Central Prison's senior chaplain.

"My passion is music, but being a chaplain is my calling," Stratton said.

Equipped with a bachelor's degree in religion and a master of divinity from Campbell University, Stratton has more than 30 years as a youth minister and minister of music that prepared her for prison chaplaincy. Although it wasn't a planned direction for her life, it was the path she's been led to follow.

"Becoming a chaplain started when I was working as an intern for my master's degree at a hospital where I was trained in clinical pastoral education," she said. "That's where I discovered my love for chaplaincy. That's where my journey took another turn."

While considering career options after completing divinity school, working in a prison was not the first choice for Stratton. But with few options for hospital chaplaincy jobs, she applied for work with the former Department

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FROM PAGE 7

of Correction. In 2010, Harnett Correctional Institution became the first place where she would continue the life journey as a chaplain.

“I felt intimidated when I pulled up on my first day,” she said. “After all, working in a prison was not what I wanted to do at first. But when I entered the gates, I felt the biggest peace come over me. And I knew right then, this is where God wanted me to be.”

While being called to be a chaplain, there are many other duties that complete the job requirements. Chaplains have administrative responsibilities that include addressing religious issues of all faiths, advising corrections staff of religious issues, supervising, planning and facilitating religious activities and identifying and providing resources for all faiths. There are also ministeri-

al responsibilities that include conducting and facilitating religious services and studies, counseling and pastoral care to inmates, staff and families.

Three chaplains are assigned to Central Prison, each responsible for about 300 inmates. From inmates coming in for processing to those on death row, balancing spiritual needs with safety and policy are all considerations when working in a corrections facility. All of these duties require that chaplains are competent, tough and compassionate when needed.

“We are licensed and ordained professionals, with the added responsibility of following policy and procedures that are imperative in a prison,” Stratton said. “We are trained to recognize gang signs, colors and language so that we’re able to keep religious services and programs sacred. Being aware of violations and contraband is part of our duties.”

Religious life in prison is diverse, with 15 faith groups recognized in the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice. While all groups are not represented at Central Prison, the chaplains oversee 22 religious programs per week including services for Christians, Muslims, Buddhists, American Indians and Rastafarians.

Along with religious rituals, many other situations requiring spiritual guidance are a daily occurrence. With Central Prison serving as an intake and

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We are licensed and ordained professionals, with the added responsibility of following policy and procedures that are imperative in a prison.

In the privacy of her office, left, or in a cell-block corridor, below, Stratton is open to hearing from inmates at Central Prison.



FROM PAGE 8

processing unit, medical facility and special populations housing, varying issues demand attention from the chaplaincy staff. Whether Stratton is helping to heal relationships between inmates and their families or helping prisoners to acknowledge mistakes, she and her staff are often assisting people along the road of forgiveness. These are common traits in most religions, reaching beyond the differences and speaking to the heart, she said.

“There are inmates with life threatening and terminal diseases — some even moving to hospice care,” Stratton said. “We provide services for them.

“There are also cases when we have to give life-changing information to inmates — like the death of a parent or if family members become terminally ill. These situations make everyone equal. Loss is a common factor for everyone. We just try to help those in need, in any way that we can.”

“To provide quality caring, effective, efficient, professional religious ministries to clients” is the mission of DPS Chaplaincy Services. But to Terri Stratton, “it’s a calling, not a job — something I breathe. God’s plan for me has and is a journey beyond belief. I love being a chaplain.” ▾

FROM PAGE 6

Public Safety at the Judicial College of the University of North Carolina School of Government.

She supports her home community, Statesville, serving on Appropriate Placement Options and I-Care, which serve individuals with low socio-economic status. Griffin leads several church committees that support positive race relations, and has created lecture forums for youth councils to discuss the founding principles of justice and equality. She spearheaded the Martin Luther King School Supply Project in Iredell County, which collected supplies for local schools.

The John R. Larkins Award was established in 1998 to recognize human service. The award is presented annually at the Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observance Program. Griffin exemplifies the same virtues that made Dr. Larkins stand out at work and in the community. She has made a positive impact on the lives of others. ▾



Katy Poole appointed administrator

Katy Poole is the new administrator at Scotland Correctional Institution near Laurinburg. She has been serving there as acting

administrator since July.

In her new role, Poole oversees a staff of 564 employees supervising the largest state prison population in North Carolina, with more than 1,600 male inmates.

Poole is a 22-year veteran of the state prison system and began work as a correctional officer in 1992. She has been an assistant superintendent at Robeson Correctional Center and Morrison Correctional Institution and as operations manager for prisons in the South Central Region.

She is a graduate of Hoke County High School and American International University. She completed the NCDPS Correctional Leadership Development Program and is a Certified Public Manager. ▾



Joe Solano at the helm at Hyde prison

The Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice has named **Joe Solano** as the superintendent at Hyde Correctional

Institution near Swan Quarter.

In his new role, Solano oversees a staff of about 220 employees that supervises an inmate population of more than 630 male inmates.

Solano is a 19-year veteran of the state prison system and began work as a correctional officer at Hyde Correctional Institution in 1996. He rose through the ranks to serve as a captain at Craven Correctional Institution and an assistant superintendent at Pamlico Correctional Institution.

He is a U.S. Army veteran and former paratrooper. He completed the NCDPS Correctional Leadership Development Program, holds an Advanced Corrections Certificate and serves as a training instructor for NCDPS. ▾

On The Scene ...

is an online news magazine published monthly for and about employees of the North Carolina Department of Public Safety.

If you have questions, ideas or content to submit, please contact the editor, George Dudley, at george.dudley@ncdps.gov or at 919.733.5027.

Museum showcases troopers' history

RALEIGH | Members of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol and officials with the N.C. Museum of History have opened a new museum exhibit highlighting the patrol's history and showcasing vehicles, firearms and uniforms since 1929.

The exhibition, "North Carolina State Highway Patrol: Service, Safety, Sacrifice," runs through Aug. 2. Admission is free. The exhibit was produced in conjunction with the State Highway Patrol and the Highway Patrol Hall of History. The exhibit celebrates 86 years of service in which the State Highway Patrol remains dedicated to fulfilling its primary mission — promoting a safer state.

"This exhibit will provide insight into a law enforcement organization that always strives for excellence,"

said Col. **Bill Grey**, commander of the State Highway Patrol. "Since 1929, with its rich tradition and remarkable members, the State Highway Patrol has provided outstanding service to North Carolina residents."

The State Highway Patrol was established on March 18, 1929, to address the increase in motor vehicle traffic on the state's highways and the resulting increase in fatalities. Today, 1,759 state troopers continue a strong legacy of policing and protecting the state's highway system and promoting highway safety. The element of risk is continuous: 62 troopers have died in the line of duty in service to North Carolina.

In 1929 the 37 original members of the Highway Patrol received their first assignment: to motorcade across

the Tar Heel State. The purpose was to see the state and for residents to see them. Each patrolman rode a Harley-Davidson motorcycle, while officers sat in a Ford. The tour began in Beaufort.

The exhibit features items representative of the time: a 1928-1931 Ford Model A Coupe, a 1929 Highway Patrol uniform and a 1934 Harley-Davidson motorcycle.

Photographs in North Carolina State Highway Patrol tell the stories of people in the organization, such as Charles D. Farmer of Raleigh, the first commander of the State Highway Patrol. Capt. Farmer is considered the Father of the Patrol. Other exhibit images recount decades of events centered on service, safety and sacrifice.

Visitors to the exhibit will discover how uniforms, radio communication, speed-timing devices and other equipment have changed. In addition, 12 firearms, a pair of handcuffs, and batons are on view.

A sampling of artifacts in the exhibit provides a glimpse of what the new exhibition features:

- ▲ A Breathalyzer 900A that troopers used from 1961 to 1990 to determine a driver's blood-alcohol concentration.
- ▲ Speed-timing instruments that range from a speed-timing watch used from 1950 to 1968 to an MPH

K-55 radar employed from 1979 to 2005.

- ▲ A dosimeter, circa 1950, that could detect radiation in an area. The hairline indicator, which moved up from "0," would determine the amount of exposure.
- ▲ A Harley-Davidson motorcycle, circa 1995. In 1994 the Highway Patrol returned to using motorcycles. Today, the motor unit includes 11 troopers and operates the 1200 BMW RTP Police Touring Motorcycle, which can accelerate from 0 to 60 mph in 4 seconds.
- ▲ Several badges, pins and assorted insignia representing various ranks in the Highway Patrol. The Patrol is a semimilitary organization.
- ▲ Firearms used in service, which include an Auto-Ordnance Corporation Thompson .45 ACP caliber select rifle, 1929-1950, and a Sig Sauer P-226 .357 SIG caliber semi-automatic pistol, 2014.

"I would like to say a special thank you to Capt. **John Ivarsson** who has worked diligently alongside the Hall of History members to make this possible," Col. Grey said. "While touring this historical exhibit, I hope that you will gain the same sense of service, pride and respect that we troopers carry with us each day and obtain a better understanding what it means to be a state trooper." ▲



Left, one of the displays brings back a memory for Capt. **David Witherspoon**.



Trainers 'do' well

Several Office of Staff Development and Training trainers recently completed the Wellness Instructor Training Program. The curriculum provides specialized certifications to instruct the OSDT Employee Fitness and Wellness Lesson Plans, which are delivered in the Correctional Officer and Probation/Parole Basic Training Programs as well as Annual In-Service Training. Instructors were introduced to fitness and wellness as they relate to the overall fitness and wellness of the human body. The course covered coronary risk factors, human anatomy, exercise and safety, flexibility training, cardiovascular training, nutrition training and behavior change. Instructors participated in numerous physical fitness sessions that included several types of circuit training and flexibility training. Instructors were provided information and the necessary knowledge to assist DPS employees in meeting their wellness goals along with performing the essential job functions. Instructors successfully completed a written examination. From left, front row, **Charles Carter** and **Amy Alperstein**; second row, **Joseph Elliott**, **Jacquelyn Chatman**, **Valerie Harris** and **Neill McInnis**; and third row, **Curtis Hedgepeth**, **Jonathan Steadman**, **Jason Fowler**, **Jay Carter** and **John Beam**.

Civil Air Patrol exercise has earthquake scenario

The North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol in January concluded a two-day training mission designed to simulate a large earthquake in North Carolina.

CAP's job was to conduct aerial surveys of the damage with high resolution digital photography as well as make ground searches for people who had become confused from the earthquake and fled from the senior citizen communities they resided in, into the woods.

Unlike most large scale missions with a full incident command staff, this exercise restricted the ability to assemble a centralized command staff due to infrastructure failures and relied on a small primary staff at the Raleigh Durham International Airport and smaller remote locations in Winston-Salem and eastern North Carolina. CAP's vast communications system was used, including airborne repeaters on CAP aircraft that could connect the mission base with aircraft and ground teams more than 100 miles from mission base.

The unique aspect of this training was that the mission details were not provided to participants in advance.

A total of 101 personnel participated in the mission, which used 10 vehicles and 12 aircraft. In the fast-paced exercise, 13 air crews flew 21 sorties, including five photo reconnaissance missions that involved capturing images of critical infrastructure which would be used by the various federal, state and local agencies for damage assessment. Six ground teams went out on nine ground sorties each designed to find a missing person typical of a Silver alert.

"We accomplished several integrated but separate tasks in this exercise including the ability to operate large air and ground activities with no advance notice," said Maj John May, N.C. Wing Director of Emergency Services. "Additionally we managed a large scale mission with only a skeletal mission base staff at the incident command post and had everyone else working from remote locations."

The mission tested the capabilities of the North Carolina Wing Civil Air Patrol and the different skills sets that offer tremendous value to the community and the citizens of North Carolina.

Incident Commander for the mission, Lt Col Viventi said, "Our team delivered and we accomplished today's mission professionally. All tasking have been addressed and all sorties have been completed without incident."

The Civil Air Patrol is the all-volunteer auxiliary of the United States Air Force. An Emergency Services program in North Carolina, it includes light aircraft and equipment for searches, disaster assessments, communications and personnel transport. Ground capabilities include search and rescue teams, communications platforms, and relief supply distribution. ▀



Lt. Col Dion Viventi, incident commander, reviews the tasking map with Col. Dave Crawford, Planning Section chief.

Photo by Maj Robert S. McComas, mission staff assistant.



Lumberton CI Administrator **Brad Perritt**, center, accepts the Torch Run Directors Award, flanked by members of his staff and Special Olympics athletes Casey Phillips and Zach Commander.

Lumberton CI recognized for Special Olympics support

The North Carolina Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics presented Lumberton Correctional Institution with the Torch Run Director's Award for its significant and consistent fundraising efforts within the Torch Run.

Lumberton Correctional has raised more than \$150,000 for the N.C. Law Enforcement Torch Run during the past 11 years. In addition to donations collected for T-shirts, the prison hosts multiple special events and participates in a variety of unique fundraisers, including a very successful golf tournament. Administrator **Brad Perritt** accepted the award on behalf of the prison's staff on Jan. 22 at the 2015 Torch Run Kickoff Conference in Raleigh.

"The hard work and fundraising efforts of the Law Enforcement Torch Run officers allows us to provide first class sports training, competition, and development for Special Olympics athletes and volunteers," said Claudia Morgan, co-director of the Torch Run and officer with the Winston-Salem Police Department. "These individuals and agencies have made an immeasurable impact on the lives of Special Olympics NC athletes. Their efforts have helped make Special Olympics North Carolina one of the best sports programs in the world."

The Law Enforcement Torch Run is an international fundraising campaign for Special Olympics which provides year-round sports training and competition for more than 4 million children and adults who have intellectual disabilities. ▴

Mental health probation pilot launched

On Jan. 29, the Division of Community Corrections hosted a meeting with local behavioral health providers and Alliance Behavioral Health-care to launch its specialty mental health probation pilot in Wake County.

Attending were 31 individuals representing 14 different organizations, including local inpatient and outpatient behavioral health providers, managed care organizations, the Division of Mental Health, Developmental Disabilities and Substance Use Services, Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC) and the School of Social Work at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The event was held at the Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice central office in Raleigh.

"Hosting this event to launch our specialty mental health pilot here in Wake County is a demonstration of our commitment to working with our local partners to serve the needs of probationers living with mental illness," said **Anne Precythe**, director of Community Corrections. "We hope this meeting will further strengthen collaborations between DPS and our behavioral health partners and other stakeholders as we will all need to work together to address this particularly challenging public health and public safety issue." ▴

North Carolina AMBER Alerts on Facebook

RALEIGH | The North Carolina Center for Missing Persons, which issues AMBER Alerts in this state, has partnered with Facebook to help find missing children. Alerts will be sent to the social network's community and Facebook will send them to users' News Feeds.

"Getting detailed information to the public quickly improves dramatically the ability to find an abducted child," said Lt. **Jeff Gordon**, director of the N.C. Center for Missing Persons. "When the community is able to report sightings of the child, the suspect or the vehicle, especially in the first few hours, law enforcement are better able to find and recover the child safely."

For most people, the alerts will be rare because they will only go to people within the designated search area where an active search is underway. Last year, an 11-year-old girl was safely recovered after a South Carolina motel employee recognized a photo of the girl in an AMBER alert she saw on Facebook.

Law enforcement arrests and operations

Rapist caught in act
Probation officer **Brandon Thomas** has been credited with catching a Pitt County man who was charged with raping a 6 year old.

The sheriff said Thomas was trying to locate the suspect's son, a probationer, at his home when he found the suspect sexually assaulting the child in a shed behind the house.

The suspect's bond was set at \$1 million. ▴

'Trident' nets 13

MONROE | Law enforcement and public safety officers arrested 13 people during a multi-agency enforcement operation called "Operation Trident" on Jan. 29-30 in Union County. The operation focused on a three-part mission: locating absconders from probation supervision, conducting compliance checks on sex offenders and conducting searches on high-risk probationers.

Agencies involved in the operation included the U.S. Marshals Western NC Violent Fugitive Task Force, Community Corrections,

State Highway Patrol, U.S. Department of Homeland Security, Immigration and Customs Enforcement, Union County Sheriff's Office and Monroe Police Department.

"Collaborative efforts like these with our local and federal partners help ensure that criminal offenders are held to the supervision terms established by the courts, and make those on probation and parole understand that their illegal activities will not be tolerated in our communities," said **Johnny Hawkins**, director of Security Services for the North Carolina Division of Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice.

Officers served 21 warrants during the operation for violations including drug and weapons charges, probation and parole violations and an immigration violation. Three people were cited for drug possession and officers seized 10 firearms from felons not permitted to possess them. A parole warrant is pending against one sex offender found in possession of pornographic materials. ▴

Receptionist charged in drug ring case

Six people were arrested for operating a prescription drug ring in Eastern North Carolina. More than 6,000 illegally obtained pills valued at \$50,000 were confiscated, according to the State Bureau of Investigation.

Four local law enforcement agencies and the SBI combined efforts to investigate Amy Wynne Blankenship, 36, of Rocky Point, her two brothers and three of their friends who police believe were selling a large number of the illegally obtained drugs, mainly Lorcet. Blankenship was a receptionist in a Hampstead doctor's office, where she allegedly called in unauthorized prescriptions to local pharmacies in the names of her brothers and friends, who then picked up the drugs.

"This excellent example of teamwork between the N.C. SBI and local law enforcement agencies allowed officers to dismantle this drug ring and reduce the amount of potentially deadly narcotics being sold on the streets," said Special

Agent in Charge **Donnie Varnell** of the SBI Diversion and Environmental Crimes Unit.

The investigation was conducted by the Wilmington Police Department, New Hanover County Sheriff's Department, Carolina Beach Police Department, Pender County Sheriff's Office and the SBI. ▴

Meth lab bust

SUPPLY | Five people were arrested in Brunswick County after a methamphetamine lab was found in a shed.

They were each charged with manufacturing methamphetamine and possession or distribution of methamphetamine precursors.

The State Bureau of Investigation Clandestine Lab team and the local fire department dismantled the operation. ▴

FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

The AMBER Alert system issues media alerts when a law enforcement agency determines that a child was abducted and is in imminent danger.

Here's how Facebook will complement existing AMBER Alert distribution systems:

Facebook's distribution system will get the AMBER Alert to everyone who is logged into Facebook (on both mobile and desktop) during the alert if they are within the designated search area as specified by law enforcement.

The alert will include important details about the child such as a photo, description, location of the abduction, and any other available information that can be provided to aid in the search for the missing child.

The Facebook system enables people to share the alert with friends and link to the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children for the most up-to-date information about the case. ▴

Correction Enterprises' annual report wins award

Correction Enterprises has won the 2015 Annual Report Award, presented by the National Correctional Industries Association.

The award recognizes excellence in design, content and in-house printing of Correction Enterprises' annual report for 2013.

"This prestigious award reflects your commitment to excellence in your profession, as well as in our field of correctional industries," stated Gina Honeycutt, executive director, in a letter from the national association.

Correction Enterprises Director **Karen Brown** congratulated employees and inmates who worked on the design and production of the report.

"Great job to all of our committee members, and all I can say is, wait until they see our 2014 report!," she said. "I appreciate all of your hard work."

The award will be presented at a banquet in Indianapolis in April. ▴

Governor appoints Precythe

Gov. Pat McCrory recently appointed **Anne Precythe**, director of Community Corrections, to the North Carolina Governor's Council on Homelessness. ▴

Troopers graduate from basic training

On Jan. 16, the North Carolina State Highway Patrol had its 136th Basic Patrol School graduation, ending 29 weeks of extensive academic and physical training.

The new graduates and their respective duty stations are: **Jordan Alexander**, Troop C6 – Johnston County; **Jordan Alphin**, A4 – Beaufort; **Christopher Anderson**, A3 – Chowan; **Alek Beelendorf**, A4 – Washington; **Joel Best**, E3 – Rowan; **Ethan Bradshaw**, E1 – Davidson; **Brett Bush**, E4 – Forsyth; **Christopher Clark**, A4 – Beaufort; **Travis Cochran**, G5 – Jackson; **Samuel Corn**, C8 – Halifax; **Christopher Cross**, B3 – Onslow; **Matthew Drake**, H1 – Gaston; **Derek Easter**, A1 – Dare; **Phillip Edwards**, A7 – Jones; **Joseph Elledge**, E1 – Davidson; **Thomas Elliott**, A2 – Bertie; **Michael Erlichman**, E4 – Forsyth; **Christian Gall**, C8 – Halifax; **Dustin Grieve**, H3 – Union; **Sean Hall**, F5 – Catawba; **John Harrah**, C4 – Warren; **Cory Hipp**, G5 – Haywood; **Nathan Hocutt**, C6 – Johnston; **Alexis Hughey**, H5 – Mecklenburg; **Jarred Jacobs**, A3 – Chowan; **Anthony Juliano**, B3 – Onslow; **Christopher Kirby**, C1 – Nash; **Kim Locklear**, B7 – Robeson; **Christopher Maher**, H5 – Mecklenburg; **Haley Martin**, G3 – Henderson; **John Mastromonica**, E4 – Forsyth; **Brandon McRae**, A1 – Currituck; **Lucius McRavin**, IV, B8 – Harnett; **Steven Moore**, D7 – Orange; **Caleb Moore**, H5 – Mecklenburg; **Francisco Morales Jr.**, D7 – Orange; **Steven Moy II**, C3 – Wake; **Mark Nales**, D2 – Guilford; **Terry Neal**, F5 – Catawba; **Joseph Nelson**, H6 – Hoke; **Dallas Page**, D1 – Chatham; **Dustin Paige**, E2 – Montgomery; **Christopher Ridenhour**, E3 – Rowan; **Vincent Rivera**, C6 – Johnston; **Kristopher Rizzuto**, C8 – Halifax; **Ronald Rouse**, A1 – Dare; **Robert Smith**, B7 – Robeson; **Stuart Thompson**, D1 – Chatham; **Jacob Trivett**, C1 – Nash; **Jack Warwick**, C3 – Wake; **David Williams**, C3 – Henderson; **Walter Williamson Jr.**, H5 – Mecklenburg; **Connor Wilson**, A4 – Beaufort; and **Bryon Wilson**, C3 – Wake. ▴

Law Enforcement Appreciation Day observed

Gov. Pat McCrory proclaimed Jan. 9 "National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day" in North Carolina. The National Fraternal Order of Police and C.O.P.S. (Concerns of Police Survivors) designated Jan. 9 as National Law Enforcement Appreciation Day.

"Regardless of the dangers, thousands of uniformed officers across our state put on a badge and go to work to protect the people of this great state," McCrory said. "Law enforcement agencies are essential in safeguarding the rights and freedoms of the citizens of our state. I encourage everyone to take time to thank law enforcement officials and recognize the sacrifices they make daily for our safety."

Forty-four North Carolina law enforcement officers have lost their lives in the line of duty over the past 10 years. More than 24,000 North Carolina law enforcement officers were assaulted in the line of duty during the 10-year period 2004 to 2013. ▴

[Read the proclamation here.](#)

Go bowling for scholarships

The State Employees Association of North Carolina is inviting all employees to support its Scholarship Foundation by participating in a bowl-a-thon on Feb. 28. The event will be at Buffaloe Lanes North, 5900 Oak Forest Drive, Raleigh.

Two bowling periods will be available: 1-3 and 3-5 p.m. Entry fees, which include shoes rental, are \$20 per person and \$100 for a team of six persons. Prizes and awards will be given and a silent auction will be held.

For more information, contact Alicia Miller or Beth Dew at 800-222-2758.

PROMOTIONS

In January 2015

Name, New Job Title, Location

Teresa Alexander, personnel analyst III, Human Resources - Relations/Discipline
Ronald Ambrose, maintenance mechanic IV, Tyrell Prison Work Farm
Benjamin Anderson, assistant superintendent for programs II, Alexander CI
Darryl Avery, training specialist II, Foothills CI
Shawnette Barnes, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 7B
Robert Bauer, assistant chief of special operations, Community Corrections
Harold Bayne, substance abuse counselor, Black Mountain Treatment Center
Jerline Bennett, assistant superintendent for programs II, Lanesboro CI
Robert Bilberry, assistant superintendent, Prisons - Operation
Christopher Brackett, training instructor II, Office of Staff Development & Training
Connie Bray, accounting technician, Polk CI
Jeffery Brendle, unit manager, Marion CI
Guy Buckner, case analyst, Polk CI
Cary Bullard, district supervisor, State Bureau of Investigation – Field Operations
Rodney Burton, sergeant, Marion CI
Brenda Callahan, probation/parole officer,
 Burke Confinment in Response to Violation Center
Darrell Carter, career coordinator, Adult Correction Career Coaching
Charles Chavis, assistant unit manager, Scotland CI
Lucy Chege, youth counselor, Juvenile Justice - Cabarrus Youth Development Center
Russell Chester, captain, Alexander DI
Timothy Ciscel, captain, Piedmont CI
David Cobb, youth services behavioral specialist, Juvenile Justice – Dobbs YDC
Marc Collier, sergeant, Alexander CI
Garry Compton, HVAC supervisor I, Lanesboro CI
Shaqeta Cooper, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 8
Ricky Crump, food service manager IV, N.C. Correctional CI for Women
Brian Cummings, chief probation / parole officer, Community Corrections District 19A
Kimberly Cutler, chief probation / parole officer, Community Corrections District 11
Jeffery Daniels, assistant superintendent for custody & operations I, Prisons
Rosemary Deese, administrative officer I, Robeson CRV
Dakeela Dunlap, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 26B
Ellen Durham, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 26A
Alfred Evans, information technology director, IT - Infrastructure
John Fink, telecommunications center supervisor, State Highway Patrol Troop F
Sara Fleetwood, clinical social work supervisor, Prisons – Health Services
Christopher Fraley, maintenance mechanic III, Air National Guard Facility Management
Richard Gainey, unit manager, Robeson CRV
Summer Gilliland, sergeant, Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women
David Gillis, sergeant, Polk CI
Bruce Gipson, assistant unit manager, Robeson CRV
Lekisha Godley, programs supervisor, Maury CI
John Gray, captain, Maury CI

Shelia Greene, nurse director, Prisons – Health Services
Michael Gregory, assistant superintendent for programs I, Swannanoa CCW
Eli Hammett, lead correctional officer, Orange CC
Karen Hanson, lead worker IV, Adult Correction Combined Records
Ronald Harding, engineer, Emergency Management - Geodetic
Tony Harper, unit manager, Maury CI
Joseph Healey, personnel technician II, Juvenile Justice Youth Facilities
Charles Hedgpeth, career coordinator, Adult Correction Career Coaching
Rhonda Hendricks, career coordinator, Adult Correction Career Coaching
Sherry Hinson Downey, assistant superintendent for custody & operations I,
 Robeson CRV
Bruce Hodges, assistant superintendent for custody & operations II, Robeson CRV
Mary Hodges, chief probation / parole officer, Community Corrections District 25
David Hoggard, networking analyst, SHP VIPER Tower Group
Alfred Holt, sergeant, Raleigh CC for Women
Kimberly Hughes, personnel technician I, Community Corrections District 7
Antonio Jackson, training school unit administrator, Juvenile Justice Dobbs YDC
Donta Jackson, personnel technician I, Prisons
Junie Jacobs, unit manager, Robeson CRV
Stephen Jacobs, program development coordinator, Prisons
Genille James, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 12
Charles Johnson, assistant superintendent for custody & operations I, Franklin CC
Michael Johnston, sergeant, Scotland CI
Carl Jones, chief probation / parole officer, Community Corrections District 19B
Deborah Jones, medical records assistant IV, Central Prison Hospital
Eric Jones, unit manager, Robeson CRV
Michelle Jones, assistant unit manager, Robeson CRV
Jason Kirksey, maintenance mechanic IV, Foothills CI
Kelly Langston, psychological services coord, Tabor CI
Kevin Lawrence, lieutenant, Albemarle CI
Sharmila Logendran, processing assistant V, Controller – Accounts Payable
Cassandra Long, career coach, Adult Correction – Career Coaching
Susan Luther, training specialist II, Albemarle CI
Patrick McCartney, sergeant, Tabor CI
Dewayne McCormick, unit manager, Robeson CRV
Sim Mcrae, lieutenant, Lanesboro CI
Dennis Mecum, assistant superintendent for custody & operations I, Prisons
Deborah Mello, social worker III, Juvenile Justice – Chatham CRV
Richard Near, sergeant, Lanesboro CI
Eric Newton, telecommunications shift supervisor, SHP Troop F
Frederick O'Neal, assistant superintendent for custody & operations II, Polk CI
Sidra Owens, auditor, Internal Audit
Ann Oxendine, administrative officer II, Hoke CI
Donald Parker, radio engineer II, SHP Troop C
Betty Payton, administrative officer III, Adult Correction
Tracy Perry, personnel analyst I, Human Resources - Benefits

[CLICK HERE TO READ MORE](#)

RETIREMENTS

In January 2015

Name, Position, Location, Service (months)

Johnny Arrington, lead correctional officer, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 351

Dianne Benton, extension education & training specialist II, Emergency Management, 264

Steven Berry, correctional officer, Caledonia CI, 215

Lillie Brockers, correctional officer, Odom CI, 159

Doris Burke Myrick, processing assistant III, Bertie CI, 108

Johnny Burns, lieutenant, Lanesboro CI, 375

Bennie Burt, correctional officer, Franklin CC, 100

Yvonne Caffee, professional nurse, Scotland CI, 111

Sandra Caminiti, nurse supervisor, Craggy CI, 145

Dicky Carico, correctional officer, Caswell CI, 162

Larry Carter, sergeant, Scotland CI, 237

Judy Cline, judicial services coordinator, Community Corrections District 21, 367

Reginald Coleman, sergeant, Caswell CI, 328

Patricia Cooper, correctional officer, Fountain CCW, 260

Ronald Creech, correctional officer, Johnston CI, 294

Bessie Crews, behavioral specialist II, Foothills CI, 161

Steven Cummings, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 16, 364

Ellen Dappert, office assistant IV, Juvenile Justice District 26, 158

Bobby Deloatch, unit manager, Maury CI, 401

Diane Dick, sergeant, Morrison CI, 180

Sheila Dishman, office assistant IV, Juvenile Justice District 26, 301

Lovette Epps, youth counselor technician, Cabarrus YDC, 76

Walter Farrow, electrician II, Hyde CI, 219

Allan Fuller, human services coordinator I, Juvenile Justice – Wake Detention Center, 355

Lawrence Gerald, sergeant, Neuse CI, 356

Charlie Goodwin, captain, Lanesboro CI, 275

Alvin Griggs, correctional officer, Davidson CC, 164

Don Hall, correctional officer, Johnston CI, 337

Vicki Hallman, staff psychologist, New Hanover CC, 159

Donna Harris, correctional officer, Southern CI, 98

Thomas Hart, probation/parole officer, Communications District 19A, 357

Jimmy Headen, correctional officer, Orange CC, 164

Myra Heath, cook II, Juvenile Justice – Dobbs Youth Development Center, 306

Lynn Herman, systems programmer / specialist, State Bureau of Investigation, 110

Michael Herring, ABC chief administrator, ABC Administration, 398

Anne Hill, administrative assistant I, Juvenile Justice - Court Services, 319

William Holloway, lieutenant, Tyrrell Prison Work Farm, 398

Carl Honbarger, correctional officer, Piedmont CI, 303

Sandra Horne, correctional officer, Brown Creek CI, 136

Barbara Hunt, office assistant IV, Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency, 245

Bickford Jennings, correctional officer, Dan River Prison Work Farm, 205

Lawrence Johnson, lead correctional officer, Pender CI, 217

Ernest Jones, correctional officer, Tyrrell Prison Work Farm, 363

Robert Jones, administrator II, Prisons - Eastern Region, 400

Melvin Kearney, correctional officer, Fountain CCW, 241

Lloyd Keller, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 116

Donald Kiewert, captain, Maury CI, 375

Fred Kimbro, correctional officer, Caswell CC, 154

James Klopovic, planner I, Emergency Management - Exercise, 278

Robert Kuhse, correctional officer, Carteret CC, 246

Ronald Lamb, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 2, 347

Robert Lamielle, psychological program manager, Pasquotank CI, 220

Paul Latham, assistant director, Emergency Management - Logistics, 198

Kenneth Leavy, correctional officer, Morrison CI, 313

Steve Ledford, substance abuse program administrator, Alexander CI, 458

Mark Leonard, maintenance mechanic V, Warren CI, 300

Daniel Lewis, correctional officer, Orange CC, 241

Murle Lewis, captain, Eastern CI, 377

James Lomax, assistant superintendent for custody & operations I, Dan River CI, 359

Gerald Lyons, case manager, Mountain View CI, 97

Yvonne Maizland, juvenile court counselor, Juvenile Justice District 15, 74

Robert Malpass, correctional officer, Neuse CI, 163

Dortheia Marley, judicial services coordinator, Community Corrections District 19B, 306

Becky Martindale, correctional officer, Southern CI, 177

Deloris McDowell, processing assistant IV, Foothills CI, 172

Susan McInnis, school educator II, Morrison CI, 454

Danny McLamb, sergeant, Johnston CI, 218

Glenwood McLamb, supervisor I, Correction Enterprises Laundry 2, 242

Barbara Meeks, personnel assistant V, Human Resources – Eastern Region Office, 240

Donald Mial, training school program manager, Juvenile Justice – Dillon YDC, 407

Joe Mot, lead correctional officer, New Hanover CC, 324

George Muse, senior psychologist I, Alexander CI, 423

Robert Norris, sergeant, Harnett CI, 326

Charlie Odom, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 7, 257

Barrett Parker, correctional officer, Piedmont CI, 350

Elizabeth Parsons, agency legal specialist III, Legal, 331

Claudette Pemberton, juvenile court counselor, Juvenile Justice District 8, 252

Mary Perkins, accounting clerk IV, Lincoln CC, 162

Mohammad Pirouzkah, boiler operator II, Piedmont CI, 276

Carlton Pullen, HVAC mechanic, Nash CI, 311

Robert Richardson, captain, Piedmont CI, 385

Douglas Rivelle, weigh station operator, State Highway Patrol Troop H/District 9, 163

Rhonda Robertson, administrative secretary I, Alexander CI, 135

Ben Robinson, correctional officer, Craggy CI, 243

Karen Salmon, office assistant IV, Community Corrections Division 3, 224

Deborah Scott, case analyst, Fountain CCW, 325

Paul Sechrest, correctional officer, Sampson CI, 267

Richard Selman, psychiatrist, Alexander CI, 212

PROMOTIONS — FROM PAGE 15

Wyatt Pettengill, special unit supervisor,
SBI Special Operations
Timothy Reynolds, captain, Lanesboro CI
Bryan Rhodes, probation/parole officer,
Community Corrections District 6
William Riddick, sergeant, Caledonia CI
Matthew Rodgers, sergeant, Lanesboro CI
Lentora Rogers, probation/parole officer,
Community Corrections District 14
Chenell Rose, probation/parole officer,
Community Corrections District 26B
Velicia Rufus, youth services behavioral specialist,
Juvenile Justice — Dobbs YDC
Ervin Shaw, food service manager I, Forsyth CC
Ivey Shearin, chief probation / parole officer,
Community Corrections District 9
Asha Sirpal, personnel assistant V, Engineering Administration
David Sisk, sergeant, Foothills CI
Julia Smith, chief probation / parole officer,
Community Corrections District 25
Billy Soles, food service officer, Tabor CI
Brady Soop, administrative officer II,
Adult Correction Technology Support
Sakina Steele Robinson, assistant unit manager,
Robeson CRV
Carol Street, behavioral specialist II, Maury CI
Tyrone Sutton, youth services behavioral specialist,
Juvenile Justice — Dobbs YDC
Michael Taylor, lieutenant, Brown Creek CI
Rosalyn Wade, training instructor II,
Office of Staff Development & Training
Latasha White, chief probation / parole officer,
Community Corrections District 25
Michael Wilson, sergeant, Marion CI
Lisa Young, processing assistant IV, Robeson CRV ▲

RETIREMENTS — FROM PAGE 15

Maggie Simpney, case manager, NC CIW, 237
Kenneth Simpson, correctional officer, Lanesboro CI, 99
Gary Smith, boiler operator II, Piedmont CI, 133
James Solomon, substance abuse counselor,
Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency, 188
Maybelle Steele, office assistant III,
Community Corrections Division 3, 254
Maureen Steward, office assistant III,
Community Corrections Division 2, 301
Tommy Stewart, lieutenant, Harnett CI, 302
Denise Sullivan, youth center supervisor,
Alexander Detention Center, 363
George Terrell, correctional officer, Orange CI, 309
Delphine Thomas, captain, Scotland CI, 288
Phyllis Thomas, nurse supervisor, Prisons - Health Services, 150
William Tucker, sergeant, Greene CI, 318
Wanda Tyson, administrative services manager,
Brown Creek CI, 399
Trevino Uzzell, sergeant, Eastern CI, 316
Regina Van Gorder, office assistant IV,
Community Corrections District 4, 353
Marvin Vick, probation/parole officer,
Community Corrections District 7B, 271
Wayne Warren, supervisor I, Correction Enterprises Laundry, 120
Bruce Webb, sergeant, Neuse CI – Minimum Unit, 339
William Widener, probation/parole officer,
Community Corrections District 21, 328
Martha Williams, processing assistant IV,
Facility Management – Western Yard, 266
Patricia Williams, school educator II,
Juvenile Justice — Stonewall Jackson YDC, 65
William Woodburn, mechanic supervisor II,
SHP Troop B Garage, 281
Patricia Woody, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 240 ▲

PASSINGS

Name, Job Title, Location, Service (months)

Garry Collins, correctional officer, Craven CI, 167
Shirley Jenkins, supervisor I, Correction Enterprises Laundry, 134
Scott Mackay, correctional officer, Pender CI, 86
Berkley McDuffie, correctional officer, Brown Creek CI, 424
Deanna Seward, unassigned, Warren CI, 87 ▲