

ON THE **Scene**

Meet
the 2016
recipients



What's inside?

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15 wearing new
Badge of Excellence

Black History Month

Learning lean

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He does the laundry

A fair, a helping hand

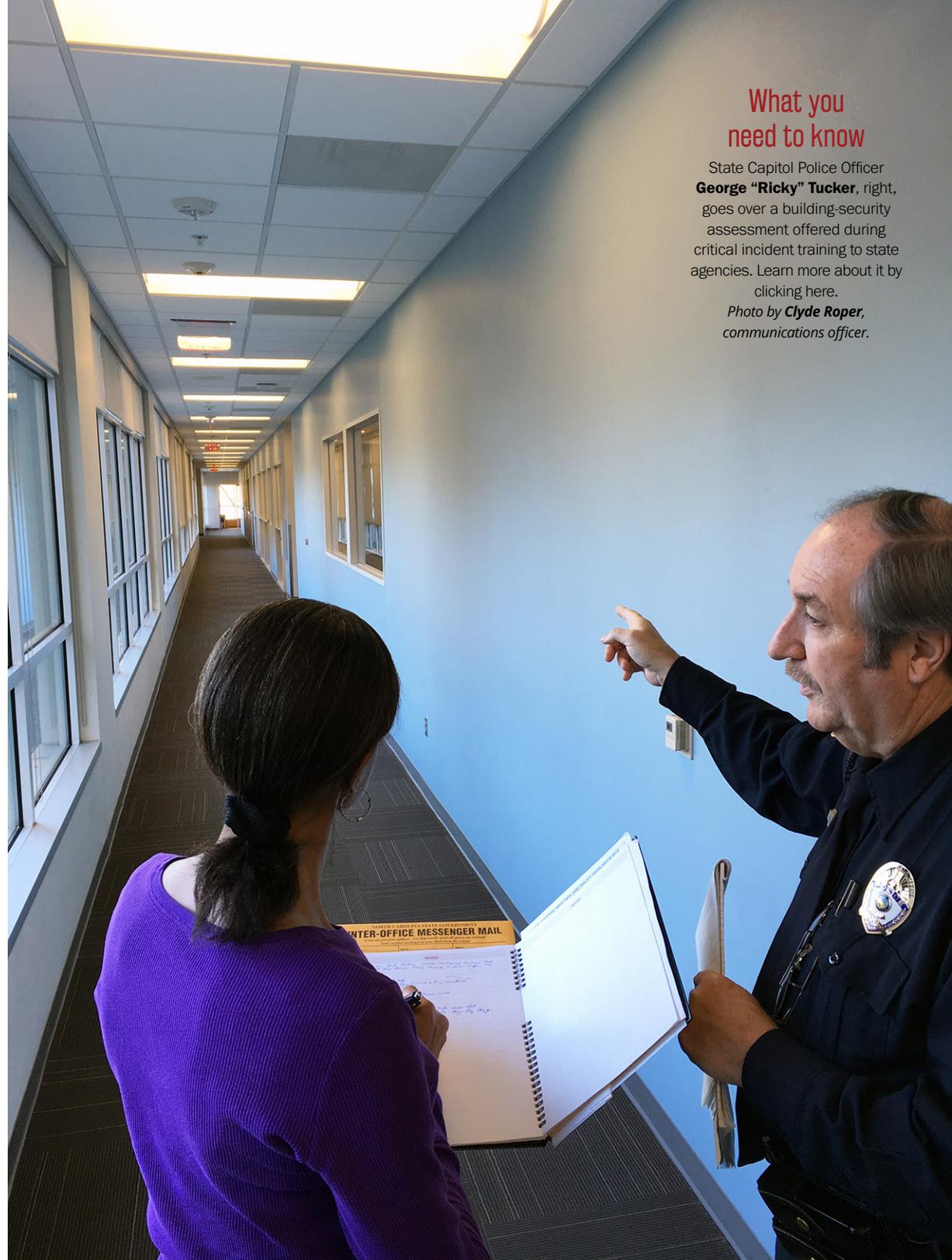
Some things good

- ▶ HART on the mountain
 - ▶ Praise for
Emergency Management
- ▶ Critical incident training
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Promotions

Retirements

Passing



What you need to know

State Capitol Police Officer **George "Ricky" Tucker**, right, goes over a building-security assessment offered during critical incident training to state agencies. Learn more about it by clicking here.

Photo by **Clyde Roper**, communications officer.

DPS honors 15 employees

By **Clyde Roper**
Communications Officer

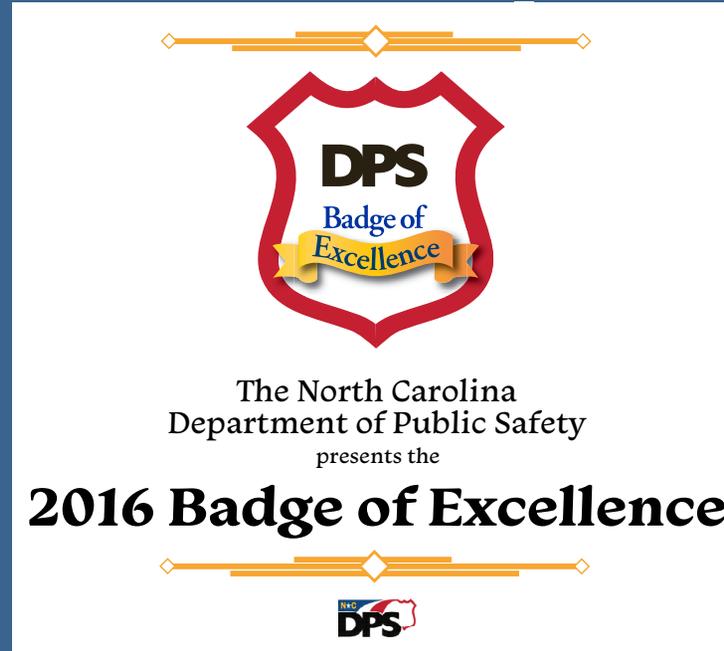
It was an event that recognized and celebrated people who often go above and beyond the call of duty. The ceremony, held in Raleigh, acknowledged these DPS employees for their outstanding contributions to the department's mission of improving life quality through enhanced public safety. The Badge of Excellence program promotes departmentwide recognition of standout employees and celebrates their impactful contributions to the overall goals of the department, state government and the lives of people in North Carolina.

As emcee, DPS Communications Director **Pam Walker** began by welcoming everyone to the event. She then highlighted some of the winners' accomplishments and the significant impacts they had made within their divisions and sections.

'Because that is who they are'

Secretary of Public Safety **Frank L. Perry** followed with brief remarks and thanked the employees for going above and beyond their job descriptions to make North Carolina a safer and better place to live. He stressed that the winners had such positive attitudes about public service that uncommon excellence was a common value they all shared.

"We give these awards each year to commend the men



and women in this department who do even more than they are asked to do, not because they have to but because that is who they are," Perry said. "The people we are honoring have made excellence part of their routine. I could not be more proud of each and every one of you."

Walker then called the names of the winners, who took the stage one at a time to receive their awards. Perry and the recipients' supervisors presented the awards, with all winners receiving sustained applause from the assembled dignitaries, guests, friends and family who were on hand

to support them.

After the ceremony, award winners had photos taken with supervisors, friends and family. Along with other people who attended to honor and support them, they gathered in the Joint Force Headquarters atrium for light refreshments. One of the winners, State Highway Patrol Lt. **Anthony Back**, seemed to express the group's sentiment, saying his award represented more than the sole effort of one individual, but rather he was working as part of a bigger team.

"I am humbled that I would be selected for any award, but I am not alone in this endeavor to try and help those who are hurting," Back said. "All we are doing is paying it forward because someone saved us."

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Employees are nominated for the Badge of Excellence Award by other DPS employees, including their supervisors, co-workers and subordinates. This year, winners from six categories were honored:

Heroism

Correctional Officers **Felicia Jones** and **Kenyadia McLaurin** of Pasquotank Correctional Institution were recognized for displaying great courage and devotion to duty during an altercation with inmates while the officers were attempting to secure a cell. The two officers successfully fought off their larger adversaries and bravely refused to run or leave one another's side.

Human Relations

Lt. **Anthony Aaron Back** works at the Archdale Building in Raleigh as the State Highway Patrol's Special Projects manager. He is the co-founder of the North Carolina Law Enforcement Assistance Program. NC-Leap is an organization that responds to the needs of law enforcement officers, first responders, their families and civilian staff. In addition to his regular duties, Lt. Back coordinates the peer-to-peer seminar held twice a year to help members of law enforcement recover from critical and traumatic incidents and experiences. Lt. Back was recognized for his efforts that have ensured this program positively impacts careers, families, and the lives of those who serve.



Correctional Officers **Felicia Jones** and **Kenyadia McLaurin** of Pasquotank Correctional Institution were unable to attend the ceremony and their awards were accepted for them on their behalf.



Lt. **Anthony Aaron Back**



Innovation and Efficiency

The NCDPS Medicaid Program Team in Raleigh was recognized for its outstanding dedication and hard work in developing protocols that require hospitals and other medical providers to bill Medicaid for inmates who are eligible. From left, the team of **Janice McLean**, **Tameka Epps**, **Shawn Harris**, **Larry Huggins** and **Dawn Lee** worked together to save the department more than \$12 million in 2015.

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Mary Beth Carroll

Innovation and Efficiency

Mary Beth Carroll, an operations manager who works in Adult Correction, developed the Correspondence Tracking System (CTS), which manages and tracks a high volume of correspondence at every level. Carroll was also instrumental in numerous other projects, including helping the department earn accreditation from the American Correctional Association.

Outstanding Achievement and Performance

As a well-respected nurse working at Cumberland Regional Detention Center in Fayetteville, **Shalita Forrest** led her team in the annual Peer Review Audit to achieve an outstanding score of Excellent. Forrest was recognized for always doing more than is asked of her and for working to implement best medical practices and training the staff on proper detention policies.

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Shalita Forrest



Tonya Sconyers

Outstanding Achievement and Performance

Task Force Officer **Tonya Sconyers** works in Probation/Parole in Raleigh. Conyers created and implemented an adult correction escapee initiative that enhances search cooperation between the FBI and DPS. The plan led to the arrests of 30 escapees, many of whom had been sought for decades. Sconyers was also instrumental in the successful implementation of "Operation Rockfish," which netted more than 13 compromised law enforcement personnel.

ALE Special Agent **Eddie K. Johnson** successfully identified and located a suspect wanted for the murder of a U.S. citizen overseas. Although this fell beyond his typical duties, Johnson alerted the FBI's Washington Field Office about the suspect and worked with the FBI, Department of Justice and Office of International Affairs to successfully apprehend the suspect.

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Eddie K. Johnson



Sgt. 1st Class **Semra Leary**

Public Service

In her role as North Carolina National Guard Outreach Coordinator, Sgt. 1st Class **Semra Leary** works at Joint Force Headquarters in Raleigh. Leary showed a strong commitment to her work and coordinated more than 100 successful community relations events during the past year. She regularly did more than was asked of her, often going above and beyond the call of duty, and volunteered with several non-profit organizations that serve veterans.

Wilbert Darcus III works at the Archdale Building in Raleigh in the Communications Section. Before that, as the executive assistant to the director of Prisons, Darcus effectively used the CTS networking tool to monitor the efficiency of all administrative support functions and also assisted in the successful implementation of special projects for the director of Prisons and his staff. His wealth of experience was always demonstrated in his professional and courteous interaction with staff, government officials, inmate families and the general public.



Wilbert Darcus III

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Trooper Travis Washburn

Public Service

Trooper **Travis Washburn** of the State Highway Patrol works in McDowell County with Troop G. He was dispatched to what was first thought to be a routine call to assist a pedestrian, who in fact turned out to be a gunshot victim. When he reached the scene, Washburn quickly assessed the situation. He then calmly retrieved the medical kit from his patrol car and, with the assistance of two other law enforcement officers, applied a lifesaving tourniquet to stop the bleeding. ▲

Impactful employees

Help ensure they get recognized

The Department of Public Safety is urging employees to nominate co-workers to be honored for their extraordinary efforts on the job or in their communities.

Two prestigious awards are available – the Governor’s Awards for Excellence and the DPS Badge of Excellence. The Governor’s Awards are the highest that can be presented to any state government employee. The DPS Badge is the department’s top award for its employees.

The nomination process has been simplified. The nomination form for the Governor’s Awards for Excellence, which is online, is also the nomination form for the DPS Badge of Excellence. A DPS employee nomination submitted on a form for the Governor’s Awards for Excellence will also be considered for the DPS Badge of Excellence.

The awards recognize employees who have demonstrated outstanding accomplishments that make impactful contributions to the overall goals and mission of the department, to North Carolina state government and to North Carolina’s residents.

It is important to note:

The deadline to nominate DPS employees is April 1, 2016.

To access the nomination form, click [here](#).

If you have questions, call **919.733.5027**.

Black History Month

By **Patty McQuillan**, Communications Officer

SHP Col. Richard W. Holden



Born in Wendell on his family's farm, Richard W. Holden was reared knowing how to work hard, and that ability stayed with him throughout his career.

When a State Highway Patrol trooper spoke to his high school class, Holden wanted to join. He knew he would face opposition, and he did. A trooper tried to dissuade him from completing the application process, but Holden was determined to continue and do well.

"It was very difficult back then for blacks to get on the State Highway Patrol," said retired SHP Major Raymond Isley. Despite the Supreme Court ruling granting blacks equality under the law, Isley remembers, "Blacks still had to

undergo a great deal of scrutiny to come on. You had to live like Jesus."

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Pete Barnett

Nearly 60 years ago, the North Carolina prison system had nine black employees. The Rev. James Clanton was the first, hired as a chaplain at Central Prison. The second was Lewyn M. Hayes, hired in 1952 to oversee the Raleigh Youth Center for Negroes. In 1958, Hayes hired seven black rehabilitation counselors to work at the Goldsboro Youth Center, including a feisty Talmadge "Pete" Barnett. Barnett later became the first black regional commander.



Barnett's oral history of working in the prisons was recorded in 1995, providing a narrative about the many barriers he faced in his work experience. He always spoke his mind, and in his own words, said he knew "a lot of people hated him," but he stood on principle and didn't back down when others tried to intimidate him.

Former Prisons Director Rae Jarema (formerly McNamara) described Barnett as warm, down-to-earth and a person who did a very good job.

"Pete was great," Jarema said. "He was a real people person and well-liked by people in prison. He could relate to everyone effectively. He was approachable. He was who he was, and he was confident in who he was."

Barnett spent 37 years working for the state prison system.

Great expectations

In the 1950s, blacks were required to have a college degree to work for the prison department. Barnett's degree was in chemistry and biology from the Agricultural and Technical College of North Carolina. He graduated in 1957 and started teaching at Livingstone College in Salisbury. In 1959, he became a rehabilitation counselor at Goldsboro Youth Center, a minimum custody segregated prison unit headed by Superintendent Lewyn Hayes.

The youth center's all-black inmates worked on the farm and in the laundry at the local all-black psychiatric treatment facility, Cherry Hospital.

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Holden entered the Highway Patrol's Basic School in 1969 and found that because of the Highway Patrol's military-like structure, he and Isley only had to follow orders. Both men found help inside the Patrol.

"Most of the troopers supported us 100 percent," Isley said. He remembers a lieutenant in Fayetteville — their first duty station — who made sure he and Holden were treated fairly.

"That supervisor backed us to the hilt," Isley said. "But on the outside, each of us was tested. We had to prove that we knew what we were doing."

Race, Isley said, was definitely an issue in stopping white motorists back then, some of whom had never seen a black officer. Many motorists resisted. Once in court, black troopers' credibility was again challenged.

"[Holden] knew how to cope and get along," Isley said. "He knew how to avoid situations. It was a real challenge those first couple of years. Over time those things passed and people came to respect what we were doing."

His perseverance enabled him to rise through the ranks. "Most of the time, he was my supervisor," Isley said. "He didn't think he was always right, even though he was in the position of power."

Holden became the first black colonel of the State Highway Patrol in 1999.

"He knew that once again he would face criticism and opposition

in everything he set forth to accomplish as colonel," Holden's wife, Sandra, wrote. "There were some difficult times as well as many great times and accomplishments."

Some of those accomplishments included: Being named a commissioner on the national board for the Commission on Accreditation for Law Enforcement Agencies; being elected general chair of the State and Provincial Police of the International Association of Chiefs of Police; and serving on the Highway Safety Committee of the National Organization of Black Law Enforcement Executives.

Holden also received numerous honors including Officer of the Year by the North State Law Enforcement Association, the John Hope Franklin Lamp Lighter Humanitarian Award, and the N.C. Chapter of National Association of Blacks in Criminal Justice Achievement Award.

He retired in 2004 as the 21st Commander of the North Carolina State Highway Patrol and was the fourth longest serving Patrol commander.

"Col. Holden was extremely proud of his career in the North Carolina Highway Patrol," Mrs. Holden wrote. "He often said he did not want to especially be known as the first African-American colonel, but a colonel who did his best for the state of North Carolina and happened to be African-American."

— — —
The first African-American to be hired as a trooper was Charlie Johnson, in 1967. Today, 151 African-Americans are proudly serving in the Patrol. ▀

Holden knew how to cope and get along.

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Some questioned whether black employees could supervise prison inmates of like ethnic background, and Barnett said they were professionals and had no trouble dealing with each other.

"We received young men from field units that staff said they were unable to control. So, they sent them to a unit where we had no fence, no weapons and no way of keeping people there — and we kept them there," Barnett recalled.

"We treated them like they were somebody. We made sure they went to work. One thing we tried to instill in them was work ethics — to work, be on time, be dependable, be responsible. That worked."

A confrontation arose between Cherry Hospital staff and Barnett, who wouldn't allow inmates to ride in an open truck bed to the livestock farm.

"This was in the winter time and it was colder than 40 quarters out there, and they wanted inmates to ride on the back without any windshields, anything to where they could have some sense of being protected from the elements," Barnett said.

The hospital manager called George Randall, director of Prisons, to complain about Barnett. Randall called Barnett and said he supported what he was doing. Boards were then nailed on the back of the truck to create a wind barrier. Cherry Hospital managers were angry.

"I never had problems from the people in Raleigh," Barnett said. "They said, 'Look

'We had no fence, no weapons and no way of keeping people there — and we kept them there.'

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you're doing the right thing.' Now, let me tell you, I thought the Ku Klux Klan was going to visit me any night because that had never been done down there."

Barnett told of traveling to a prison camp in Mount Pleasant and was not allowed to use the restroom until he called Director Randall. Prison staff then allowed him access.

Growing up in Winston-Salem, Barnett said, he had everything.

"My people worked in factories,' he said. "We were not rich, we were not poor. We had central heat with a furnace; we had a telephone; we had electricity," Barnett said. "They did not understand that we had some moral values ourselves. They still were dealing with a slave mentality.

"Mr. Hayes said I was a little bit too militant, so he told me that there were certain places I couldn't go because the supervisors of that place couldn't stand me."

Barnett didn't let that stop him.

One time he walked into the office of Cherry Hospital's dairy manager and it was winter, so everyone had their coats and hats on.

"I noticed that the inmates took their hats off when they came in the office," Barnett said. "The chief over the dairy told me, 'Look, you have to take your hat off while you're in my office.'"

Barnett asked why because other staff members had their hats on. He didn't take his hat off and got reported for that.

Regardless of his "militancy," Barnett became assistant superintendent, then superintendent, of Goldsboro Youth Center.

Barnett said that around 1960 the moral conscience of America was being shaken and Randall was ready to proceed with integration. A Greensboro prison opened with an all-black staff and all black inmates. Barnett worked shifts at both prisons, and helped hire new recruits. A white

What difference did it
matter what he was saying?
We were making history.
We were going forward.

major in the division addressed the group inappropriately.

"We were standing there and we looked at him. Mr. Hayes, he's a nervous man, but he stayed cool. What difference did it matter what he was saying? We were making history. We were going forward."

By 1965, all prisons were desegregated.

"You've got to know what wars to fight and what battles not to fight. Some battles aren't worth fighting," Barnett said.

"I know for an Afro-American to be successful, he has to be better. Being smart is all right, but you got to be smarter. That's what I try to tell these youngsters.

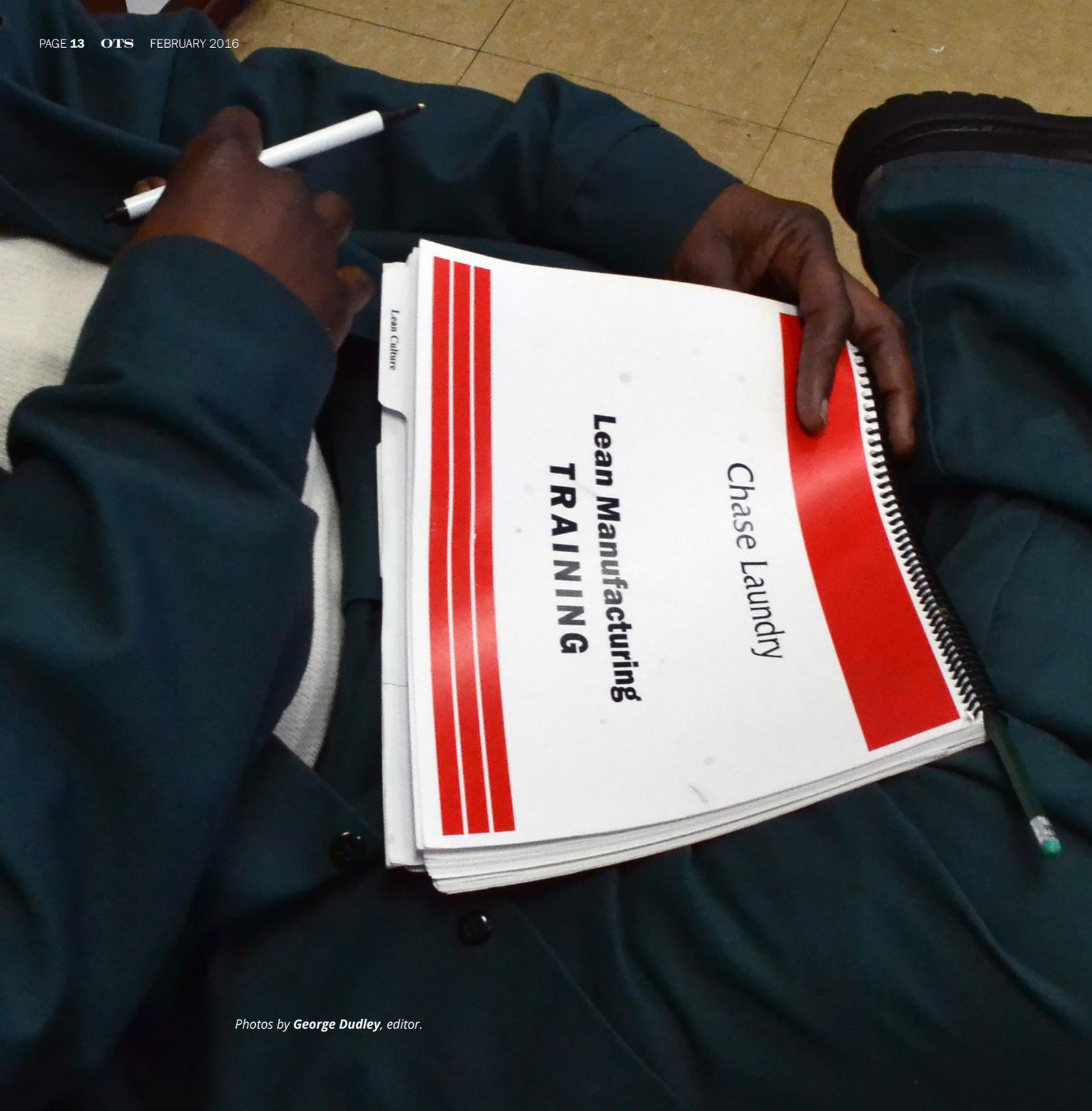
"Just because you went to college and you have some master's degree and you graduated cum laude, magna cum laude, that don't mean nothing. Education only tells a person you have the ability to do something . . . It doesn't predict whether you're going to be a success or failure."

Barnett helped start Minority Pioneers in 1991 to provide support and professional development for minority employees. Barnett also became president of the North Carolina Correctional Association in 1986.

Barnett visited every prison in North Carolina, learned the policies and the system. He became the first black superintendent at Greene Correctional Center and was the first at Eastern Correctional Center. In 1972, he was promoted to Eastern Area administrator, overseeing eight prisons. In 1995, Barnett became assistant director of prisons, overseeing education, work release and worship programs in the state's 94 prisons.

At his retirement luncheon in 1997, Barnett was called a mentor and a legend, a true champion who improved the course and made it to the finish line.

Talmadge Pete Barnett died Feb. 26, 2008, in Goldsboro. Today, the North Carolina prison system has almost 6,500 African-American employees. ▀



Growing productivity, reducing recidivism

By **Margaret Ekam**

Communications Operations Manager

Correction Enterprises recently partnered with the North Carolina State University Industrial Extension Service to implement Lean Manufacturing techniques that promote achieving maximum value with minimal effort.

The expected result is creation of self-sufficient business enterprises that mirror real-life work environments at no cost to North Carolina taxpayers, maintain and equip highly qualified staff, and further the mission of rehabilitating offenders by teaching them practical and marketable skills.

The Lean Manufacturing initiative provides a development training opportunity for both staff and inmates.

Staff training sessions focus on developing leadership skills, addressing risk factors within a business environment and attaining operational excellence. Training

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for offenders primarily targets soft-skill sets that are needed in a workplace.

The pilot facilities are Chase Laundry in Goldsboro and Brown Creek Metal Plant in Polkton. The first week-long pilot session began at Chase Laundry and was completed on Feb. 10. The pilot training session at Brown Creek Metal Plant will be completed on March 9.

Correction Enterprises-certified general instructors shadow the Industrial Extension Service trainers in the pilot sessions, which enables them to implement similar training in other plants. Certificates are awarded to staff and inmates who successfully complete each session.

This certificate-based technical training will greatly enhance staff resumes and provide offenders better opportunities for employment upon release.

“Lean Manufacturing methodologies are transforming the thinking of Correction Enterprises staff and offenders alike,” said **Robert Leon**, Correction Enterprises deputy director. ▲



Right, inmate students of Lean Manufacturing in their class at Correction Enterprises' Chase Laundry in Goldsboro.



The big wash

‘Doing laundry’ helps society

By **Margaret Ekam**
Communications Operations
Manager

Feeling challenged to make a difference, **Anthony “Tony” Danks** begins a typical day at about 3 in the morning with coffee and a peaceful 43-mile drive to Chase Laundry in Goldsboro. Danks is the assistant manager of the Correction Enterprises facility.

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Walk In
My Shoes

Photos by **George Dudley**, editor.

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Born into a military family, and reared near Fort Bragg, Danks attended Midway High School in Dunn and served with the North Carolina National Guard before joining what was then the Department of Correction in 2000 as a correctional officer with Sampson Correctional Institution. After about a year, Tony transferred to Correction Enterprises' laundry facility at the Sampson prison.

At Sampson Laundry, he fully embraced the familiar core values of productivity, service and the opportunity to teach offenders marketable skills. He served 11 years at Sampson Laundry, as a supervisor and assistant manager, before transferring to Chase Laundry in 2012.

Robert "Bob" Gianettino, Chase Laundry manager, said Danks is a positive addition to the facility, "with good experience, and a positive mindset. He is a real help to me, a real boost to production, and a good teammate."

Danks described his understanding about his work, which exceeds most people's perception.

"When people ask me what I do for a living and I answer, 'Work at Chase Laundry,' the next question usually is, 'What do you guys do there, wash prisoners' clothing?'" he said.

Danks points out that Chase Laundry also washes linens for four state-owned hospitals and other state-supported entities.

"We are accountable for how hospital linens are sanitized, cleaned and sent back," he said.

A visit to one of the hospitals makes his work personal. Danks takes pride in knowing that newborn babies are wrapped with freshly laundered and sanitized blankets, and the new mothers are wearing gowns that he has been responsible for in their laundering.

Danks takes pride in knowing that he has been responsible for the laundering of blankets and gowns worn by newborn babies and new mothers.

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Chase Laundry Manager Bob Gianettino, left, and Tony Danks share a light moment in Danks' office.

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“This puts in perspective the tasks performed at this facility,” Danks said. “Chase Laundry does not fit the picture of the storefront laundry. This facility provides a valuable service, which makes a difference in the health industry.”

Within the Cherry Hospital complex in Goldsboro, Chase Laundry was acquired in 2001 by Correction Enterprises, which operates five other such mass laundering operations. Previously, Chase Laundry was operated by the Department of Health and Human Services. It was named after Nancy Chase, a Wayne county champion for the cognitive disability community.

Chase Laundry has been transformed into a state-of-the-art laundry facility, employing new equipment that enables Correction Enterprises to satisfy its customers' needs and provide quality service, while giving inmates valuable on-the-job-train-

ing. The laundry has 15 employees and manages an average of 78 inmates in a 43,000-square-foot facility that handles an average of 230 tons of laundry monthly. This self-sustaining laundry is powered by highly efficient and cost-effective 300-horsepower steam boilers, and it uses between 800,000 to 1 million gallons of water per month, depending on linen weights.

“The North Carolina Correction Enterprises laundry facilities system is ranked third nationwide in pounds washed among all state-operated laundry systems,” said **Ronald Young**, Correction Enterprises laundry facilities director. “Our goals are deeply ingrained into our mission statement to provide marketable job skills for transitioning inmates and providing quality goods and superior customer service while minimizing cost and creating a savings to the citizens in North Carolina.”

As an assistant manager, Danks' daily tasks include reviewing drivers and truck schedules and working with others to ensure the facility is ready for the workforce. Minimum custody inmates are bused in from Neuse Correctional Institution, also in Goldsboro, at about 5:30 a.m. As such, appropriate custodial protocols must be observed; head counts and recounts are conducted in addition to assigning tasks.

Danks said optimal production at the facility results from a

blend of equipment and work flow pattern:

- ▶ *Inputs* — What is needed for production — detergent, soiled linens, washers, dryers and manpower.
- ▶ *Process* — Sorting, loading, washing, drying, ironing, folding and putting linens away.
- ▶ *Outputs* — Customer ready finished product, delivery.

The laundry process, which takes about five hours, begins at the receiving docks, with the soiled linens weighed, inspected, sorted to assure that it tallies with the customers' paperwork and to aid the billing section. The linens are sorted into categories of flats, finished, wash, dry and fold. The categories apply differently to the variety of customers served.

Sorted soiled laundry is loaded into sling bags. An overhead rail-type conveyor system moves

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Inmates at Chase Laundry sort a just-arrived load of laundry to be cleaned.



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the bags rapidly and efficiently from sorting areas to the washers. The system automatically dumps the linens into robust 600-pound capacity washers that are the size of a small dump truck. The capacity accelerates the loading process and production.

The laundry cycle progresses to massive 400-pound-capacity dryers, before the inmates start folding either manually or using the ironers and packaging equipment. The finished, sanitized products are then loaded and ready for delivery to the various customers.

Among Chase Laundry's customers are hospitals, developmental and rehabilitative centers, Adult Correction and Juvenile Justice facilities, county detention centers and the North Carolina Justice Academy.

Danks said Chase Laundry takes pride in building customer trust through its dedication to service and safety.

"We believe it's a very important part of our operation," he said. "Frequent communication with customers to verify linens weights, address any billing concerns and generally building on existing relationships keeps our customers happy and has a positive impact on our revenue."

Compliance with safety measures is critical to doing business, Danks said. At Chase Laundry, frequent training, compliance with Prisons' rules, Correction Enterprises policies and strict adherence to industry best practices is the norm. At all times, protective gear is used by both staff and inmates, especially in the soiled linen area.

Ensuring that inmates are prepared to carry out their workforce roles makes a major contribution to production. As



The load is adjusted in one of the 600-pound capacity washers at Chase Laundry.

such, they undergo orientation and continuous safety and workplace operations training. Having earned a general instructor's certificate last year from Randolph Community College, Danks helps train both staff and inmates.

Danks is personally lifted by successful workforce development.

"I find motivation in watching an inmate who says he can't do something, doesn't have self-confidence and starts running, [and] after I start teaching him, he learns, and starts gaining self-confidence, believing in himself, saying it's better than he thought it was," Danks said. "The inmate is taking something useful from his time spent here. Through this experience, the inmate will make a positive difference in others' lives."

Chase Laundry staff also receive on-going training on industry essentials cutting edge processes and best practices.

The training has produced a maintenance staff that keeps Chase Laundry self-sustaining. The maintenance crew is innovative in their upkeep of the equipment, saving money.

Chase Laundry recently benefited from being one of two Correction Enterprises' facilities to pilot the innovative Lean Manufacturing Techniques, the result of a recent partnership with the North Carolina State University Industrial Extension Service.

"After just five days of intensive training with N.C. State Extension Services at Correction Enterprises, there has been positive feedback at Chase Laundry," said **Robert Leon**, Correction Enterprises deputy director. "Our expectation is that we will achieve greater efficiencies and provide inmates an industry standard technical certification that will be beneficial with post-release employment and successful transition upon release."

A review of his professional and private lives reveals an underlying passion and dedication that closely matches the core mission of Correction Enterprises. Danks is active in church, where he teaches youths, young adults and adult groups as well as Sunday school.

"Watching someone evolve into a better person, into learning something useful that is going to benefit them and help them make a difference is my passion for this job," he said.

Danks married his high school sweetheart, and they have a 14-year-old son who aspires to be a pro-golfer. Also in his spare time, Danks trains retrievers — especially Golden Retrievers — in obedience, to prepare them for bomb detection training. He is also an avid duck hunter. ▴

'Watching someone evolve into a better person ... is my passion for this job.'

Probation/Parole Officer **Whitney Bennett**, left, helps a probationer review the types of resources that were available at the fair, which was initiated by her office.

Photo by **Pamela Walker**, communications director.



Resources fair extends a helping hand

By **Pamela Walker**, Communications Director

MOUNT AIRY | Getting a social security card or a driver's license and even a birth certificate may seem simple to some, but for others it can be a tough task that is preventing them from getting a job or in some cases a place to live. Those are just some of the reasons several probation/parole officers decided to put together a county resource fair inviting about 30 agencies and the general public to take part in the one-day event.

"We thought, 'Wouldn't it be awesome to have all the people who want to help in one place [along] with

all the people who need the help,'" Officer **Sunday Joyce** said. "The goal was to not only provide all kinds of resources to the offenders we supervise, but it was also a way for the officers to network with the folks who help us find those resources and [who] we normally only speak to on the phone."

Joyce, who was one of the fair organizers, has been an officer for about 15 years. She explained that there are many people out there who want to help, as well as plenty of people who need the help, but feel

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pressed in a corner, not knowing how to work out of it or who they can turn to.

Officers **Whitney Bennett** and **Sheila Myers** jumped at the chance to work with Sunday to put the fair together. They invited all kinds of agencies that could provide assistance and information on such topics as continuing education, social services, job readiness, substance abuse counseling, financial advice, veteran's assistance, transportation and more. While individuals on probation, parole or post release supervision were the primary audience, the fair was open to the public for anyone seeking assistance. They had a good turnout with more than 60 people showing up.

"You hate to see people so far in a hole they don't think they will ever get out, and you feel that need to help out," Myers said. "If it were me, I would want someone to help me out."

One of the people seeking help at the resource fair was Kellie Marion. The 27-year-old talked about recently getting out of a substance abuse treatment center and looking forward to getting her life back on track.

"Black Mountain [Substance Abuse Treatment Center] helped me a lot," Marion said. "It opened my eyes to so much and let me

know everything that I thought was OK was really not."

Marion explained that she was prone to addiction and first started taking pain medications because they made her feel good. She got more and more addicted and before long was "shooting up every day."

Eventually law enforcement caught up with her and arrested her on drug-related charges. She missed a court date and openly described how she started running from her situation. She was living on the streets and her parents tried to help her. She wasn't willing to work with them, and they tried the "tough love approach" and got a restraining order. When she violated that order, she faced charges that lead to her being put on probation.

Marion's probation officer suggested she attend the resource fair. She agreed and was hoping to get some help with finding a job and information on group therapy or counseling that may be available to her.

"I really want to stay clean because I have a 6-year-old daughter to think about," Marion said. "I want a job and eventually want to go back to school. When I was told about the resource fair, I didn't know all the resources that were out there, but I've seen that there are people who may be able to help me find a job and counseling."

Mark Smith also attended

the fair seeking assistance. Smith, 27, is a father of four young children. The Surry County native is homeless and his children are all in foster care. He is working in fast food trying to save enough money to get a suitable place to live so he can get his kids back.

Smith said he needs help with a lot of things and his probation officer told him about the resource fair.

"I'm trying to get a house or trailer and [get] the lights turned on," Smith said. "I want to do something else other than work in a restaurant, but I need a GED. I am trying to juggle my time with work. My mom and two sisters are willing to help with my kids, but I don't want to burden anyone else."

He added that finding a place to live that he can afford has been tough, especially making minimum wage. He also must make child support payments. His main reason for going to the fair was to get financial advice.

Smith said, "My kids are doing OK, but I'm going to keep fighting for them. I've made some bad choices, but I'm going to show my kids you got to keep trying. I just need someone to give me a chance."

Joyce said the event was so successful that another one is already being planned for the fall. ▀

'You hate to see people so far in a hole [that] they don't think they will ever get out.'

will ever get out, and you feel that need to help out," Myers said. "If it were me, I would

want someone to help me out."

'Finding an affordable place to live has been tough, especially making minimum wage.'

HART rescues worker stuck on Mount Pisgah

By **Julia Jarema**
Communications Officer

Members of the North Carolina Helo-Aquatic Rescue Team, known as NCHART, on Jan. 25 rescued a man who was stranded near the top of Mount Pisgah about 400 feet down an embankment in more than 2 feet of snow.

The man was working on radio transmitting equipment at the top of Mount Pisgah when a cable car that he used for transport stopped working, leaving him at risk of hypothermia. He called his employer who then called 9-1-1.

Deep snow blocked the access trail for ground crews to reach him. Five N.C. Mountain Rescue teams, comprised of 30 highly-trained mountain rescue technicians from Avery, Buncombe, Haywood, Henderson and Mitchell counties, were also deployed to support ground-based rescue efforts.

Ultimately, NCHART was sent to aid the rescue, using a North Carolina National Guard Black Hawk and three rescue technicians from the Charlotte Fire Department.

Emergency medical personnel examined the man, finding him in good condition and not requiring additional treatment.

“The coordination between North



Carolina Emergency Management, North Carolina National Guard, Haywood Emergency Management and Charlotte Fire Department to rescue this man is an extraordinary example of dedication beyond measure,” said **Mike Sprayberry**, N.C. Emergency Management director. “It takes remarkable effort and skill to execute a strategic rescue mission in harsh winter conditions. The NCHART pairs the best civilian rescuers with military and law enforcement aviation resources, making these teams a valuable asset to North Carolina.”

The NCHART is a North Carolina Emergency Management resource that brings local, state, military and law enforcement agencies together to respond to search-and-rescue missions. Local rescue technicians complete extensive helo-aquatic rescue training and are paired with helicopters from the State Highway Patrol or N.C. National Guard. ▴

Tell me something good

N.C. Emergency Management seen as model for other states

By **Julia Jarema**, Communications Officer

RALEIGH | Gov. Pat McCrory praised North Carolina’s Emergency Management team as he welcomed Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Director Craig Fugate and emergency managers, health officials, business leaders and first responders from across the country to Raleigh on Feb. 10.

North Carolina hosted FEMA’s National Advisory Council, and members gathered to discuss coordinated planning, response and recovery during disasters.

“I’m confident that North Carolina has the best emergency management team in the country,” the governor said. “I’ve seen them in action through numerous storms, both as governor and as a former mayor, yet there is always room for improvement and lessons to be learned from others.”

The council was established in 2006 to ensure the effective and ongoing coordination of federal emergency management activities. The group of 35 appointed representatives from local, state and tribal governments, the private sector and non-profit

Continue reading

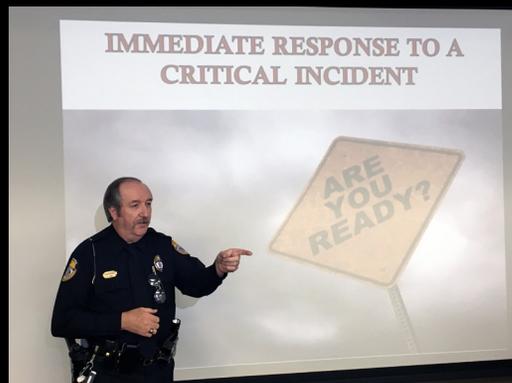
Officer teaches critical response

By **Clyde Roper**
Communications Officer

In an active shooter or other critical incident, whether you live or die could come down to having a plan of action.

That was the main message that Officer **George “Ricky” Tucker** of the State Capitol Police tried to drive home recently when he taught an Immediate Response to Critical Incidents class at the State Laboratory of Public Health in Raleigh.

“If you have not already



prepared a plan of action before a critical incident takes place, you will do nothing,” said Tucker, a 41-year-veteran police officer. “Most people think they would know how to react, but real-world incidents have proven that without a plan in a stressful situation, most people will do nothing, and that can be deadly.”

The State Capitol Police has been offering free security assessments and critical incident training to state agencies, like that conducted at the state crime lab, since 2005. The security assessments concentrate on identifying crucial things like safe rooms, hiding areas and other aspects of workplace security. Tucker stressed during the training that every state facility and building is unique, and a “one-size-fits-all” approach to security does not work.

“This program was an eye opening event for many of our employees,” said North Carolina Public Health safety officer M. Kristy Osterhout. “Before his classes, Officer Tucker came to our building and conducted a risk assessment with some members of our safety team, and from this risk assessment Tucker was able to tailor his presentation to our facility and our concerns. We would recommend this class for all agencies. Officer Tucker does a wonderful job presenting what could be an unpleasant subject. He was responsive to questions, gave practical examples of what to do and made everyone think about their personal safety during an emergency situation.” ▲

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 21

organizations meets two to three times annually to advise Fugate on all aspects of emergency management. The meeting was the first time the group met in North Carolina.

“It takes teamwork to prepare for, respond to and recover from disasters,” McCrory said. “Emergencies cross all boundaries; physical, jurisdictional, financial, and political. The more closely we are coordinated in advance, the faster and stronger we will recover, and the better we will serve our citizens and visitors.”

The governor praised Public Safety Secretary **Frank L. Perry** and N.C. Emergency Management director **Mike Sprayberry** for their leadership, noting the importance of having an experienced, dedicated team to coordinate disaster response and recovery amongst all levels of government and the private sector. He also highlighted ways the state is leveraging current technology, fostering public-private partnerships and improving preparedness for some of the most vulnerable populations.

Fugate said that North Carolina has long been known for its strong emergency management program, noting that many of the current national protocols have their origins in North Carolina disaster operations.

“North Carolina has set the standard for many facets of emergency management,” Fugate said. “I want to thank Governor McCrory, Secretary Perry and Director Sprayberry for their hospitality and leadership.” ▲



Gov. Pat McCrory, center, participates in the Feb. 10 meeting of FEMA's National Advisory Council.

In-house mammography reduces costs, improves security

By **Keith Acree**, Communications Officer
RALEIGH | For approximately 2,600 female inmates, in-prison mammography services have become available, improving health-care, reducing costs and elevating public safety.

For years, female inmates who needed mammograms were transported by correctional officers to outside appointments at local radiology practices, amounting to about 300 trips each year. The mammograms cost \$420 each, not including the transportation and custody costs involved in the trip.

In September, mammography services began at the medical center at the N.C. Correctional Institution for Women in Raleigh. The prison healthcare system follows community standards of care, offering mammograms to all female inmates age 40 or older. About 75 percent of eligible inmates take advantage of the important preventive healthcare service each year.

“When our new women’s healthcare facility opened in 2011, it was equipped with a digital mammography machine, but we didn’t have a technician to operate it or a radiologist to read the images,” said **James Alexander**, health treatment administrator at NC Correctional Institution for Women.

Under a new contract with



UNC Healthcare, a mammography technician visits the women’s prison every Thursday to conduct mammograms for scheduled inmates. The digital images are transmitted electronically to UNC and analyzed by a radiologist, who sends findings back to prison doctors and the inmate. The transportation and security costs and risks involved with taking inmates outside prison are

completely avoided.

The new mammography program is registered with the Food and Drug Administration and recently received a three-year certification from the American College of Radiology.

“This is a significant milestone for female offender health-care and contributes to our dual missions of public safety and population health,” Alexander said. ▲

Certified Mammography Technician Denise Emmerson of UNC Healthcare checks readings on the mammography machine at N.C. Correctional Institution for Women.
 Photo by **Ryan Guthrie**, staff photographer.

In-service training pays off at Caledonia

The necessity of annual correctional officer in-service training on life saving techniques proved itself on Jan. 25 at Caledonia Correctional Institution in Halifax County.

That morning, three officers immediately responded when an inmate was seen falling on the floor, gasping for air because he was choking on food. Correctional Officer **Markia Stancil** saw the inmate fall and immediately radioed for assistance. Lt. **Berthel Bunch** and Correctional Officer **Jonathan Steward** responded and attempted to get the inmate off the floor.

Steward performed the Heimlich maneuver, forcing the inmate to cough up the food that was choking him.

"The actions taken by these correctional staff were exemplary and very possibly saved the inmate's life," Superintendent **Richard Duke Jr.** said. "Caledonia administration and staff are extremely proud of these staff members." ▴



Fitness Instructor Conversion Training

The Office of Staff Development and Training has graduated a class in its Fitness Instructor Conversion Training Program, which was conducted at the North Carolina Justice Academy – East Campus Jan. 11–15. A 32-hour training event, the program gives the instructors specialized certification to administer the Correctional Officer Physical Abilities Test (COPAT) to potential applicants for jobs in the Department of Public Safety Prisons. The instructors' path to the special certification began with 24 hours of instruction in OSDT's Wellness Instructor Training Program, followed by obtaining a COPAT pre-qualification in order to be selected into the OSDT Fitness Instructor Conversion Training Program. In addition to learning several COPAT assessments, processes, testing and operational procedures, the

instructors also had to successfully participate in individual and team physical fitness challenges. From left, the instructors are, front row, **Michael Blancher**, Central Prison; and **Todd Wyke**, Caldwell Correctional Center; middle row, **Mike Williams**, OSDT Fitness Instructor trainer; Nathan Triche and Tommy Hurley, Guilford County Sheriff's Office; **Robert Bilberry**, Prisons Administration; **Christopher Ferrell**, Foothills Correctional Institution; and **Charles Vandiford**, OSDT – Eastern. Back row, Bryan Herndon, Guilford County Sheriff's Office; **Landise Cutrell**, Hyde Correctional Institution; **Bryan Conway**, Carteret Correctional Center; **Patrick White**, OSDT – Southern Coastal; **James Dycus**, OSDT – Central; **James McLain**, Scotland CI; and **Jesse Swartz**, OSDT Fitness Instructor trainer.

Employees jump into icy water trying to rescue couple

Three Department of Public Safety employees were among more than a dozen people who braved frigid late-January Columbus County swamp water to try to free an elderly couple who were trapped in their car after running off the road.

After swerving to avoid an obstacle, their car ran off US 74, hit and flipped over a bridge guard rail, landing upside down in the water.

Among the people at the scene who tried to

turn the car over were State Trooper **William Rogers**, who is also a volunteer firefighter; and Correctional Officer **Mark McAllister** and Disciplinary Hearing Officer **Alfred Williams**, both of Tabor Correctional Institution.

McAllister used his in-service CPR training to try to revive Mrs. Putnam. She never regained consciousness. Her husband passed away the next day at a hospital. ▴

P R O M O T I O N S

In January 2016, unless noted otherwise.

Name, new job title, location

Louann Avery, personnel analyst II, Human Resources -
Western Foothills Regional Operations Center

Curtis Barnett, facility maintenance supervisor II, Facility Maintenance -
Central Region Maintenance Yard

Jerlesha Bowman, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 9

Lisa Burke, personnel technician II, Prisons - Administrative Services

Alesia Calhoun, youth services behavioral specialist,
Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center

Talysa Campbell, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 12

Kenneth Chavis, plumber II, Scotland Correctional Institution

Douglas Clanton, HVAC supervisor I, Maury Correctional Institution

Sarah Condrey, professional nurse, Mountain View Correctional Institution

Timothy Cooper, programs supervisor, Columbus Correctional Institution

Diane Craft, personnel analyst II (December 2015), Human Resources -
Eastern Carolina Regional Employment Office

Edward Greenfield, food service officer II, Maury Correctional Institution

Rose Hagwood, administrative assistant II, Prisons - Administrative Services

Meagan Hedrick, case manager, Forsyth Correctional Center

Erin Hickey, staff development specialist III, Juvenile Justice

Minnie Hopkins, chief probation and parole officer (December 2015),
Community Corrections District 2

Teresa Huneycutt, accounting clerk IV, Brown Creek Correctional Institution

Devon Ingram, administrative secretary III, Prisons - Central Region

Robert Irwin, sergeant II, Tabor Correctional Institution

Paul Kertesz, programs supervisor, Craggy Correctional Institution

Thomas Langan, engineering/architectural supervisor,
Emergency Management - Risk Management

Sonyia Leonard, chief court counselor I, Juvenile Justice District 6

Chuckie McCollum, food service officer II, Scotland Correctional Institution

Karen McMahan, professional nurse, Avery-Mitchell Correctional Institution

Julius McPhaul, supervisor I (December 2015), Correction Enterprise Laundry

Jamie Meadows, personnel analyst III, Human Resources -
Equal Employment Opportunity / Grievance & Mediation

Carolyn Merritt, accounting clerk V (December 2015), Controller - Accounts Payable

Keara Moore, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 6

Derek Mowry, youth program / education assistant II,
N.C. National Guard - Tarheel Challenge

James Pass, sergeant I, Polk Correctional Institution

Eric Pierre, HVAC mechanic, Pamlico Correctional Institution

Bruce Ponzo, mechanic supervisor I, State Highway Patrol Troop C Garage

David Reid, administrative officer II, Community Corrections - Intensive Program

David Richardson, facility maintenance supervisor IV, Southern Correctional Institution

Teresa Robinson, substance abuse counselor advanced, Catawba Correctional Center

Waymon Robinson, plant maintenance supervisor I, Maury Correctional Institution

Elton Rogers, captain I, Franklin Correctional Center

Melanie Shelton, assistant superintendent for programs II, Harnett Correctional Institution

Latoya Spence, social worker II, Bertie Correctional Institution

Daisy Stancill, administrative officer II, Neuse Correctional Institution

Gary Stewart, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 10

Sherry Thomas, personnel technician I, Prisons Administration

Jeffrey Van Dyke, substance abuse counselor advanced, Dan River Prison Work Farm

Darryl Wade, facility maintenance supervisor III, Facility Management -
Eastern Region Maintenance Yard

Michael Whitfield, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 8

Robert Wilcox, processing assistant IV, Bertie Correctional Institution

Derrick Williams, probation/parole officer (September 2015),
Community Corrections District 16

Jonathan Williams, youth counselor, Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center

Honor students

Named honor students in recent Basic Correctional Officers Training were **Shekinah Akkebala** of Sanford Correctional Institution, **Lenna Faucett** of Swannanoa Correctional Institution and **Ryan Vanwart** of Pasquotank Correctional Institution.

R E T I R E M E N T S

In January 2016.

Name, job title, location, service (years/months)

- Barbara Anderson**, processing assistant V, State Highway Patrol Special Operations, 23y/9m
- Thomas Blake**, maintenance mechanic IV, Southern Correctional Institution, 17/8
- Judy Brandon**, superintendent II, Caswell Correctional Center, 27/6
- Ernest Brown**, correctional officer I, Lincoln Correctional Center, 20
- Donna Cannon**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 29, 26
- Gloria Chambers**, school guidance counselor, Foothills Correctional Institution, 31/4
- James Chappell**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 23, 21/5
- Lawrence Clark**, school educator I, Dobbs Youth Development Center, 14
- Charles Cole**, correctional officer I, Craggy Correctional Institution, 30
- Phyllis Conner**, correctional officer I, Caswell Correctional Center, 14/11
- Ray Cooper**, correctional officer II, Scotland Correctional Institution, 19/5
- Patricia Craven**, processing assistant III, Craggy Correctional Institution, 6/5
- Randall Crump**, correctional officer I, Davidson Correctional Center, 26/3
- Harold Cunningham**, sergeant II, Central Prison, 19/7
- Joni Daniels**, admissions technician, Craven Correctional Institution, 15/5
- Robert Doering**, youth transportation driver, Juvenile Justice Transportation, 7
- Aretta Eason**, processing assistant IV, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, 26/3
- Hilda Edens**, office assistant IV, Alcohol Law Enforcement, 12/11
- John Fleming**, correctional sergeant I, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 27/3
- Derrick Freeman**, master trooper, SHP Troop E District 6, 27/8
- Jimmie Garris**, maintenance mechanic IV, Facility Management –
Central Region Maintenance Yard, 23/9
- Airlie Green**, school educator II, Foothills Correctional Institution, 32
- Vicky Griffin**, processing assistant III, Neuse Correctional Institution, 16/9
- Larry Hupp**, lieutenant I, Dan River Prison Work Farm, 30/8
- Johnny Jenkins**, correctional officer I, Odom Correctional Institution, 27/9
- Marty Johnson**, sergeant, SHP Troop G District 9, 26
- Michael Jones**, correctional officer I, Gaston Correctional Center, 15/10
- Carlton Killian**, trooper (master), SHP Troop E District 9, 25/11
- David Krum**, IT operations analyst, Emergency Management - Risk Management, 22/6
- Betty Lee**, office assistant III, Community Corrections District 8, 11/1
- Willie Majette**, correctional officer I, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 25/2
- John Maness**, business officer, Prisons Health Services, 29/6
- Edward May**, sergeant II, Pasquotank Correctional Institution, 19/1
- Alethea McClure-McNeill**, food service officer, Central Prison, 27/5
- Dennis Meads**, correctional officer II, Pasquotank Correctional Institution, 19/7
- Dorothy Moore**, office assistant III, Pender Correctional Institution, 24/4

- Johnny Mull**, sergeant I, Lincoln Correctional Center, 28/5
- Linda Nichols**, housing unit manager II, Burke Confinement in Response to Violation Center, 17/7
- Bernice Reid**, assistant unit administrator, Dobbs Youth Development Center, 19
- Henry Reynolds**, correctional officer I, Southern Correctional Institution, 14/2
- Richard Ruiz**, senior case analyst, Polk Correctional Institution, 30/4
- Christopher Sexton**, correctional officer I, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 30
- Barbara Stump**, processing assistant IV, SHP Fleet Administrator, 16
- Billy Tally**, sergeant I, Harnett Correctional Institution, 14/1
- Barbara Walker**, office assistant IV, Juvenile Justice District 1, 20/4
- Deborah Wheeler**, administrative assistant III, Correction Enterprises, 30/3
- Beverly Wynn**, correctional officer I, Eastern Correctional Institution, 25/2

PASSING

Heather Brown, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 25, 7y/9m

On The Scene ...

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