

Correction N ♦ E ♦ W ♦ S

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Governor

Theodis Beck
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Department breaks ground on three new prisons

New prisons expected to create more than 1,200 jobs

By Mildred Spearman

SCOTLAND, ANSON AND ALEXANDER COUNTIES—On Nov. 7 and 8, Department of Correction

facility will encompass approximately 410,000 square feet and will be identical in design, layout and equipment.



DOC administrators, together with state and local leaders, break ground in Scotland County.

administrators, state officials and local leaders broke ground at the sites of three new prisons to be located in Alexander, Anson and Scotland counties. Each

"I appreciate the efforts of Governor Easley and the state and local officials in these three counties for helping make this project a reality," said Secretary Theodis Beck. "These new prisons not only help us make our communities safer, but also provide much needed jobs to local economies."

While the facilities are under construction, as many as 275-500 jobs will be available

in plumbing, heating and other areas in construction. Centex Rooney, the contractor on the project, already has

(New prisons, cont. on page 13)

New weapons in the war on drugs

By Pamela Walker

RALEIGH—The Division of Prisons has six new weapons in the war on drugs. Six narcotics detection dogs have been paired up with six canine officers as the division steps up its efforts to keep drugs out of the prisons.

"We're very excited about having the additional resources and we expect the dogs to make a difference when it comes to drug trafficking in prisons," said Charles Stewart, chief of security.



Waddell Dockery and Indiana check things out at NCCIW.

The dogs will be used to help inspect prison facility grounds, inmates and inmate property. They also will take part in random drug interdictions at prison facilities, during which vehicles belonging to staff members and visitors will be searched.

The funding for the dogs and training for the handlers was made possible

(Drug dogs, cont. on page 2)

Two DOC employees win Governor's Award

RALEIGH—Department of Correction employees Ola Caldwell and Sherri Cook were awarded the Governor's Award for Excellence during a ceremony at the North Carolina Museum of History on Oct. 22. The Governor's Award for Excellence is the highest honor a state employee may receive for dedicated service to state government and the

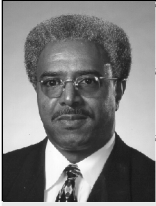
citizens of North Carolina.

Both Caldwell and Cook were honored for public service. Caldwell, an office manager at Foothills Correctional Institution, was honored for her volunteerism. She is very active at Grace Hospital, where she operates the gift shop, serves as a member of the



Secretary Theodis Beck congratulates Ola Caldwell, left, and Sherri Cook, right.

(Governor's Award, cont. on page 3)



A message from Secretary Beck

It is hard to believe it is 2002 and another productive year for the Department of Correction is behind us. The past year has been full of accomplishments and challenges, especially with the state's budget shortfall. I wish to thank each and every employee for helping to run the Department more efficiently. By working together, we've been able to respond to requests by the Governor and the General Assembly to cut costs without jeopardizing public safety.

As we start a new year, it is important to remember our armed forces who continue to fight a war against terrorism at home and abroad. Many of those service members are Department employees who had to leave their homes and loved ones over the holiday season. We must keep them in our thoughts and show our support to those left behind.

We have many more challenges ahead of us in the coming year. Let us continue to work together and strive to be the best at what we do. The dedication and professionalism of the employees of this Department continue to bring us to the forefront in corrections. I am proud to say the North Carolina Department of Correction is one of the best in the nation. It has been a pleasure to serve as Secretary for another year. I wish to thank all employees for their daily contributions to the Department and our great state.

May you have a wonderful year that brings you much joy and fulfillment!

Theodis Beck



The Canine Unit, shown left to right: Sgt. Eddie Poole with Arias and Rudy; Sgt. Ricky Allen with Micha; Pat Baggett with Tessa; Randy Garrett with Kino; Waddell Dockery with Indiana; and Steve Biggerstaff with Rex.

(Drug dogs, cont. from page 1)

through a federal grant. The dogs, all Belgian Malinois from a breeder in Holland, will work with handlers assigned to various parts of the state.

After several weeks of training at Vohne Liche Kennels in Indiana, the handlers are ready to put the dogs to work. "We're extremely pleased at how well the dogs have been working with the handlers," said Sgt. Eddie Poole, narcotics detection team supervisor. "I think these new teams are a definite plus for the Department and will serve as a deterrent against people trying to bring drugs in prison."

The training included socializing the dogs with the handlers and scent imprintation, which means the dogs are trained to detect the odor of certain kinds of drugs. Since the dogs and handlers returned from training on Nov. 12, they have conducted

several drug interdictions and a search of the bus transfer terminal at Sandy Ridge.

"I think the searches so far have been an eye opener for many of the inmates," said Poole.



Pat Baggett leads Tessa on a search of an NCCIW dormitory.

Stewart added, "The searches will continue to be random and widespread so the inmates, staff members and visitors have warning that one could be coming to a prison near you."

Changes for Citizen Services

RALEIGH—Effective Dec. 1, the official name of the Office of Citizen Services changed to the Office of Victim Services. Victim Services staff members will continue to serve all Department divisions.

In addition, Offender Family Services

has been transferred to the Division of Prisons. The call center, which operates the Department's toll-free telephone number and serves as a clearinghouse for information about the Department, will now report to the Public Information Office.

Community Service program gets a new home

By Pamela Walker

RALEIGH—The Division of Community Corrections has rolled out the welcome mat to Community Service program employees. The General Assembly directed in the state budget that the program be moved to the Department of Correction from the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety, effective Jan. 1, 2002.

The Community Corrections' leadership team recently held introductory sessions for Community Service employees, providing an overview of the Department of Correction and an introduction to Department staff.

During a session in Fayetteville Nov. 26, Division of Community Corrections Director Robert Lee Guy welcomed the new staff members. "We think it is important that during the transition you meet other staff members and we explain what this merger is all about," said Guy. "All of the Community Service coordinators and their office assistants will continue to do the same jobs you are doing now. You will not be transitioned into different positions."

Nearly 200 Community Service employees will be making the move to the Division of Community Corrections. Many

of the management positions were eliminated as a result of the budget cuts, but most of the people in those management positions already have been placed in vacant jobs.

The Community Service program is for offenders who have been ordered by a judge, district attorney, probation officer or the Parole Commission to work for a governmental agency or non-profit organization without monetary compensation. The program is designed to give non-violent offenders a way to "pay their debt" to society rather than serving time in prison.

(Governor's Awards, cont. from page 1)

Hospital Guild and leads the Grace Hospital Foundation's "Toast of the Town." She also is a member of the Red Cross board of directors; team captain for the American Cancer Society's Relay for Life; a member of the board of directors and loan executive for the United Way; coordinator for the State Employees Combined Campaign; and a member of the Foothills Activity Committee.

"I continue to be amazed at her ability to carry out her many responsibilities at work and still provide the enormous amount of volunteer services to her community," said Herbert O. Myers, assistant superintendent for programs, who nominated Caldwell for the award. "She has certainly been blessed with a special gift for helping others."

Cook, a probation/parole officer, was recognized for her participation in various community and public service projects. She served as chairperson of a Division 3 community service project that involved building a Habitat for Humanity house. After meeting with Habitat representatives in Lexington, Cook solicited volunteers from the Division 3 Community Corrections staff. She then spent more than 40 hours of

her own time working on the house, in addition to serving as the media liaison, scheduling volunteers, meeting with contractors and arranging refreshments for the workers.

"Sherri Cook is an outstanding employee who not only excels in her job performance, but who also finds time to participate in special activities aimed at improving life for others in her community," Betty Bauer, judicial district

winners of the Governor's Award each received a framed certificate during the Oct. 22 ceremony. After the ceremony, Gov. Michael Easley hosted a reception for the award honorees and their family and friends at the Governor's Mansion. As a special bonus, the State Employees Credit Union partnered with AAA Carolinas to give each award winner a certificate for a two-night stay at the Inn on Biltmore Estate in Asheville.

In addition to Caldwell and Cook, the other Governor's Award recipients for 2001 were: Bennie F. Tesh Jr., Department of Insurance; H. Lee VanHoy, Department of Environment and Natural Resources; Peggy Manring, N.C. School of Science and Math; Jimmy Marler, Tracy Stephenson, Steve Davis and Wayne Miller, all of the Department of Transportation; Mark Munden, Crime Control and Public Safety; Alfred W. Wiggins Sr., Western Carolina University; Benita Burton, UNC-Chapel Hill; Bob Curry, N.C. Wildlife Resources Committee; Marcus G. Smith, Department of Environment and Natural Resources; and Genevieve Pugh, Department of Health and Human Services.



Ola Caldwell (second row, far right) and Sherri Cook (third row, far right) pose with award recipients from other agencies and Gov. Michael Easley (front row, center).

manager, and David Hartley, assistant judicial district manager, wrote when they nominated Cook. "She is most deserving of this special recognition."

Caldwell, Cook and the other 13

Correction Enterprises dedicates new license tag and duplicating plants

North Carolina becomes first state to use female inmates to manufacture tags

RALEIGH—The Department of Correction officially dedicated Correction Enterprises' new license tag and duplicating plants Oct. 17. The ribbon-cutting ceremony took place at the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, home to a new 50,000-square-foot building that will house both plants.



Inmates make copies for state agencies in the new plant.

Both plants previously used male inmate labor. The Tag Plant was housed in Central Prison, while the Duplicating Plant was adjacent to Central Prison. Now that plant operations have moved to NCCIW,

North Carolina becomes the first state in the nation to use female inmates to manufacture license tags.

The female inmates at the Tag Plant will produce about two million tags per year for the North Carolina Department of Transportation, local municipalities and local fire departments. Meanwhile, females at the Duplicating Plant are expected to process about 8,000 orders per year.

"The Department of Correction is committed to providing all inmates—male and female—with the opportunity to work and to better themselves," said Secretary Theodis Beck. "Working not only provides them with valuable job experience, it also helps to save state and community resources by providing quality goods and services to government agencies at competitive market prices."

Both the Tag Plant and the Duplicating Plant are operated by Correction Enterprises, a division of the Department of Correction. Correction Enterprises uses inmate labor to produce



Inmates make DOT vehicle tags and state and local tags like these in the Tag Plant.

a variety of products, including office furniture, road signs, paint, clothing, signs and food products. Through Correction Enterprises, inmates also provide services such as laundry, printing and meat processing. Correction Enterprises receives no support from state budget allocations and, like a business, is totally supported through the goods and services it produces and sells.

"At Correction Enterprises, our main goal is to provide meaningful work experience for inmates as they produce quality goods and services that save the taxpayers money," said Jim Godwin, director of Correction Enterprises. "The state-of-the-art equipment in this new facility will help the tag and duplicating plants operate with maximum efficiency and productivity as we move toward that goal."

Bladen Youth Center converts to adult facility

Morrison to follow suit by February 2002

ELIZABETHTOWN—Bladen Youth Center, which previously housed male offenders age 18-21, converted to an adult male prison on Nov. 1. Now known as Bladen Correctional Center, it continues to be a minimum-custody facility.

The conversion helps address a decrease in the youth population and a need for beds for adult offenders. Bladen originally housed adult males before its conversion to a youth facility in 1995. It was one of the 61 field unit prisons

renovated or built during the 1930s to house inmates who worked building roads. The facility has a standard operating capacity of 144 beds.

Prison officials say there will be no correctional staff changes. However, correctional officers have received additional training in the supervision of adult offenders. Approximately 40 young men ages 18 to 21 previously housed at Bladen have been transferred to Sandhills Youth Center in Hoke County.

In addition, plans are underway to

convert Morrison Youth Institution in Hoffman to an adult male facility by February 14, 2002. The 541-bed facility will continue to be a medium-custody facility.

Approximately 270 offenders housed at Morrison will be transferred to other facilities. A few 21-year-old offenders will remain at Morrison, as will some 20-year-old offenders who will be separated from the adult population.

As with Bladen, there will be no changes in correctional staff due to the conversion. Correctional officers will attend orientation in the training of adult offenders.

North Carolina team completes NIC training

ST. LOUIS—A five-member interagency team from North Carolina recently completed a 148-hour, three-month training program co-sponsored by the National Institute of Corrections and the National Career Development Association. The team included Jeffrey Myers, counselor, James Sprunt Community College; Melvin McLawhorn, training coordinator, Division of Community Corrections; Sophia Feaster, DOP mental health social worker; Arthur Clark, education specialist, DOP Educational Services; and Rebecca Sauter, employer relations specialist, Winston-Salem JobLink Center.

The training, conducted in St. Louis with all expenses paid by the NIC, qualifies each member as an Offender

Workforce Development Specialist/ Career Development Facilitator certified

and ex-offenders.

Using modules prepared by NIC, the team is responsible for training other service providers that partner with the Department of Correction to prepare and transition offenders back into their communities, such as JobLink and career centers, community colleges, Employment Security Commission and the Department of Social Services. The training is intended to improve services available to offenders in reentering the community and the workforce.

The North Carolina team was one of five delegations to participate in the inaugural program, with other teams from Colorado, Ohio, Washington and Tennessee. For more information, e-mail or telephone Arthur Clark at call5@doc.state.nc.us or (919) 733-3226.



Anne Tew (center), director of Educational Services for the Division of Prisons, congratulates the team. Shown, left to right are: Arthur Clark; Sophia Feaster; Melvin McLawhorn; and Jeffrey Myers. Not pictured: Rebecca Sauter.

by the Center for Counseling Education at the University of North Carolina at Greensboro. This certification signifies competence to provide career planning services to individuals, including inmates

From the Archives



The photo in the October/November issue was taken at Nash Correctional Institution. Capt. James Harrison, a correctional officer at Hoke who began his career at Nash in 1979, writes:

"Looking at the photo, left hand side, next to the last person sitting down, is a man leaning forward, relatively young, and a full head of hair. This looks a lot like a former program supervisor from the old Nash Advancement Center, back in the mid-1970s named Hiram Perkinson. The last I heard from Mr. Perkinson he was working at Nash Community College. That was back in the 1980s.

Also, the older gentleman sitting across from who I think may be Mr. Perkinson that is thin haired looks like a former AA volunteer at Nash, and former resource council member named Tommy Thomason. Mr. Thomason is deceased now."

If you have more information, please e-mail us at smr22@doc.state.nc.us.

Central Supply Warehouse moves

RALEIGH—The Central Supply Warehouse has moved into a new building in Raleigh and has closed its doors at the old warehouse in Garner.

"Moving has been a gigantic task, but worth it," said Larry Rhodes, Purchasing and Services director. "The new warehouse will be better for everyone because it is a big open space on one level, which makes it more functional and economical. We'll also be able to store a lot more in one place."

More than 1,300 items are stored in the 112,000-square-foot warehouse—everything from prison canteen items to office supplies. The Department still stores some items in the Mountford

Avenue warehouse, which it shares with the State Surplus Property Agency. The Mountford warehouse eventually will be torn down to make room for construction projects at Central Prison.

Donnie Matthews, warehouse manager, says there has been no delay in processing or delivering orders statewide because of the move. The 30 employees who work at the warehouse moved all the supplies to the new location with the help of inmates assigned to work at the

warehouse and a group of trainees from IMPACT East.

The new warehouse is on Leagon Drive, off Tryon Road in South Raleigh. The phone number remains the same—(919) 662-4367.



Workers load shelves at the new warehouse facility.

Spotlight on Duplin Correctional Center

Duplin Correctional Center, near Kenansville, is a minimum-security prison for adult males. A staff of 75 supervises Duplin's approximately 300 offenders. Duplin prides itself on the opportunities it provides for inmates to improve themselves through education and employment. Through James Sprunt Community College, Duplin offers several adult basic education and vocational programs at the prison, including electrical wiring, masonry, auto mechanics and food service.



The Super's Squad

Acting Supt. **Carla O'Konek-Smith** (*second from left*) has been with the Department for 27 years. When she is not overseeing prison operations, she enjoys cooking and gardening. *Far left*, **Travis Outlaw**, assistant superintendent, handles custody and security of daily operations. A 26-year Department veteran, Outlaw remodels houses and fishes in his spare time. **Carol Atkinson** (*second from right*), administrative assistant, handles all administrative functions for the facility, while **Patricia Collins** (*far right*), accounting clerk, takes care of the inmate trust fund and the canteen. Atkinson and Collins are both dancers in their spare time; Atkinson enjoys square dancing and Collins is a member of the Causeway Shag Club.

Programs

A host of opportunities for inmates keeps the programs folks pretty busy at Duplin. **Harry Raines** (*left*) handles inmate assignments; **Gloria Sutton** (*second from left*) is in charge of work release; and **Leaman Carlyle** (*far right*) takes care of inmate recreation and library services. Program Director **Edward McCullen** (*third from left*), a 20-year veteran, is the coordinator of programs at the unit. When they are not busy keeping inmates busy, they have hobbies of their own. McCullen spends his spare time gardening, while Sutton, an 11-year veteran, likes to read. Free time will find Raines working with computers and Carlyle tracing family trees to satisfy a strong interest in geneology.



Dorothy Moore, a 10-year Department veteran, manages the clotheshouse and inventories. She serves as a 4-H leader in her spare time.



Paul Dunn has been with the Department for four years. When he is not supervising the mail room and the canteen, he enjoys watching NASCAR and participating in church activities.



John Lettieri, maintenance mechanic IV, has worked at Duplin for six years. When he is not at work, he enjoys riding motorcycles. While other bikers are still dreaming about it, Lettieri already owns a Harley.



DART counselors **Henry Hough** (left) and **Jo Cardillo** (center), together with DART director **Chris Phillips** (right), help inmates overcome problems with substance abuse. In their spare time, Hough gardens, while Cardillo enjoys contra dancing. Phillips spends his free time surfing.



Lead nurse **Linda Turner** (left), **Anna Smith**, RN (center), and **Sharon Riddick**, staff RN (right), make sure that the population at Duplin receives proper medical care. When they are not working, Turner plays piano, Smith enjoys biking and Riddick passes the time reading.



Correctional food service officers **Robert Hallbrook** (left) and **Keith Townsend** (right) oversee meals at the facility, while correctional food service manager **Michael Martin** (center) supervises the kitchen. When they are not in the kitchen, Hallbrook perfects his marksmanship, while Martin enjoys woodworking.

School Days, School Days



LEFT: James Sprunt Community College has a strong presence at Duplin. *Back row, left to right:* instructors **David Sanderson**, masonry; **Sammy Evans**, welding technology; **Brad Brock**; developmental studies; and **James Williams**, school director of corrections. *Front row, left to right:* instructors **Doug Carr**, automotive technology; **Ann Berry**, vocational English; and **Roy Chandler**, food service technology.



RIGHT: **Roy Sanderson** taught masonry at Duplin for 10 years. When he got ready to retire, he knew someone who was interested in the job—his son **David**. David has carried the torch since his dad retired, teaching masonry at Duplin for the last two years.



Correctional officer **Angela Hill** maintains logs in and out of the gate at Duplin. She owns a horse and enjoys horseback riding in her spare time. She has been riding horses for eight years.

Custody and Security



Sgt. Donald Boykin (right) is the officer in charge for the first shift, while correctional officer **Sheila Henderson** (left) handles custody and security. Boykin, who has worked for the Department for 14 years, enjoys lawn care when he is not on the job.



Correctional Officer **Neville Hall** works in custody and security. A native of the Virgin Islands, he has been with the facility for 3 years.

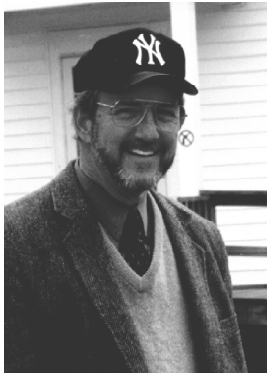
Weeks trades prison keys for tools

GATESVILLE—Austin Weeks, the man with a big smile known for wearing a New York Yankees cap, retired as superintendent at Gates Correctional Center Oct. 31.

Family, friends and co-workers joined in a celebration in Elizabeth City Oct. 26 to wish him well. Staff members from Gates presented him a plaque. Boyd Bennett, director of the Division of Prisons, was a guest speaker at the luncheon.

"Austin Weeks has well served the

Division in his many years with the Department," said Bennett. "Another good manager is retiring and his services will be missed. I wish him well."



Austin Weeks

Weeks started his career with the Department in 1975 as a program assistant at Currituck Correctional Center. Two years later he went to Gates as acting program supervisor. In 1981, he went back to Currituck as program supervisor, but returned to Gates as assistant superintendent in 1989. In July 2000, he was named superintendent at Gates, after serving as acting superintendent since 1999.

"The Department has definitely been a big part of my life," said Weeks. "I enjoyed every year."

Although Weeks is retiring from state government, he has plenty of things to keep him busy. Aside from running his own plumbing and light construction business, he plans to renovate his home and build a workshop. Eventually, he hopes to build a cabin in Virginia's Shenandoah Valley.

Garland Garrett retires from state government



Garland Garrett

RALEIGH—Garland Garrett, assistant secretary for legislative affairs, retired Nov. 30.

"Garland Garrett's work with the General

Assembly has been a tremendous asset to the Department and he will be missed," said Correction Secretary Theodis Beck.

Before joining the Department of

Correction, Garrett had served in state government for nearly a decade. He worked in the Governor's Office as a senior adviser for legislative affairs under Governor Jim Hunt from 1998 to 2000. Prior to that, he served as secretary and deputy secretary of the Department of Transportation.

"I've really enjoyed working in state government," said Garrett. "There are people I will miss working with and I hope our paths will cross again."

A Wilmington native, Garrett plans to spend time with his family including his grandson Gregory Jackson, who was born in April.

Traveling and 'honey do' projects in Anderson's retirement plans

ASHEVILLE—Family, colleagues and friends joined William "Corky" Anderson in celebrating his retirement Sept. 20 at the Governor's Western Residence.

Correction Secretary Theodis Beck presented Anderson the Order of the Long Leaf Pine.

"Corky Anderson has been a great ambassador for the Department and a role model for the many officers and correctional staff he has supervised," said Secretary Beck. "He's always had a can do attitude taking on any task presented to him."

Anderson started his career with the Department in 1969 as a correctional officer on third shift and moved through the ranks to serve as a sergeant, lieutenant, assistant superintendent and superintendent.

Anderson was a driving force behind the representation of the Department

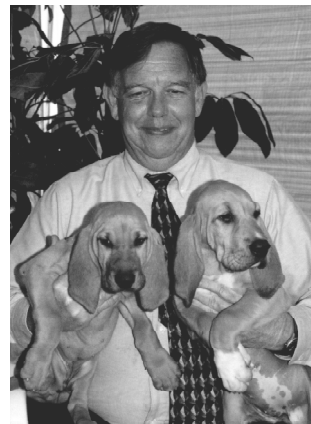
at the Mountain State Fair. The Department's display has grown bigger and better every year even though Anderson has had to beg, borrow and plead for many of the items.

The fair is one of the projects of which Anderson is most proud. "When you saw all those different people from different agencies—the DOC, DOT and DMV working together as a team it really made it worthwhile," said Anderson.

Anderson plans to travel and work on "honey do" projects, as in "honey, do this" or "honey, do that." He's just beginning to get over the feeling that he's only on vacation.

There are a few things Anderson will miss in retirement. "I'll miss the

process of working with people, looking at a problem and then figuring out how you're going to solve it," he said. "I'll also miss the water cooler stories."



Corky Anderson, shown here with two bloodhounds at the 1999 Mountain State Fair, made sure the Department had a strong presence at the fair.