

# ON THE Scene



# LInX

Criminal investigations  
full speed ahead

# HART plucks men from perilous plight

Julia Jarema  
Communications Officer

A North Carolina Emergency Management Helo-Aquatic Rescue Team (NC HART), rescued three stranded kayakers from the rain-swollen Cape Fear River on Jan. 10. The trio had gone kayaking that morning but became stuck in the unusually high and turbulent river in the northeastern part of Lee County.

One of the kayakers was able to call 911, but the dangerous river conditions prevented swift water rescue crews from reaching the boaters.

An NC HART crew — comprised of two State Highway Patrol pilots and two rescue technicians from the Raleigh Fire Department — was dispatched. Within two and a half hours, the NC HART team rescued the kayakers and delivered them safely to the Cape Fear Fire Department and Lee County Emergency Services. None of the three mid-20s male kayakers was harmed.

“NC HART is an excellent example of our state’s first responders and military joining forces to save lives in North Carolina,” Gov. Pat McCrory said. “The rescue took more than training; it took courage, and I appreciate the dedication of the men and women of NC HART.”

*Photo courtesy of  
Lee County Emergency Services.*

[Click here to see video from the rescue.](#)

## What's inside?

Catching bad guys faster

Larkins Award winner

[Walk In My Shoes](#)  
Knowing the boundaries

5-year operation wraps up

Some things good

New leaders at two prisons

Promotions

Retirements

Security Sense

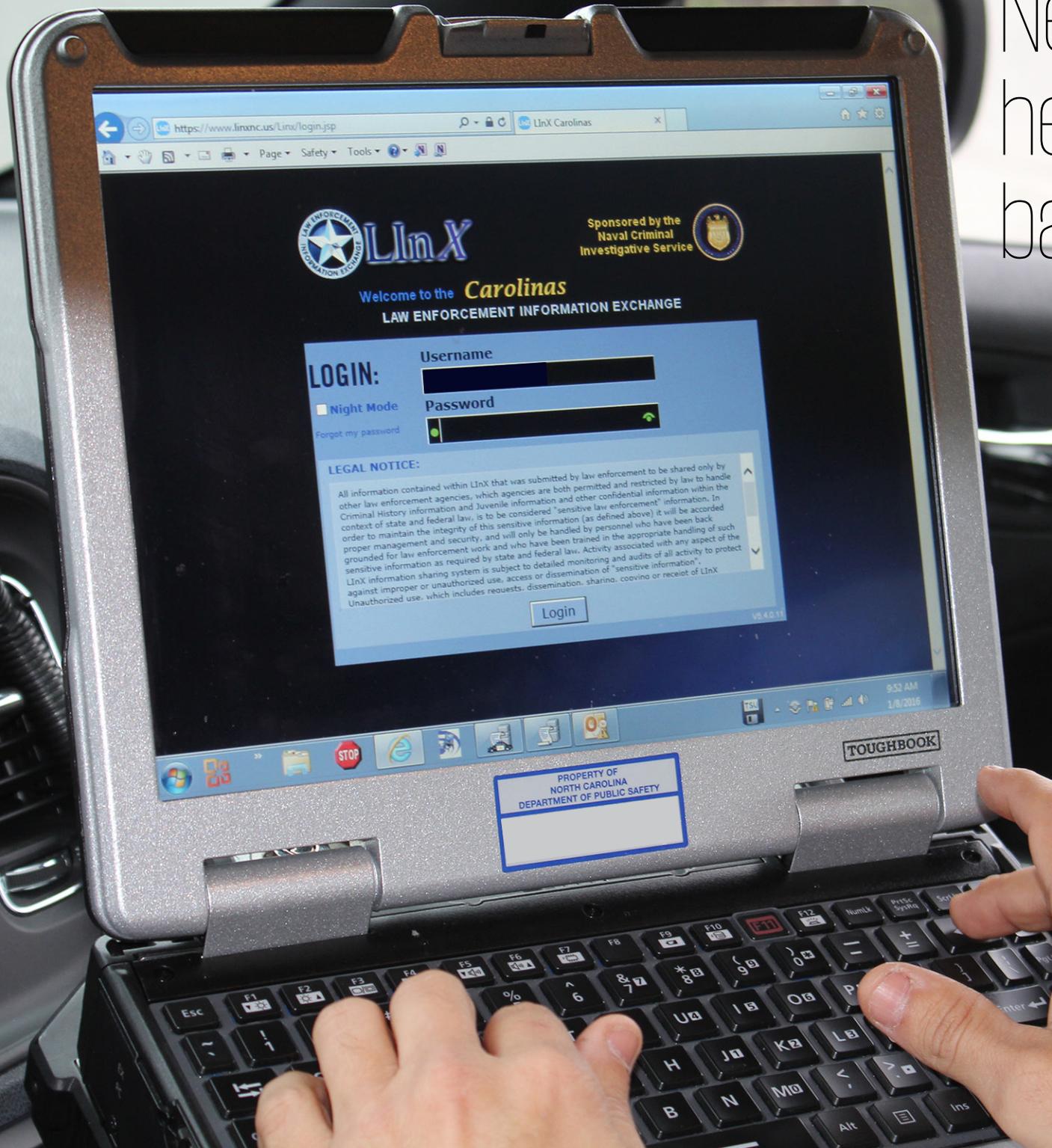
# New technology helping catch bad guys faster

By Patty McQuillan  
Communications Officer

North Carolina isn't far from the time when crimes are solved faster than a speeding bullet thanks to one of the most important tools that law enforcement agencies can have in their arsenals — LInX, the U.S. Naval Criminal Investigative Services' (NCIS) Law Enforcement Information Exchange System.

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Photos by  
**Patty McQuillan**,  
communications officer.



Trooper **Gary Hammonds** of Wake County likes how LInX can provide prior addresses of suspects.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 3

LInX is a nationwide incident-based information sharing system that provides more than 50 million mugshots – including photos of scars, marks and tattoos – and 570 million event records, including warrants, arrests, jail bookings, adult criminal histories, traffic stop data, field interviews, stolen property reports, pawn ticket information and narratives of incident reports. LInX can also search text messages and multiple alias identifications. The terrorist watch list will eventually be included.

Seventy percent of the North Carolina's law enforcement agencies – including local sheriff deputies, police officers, military police and some campus police and state troopers – are accessing LInX from their computers and cellphones. Adult Correction officers will soon be added to the system.

At a recent meeting of the Criminal Justice Information Network Board of Directors, former New Bern Police Chief Frank Palombo described how important the board's support has been to the growth of LInX across North Carolina.

"The system makes data available in seconds, saving an extraordinary amount of time,"

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Chris Creech, a Wake County sheriff's deputy and director of his department's information technology section, said LlnX allows investigators to cross jurisdictional lines without physically leaving the county.

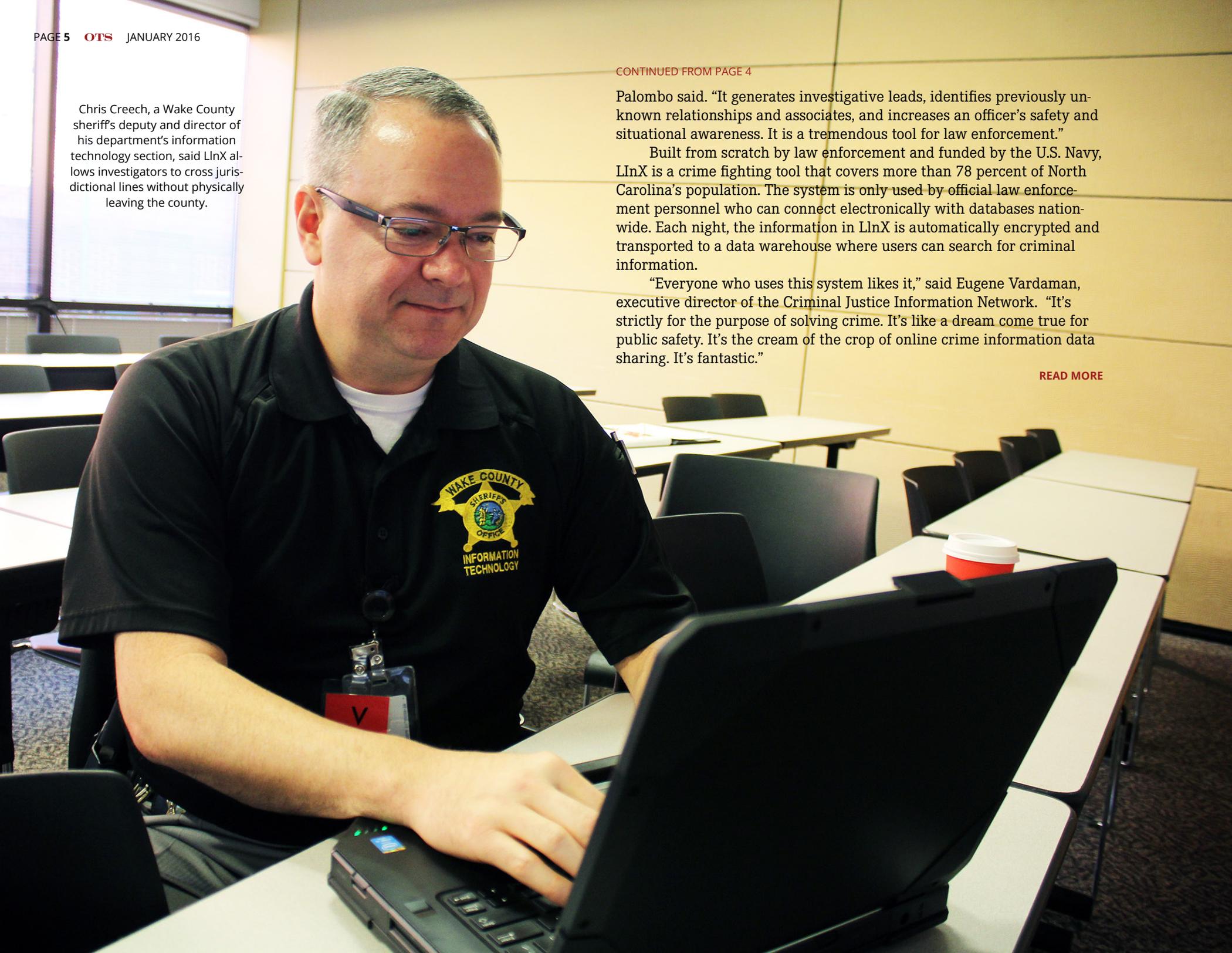
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Palombo said. "It generates investigative leads, identifies previously unknown relationships and associates, and increases an officer's safety and situational awareness. It is a tremendous tool for law enforcement."

Built from scratch by law enforcement and funded by the U.S. Navy, LlnX is a crime fighting tool that covers more than 78 percent of North Carolina's population. The system is only used by official law enforcement personnel who can connect electronically with databases nationwide. Each night, the information in LlnX is automatically encrypted and transported to a data warehouse where users can search for criminal information.

"Everyone who uses this system likes it," said Eugene Vardaman, executive director of the Criminal Justice Information Network. "It's strictly for the purpose of solving crime. It's like a dream come true for public safety. It's the cream of the crop of online crime information data sharing. It's fantastic."

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CONTINUED FROM PAGE 5

Some members of the State Highway Patrol began training for LlnX in March, including Sgt. **Zebulon D. Stroup** who said, "It's a go-to we love. We have access to information we didn't have before."

Stoup gave an example of a hit-and-run accident with significant damage. A witness got the Arizona license plate number, a trooper ran it through LlnX and found an entry from the Raleigh Police Department. Troopers were able to drive to a local address and arrest the man.

"We have someone trained in each region of the state, and we're getting a lot of requests for more training," Stroud said.

State Highway Patrol Trooper **Gary Hammonds** was equally enthusiastic. He noted that in addition to linking a license tag to an address,

LlnX can provide prior addresses for the subject.

**Julia Jordan**, a technical support analyst for the State Highway Patrol, said 127 members, including telecommunications, are trained on LlnX.

"It is the most intuitive criminal justice database we've [tested]," Jordan said. "It's very

searchable — not quite Google for criminal justice, but pretty close."

When Adult Correction access is added, probation and parole officers will, for example, be able to search for absconders who may be in other states, information they would not have from any database today. If a parolee has any interaction with law enforcement, such as being arrested or pulled for a traffic violation, his or her parole officer can get the details of the incident within 24 hours.

Adding Alcohol Law Enforcement, CJIN director Vardaman said, is "a no-brainer because they have the most authority of any jurisdiction in the state."

LlnX is populated only with law enforcement data. Each law enforcement agency owns and is responsible for its data, and the member agencies never give up rights to their data.

Police chiefs and sheriffs support LlnX, because it lets investigators search across jurisdictional boundaries.

Fayetteville Police Capt. James Nolette said LlnX is a great tool for them in their investigations because otherwise they would have to call different agencies for the information they need — if they knew where to call.

Chris Creech, a Wake County Sheriff's deputy and director of his department's information technology section, said that since 2012, LlnX has helped them on numerous occasions locate criminal suspects and solve cases.

"LlnX has proven to be an invaluable tool for our agency," Creech said. "LlnX allows us to cross county and state lines during our investigations without physically leaving Wake County. The amount of data collected and stored in LlnX provides an unimaginable crime fighting advantage for our staff and citizens."

The Naval Criminal Investigative Service launched LlnX in 2003 initially to protect surrounding areas of Naval installations and their personnel. The Navy wanted to enhance information sharing between local, state and federal law enforcement in areas of strategic importance to them. They added N-DEX, the FBI's National Data Exchange in 2014, which added a national repository of criminal justice records.

North Carolina became a part of the LlnX system in 2007. While the system is not owned or controlled by the Department of the Navy — a division of the U.S. Department of Defense — the Navy has paid the annual operating and

maintenance costs for LlnX Carolinas and other states. North Carolina's cost for data mapping since 2007 has been \$113,000. The Department of the Navy updates LlnX information sharing tools as technology changes.

In the 2015 legislative session, the N.C. General Assembly approved \$288,474 to add as many as 50 law enforcement agencies to the program, bringing the total number of agencies in North Carolina to more than 220. The Navy's funding is expected to continue at least through 2018. LlnX has been designated as a national security priority by the Department of Defense.

LlnX Carolinas users have access to more than 1 billion law enforcement elements from 1,700 agencies in 13 regions across the country, including all DOD law enforcement agencies and a growing number of federal law enforcement agencies.

"We're really excited about the progress we've made in this state," Palombo said. "All this time people thought we already did this." ▴

*'It's very searchable — not quite Google for criminal justice, but pretty close.'*

*'The amount of data collected and stored in LlnX provides an unimaginable crime fighting advantage.'*



# Stanley Melvin awarded John Larkins honor

By **Diana Kees**, Communications Officer

**Stanley C. Melvin**, director of Pitt Regional Juvenile Detention Center in Greenville, was presented with the prestigious John R. Larkins Award during the 2016 State Employees Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. celebration in downtown Raleigh. This award is the highest civil rights honor that the state awards to its employees.

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Stanley Melvin, left, accepts his John Larkins Award from Bill Daughtridge, right, secretary of the Department of Administration, while Gov. Pat McCrory, center, looks on.

*Photos by George Dudley, editor.*

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

Melvin, who began working for Juvenile Justice in 1979 at Dobbs Youth Development Center in Kinston, was cited for his selfless dedication to helping young people, from the juveniles served at Pitt Juvenile Detention, to the college students seeking careers in the criminal justice field who work as interns at the detention center.

Concerned that Pitt Juvenile Detention's staff lacked diversity, Melvin started an innovative program that increased workplace diversity while boosting staff recruitment through the active marketing of Pitt Juvenile Detention as a student intern site for criminal justice majors at nearby institutions of higher learning. Since 1995, nearly 300 student-interns have gained experience working with minority youths, who in turn were exposed to people from various ethnicities and backgrounds.

Melvin gives back to the community, speaking often to young people in various community settings about the dangers of gangs, drugs and delinquent behaviors. He has also served for 18 years on criminal justice advisory boards at East Carolina University and Pitt Community College, providing oversight of the coursework students will use to be able to keep abreast of the needs of various criminal justice agencies.



"Stanley is a person who truly works from the heart," said **Frank L. Perry**, secretary of the Department of Public Safety. "He treats every juvenile in his care and each staff member as if they were the most important person in the world. We are fortunate in North Carolina to have a leader of such caliber working to guide our troubled youths to a more positive path."

The John R. Larkins Award

was established in 1998 to recognize human service and is presented annually at the State Employees Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day Observance Program. The award this year honored a state employee whose work ethic goes above and beyond and whose self-determination promotes and encourages the same in others. Melvin was one of five finalists for this year's award. ▲

Above, Stanley Melvin is congratulated by **Billy Lassiter**, left, deputy commissioner for Juvenile Justice, and Secretary **Frank L. Perry**.

# A man who knows his boundaries

## Chief of Geodetic Survey

By Patty McQuillan  
Communications Officer

Growing up in Montgomery County, **Gary Thompson's** frequent hikes in the woods near Town Creek Indian Mound foreshadowed the 38-year path he would take as a professional land surveyor for the North Carolina Geodetic Survey.

As chief of the Geodetic Survey, Thompson's work potentially touches every North Carolina resident directly or indirectly: Professional land surveyors can reference property boundaries, farmers are able to use precision agriculture technology for maximum yields; the Department of Transportation obtains elevation data and longitude and latitude to safely build roads away from floodplains; and state and county boundary disputes are settled.

To understand the technical work that he and 19 other people in the Geodetic Survey group do, Thompson suggests picturing a grid that runs across the state. By legislation, they are to

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**Gary Thompson**, chief of North Carolina Geodetic Survey, in his office in the Emergency Operations Center.

Photos by **Patty McQuillan**,  
communications officer.

Walk In  
My Shoes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 9

“establish and maintain the official survey base.”

That base begins with a network of concrete survey monuments – many with brass discs attached – that are used daily as reference points by the Geodetic Survey. Some state boundary monuments date back to the early 1800s.

The use of concrete geodetic monuments began in the 1960s and they are typically 12 inches across and embedded 4 feet deep into the ground.

In addition to hard markers, the Geodetic Survey group uses the Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) which is employed worldwide to determine coordinates. GPS, or Global Positioning System, uses the United States’ satellite system. Europe, Russia and others have their own systems.

In the 1990s, the Geodetic Survey began installing across the state GNSS receivers that transmit data continually to Geodetic servers in Raleigh in real time. Using this system, called CORS, or Continuous Operating Reference System, means engineers, surveyors and farmers can use data to position themselves within an inch of their project in real time.

Thompson contrasts an image of a young George Washington riding horseback to survey land in Virginia to today’s use of technology such as GNSS and unmanned aircraft systems, which can survey points and features from above.

“We’re one of the first state agencies to purchase and have

access to unmanned aircraft systems,” said Thompson, who showed the 9-pound drone that has the ability to provide high quality and precision mapping. “We can use them for search and rescue, monitoring prison perimeters, spotting leaks from train derailments and surveying storm damage and debris piles.”

While technology is advancing rapidly, old-fashioned leg-work is still needed in cases such as Duke Energy’s offer to sell land to North and South Carolina for Gorges State Park. Thompson discovered that the boundary line between the two states was unclear. Over time, trees that marked the border had either died or been chopped down and boulders disappeared under layers of overgrowth.

A Joint Boundary Commission was established, and Thompson and his team, along with their South Carolina counterparts, put together a plan.

“The joint team members and our contractors spent a lot of time in map libraries looking for old maps,” Thompson said. “We used state archives, colonial maps, old deeds and informed detective work. We retraced where all the trees were marked. Once we found historical evidence of the tree’s location, we had to follow the maps and evidence through generations to determine that location as it exists today.

“Instead of depending on a tree that was there, we now have coordinates to use a reference frame. Two hundred years from now, they won’t have to worry about finding that tree because future surveyors



will be able to use the digital coordinates.”

Two original 17-foot maps created in 1815 that marked the North Carolina and South Carolina Ridge line from Polk County to the Chattooga River were either lost or destroyed. South Carolina had a copy of North Carolina’s original map, but the map couldn’t be removed from the archives building to make a copy. A member of South Carolina’s team painstakingly traced the map by hand, which turned out to be well worth the effort. The map showed an old road that ran between boulders, and the South Carolina and North Carolina markers were etched on two of those boulders.

Like finding buried treasure,

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Today, unmanned aircraft systems can survey points from the sky. Thompson contrasts that to young George Washington riding horseback to survey land in Virginia.

*When farmers have precise information on subsurface features and soil composition, they can be more exact in determining where and the amount of fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides to use, as well as knowing how much watering is needed. Farmers then maximize their yields and reduce their operating expenses.*



From the early 19th century, an etched stone that once guided surveyors and landowners.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

Thompson and Alex Rankin, president of CESI Land Development Services in Concord, found the road and they used machetes and bush axes to clear away the leaf litter and thick root matter that covered the boulders. Rankin described the experience as one that was never more intense.

Thompson shouted out, “I found it! I found it!” when he uncovered the markings on the side of a boulder: SC 1815. Rankin soon found the North Carolina mark on the opposite side.

“All of us there that day will recall that for the rest of our professional careers,” Rankin said. “It’s the epitome of why we do our work.”

The completed and approved survey puts 17 South Carolina homes into North Carolina and 50 homes right on the boundary line. Pending legislation in the next short session is expected to allow children to finish school in the state where

they are enrolled and protect homeowners from owing back taxes in their new state. Kaylan Sisco, an Appalachian State University student and for Youth Advocacy Involvement Office intern, produced a video that shows more on the history of the South Carolina-North Carolina border.

Surveys such as this one and 10 county surveys the N.C. Geodetic Survey members are currently working on are important to the residents living on or next to borders that are unclear. The Geodetic Survey’s State and County Boundary Program establishes clear lines of authority for emergency services, school assignments, voting locations, property assessments and building inspections.

It is not unusual for county officials to ask the Geodetic Survey for clarification of their county borders, and Thompson said they are grateful for the work that provides clarity.

The Department of Environmental Quality requested the help of the Geodetic Survey to collect data and monitor a large area of land in the Kinston area that had evidence of sinking — known as subsidence — possibly caused by groundwater extraction from aquifers. The Geodetic Survey is monitoring the area to determine the occurrence and rate of any subsidence.

North Carolina’s Geodetic Survey team’s next state boundary project will be the North Carolina and Virginia boundary line.

“Surveying preserves the location of any feature on the face of the earth,” Thompson said. “If we put an

Click  
here  
to see  
the video.

object in a certain place and the land surveyor positions it using the state plane coordinate system, and for some legal purpose you need to know where that object is, other surveyors can put it back three dimensionally in the same location to the same precision accuracy as the original survey.”

Three-dimensional topographical maps can be created using LIDAR technology, or Light Detection and Ranging. Typically used from an airplane, LIDAR equipment projects laser beams to the ground to create digital elevation models of roof and tree tops or the bare earth. Instead of surveying a ridge line, for example, which could take weeks to do on foot, LIDAR quickly identifies and records the physical features.

Thompson is part of a team that is overseeing an imagery project that will help telecommunications know the location of a cell phone user who has dialed 911 for an emergency. The North Carolina 911 Board is funding the project. Every four years statewide aerial images will be made to support 911 applications. When complete, 911 centers will be able to use up-to-date aerial imagery to guide firefighters, emergency medical services or police to the exact location of the person in distress.

“The data we produce is needed by [EM’s] Floodplain Mapping,” Thompson said. “It’s a good team — surveying, mapping and engineering — a very good, professional relationship.

“We deal in the science of

[READ MORE](#)

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geodesy. We are the gold standard for everything in the State of North Carolina that is surveying – mapping, GIS'ing. We are the reference frame for all spatial information in North Carolina.”

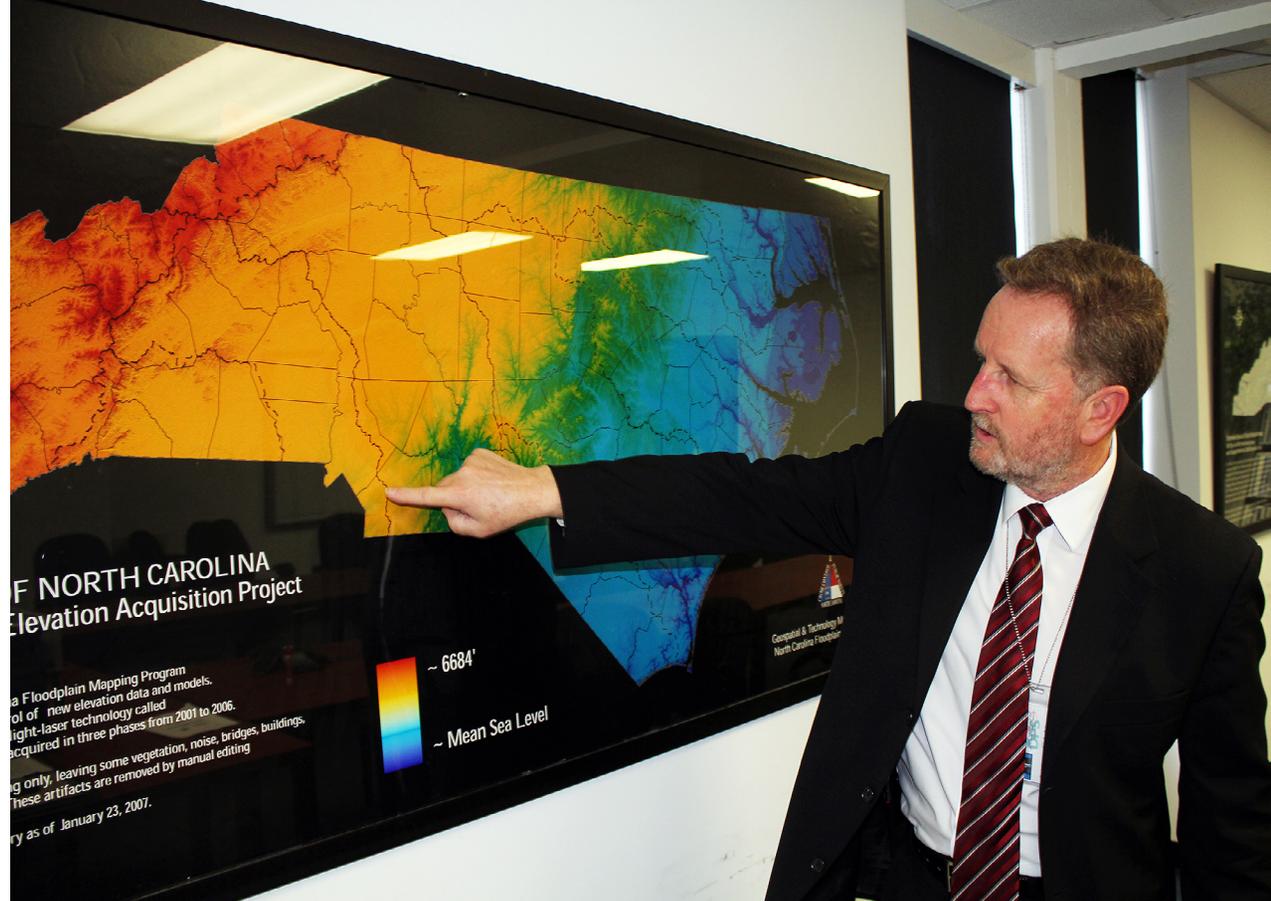
The Geodetic Survey section was transferred from the former Department of Environment and Natural Resources to Emergency Management's Risk Section in 2012. Thompson said it fits well because of his team's work with various Emergency Management sections that will use UAS and other positioning technologies.

Quality control is paramount, Thompson said.

“We are the go-to agency for other state agencies to assist with the use of the state plane coordination system,” he said. “People call for interpretation of rules or laws and if they have a survey problem or a mathematical question. We have a lot of people who depend on us, That is very rewarding.”

Thompson is a licensed, professional land surveyor, but spends much of his time overseeing projects and educational outreach. He conducted 14 workshops last year for professional land surveyor, engineers and local government staff.

Thompson serves on various boards and committees related to surveying – 10 years as a member of N.C. Board of Examiners for Engineers and Surveyors, is the sitting treasurer of the National Council of Examiners for Engineering and Surveying and is a member of the National Geospatial Advisory



Committee (NGAC). He chairs the North Carolina Boundary Commission. He is a member of NOAA's Hydra Navigation Board and the State Mapping Advisory Committee. He is the recipient of numerous awards.

Thompson grew up in Troy and spent a lot of time with his grandparents who lived in southern Montgomery County. Thompson still enjoys a walk through woods.

“That's probably what attracted me to surveying,” Thompson said. “I was an outdoor kid. I liked sports. I'm a big Panthers fan.”

He started playing baseball when he was six years old, and he

plays softball today. He also enjoys gardening, and he and his wife are trying to visit all the state parks. They plan to visit their son who is stationed in Italy with the U.S. Air Force.

“I've enjoyed my 38 years. It's rewarding. You provide a lot of assistance to a lot of people in the private sector and local governments. You have to be good at math, have to be a detective to solve the problems that you face.

“I have no plans on retirement – as long as the state will keep me. Being able to use a lot of the latest technology is pretty exciting,” Thompson said. ▴

Gary Thompson indicates the area where Duke Energy owned property that it donated for state park land.

## Public Safety officers help wrap up 5-year operation

N.C. Department of Public Safety Community Corrections officers last month joined U.S. marshals and Johnston County sheriff deputies in the successful conclusion of an operation to verify that all registered sex offenders in Johnston County were in compliance with North Carolina guidelines.

During the course of the operation, authorities visited the homes of 209 registered sex offenders. In addition to verifying the compliance of the registered sex offenders, officers also arrested 28 individuals for a variety of offenses including homicide, assault with a deadly weapon inflicting serious injury, possession of a firearm, possession of narcotics, probation violation and robbery. Additional charges are likely forthcoming as a result of on-going investigations.

This operation was the culmination of a program launched in 2010 that involved similar operations in each of the 44 counties in the Eastern District of North Carolina. With the conclusion of the operation – known as “Home For The Holidays?” – the U.S. Marshals and their numerous state, local and federal partners have conducted 6,340 compliance checks involving 5,601 registered sex offenders, made 295 arrests and seized 39 firearms.

“This initiative demonstrated the dedication of the men and women of the U.S. Marshals and our law enforcement partners here in Johnston County and throughout Eastern North Carolina,” said Scott J. Parker, U.S. Marshal for the Eastern District of North Carolina. “I want to thank all of the law enforcement officers from the participating agencies for their relentless pursuit of justice here in North Carolina.”

“This operation underscores the importance of all law enforcement working together for public safety,” said **Wendell Hargrave**, director of special operations for the Department of Public Safety Adult Corrections. “When we combine our resources and knowledge, the people of North Carolina can live in safer communities.”

[Click here to download a video from the operation.](#)

## Trooper's stop helps make Wilmington streets safer

A North Carolina Highway Patrol trooper's traffic stop on Jan. 6 is believed to have led to the arrest of suspects in recent shootings in the Wilmington area.

The arrests came after a car wrecked as it tried to elude the trooper, who was attempting to stop the vehicle for an equipment violation.

Several recent tips from Text-A-Tip and credible witnesses had tied the suspect's car to numerous shootings and the information had been relayed to members of the Safe Streets Task Force. Law enforcement officers from the Wilmington Police Department, the State Highway Patrol, the New Hanover County Sheriff's Office and the FBI comprise the task force.

Such partnerships help the FBI fight and investigate gang violence. Four Safe Streets Task Force teams operate across the state investigating violent crime by gangs. Their goal is to eliminate gangs, from street level criminals and dealers all the way up to the gang's leaders.

The trooper who attempted the traffic stop on Jan. 6 is a member of the Wilmington Safe Streets Task Force. The 17-year-old driver failed to stop for the trooper and, after a short pursuit, the vehicle crashed into a minivan, overturned and ejected three of the four occupants in the car. The driver fled on foot but was quickly subdued by several good Samaritans until law enforcement officials took the suspect into custody.

Among the charges filed against the car's driver and passengers were possession with the intent to manufacture, sell and deliver heroin and possession of a firearm by a convicted felon.

## New app helps child care operators

Thanks to a partnership between two state agencies, child care operators have an “easy button” to help them develop, update and submit emergency plans that provide protective actions for children in their care. The web-based tool, recently announced by Gov. Pat McCrory, can be used to create plans for everything from fire, tornadoes and floods to an active assailant.

The online application was developed by the Department of Public Safety's Emergency Management Division and the Department of Health and Human Services' Division of Child Development and Early Education.

“This is another example of how state agencies are working together to protect the public, using existing technology, and improving customer service and government efficiency,” said **Frank L. Perry**, Public Safety secretary. “DHHS staff outlined the requirements, while Emergency Management provided the funding, project management and determined how to match the requirements with a plan that people could customize based on their unique situation.”

Perry said N.C. Emergency Management began work to develop the tool about a year ago after similar plans were developed for licensed adult care facilities and dam owners. Since the new tool is a digital application, it allows child care owners to easily review and update their plans each year, as required.

“As the lead state agency for emergency management, we work fervently to reduce and manage risk for our most vulnerable populations and critical infrastructure,” said **Mike Sprayberry**, NCEM director.

Sprayberry said his agency is working on a similar online template for NC public schools.

The web-based planning application and template enables child care facility owners to easily meet new emergency preparedness and response (EPR) rules that took effect this summer. The rules require licensed child care programs, family child care homes and summer day camps be prepared to respond to the needs of children and their families during disasters and emergencies. Child care facility owners use authenticated access to log into the web portal and answer a series of questions in order to generate an emergency plan for their facility.

“Nothing is more important than the safety of our children,” Sprayberry said. “We're excited to offer this tool to help child care providers keep kids safe.”

## Prisons observe the season with generosity

Generous giving by employees and inmates was on display during a Christmas program on Dec. 18 at Maury Correctional Institution. The prison staff staged a Christmas program, to which were invited employees, inmates, family, friends and local government and law enforcement officials from Greene and surrounding counties.

The celebration included music from the Maury inmate choir, lessons about Christmas traditions in the Hispanic and Native American cultures, a Christmas message from a local pastor and gifting in the holiday spirit.

Maury CI staff had collected gifts for Toys for Tots for several years, but this year was different.

“Last year we donated two bicycles among the toys we collected,” explained prison Administrator **Dennis Daniels**. “The folks from Toys for Tots told us they really could use more bicycles, so we took that on as a challenge this year.”

As the days in December passed, the number of bicycles grew past 50 and bikes kept rolling in. New bicycles were still arriving on the morning of the Christmas program. Maury CI staff presented 78 bicycles to thrilled representatives from Toys for Tots shortly before the start of the Christmas program.

“I am so proud of our staff and their generosity,” Daniels said. “They really stepped up to help others this Christmas.”

Inmates from the Maury Inmate Service Club were also very generous, donating funds they had raised. A check for \$500 from the service club was presented to Youth Villages, a nonprofit that helps emotionally and behaviorally disturbed children. A second donation of \$500 to Marine Corps Toys for Tots helped provide more toys for needy children.

Students at Alexander Hamilton Middle School in Houston, Texas, contributed some holiday cheer to inmates at Maury. One of the school’s teachers heard about the Veteran’s Day program held at Maury CI in November and the students decided to recognize incarcerated veterans at Christmas. They assembled care packages in shoe boxes and received permission to send them to the prison for distribution to inmates who are military veterans. Prison staff passed out the boxes to the veterans during the Christmas program.

Employees from prisons across the state support a variety of local charities during the Christmas season with donations of meals, gifts and financial support to families in need. ▴

— **Keith Acree**, communications officer

Tell me  
something  
good

## Trooper risks his own to save two other lives

Trooper **Jonathan Gouge** of Morganton has been credited with saving the lives of two residents in a house fire near Valdese on Jan. 2.

That morning, Gouge was off-duty and was traveling on Eldred Street in Valdese, when he noticed heavy smoke and flames shooting from the second floor of a home. Without hesitation, the two-year State Highway Patrol veteran stopped his personal vehicle and immediately ran toward the burning residence. A neighbor told him that someone was still inside the home.

With fire and rescue personnel still en route, Gouge broke a window to unlock a door and enter the house. Despite heavy smoke and flames, Gouge was able to locate and safely remove two residents and several pets from the home before it became fully engulfed in fire.

“His quick actions and heroism unquestionably kept two people from dying as a result of the fire and smoke,” said Chief Charles Watts of the Valdese Fire Department.

Trooper Gouge is assigned to the Morganton Troop F District 1. ▴



Left, Maury Correctional Institution staff gather with the inmates with the bounty of bikes contributed to the prison’s Toys for Tots drive for the 2015 holidays.

# Offenders grow tons of food for good causes

Over the past year, inmates at state prisons and juveniles at a youth development center raised more than 35,800 pounds of fresh produce and donated it to local food banks and other service organizations as part of an ongoing initiative to fight hunger in local communities.

“DPS horticulture programs have yielded massive donations to feed low-income seniors and families across North Carolina, while teaching inmates valuable work

and life skills they’ll need to turn their lives around,” Gov. Pat McCrory said.

Winter gardens and warmer than usual weather allowed inmates at prisons and a youth development center in North Carolina to continue raising fresh produce that was donated to food banks and other social service organizations as late as December. These efforts were focused at the seven prisons that are participating in the Combating Hunger project: Brown

Creek, Pamlico, Odom, Pender, Johnston and Southern correctional institutions and Robeson Confinement in Response to Violation Center.

Started last spring, the project is a partnership between the North Carolina Department of Public Safety and the national non-profit group Harvest Now. The project’s goal is to fight hunger and improve health in the communities. The project is helping ensure more produce available.

“We feel these DPS programs are also beneficial to the inmates and offenders who raise the crops,” said Secretary of Public Safety **Frank L. Perry**. “They learn agricultural skills, and perhaps more importantly, they learn from their labor the value of hard work and of helping others who are in need.”

In addition to the prisons working with the Combating Hunger project, Caledonia Prison Farm donated 14,700 pounds of turnip greens to the Food Bank of Central and Eastern North Carolina in December. Caledonia also donated sweet corn to the bank during the summer.

The youths of Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center also raised 700 pounds of produce that was donated to Cabarrus County Meals on Wheels. ▴



## The giving spirit of Christmas

Above, Craggy Correctional Center employees collected nearly 100 toys and a large quantity of stocking stuffers and donated more than a \$1,000 for children in Buncombe and Henderson counties. Staff began the project shortly before Christmas, and their excitement has them already talking about what they need to do for next Christmas season. Below, the staff at Lanesboro Correctional Institution in Polkton held a drive for Toys for Tots, collecting and donating 832 new toys including bicycles, games, dolls and stuffed animals.



## New leaders at two prisons

### Brad Perritt at Tabor

TABOR CITY | **Brad Perritt** is the new administrator at Tabor Correctional Institution in Tabor City.

Perritt leaves his post as superintendent at Lumberton Correctional Institution and assumes command at Tabor, where he will oversee the state's third largest prison population, with approximately 1,440 male inmates in medium and close custody and a staff of nearly 520 employees.

Perritt is a 21-year corrections veteran who began work as a correctional officer at Lumberton Correctional Institution in 1995. As a lieutenant, he helped open Scotland Correctional Institution in 2003 and served there as a unit manager and captain. He was assistant superintendent for custody and operations at Tabor CI in 2011 before moving the superintendent position at Lumberton CI in 2012.

Perritt is a resident of Lumberton and a graduate of Robeson Community College. ▲



### Denise Jackson at Swannanoa

SWANNANOA | **Denise Jackson** is the new administrator at Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women.

Jackson is a 21-year corrections veteran who began work as a correctional officer at Marion Correctional Institution in 1994. At Marion CI, she served as assistant unit manager, unit manager, shift captain and special affairs captain.

Swannanoa Correctional Center for Women is a minimum security prison housing approximately 300 female inmates in minimum-custody. It employs a staff of 125 and provides educational and work opportunities and transitional services for women nearing the end of their prison sentences.

Jackson is a native of McDowell County and a graduate of McDowell High School. ▲



# PROMOTIONS

## IN DECEMBER 2015

*Name, new job title, location*

- Summer Abernathy**, substance abuse program administrator, Catawba Correctional Institution
- Christie Adams**, administrative officer I, Correction Enterprises
- Douglas Amos**, captain, State Highway Patrol (SHP) special operations
- Marcus Anthony**, sergeant, Caledonia Correctional Institution
- Thomas Austin**, lead correctional officer, Brown Creek Correctional Institution
- Bryan Baker**, sergeant, SHP Troop E District 6
- Craig Blanks**, sergeant, Scotland Correctional Institution
- James Bray**, sergeant, SHP Troop A District 1
- Angela Brewer**, assistant manager II, Community Corrections District 10
- Cherie Britt**, sergeant, Marion Correctional Institution
- Mary Britt**, administrative secretary II, Columbus Correctional Institution
- Gwendolyn Brooks**, unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution
- Ted Brown**, auto body shop supervisor, SHP Troop E
- William Bruns**, maintenance mechanic IV, Alexander Correctional Institution
- Berthel Bunch**, lieutenant, Caledonia Correctional Institution
- Robert Burgess**, unit manager, Maury Correctional Institution
- Dennis Caldwell**, juvenile court counselor supervisor, Juvenile Justice District 18
- Ronald Campbell**, sergeant, Piedmont Correctional Institution
- Venecia Carr**, program development coordinator, Juvenile Justice Community Programs
- Jason Carswell**, supervisor I, Correction Enterprises Laundry
- David Church**, sergeant, SHP Troop H District 5
- Nicky Clark**, sergeant, Polk Correctional Institution
- Robert Clark**, sergeant, SHP Troop B District 1
- Daryl Conley**, lieutenant, SHP Troop F Motor Carrier Enforcement
- Evelyn Costello**, community development specialist I, Emergency Management Grants Management
- Roberta Coxe**, professional nurse, Craven Correctional Institution
- Brandon Craft**, lieutenant, SHP Executive Office
- Matthew Croom**, sergeant, Johnston Correctional Institution
- Tarsha Crosson**, unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution
- Timothy Crumpler**, lieutenant, SHP Troop A Motor Carrier Enforcement
- Mark Darnell**, electronics technician III, Facility Management – Western Region Electronics
- Gregory Deaton**, electronics technician IV, Facility Management – Raleigh Region Electronics
- Tony Dixon**, sergeant, Greene Correctional Institution
- Tommie Dunn**, assistant unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution
- James Durham**, unit manager, Caledonia Correctional Institution
- Ronald Elkins**, lieutenant, SHP Training Academy
- Jacqueline Evans**, sergeant, Polk Correctional Institution

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## CONTINUED FROM PAGE 16

**Christopher Farris**, sergeant, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Stephen Fortner**, sergeant, SHP Troop H District 6  
**Larry Freeman**, lead correctional officer, Lumberton Correctional Institution  
**Julia Gamble**, administrative secretary II, Mountain View Correctional Institution  
**Brian Gammon**, sergeant, Orange Correctional Center  
**Stephen Gardner**, electronics technician IV, Facility Management – Eastern Region Electronics  
**Colin Garrity**, assistant unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Katherine Gibbs**, lead correctional officer, Hyde Correctional Institution  
**Michael Gibbs**, lieutenant, Pamlico Correctional Institution  
**Ernest Goodwin**, sergeant, SHP Troop C District 8  
**Janice Grimes**, programs director I, Sanford Correctional Institution  
**Thomas Gunkler**, engineer, Engineering - Electronics  
**Charles Hall**, sergeant, SHP Troop H District 2  
**Michael Hall**, facility maintenance manager III, Facility Management  
**Christopher Harris**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 14  
**Dorine Harris**, assistant unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Brian Henderson**, sergeant, Central Prison  
**Stanley Hester**, food service officer, Maury Correctional Institution  
**Michael Hicks**, sergeant, SHP Criminal Interdiction Unit - Asheville  
**Rodney Hicks**, sergeant, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Michael Hinnenkamp**, sergeant, SHP Troop G District 4  
**Sckoya Hinton Allen**, judicial services coordinator, Community Corrections District 6  
**Calvin Holland**, captain, SHP Logistics  
**Lucretia Houston**, sergeant, Central Prison  
**Matthew Howell**, sergeant, SHP Troop C District 5  
**Laura Hux**, professional nurse, Nash Correctional Institution  
**Barbara Jacobs**, case manager, Craven Correctional Institution  
**Jennifer James**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 29  
**Christy Jarrett**, food service officer, Craven Correctional Institution  
**Amy Jenkins**, programs supervisor, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Damien Johnson**, sergeant, Harnett Correctional Institution  
**Kelly Jones**, food service manager II, NC Correctional Institution for Women  
**Robin Jones**, assistant unit manager, Pasquotank Correctional Institution  
**Cornelius Keech**, sergeant, Neuse Correctional Institution  
**Keno Kerns**, food service officer, Lumberton Correctional Institution  
**David Kornegay**, social work supervisor II, Dobbs Youth Development Center  
**Kenneth Kubas**, highway patrol major, SHP Support Services  
**Kim Lett**, assistant unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Ronnie Locklear**, assistant unit manager, Scotland Correctional Institution  
**Robert Mask**, assistant unit manager, Mountain View Correctional Institution  
**Cheryl Matthews**, professional nurse, Central Prison Nursing Services  
**Renee McInnis**, sergeant, Scotland Correctional Institution  
**Samantha McKinney**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 29  
**Candace McKnight**, unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution

**Michael McLeod**, sergeant, SHP Troop G District 3  
**Gloria McMillan**, food service supervisor IV, Chatham Correctional Institution  
**Charles Medlin**, unit manager, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Lynne Michael**, sergeant, Central Prison  
**Elton Miller**, sergeant, SHP Troop H District 3  
**Kathleen Mustian**, assistant unit manager, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Stephanie Newton**, accounting clerk V, Caledonia Correctional Institution - Tillery  
**Jessica Noguera**, youth counselor technician, Juvenile Justice Transportation  
**George Pack**, youth counselor, Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center  
**Michael Painter**, captain, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Melanie Palzatto**, processing assistant V, Victim Services  
**Brent Parker**, sergeant, Pamlico Correctional Institution  
**Robert Pearson**, lieutenant, SHP Troop B  
**Brandon Pelkey**, firefighter supervisor, Air National Guard Fire Protection  
**Richard Perry**, assistant unit manager, Polk Correctional Institution  
**Lisa Phillips**, personnel assistant IV, Craven Correctional Institution  
**Teresa Puett**, sergeant, Marion Correctional Institution  
**Rodney Reid**, lieutenant, Warren Correctional Institution  
**Robert Reynolds**, lieutenant, SHP Trooper Selection  
**Michael Richardson**, captain, Nash Correctional Institution  
**Wanda Richardson**, sergeant, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women  
**Michael Richie**, sergeant, Johnson Correctional Institution  
**Tyrone Ross**, lieutenant, SHP Executive Protection  
**David Sauls**, programs director I, Harnett Correctional Institution  
**Shelia Sauls**, programs director I, Johnston Correctional Institution  
**Nathan Seamster**, lieutenant, Caswell Correctional Institution  
**Richard Simpson**, sergeant, Central Prison  
**Kelly Snead**, administrative officer II, Rehabilitative Community Supervision  
**Phillip Spivey**, lead correctional officer, Columbus Correctional Institution  
**Heather Sullivan**, professional nurse, Scotland Correctional Institution  
**Marisa Terry**, sergeant, Central Prison Correctional Institution  
**Teresa Tew**, administrative assistant II, Prisons Administration  
**Mercedes Trammell Fordham**, diagnostic center director, Piedmont Correctional Institution  
**Shanna Wager**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 14  
**Christopher Ward**, food service officer, Craggy Correctional Institution  
**Tonia Warnic**, lieutenant, Brown Creek Correctional Institution  
**Donald Watkins**, assistant superintendent-custody/operations III, Marion Correctional Institution  
**Elise Welch**, food service officer, Alexander Correctional Institution  
**Chantal Williams**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 14  
**David Williams**, sergeant, SHP Troop G District 6  
**Teresa Willoughby**, lieutenant, Brown Creek Correctional Institution  
**Christopher Woodard**, captain, SHP Fleet Operations  
**Chris Woods**, assistant superintendent-custody/operations II, Hyde Correctional Institution

# RETIREMENTS

## IN DECEMBER 2015

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

**Jonathan Allen**, accounting clerk V, Controller - Accounts Payable, 15y/3m  
**Michael Allman**, food service manager I, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 30/5  
**Dennis Ardley**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 3, 14/10  
**Anthony Baldwin**, correctional officer, Sanford Correctional Center, 19/9  
**Sherry Barker**, professional nurse, Wilkes Correctional Center, 27/5  
**Kimberly Barnes**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 26, 20/7  
**Sherry Bartlet**, office assistant IV, SHP Troop G District 1, 16/10  
**Ossie Beard**, substance abuse program administrator,  
 Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency Programs - DWI, 34/3  
**Velton Bennett**, food service manager III, Scotland Correctional Institution, 17/2  
**James Blount**, correctional officer, Harnett Correctional Institution, 21/3  
**John Bramlett**, mechanic supervisor II, SHP Troop F Garage, 43/4  
**Clinton Brockington**, captain, Lumberton Correctional Institution, 32/2  
**Joan Brown**, correctional officer, Dan River Prison Work Farm, 18  
**Tyrone Brown**, correction training coordinator II,  
 Office of Staff Training & Development, 36/11  
**Charles Bryan**, correctional officer, Pender Correctional Institution, 23/9  
**William Carlyle**, correctional officer, Columbus Correctional Institution, 115  
**Nina Cousins**, correctional officer, Hyde Correctional Institution, 18/2  
**Ronald Crawford**, highway patrol trooper (master), Troop G District 9, 28/3  
**Carl Dale**, grounds supervisor I, Facility Management - Western Region, 21/3  
**Geneva Davis**, correctional officer, Franklin Correctional Center, 10/3  
**Barbara Dean**, correctional officer, Tyrrell Prison Work Farm, 11/9  
**Bobby Dickerson**, judicial district manager I, Community Corrections District 9, 30/1  
**Gregory Dickerson**, sergeant, Polk Correctional Institution, 32/6  
**Samuel Duran**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 3, 24/8  
**Paul Edwards**, correctional officer, Tyrrell Prison Work Farm, 16/1  
**Robert Edwards**, auto body mechanic, SHP Troop F Garage, 32/2  
**Sharon Ellington**, chief court counselor II, Juvenile Justice District 1, 26/3  
**Michael Everette**, radio engineer I, SHP Radio Shop and Parts, 39/3  
**Bernard Farrow**, substance abuse counselor advanced,  
 Craggy Correctional Institution, 5/3  
**Janice Fonville Stokes**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 8, 26/2  
**Marie Ford**, captain, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, 27/1  
**Michael Glisso**, environmental specialist, N.C. National Guard - Environmental, 11/7  
**Lawrence Greene**, supervisor I, Correction Enterprise - Laundry, 15/5  
**Cheryl Grimes**, correctional officer, Odom Correctional Institution, 17/3  
**Irene Grossman**, professional nurse, C.A. Dillon Youth Development Center, 5/9  
**Minnie Gundy**, assistant superintendent / programs II, Odom Correctional Institution, 23/1  
**Douglas Haas**, area coordinator, Emergency Management - Eastern Branch, 21  
**Rooksie Hager**, medical records assistant V, Polk Correctional Institution, 19/10  
**Deborah Hamm**, sergeant, Maury Correctional Institution, 32/4  
**Roberta Hansen**, safety consultant II, Human Resources-  
 Safety, Occupational & Environmental Health, 28/2  
**Bobby Harless**, superintendent II, Wilkes Correctional Center, 28/11  
**Calvin Harris**, trooper (master), SHP Troop C District 3, 27/11

**Jennifer Harris**, captain, SHP Support Services, 26/7  
**Danny Howell**, trooper (master), SHP Troop H District 9, 17/9  
**Steven Jacobson**, manager III, Correction Enterprises - Meat Processing, 28/11  
**Ronald Johnson**, sergeant, Neuse Correctional Institution, 18/5  
**Dwayne Jones**, lead correctional officer, Lumberton Correctional Institution, 21/9  
**Carl Justice**, trooper (master), SHP Troop G District 9, 28/6  
**Charles Kilby**, juvenile court area administrator, Juvenile Justice Piedmont Region, 33  
**Eurgia Land**, physician, Prisons Health Services, 14/6  
**Nona Landreth**, trooper (master), SHP Troop D District 9, 15/6  
**Fay Lassiter**, assistant chief of program services, Rehabilitative Prison Programs, 42/4  
**Gary Lovett**, correctional officer, Eastern Correctional Institution, 28/10  
**Billy Lyons**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 22, 20/8  
**Deborah Malone**, processing assistant IV, Facility Management - Piedmont Region, 25/10  
**Julia Maness Little**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 19B, 25/4  
**Sharon Manning**, processing assistant III, Maury Correctional Institution, 10  
**Anthony Marek**, trades worker III, SHP Troop D Radio Engineering, 9  
**Samuel Marshall**, correctional officer, Hyde Correctional Institution, 10/1  
**June Martin**, supervisor I, Correction Enterprise - Laundry, 21/1  
**Rachel Martin**, correctional officer, Neuse Correctional Institution, 20/11  
**Gevel Massenburg**, captain, Franklin Correctional Center, 25/3  
**Eunice Matthews**, office assistant III, Community Corrections District 11, 29/1  
**Eddie McBride**, correctional officer, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 10/1  
**Alethea McClure McNeill**, food service officer, Central Prison, 27/5  
**David McDonald**, radio engineer I, SHP Troop E Radio Engineering, 14/3  
**Stephen McMillan**, correctional officer, Scotland Correctional Institution, 7/9  
**John McNeil**, lead correctional officer, Sampson Correctional Institution, 25/10  
**Connie McQueen**, substance abuse counselor,  
 Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency Programs - DWI, 16/3  
**Rodney McCrary**, correctional officer, Caldwell Correctional Institution, 9/6  
**Theano Merriweather**, correctional officer, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, 23/6  
**Edward Mitchel**, purchasing officer III, Purchasing, 9/1  
**Timothy Morse**, legal specialist, Alcoholic Beverage Control, 22/1  
**Michael Munns**, correctional district manager, Prisons Administration, 32/9  
**Colin Murphrey**, food service manager I, Greene Correctional Institution, 23/11  
**William Murrell**, youth services behavioral specialist,  
 Dobbs Youth Development Center, 29/8  
**Charles Newton**, correctional officer, New Hanover Correctional Center, 29/6  
**Davie Paul**, lead correctional officer, Lumberton Correctional Institution, 21/8  
**Robert Pearson**, first sergeant, SHP Troop B Operations, 27/7  
**Clara Pegues**, office assistant III, Community Corrections District 16, 17/9  
**Walter Penley**, firefighter supervisor, N.C. Air National Guard - Fire Protection, 10/7  
**Laura Phillips**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 11, 30/4  
**Pamela Phillips**, radiologic technologist, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, 11/2  
**Larry Price**, school educator II, Foothills Correctional Institution, 17/8  
**Annie Reid**, correctional programs supervisor, Johnston Correctional Institution, 25/7  
**William Richardson**, sergeant, Albemarle Correctional Institution, 19/9  
**Eric Ritter**, first sergeant, SHP Troop H District 6, 29/2  
**Deborah Roach**, dental assistant, Piedmont Correctional Institution, 27/11  
**Sharon Robinson**, licensed practical nurse, Central Prison Health Center - Nursing, 14/6  
**Merrell Sasser**, safety consultant I, Correction Enterprises Administration, 33/6  
**Evelyn Shoulars**, correctional case manager, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 28/5  
**Eddie Smith**, sergeant, Central Prison, 22/3

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# Security Sense

## Predicting top threats for 2016

It's not too early to examine the cyber-threats that experts predict we'll see more of in the coming year.

### Ransomware

Ransomware has been a scourge for nearly two years, and analysts don't expect it to let up in 2016. Indeed, attackers will grow bolder and more refined in their targets and methods. Experts say ransomware variants that hurt the security software installed on a computer will be especially troublesome. McAfee has already warned that ransomware attackers will try out as many ways possible to pry payments from victims.

### Cyber-espionage

No matter how tight-lipped governments are, make no mistake: cyber-espionage is becoming the strongest weapon in most nation-states' arsenals. The payoffs are enormous, and the risks are low. The long-term players will gradually become better gatherers of information, while more and more nations, many of them hostile to the U.S., will join the fray.

### The Internet of Things

Let's rename it the Internet of Vulnerabilities. As more and more everyday devices are networked together, new security challenges will explode. The Internet of Things will be embedded in every facet of life, from the energy industry to the healthcare industry. Imagine the risk.

### Precarious passwords

Many experts believe the day of the password is already gone, though we're all reluctant to admit it. Password-cracking software has evolved to the point where even long, complex passwords are vulnerable. On the bright side, look for a major expansion next year of two-factor authentication, which is far stronger.

### Increase in cyber theft

Stealing debit or credit card data online has long been a profitable business for cyber-criminals. However, as new methods of payment arise, so do new opportunities for hackers, especially when retailers don't store confidential data security. ▴

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 18

**Warren Smith**, youth counselor technician,

Stonewall Jackson Youth Development Center, 20/9

**William Smith**, probation/parole officer, Community Corrections District 9, 27

**Margaret Snyder**, administrative services assistant V,

Cumberland Youth Detention Center, 18/3

**Ronald Speas**, trooper (master), SHP Troop E District 4, 28/3

**Frances Stallings**, administrative officer I, Internal Audit, 31/9

**Linda Stewart**, food service manager I, Dan River Prison Work Farm, 8

**Karen Suttle**, nurse supervisor, Foothills Correctional Institution, 29/5

**Deborah Taylor**, processing assistant III, Prisons Mental Health, 10/3

**Danny Tolber**, captain, Caledonia Correctional Institution, 30

**Robert Upton**, lieutenant, Central Prison, 196

**Wyverna Vann**, correctional officer, N.C. Correctional Institution for Women, 24/8

**John Vanwyck**, substance abuse program administration,

Pender Correctional Institution, 12

**Richard Westbrook**, sergeant, SHP Troop C District 5, 21/4

**David White**, correctional programs supervisor, Tabor Correctional Institution, 28/4

**Bobby Wilhite**, maintenance mechanic IV, Prisons Maintenance - Piedmont, 24/1

**Bryan Williams**, sergeant, SHP Troop B District 6, 20/1

**James Williams**, captain, SHP - Personnel Unit, 27/2

**Barry Willis**, trooper (master), SHP Criminal Interdiction Unit - Asheville, 28/3

**Charlene Wilson**, correctional officer, Neuse Correctional Institution, 11/9

**David Witherspoon**, captain, SHP Logistics, 25/7

**Denny Wood**, trooper (master), SHP Troop G District 5, 26/5

**Patricia Wyatt**, substance abuse worker,

Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency - Black Mountain, 29/6

## On The Scene ...

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If you have questions, ideas or content to submit,

please contact the editor,

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