

Correction News

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Community Corrections honors 2004 Officers of the Year

APEX—Secretary Theodis Beck and Robert Lee Guy, director of the Division of Community Corrections, recognized the Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Officers of the Year July 21. Eight employees won the award: Chris Barnett, Deana Hart, Paul Hatch, Joey King, Tracy Parr, Charles Staley, Joseph Tilley and Monika White.

“Each officer plays an important part in preserving our public safety and we owe them our thanks,” Beck told the honorees, colleagues and family members who attended the awards ceremony at the Office of Staff Development and Training. “To the officers being honored today, and to all those who work across our state every day, I say thank you for a job well done. Thank you for your commitment to quality and

your service to our state. Thank you for making a difference in the lives of offenders.”

More than 2,000 community corrections officers supervise more than 115,000 criminal offenders serving probation, parole or post release supervision in North Carolina communities. In recognition of the important work the officers do, Governor Michael Easley proclaimed July 18-24, 2004 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Officers’ Week.

The officers of the year were recognized for various efforts, including acts of heroism, exceptional work and going above and beyond the call of duty.

For more information about the officers, see pages 4-5.



Bryan Johnson (left) and Ronald McKinney made thousands with one money-saving idea.

Avery-Mitchell co-workers win big bucks for saving state money

By Mildred Spearman

SPRUCE PINE—Almost three years ago, Bryan Johnson’s printer cartridge ran out of toner almost every time he tried to print Avery-Mitchell Correctional Institution’s inmate newsletter. Every time he had to buy a new cartridge, he couldn’t believe how much it cost. *There’s got to be a better way*, he thought.

So Johnson put his head together with Ronald McKinney, an accounting technician at the facility, to try to find a way to save money on the cartridges.

“We were using and having to buy a lot of refurbished computer cartridges,” remembers McKinney. “We just got to rolling it around in our heads that if somebody else can refill those, why can’t we buy the supplies and do it ourselves?”

Fast forward to 2004. Inmates at Avery-Mitchell now buy toner in bulk and refill toner cartridges for the Division of Prisons all across the state. And Johnson and McKinney are nearly \$15,000 richer because of it.

On June 7, Johnson and McKinney each received a check for \$14,496.30 as

(Avery-Mitchell, cont. on page 2)



2004 Probation, Parole and Community Supervision Officers of the Year

Sitting, left to right: Paul Hatch, Tracy Parr, Monika White and Deana Hart.
Standing, left to right: Joe Tilley, Chris Barnett, Charles Staley and Joey King.

Avery-Mitchell, cont. from page 1

part of the State Employee Incentive Bonus Program (SEIBP). SEIBP rewards employees for developing ideas that benefit the state in one or more of the following areas: safety, costs, productivity, efficiency, conditions, services to the public, energy resources or employee morale. When a suggestion results in monetary savings to the state, the people who suggested the idea are eligible for a monetary award equal to up to 20 percent of the annual savings resulting from the first year the idea is implemented. In the first year that inmates began refilling cartridges, the program saved the Department of Correction approximately \$147,000.

The idea to use inmate labor to refill printer cartridges was an idea born of necessity. As programs supervisor at Avery-Mitchell, Johnson needed to print a lot of documents, but needed to find a more economical way to do that. Inmates already were refurbishing used state computers to be donated to local school systems, so Johnson knew the inmates had enough skill to refill toner cartridges. Johnson then began working with one of the inmates to figure out exactly how to refill the cartridges and what supplies they would need.

Once the process was in place, Johnson and McKinney added up the

costs and realized that using inmate labor to refill the cartridges would save a tremendous amount of money. They worked with Wayne True and Steve Bailey to implement a pilot program at Avery-Mitchell in March 2002. Three months later, the department provided resources to expand the program statewide.

Neither Johnson nor McKinney has any immediate plans to make any big purchases with their bonuses. Johnson plans to just save his money and pay a few bills, while McKinney is going to save his money to buy a cabin. Although both admit the process of getting from an idea to a payoff through SEIBP can be tedious, they advise other people to share their money-saving ideas and take a shot at earning the bonus money. They say the time and effort invested will not be wasted if you follow the rules and keep good notes.

"If you'll really take your time and look the situation over and follow the [SEIBP] guidelines, it will be very beneficial to the state and to them," says McKinney.

"Keep good documentation, so you can prove how much your savings show," adds Johnson, who has another potentially award-winning idea tucked away in the back of his head. "Once it's all done, it's all worth it in the long run."

**James "Jimmy" Woodard
(1915-2004)**

Former correction secretary James Woodard died May 26. He was 88.

A Johnston County native, Woodard was born in 1915. He had an interesting career path, working at various times as a band instructor, railroad clerk, cashier, soldier, judicial official and owner of a clothing store. He served as clerk of court for Johnston County for 10 years, until Governor Jim Hunt named him chairman of the Parole Commission in 1977. Woodard later served as secretary of the Department of Correction from 1981-84.

Woodard is survived by Frances Pittman Woodard, whom he married in 1941; two children and a host of family and friends.

**Woodard**

*Because I could not stop
for death, He kindly
stopped for me; The
carriage held but just
ourselves and immortality.*

--Emily Dickinson
(1830-1886) American Poet

General Assembly gives state employees a pay raise

RALEIGH—The North Carolina General Assembly adjourned July 18, agreeing to a budget that grants permanent full time employees a \$1,000 or a 2.5 percent pay raise, whichever is greater. The increase is the first salary increase since 2001.

Employees that make less than \$40,000 will receive the flat \$1,000, which amounts to a raise of greater than 2.5 percent. For example, employees

making \$20,000 actually received a 5 percent raise, while employees making \$30,000 actually received a 3.3 percent raise. Employees who make \$40,000 or more receive a 2.5 percent increase. The increase will be added to the employee's base pay and will be included in the August paycheck, retroactive to July 1.

In other legislation related to the department, the General Assembly authorized Transylvania County to donate land

to the state for use as a correctional facility and annexed Albemarle Correctional Institution into the town of Badin. The legislature also added probation and parole officers to the definition of law enforcement under G. S. 143-166.2(d) to clarify that the officers are covered by the the Law Enforcement Officers', Firemen's, Rescue Squad Workers' and Civil Air Patrol Members' Death Benefits Act.

News BRIEFS

Matthew 25 Center welcomes inmate families

BURGAW—When family members come to visit inmates at Pender Correctional Institution and neighboring facilities, they no longer have to worry about where they will stay. The Matthew 25 Center, a nonprofit, nondenominational center, now serves as a home away from home for families who visit their loved ones in prison.

“It’s a ministry, but it’s also a hospitality house for families of inmates,” says Billy Anderson, executive director of the center.

Located a short distance from the Pender Correctional, the Matthew Center has six bedrooms with baths, office space, a worship area, an industrial kitchen and a large living and dining area. The center also has an apartment where the center’s director and his wife Frances will live.

Many people helped make the center a reality, including Debi Creech, who pioneered the vision more than 10 years ago; Tommy Garner Jr., who donated the land for the building; and the Wilmington Baptist Association, who organized a coalition to help design and build the center.

Families of inmates at any area prisons are welcome to stay at the center. With the continued support of the community, the center accepts donations, but does not charge the families for either food or lodging. For more information about the Matthew 25 Center, contact Anderson at (910) 259-7133.

Wake probation/parole officers help round up offenders

RALEIGH—The U.S. Attorney’s Office and U.S. Marshals Service

recognized Wake County probation officers May 20 during a news conference announcing a Project Safe Neighborhoods (PSN) roundup that resulted in 90 arrests. Chief Probation Officer Maggie Farmer and six other probation officers had taken part in the m u l t i - a g e n c y collaborative effort to serve outstanding arrest warrants.

The three-day Wake County roundup was part of PSN, a national program that aims to reduce gun violence. Under the leadership of the United States Marshals Service, several agencies came together to participate in the roundup, including the U. S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement, the Wake County Sheriff’s Office, the Apex Police Department, the Cary Police Department, the Garner Police Department, and the Raleigh Police Department. They arrested offenders for crimes such as drug offenses, assault with a deadly weapon, illegal possession of a firearm, aggravated assault, probation violations and weapons violations.

Piedmont inmates help bring the past back to life

SALISBURY—Inmates at Piedmont Correctional Institution are bringing the past back alive by helping restore vintage fire trucks for local fire departments. So far, the inmates have c o m p l e t e d restorations for the China Grove and Landis fire departments.

The inmates are students in Jerry McGrady’s auto body class, offered through Rowan-Cabarrus Community College. When the inmates began



Assistant U.S. Attorney **Jane Jackson** recognizes Wake County Chief Probation/Parole Officer **Maggie Farmer** during the press conference announcing the PSN roundup.

working on the trucks, the trucks showed the toll that time and duty had taken over the years. Working diligently, the inmates completed an exterior frame restoration of a 1927 American LaFrance for the China Grove Fire Department and a complete restoration of a 1947 American LaFrance for the Landis Fire Department. It takes the inmates about four months to finish one truck.

The inmates’ next task is to restore a 1976 LaFrance for Person County Fire Department, a van for the North Carolina Red Cross and a tanker truck for the North Carolina Forestry Service.

Warren County DCC has new digs

WARRENTON—State and local officials celebrated the dedication of the new Warren County Law Enforcement Center May 25. Located on Highway 58, the center will house probation and parole offices, the Warren County Sheriff’s Office, the magistrate’s office, community service and an emergency operations and communications center.

Ten Community Corrections employees in judicial district 9B, which handles Warren County, will work out of the center. Located on Highway 58 just east of Warrenton, the center’s official address is 132 Rafters Lane, Suite 101, Warrenton, NC 27589. The telephone number for the DCC office remains the same-- (252) 257-1309.



1947 American LaFrance

2004 Probation/Parole and Community Supervision Officers of the Year

Chris Barnett is an intensive probation officer in Carteret County. He is recognized for his involvement with Close Watch Court, the state's first drug treatment court in a non-urban area.



Barnett

When funding for the treatment aspect of Craven County's Close Watch Court ended two years ago,

Barnett helped Judge James Ragan modify the program so that community resources could be used to provide services to offenders. After his transfer to Carteret County, Barnett initiated a new Close Watch Court there.

Barnett also was commended for helping defuse a potentially dangerous domestic violence situation. In March, while conducting a routine curfew check on an offender in Morehead City, he ended up assisting a neighbor whose boyfriend had kidnapped and assaulted her. He helped the woman escape and then detained the boyfriend until local police arrived.

Barnett started his career with the department in 1995 as a surveillance officer.

Deana Hart is an intensive probation officer in Nash County. She is recognized for her willingness to go above and beyond the call of duty.

In June 2003, Hart joined forces with Rocky Mount police officers to arrest an absconder. While the officers were handcuffing the absconder, he managed to escape. Although Hart was able to grab him, the absconder overpowered Hart



Hart

and dragged her through a glass door, causing injuries that ultimately required numerous stitches and reconstructive surgery.

Hart started community corrections career as a probation officer in 1998, after working for the Division of Prisons for six years. In addition to her duties as an intensive officer, she serves as a general instructor, teaching courses on blood-borne pathogens and offender/staff relations.

Paul Hatch is a probation/parole officer in Cumberland County. In addition to being an exceptional employee, Hatch is quick to act when duty calls outside the office.



Hatch

In January, Hatch came to the aid of a woman whose house was on fire. Although the home and its contents were destroyed, Hatch's quick actions helped save several pets.

Hatch joined the Division of Community Corrections in 1995 after six-years in the Navy. When the sex offender control program began in Cumberland County in 1997, he served on the task force that helped develop the program and training materials. One of the original sex offender control officers, Hatch has distinguished himself as an expert on sex offenders and continues to improve the training methods and materials used in the sex offender control program.

"Paul is a very knowledgeable employee who demonstrates compassion and a willingness to help others, not only co-workers, but offenders as well," says his supervisor Jonette Quenum. "Through his interactions with others, he always considers the safety of the community first."

Joey King is an intensive case officer assigned to Mitchell County. He is recognized for his quick thinking and selfless action during a crisis situation.



King

King was outside the magistrate's office at the town hall in Spruce Pine in June 2003 when he heard gunshots on the upper floor. After realizing he was the only officer on scene with a weapon, King started going from room to room in the town hall, locating people and clearing the building. He found one shooting victim, dead in a hallway.

Moments later he found the gunman, seated in a corner of the town council's boardroom. The man raised his gun and shot himself when he saw that Officer King was armed. King immediately called emergency medical services and law enforcement, but the gunman died at the scene. The gunman's ex-wife, who was believed to be his target, was hiding behind a locked door and therefore survived the incident. Investigators cited King's quick actions for helping save her life.

King joined the department in May 1998 as a probation/parole officer in Mitchell County and was promoted to intensive case officer in 2003.

Tracy Parr is an intensive case officer supervising high-risk offenders on probation in the Greensboro area. She is



Parr

active in Greensboro's Violent Crimes Task Force, working closely with prosecutors and the Greensboro Police Department to advise offenders

2004 Probation/Parole and Community Supervision Officers of the Year

of resources available to them and warn them about the consequences of committing violent crimes in Guilford County. When serious crimes do occur, the task force canvasses the local neighborhoods, talking to residents for possible leads.

Parr is involved in training other probation/parole officers and has participated in several training task forces on new initiatives and procedures. She has also served in several leadership roles in the North Carolina Probation and Parole Association.

Parr started her corrections career as a probation officer in Wake County. She transferred to High Point in 1991 and Greensboro in 1996. On June 1, she was promoted to Chief Probation/Parole Officer.

Charles Staley is a probation officer based in Siler City. His district serves a growing population of Spanish-speaking offenders, and Officer Staley has spent much of his time over the past two years learning Spanish so he can communicate better with the offenders on his caseload.



Staley

Staley is now able to conduct office visits with probationers completely in Spanish. In court, he processes Spanish-speaking offenders who are sentenced to probation. He decided on his own to learn Spanish so he could ensure that the offenders assigned to his caseload understand the entire probation process.

Staley joined the Department of Correction in 1982 as a correctional officer and worked at prisons in Hoke

and Lee counties. He became a surveillance officer for the Division of Community Corrections in 1986 and a community probation officer in 1991. He is a graduate of North Carolina State University.

Although **Joseph Tilley** now works in judicial district 17B serving Stokes and Surry counties, he is recognized for his work as a probation/parole officer in Forsyth County. While working in Forsyth County, he helped implement an automated case management system, spending countless hours learning the new computer system and training other officers to operate the system. He also participated in the local violent crimes task force and served on the electronic house arrest response team. Tilley's peers praise his willingness to help other officers, to volunteer where needed and to always strive to do the best job possible.



Tilley

"He is a total team player when it comes to the job," says Ted East, a chief probation/parole officer who served as Tilley's supervisor in Forsyth County. "He just is an outstanding officer."

A native of Stokes County, Tilley

Chose a job you love, and you will never have to work a day in your life. --Confucius, BC 551-479, Chinese Philosopher

graduated from Western Carolina University in 2000. He served as an intern in district 17B, so now he has come full circle.

On July 5, Tilley married Mary

"Tempy" Tilley, a probation/parole officer in Forsyth County. In his spare time, he works on his parents' farm and enjoys water sports, baseball and target shooting.

Monika White is a probation/parole officer in Mecklenburg County. She is being recognized for a contribution to the department above and beyond the call of duty and high productivity.

Prior to becoming a probation/parole officer, White was a Community Service Work Program district coordinator. In January 2002, the program was moved from the Department of Crime Control and Public Safety to the Department of Correction. During this transition, Officer White volunteered to return to the program to help train her fellow officers in community service policies and procedures.

In February 2003, White again went above and beyond the call of duty by volunteering to work in a newly formed special operations unit monitoring cases in the Mecklenburg County Superior Court. Her supervisor, chief probation parole officer Verdan St.Aimie, says White met the challenge in a role that others shied away from due to its typically large case volume.

In addition to managing her caseload, White also volunteered to lead the investigations for official crime versions. The written accounts of a crime and conviction require in-depth research of court documents and may also require interviews of law enforcement officers, witnesses and victims.



White

Spotlight on DCC—Judicial District 14

The Division of Community Corrections in judicial district 14 handles all offenders on probation, parole or post-release supervision in Durham County. A staff of 87 employees manages the supervision of more than 4,000 offenders. Because Durham County is an urban area with a growing number of violent offenders, DCC-District 14 has created several specialized units to address Durham County's specific caseloads, including gang members, sex offenders and domestic violence offenders. In addition, community corrections officers work very closely with local law enforcement and community partners, such as TASC and the Criminal Justice Resource Center, to help offenders take advantage of all available resources geared toward rehabilitation.



JUDICIAL DISTRICT MANAGER

Billie Jo Atkins has served as judicial district manager for Durham County since 2003. The Fayetteville native believes in a comprehensive

strategy that involves local law enforcement, community resources and citizen participation.

"In order for an offender to succeed, it is important that we have the support of the whole criminal justice system in Durham," says Atkins. "Collaboration is very important, along with open lines of communication."

Meanwhile, Brenda Mills, an office assistant IV, has been with DCC for four years. "I couldn't exist without her," adds Atkins. "If I need something done and need it done right, I go to Brenda."



OFFICERS / STAFF

Left to right: PPOI Tonshea Tillery, PPOII Ryan Blount, office assistant Terri Cope and PPOI Natasha Downey. Tillery and Downey are specialized officers, supervising offenders convicted of cases involving domestic violence.

They work very closely with the CHANGE, a program that provides treatment for domestic violence offenders in Durham. Durham County has more than 200 offenders whose crimes involved domestic violence.



CHIEF PROBATION/PAROLE OFFICERS

Durham County DCC has six chief probation and parole officers: Celeste Kelly, Edward Conner, Tim Shultz, Anna Foy, Hallie Furlow and Theron Dennis. In addition to his duties as a chief PPO, Dennis also serves as assistant judicial district manager. Foy heads up judicial services, while Kelly, Conner and Furlow supervise field services units. Dennis and Schultz each supervise one of the district's two special operations teams.

Shultz's special ops unit consists of two officers who supervise offenders ordered to attend day reporting centers; one officer who supervises offenders leaving prison on parole or post-release supervision; two officers who monitor offenders on electronic house arrest; one officer that supervises offenders affiliated with gangs; one officer that supervises offenders participating for the Going Home Initiative; and one community school partnership officer that supervises offenders attending Durham public schools.

Dennis' special ops unit, on the other hand, consists of two sex offender officers, one intensive team and two TROSA officers. TROSA (Triangle Residential Options for Substance Abusers) is a two-year residential program located in Durham that helps people with substance abuse problems change their lives. Approximately 120 Durham County offenders participate in TROSA.



Above, left to right: chief probation/parole officers Celeste Kelly, Edward Conner, Tim Schultz and Anna Foy. At left: Theron Dennis, assistant judicial manager.



SPECIALIZED OFFICERS

Durham probation/parole officers have a number of roles in the criminal justice process. Front, left-right: Christie Long, who works with offenders participating in Going Home and also acts as an intermediate school partnership officer; Yolanda Woodhouse, who works with offenders sentenced to drug treatment court; Kristi Burden, office assistant; and Sharon Mardis, who works with TROSA participants. Back row: Clark Atkins, who handles intensive sex offenders and day reporting center offenders; and Roscoe Hager, who supervises sex offenders.



FIELD SERVICES

Ron Taylor, Hallie Furlow and Wayne Johnson are part of the field services team located on Orange Street in Durham. Taylor is an intensive surveillance officer, Furlow is a chief probation/parole officer and Johnson is a probation/parole officer.



JUDICIAL SERVICES

The judicial services staff members process court cases, serve as liaisons with the courts, write crime versions and handle transfers and community service. "They play a vital role because they are the first people to have contact with the offender," says Atkins. "They set the bar for the offender's future interaction in the system." With more than 1,500 probation/parole entries in Durham County every year, the staff keeps busy.

Front, l-r: Chris Gladnet, Rashawn Urguhart and Debra Breedon. Back: Jan Williams and William Bridges.

DOUBLE DUTY OFFICER



Timothy Price is an intermediate officer who handles offenders who that committed sex offenses. As a member of the National Guard, Price served on active duty in Operation Enduring Freedom. He has since retired from the National Guard after 25 years.



OFFICERS: Officers Mike Gould (left), Starr Taybron (center) and Calvin Mizzell are an important part of the DCC team. In addition to his duties as an officer, Gould works as a liaison with the Durham Police Department regarding immigration and other homeland security issues. Meanwhile, Taybron works as a community school partnership officer and Mizzell is a field services officer.

TASC

Cecilia Faucette-Ray and Ebony Snead are case managers for Treatment Accountability for Safer Communities (TASC). Because the TASC managers are housed in the same building with DCC officers, it is a lot easier to provide substance abuse services to offenders. "The officer can just walk the offender to the TASC case manager to set up appointments," says Atkins. "Since the offender is already here to visit the office, it's like one-stop shopping for the offenders."



Faucette-Ray



Snead



MORE OFFICERS: PPOs Kenya Huger and Tracy Johnson; ISO Denise Pituk; and PPOs Frank Shipp and Terri Dixon. Dixon works in judicial services, while the others work in field services. When this photo was taken, they were taking a CPR class at Durham Technical College.

TASC provides an array of services designed to help offenders with substance abuse issues and/or mental illness and to avoid duplication of limited resources. Services include screening, clinical assessment, treatment matching, referral and care management.



MANAGEMENT IN MOTION



Lattie Baker takes new role at Alcohol/Drug Council

RALEIGH—After 32 years of service to the Department of Correction, Lattie Baker has decided to accept a new challenge. He spent his last day at the department July 30, and began his new job as executive director of the Alcohol/Drug Council of North Carolina on Aug. 1. The council promotes recovery and addiction through education and advocacy.

Baker joined the department in 1972, where he first worked with youth at Central Prison. He moved up the ranks, eventually serving as manager of youth command for the Division of Prisons and later assistant secretary for programs and development. In 1987, he was named assistant secretary for alcohol and chemical dependency programs, a post he has held for the last 17 years.



Baker

Baker looks forward to the challenges of his new position, but he knows he will miss certain things about his second home for the last 32 years. "I especially will miss the people, because in corrections, there is this feeling of family and cohesiveness that I don't see in other organizations," he says. "But working with the Alcohol/Drug Council is an opportunity for me to continue the work I was doing with the department on a larger, statewide level."

A native of Willow Springs, Baker is a graduate of Saint Augustine's College. He and his wife, Hoyie, have four children and live in Raleigh. He is very active in his church, where he serves as a deacon.

Oxendine named JDM in Forsyth County

WINSTON-SALEM—Secretary Theodis Beck has named Chris Oxendine as the judicial district manager for the Division of Community Corrections in judicial district 21, effective July 1, 2004. As judicial district manager, Oxendine is responsible for community corrections operations in Forsyth County.

Oxendine joined the Department of Correction as a probation/parole officer in Guilford County in 1991. He worked his way through the ranks, becoming an intensive officer in 1995, a chief probation/parole officer in 1997 and assistant judicial manager for judicial district 18 (Guilford County) in 2000. In 1999, he was named one of 16 officers of the years selected from the more than 11,500 correctional officers and probation, parole and community supervision officers that worked for the department at that time.



Oxendine

Although the new position takes Oxendine away from Guilford County for the first time in his career with the department, Oxendine is ready for action. "I am looking forward to facing the challenges in a new role as manager," he says.

"Plus, I already know a lot of the staff in Forsyth County and I am looking forward to working with them."

Prior to joining the department, Oxendine served in the U.S. Marines and worked as a counselor with the Division of Youth Services. A native of Robeson County, he graduated from Pembroke State University in 1991 with a degree in psychology.

When he is not busy at work, Oxendine spends his time golfing, horseback riding and spending time with his 10-year-old twin sons. He is a member of Cherokee Chapel Church in Robeson County.

Bennett taps John Blalock as chief of security

RALEIGH—Director of Prisons Boyd Bennett has named John Blalock chief of security for the North Carolina Division of Prisons. As chief of security, Blalock is responsible for security oversight of the state's 76 prisons and for security policy and procedure development.

For the past four years, Blalock has served as the assistant chief of security. His career began in 1975 as a correctional officer at Warren Correctional Center. He also has served as a program supervisor at Franklin Correctional Center, assistant

superintendent and superintendent at Granville Correctional Center, assistant manager of the Division of Prisons youth command and special assistant to the director of prisons.

A native of Warrenton, Blalock graduated from John Graham High School in Warrenton and received a criminal justice degree from Wilson Technical Institute. He currently is serving his second term as a Warrenton town commissioner.



Blalock

Blalock's appointment is effective July 1. He replaces Charles Stewart who retired June 1.



MANAGEMENT IN MOTION



Larry Pierce ready to kick back

REIDSVILLE—Larry Pierce has moved on to greener pastures. He retired as judicial district manager for district 17A in Rockingham County effective July 1.

Pierce began his career in community corrections in 1975 as a probation officer in Eden. He later became an intensive officer and was a chief probation/parole officer for six years before being promoted to judicial district manager in October 2000.

Pierce has no definitive retirement plans. His immediate plans are to do a little traveling, work around the house and do the things he didn't have time to do before. He also is considering

working part time after he has enjoyed his freedom for a little while.

Although he is excited about his retirement, Pierce says there is one thing he definitely will miss about the department. "I'll miss the people that I have worked with," he says. "When you spend eight hours a day with the same people, you get to know them pretty well."

A western North Carolina native, Pierce graduated from East Tennessee State University in 1972 with a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice. He and his wife, who have three adult children, now reside in Wentworth. When he's not working, Pierce likes to fish, travel and attend football games.

George Aldridge picks up where Pierce left off

REIDSVILLE—Secretary Theodis Beck has named George Aldridge as the judicial district manager for the Division of Community Corrections in judicial district 17A, effective July 1. As manager, Aldridge replaces Larry Pierce and will oversee all community corrections in Rockingham County.

Aldridge began his career with the Department of Correction as a probation/parole officer in Caswell County in October 1983. He moved to Alamance County in 1994 to become a chief probation/parole officer in district 15A.

Aldridge is looking forward to working in Rockingham County. "I've got to learn a lot because every district does things a little bit differently," he says. "But I'm going to try and make Rockingham County the best it can be as far as the Division of Community Corrections is concerned. I hope to build on the strengths and improve on the weaknesses."

Aldridge is a native of Caswell County, where he continues to live. He graduated from the University of North Carolina in 1980 with a bachelor of science degree in business administration. In his spare time, he enjoys camping and fishing.

Virginia Price to serve as interim chief of DACDP

RALEIGH—Virginia Price, who currently serves as special assistant to the secretary, has been named the interim assistant secretary for the Division of Alcohol and Chemical Dependency Programs following the retirement of Lattie Baker. Until a permanent successor to

Baker is named, Price will oversee all programs and initiatives involving substance abuse programs and initiatives operated by the division. A 27-year veteran of the department, Price also will continue to handle the department's federal grants program while she serves the interim chief.

Strader to oversee CJPP in second judicial division

SMITHFIELD—Division of Community Corrections Director Robert Lee Guy has named Conrad Strader as the Criminal Justice Partnership Program (CJPP) coordinator in the Second Judicial Division. Operating from Smithfield, Strader will oversee the CJPP in the participating counties in the second judicial division, which includes 11 judicial districts in the central part of the state.



Strader

A Harnett County resident, Strader has been the chief probation/parole officer for that county for nearly ten years. Prior to that he was a parole officer with the Pre-Release Aftercare program, a house arrest officer and an intensive probation officer. Strader also has been the chairman of the board that oversees CJPP in Harnett County for nine years and he recently served on the committee making recommendations to the county about the construction of a new county jail.

Strader is looking forward to getting started in his new role. "I'm excited because I feel that providing education and substance treatment programs are imperative to helping offenders succeed," he said. "CJPP gives the counties and citizens a voice in how they want to spend the funding allocated towards helping offenders."

A native of Rockingham County, Strader graduated from Wentworth High School in 1974. He holds a bachelor's degree in political science and sociology from the University of North Carolina at Greensboro.

Movin' on Up

NAME	NEW TITLE	LOCATION
Ann Abbott	Asst Corr Supt	N. Piedmont CCW
Robert Adams	Steam Plant Supv II	Central Prison
Tonya Alexander	Corr Case Analyst	Piedmont CI
Teresa Alexander	Personnel Analyst	EEO
Betty Amason	Social Worker II	Albemarle CI
Thomas Asbell II	Asst Supt	Hyde CI
Dwayne Baker	Corr Prog Supv	Wake CC
Constance Baker	Pers Asst IV	Wake CC
Donald Barnes	PPO I Tr	Dist 13
Susan Barton	Personnel Asst V	Hoke CI
Bonna Bawden	Sentence Audit Tech II	Com Records
Michael Belas	PPO II	Dist 25A
William Bell II	P/P Unit Supv III	District 27A
Erica Bell	CO Trainee	McCain CH
John Bivins	PPO II	Dist 22
Albert Boca	Corr Sergeant	Pasquotank CI
James Brandon	Sergeant	Caswell CC
Alvin Breeden	PPO I Tr	Dist 16A
Vicki Briggs	Internal Auditor I	Internal Audit
Nora Brinson	Nurse (RN) Lead	NCCIW
David Brown	Corr Train Coord I	SCRO
Kyle Brown	Corr Prog Supv	Polk YI
Lisa Brown	Personnel Tech II	Raleigh RO
Charles Bryant	Corr Progs Supv	McCain CH
Angela Bryant-Sims	Corr Unit Mgr	Pasquotank CI
Joan Buffkin	Med Rec Mgr III	DOP
Richard Burkhart	Appl Analyst Prog I	Res and Planning
Michael Burnette	Corr Training Inst	Piedmont RO
Virginia Butler	Nurse (RN) Lead	Lumberton CI
Joe Cagle	Corr Train Instructor II	OSDT
Anke Cahoon	Sergeant	Hyde CI
Elizabeth Cameron	Nurse (RN) Lead	Sanford CC
Johnnie Carswell Jr.	Corr Trng Spec II	Western YI
Alan Caviness	Sergeant	Randolph CC
Myra Chambers	Office Asst IV	Charlotte CC
Nancy Cheeks	PPO II	Dist 21
Jean Clark	PPO II	District 21
William Coley	Sergeant	Nash CI
James Collins	CE Supv III	CE-Sign Plant
Carolyn Collins	PPO II	Dist 13
James Cotton	Corr Sergeant	Neuse CI
Frank Cox Jr.	Lead Corr Officer	Caswell CC
Sherri Creighton	Info Proc Tech	DCC-EHA
Robert D. White	Sergeant	Lumberton CI
Joseph Davis	Food Serv Mgr I	Lincoln CC
Gary Denobrega	Corr Prog Dir I	Columbus CI
Esmaralda Diomande	Proc Asst V	DCC-EHA
Frederick Duncan	Sergeant	Scotland CI
Michael Earley	Sergeant	New Hanover CC
David Edwards	Lead Corr Officer	Franklin CC
William Ellis	Corr Prog Dir I	Rowan CC
Kenneth Ellis	Sergeant	Eastern CI
Dennis Ellis	Sergeant	Central Prison
Lewis Ferguson	Asst Unit Mgr	Scotland CI
Sarah Fisher	Admin Secretary I	Albemarle CI

Movin' on Up

NAME	NEW TITLE	LOCATION
Anthony Florence	Asst Supt	Carteret CC
Demeatria Forte	Lieutenant	NCCIW
Clint Fowler	Acct Tech II	Lumberton CI
Van Franklin	Sergeant	Craggy CC
Tracey Freeman	P/P Inten Case Off	District 26
Steve Futrell	Lieutenant	Pamlico CI
Jack Gaskins III	P/P Surv Officer	District 15B
Brian Gates	P/P Unit Supv III	Dist 21
Dexter Gibbs	Corr Prog Supv	Marion CI
John Godfrey	Corr Prog Dir I	Sanford CC
Archie Gordon	Food Serv Mgr II	Hoke CI
Michael Greene	Sergeant	Albemarle CI
Rebecca Gresham	Personnel Analyst	Personnel
Thomas Groome	Sergeant	Fountain CCW
Joann Gustkey	Nurse (RN) Lead	Pasquotank CI
Gene Guthrie	PPO II	District 3B
David Gwyn	Food Serv Mgr	Foothills CI
Rooksie Hager	Med Rec Asst	Polk YI
Timothy Hamilton	Food Serv Mgr	Eastern CI
Linda Harrell	Lead Corr Officer	Southern CI
Denise Harris	Pers Tech I	Marion CI
Enoch Hasberry III	Corr Prog Dir I	Carteret CC
Frederick Hayes	Sergeant	Nash CI
William Herring	Sergeant	Johnston CI
Roderick Herring	Sergeant	Wayne CC
David Hines	PPO II	Dist 22
Barbara Hinson	Nurse (RN) Supv I	Southern CI
Wilton Hollingsworth Jr.	Lieutenant	CP
Stanley Hubbard	P/P Surv Officer	Dist 27B
Edward Hughes Jr.	PPO II	Dist 20B
Katie Inman	Corr Admin Tech	Piedmont CI
David Jenkins	Sergeant	Southern CI
William Johnson	Elec Tech III	West Reg MY
Deborah Jones	Lieutenant	Morrison YI
Michelle Keith	Inst Classif Coord	Western YI
Timothy Kerley	Asst Supt	Catawba CC
Phillip Kirby	Social Worker II	DOP
Darwin Kutsche	Main Mech IV	DACDP
Benny Langdon	Hosp Serv Admin II	Central Prison
Roy Laughrun	Corr Prog Supv	Avery/Mitchell CI
Daryl Lawrence	Lieutenant	CP
Jamie Lawson	PPO II	District 21
Eula Leak	Sub Abuse Coun II	Morrison CI
Alton Leonard Jr.	Maint Mech V	CE-Sign Plant
Jeffrey Levine	Appl Anal Prog Spec	IMS
Adrian Lewis	Sergeant	Polk YI
Judy Lovin	Nurse (RN) Lead	Scotland CI
William Lucas	Health Treat Admin	McCain CH
Annette Lynn	Food Serv Mgr IV	NCCIW
Rhonda Matthews	Admin Serv Asst V	Forsyth CC
David May Jr.	Sergeant	Greene CI
Lisa McCall	PPO I Trainee	District 9B
Judith McCall	Sub Abuse Couns II	Rowan CC
Debora McKinney	Office Asst IV	Craggy CC
Susan McKinney	Sergeant	Alexander CI

Movin' on Up

NAME	NEW TITLE	LOCATION
Tony McKinnon	PPO II	Dist 21
Dorothy McLean	Sergeant	Lanesboro CI
John McNeill	Captain	Morrison CI
Stephanie Miller	Nurse Lead	Alexander CI
Tammy Milligan	Corr Case Mgr	Western YI
David Millis	Sergeant	Pamlico CI
Tracy Minor	Sergeant	Central Prison
Jesse Mitchell	Corr Enter Mgr IV	CE
Ronald Mitchell	Sergeant	Polk YI
Richard Monroe	Captain	Central Prison
Patricia Moody	Personnel Asst IV	Wayne CC
Julie Morris	Food Serv Mgr I	Anson CC
Kathy Moseley	Personnel Asst IV	DCC
Annette Newman	PPO II	District 17B
Kristie Noah	Sergeant	Southern CI
Joseph Norris	Corr Training Spec II	Harnett CI
Gina Oakes	Lieutenant	Polk YI
Laura Oakley	Personnel Tech I	Personnel
David Odell	Sergeant	Cabarrus CC
Dessie Outlaw	PPO II	Dist 6B
Van Paramore	P/P Inten Case Off	Dist 2
Richard Pardue	Sergeant	Cabarrus CC
James Parker	Jud Dist Mgr	Dist 3B
Henry Parks	Sub Abuse Couns II	DWI Program
Gary Parks	Admin Officer I	Wake CC
Chad Parks	PPO II	District 19B
Tracy Parr	PPO Unit Supv III	District 18
Amanda Pence	PPO II	Dist 10
Laura Phillips	PPO II	Dist 11
April Pigg	Nurse (RN) Lead	McCain CH
Donna Pinela	Sergeant	Piedmont CI
Robert Pope	Electrician II	Alexander CI
Richard Potter	Corr Prog Dir I	Wayne CC
Billie Purnsley	PPO II	Dist 2
Cassandra Ragler	Sergeant	Central Prison
William Raines	Maint Mech V	Engineering
Hubert Ray Jr.	Sergeant	Harnett CI
Randy Register	Asst Supt	Bladen CC
Richard Rhye	Sub Abuse Couns II	Morrison CI
Randy Rising	Prog Supv	Columbus CI
Dennis Rivers Sr.	P/P Inten Case Off	District 19C
Luann Roberts	Admin Serv Asst V	Raleigh CCW
Charles Robinson	Sergeant	Foothills CI
Horace Ross	Corr Food Serv Mgr I	Morrison YI
Mary Ross	Fingerpt ID Search Sup	DOP
Vicki Russell	Personnel Asst V	Central Prison
Tiffany Sanders	PPO I Trainee	District 10
Troy Scott	Corr Enter Supv III	CE-Duplicating
James Sellers	PPO I Trainee	District 19B
Patricia Sessoms	Lieutenant	Central Prison
Reggie Sexton	PPO II	Dist 10
William Sharpe Jr.	Corr Unit Mgr	Pasquotank CI
Heidi Shaulis	Acct Clerk V	DOP
Scott Shell	Corr Asst Unit Mgr	Avery/Mitchell CI
Robin Shelton	Sergeant	Central Prison

Movin' on Up

NAME	NEW TITLE	LOCATION
Stephanie Shipe	Corr Health Asst II	Mt. View CI
Wanda Sides	Corr Prog Supv	Albemarle CI
Patsy Simpson	Proc Asst IV	Foothills CI
William Sinclair	PPO II	District 26
Byron Singleton	Maint Mech IV	Scotland CI
Thomas Smith Jr.	Corr Trng Spec II	Lumberton CI
Russell Smith	CE Supv II	CE-Sign Plant
David Smith	P/P Unit Supv III	Dist 17B
Robert South III	Sergeant	Wayne CI
Mildred Spearman	Policy Analyst	Administration
Carla Speed	Corr Case Mgr	Polk YI
Hilda Spivey	Corr Trng Coord II	OSDT
George Stamey	Train Coord I	Western RO
James Stephens	PPO II	Dist 26
James Stroud	Corr Trng Instructor	OSDT
Jane Suggs	Admin Serv Mgr	Pasquotank CI
Johnny Sutton	Sergeant	Franklin CC
Ghislane Thompson	Sub Abuse Couns I	DART-Fountain
Gregory Tillman	Asst Supt	Davidson CC
Randall Turner	Asst Supt	Sanford CC
Sharon Upchurch	Info Proc Tech	DCC
Luis Valle	Food Serv Mgr I	McCain CH
Robert Van Gorder	Captain	Sampson CI
John Vanwyck	Sub Abuse Couns	DART-Pender
George Vaughn	Rehab Therapy Coord	Alexander CI
Willie Vinson	Corr Prog Dir I	Odom CI
Larry Walker	Lead Corr Officer	Caswell CC
Elmina Walker	Admin Asst I	DOP
Garrick Walker	P/P Unit Supv III	Dist 14
Bennie Ward	Lead Corr Officer	Wayne CC
Donna Ward	Nurse (RN) Supv I	Eastern CI
Larry Warren Jr.	Corr Prog Supv	Piedmont CI
Sylvia Warren	PPO II	District 19C
James Warren	Sergeant	Sampson CI
Gloria Washington	Corr Progs Supv	Western YI
Dia Watson-Harrison	Info Proc Tech	Purchasing
Thomas Waxter Jr.	Corr Progs Dir I	Western YI
Neal Whitaker	Sergeant	Craggy CC
Clifton White	P/P Inten Case Off	Dist 14
Angelo Wiggins	Lieutenant	Nash CI
Anthony Wilde	Lead Corr Officer	Craggy CC
James Williams Jr.	Sergeant	Polk YI
Chaka Williams	PPO I Tr	Dist 6A
Deerica Williams	PPO I Tr	Dist 20B
Donna Williamson	Asst Supt	Sampson CI
Terry Williamson	Corr Prog Supv	Alexander CI
Sherly Willoughby	Captain	Southern CI
Cathy Wilson	Sergeant	Foothills CI
Rita Woods	Lieutenant	Tyrrell PWF
Edward Worsford	Sergeant	Polk YI
David Worsley	PPO I Tr	Dist 7
Frances Wright	Admin Officer	Odom CI
Benjamin Yearick	P/P Unit Supv III	Dist 3B
Ronald Young	Corr Enter Dir I	CE
Alicia Zephir	Comm Serv Dist Coord	CSWP

Inmates help local shelters give dogs a new leash on life

MARION—When Max, Buffy and Pepper arrived at Marion Correctional Institution's minimum security unit, they were unadoptable dogs – the ones that had been repeatedly passed over in the shelter, the pets that no one wanted. When they left Marion on July 7 with excited new owners, they were greatly



Jasper smiles for the camera.

changed dogs. They left with a new attitude, a friendly and loving demeanor and newfound obedience.

Max, Buffy and Pepper were among the first five dogs to complete the New Leash on Life program, a pilot partnership between state prisons and local animal welfare agencies to turn unwanted dogs into adoptable pets.

Buffy arrived at the McDowell County animal shelter after she was found in an old barn with her litter of pups. Her puppies were quickly adopted, but Buffy wasn't so lucky. After a long stay in the shelter, she was spared euthanasia and sent to prison to be partnered with inmate Bruce Corpening. For eight weeks, Corpening worked with Buffy, teaching her to sit, stay and heel, and turning her into a remarkably obedient and well-mannered dog.

Dana Bridges saw Buffy's photo in the McDowell county newspaper and fell in

love. "I just knew I had to have her," said Bridges, who works as a training specialist for the Division of Prisons in Raleigh. She sent her application to the animal shelter, along with an essay describing what Buffy's life would be like if she were allowed to adopt her. A few weeks later, the she was selected to be Buffy's new owner.

The story was similar for Max and Pepper from the McDowell shelter. Jasper and Chance, were rescued from the Asheville Humane Society shelter and trained at Black Mountain Correctional Center for Women.

While dogs are transformed in the program, the inmates are changed too. The trainers



At left, **Buffy's** trainer prepares to say goodbye, and later helps her get used to her new owner, **Dana Bridges**. At right, **Chance** models the latest in graduation attire.

brought into the room at Marion to meet their trainers. In a few weeks, they'll be changed dogs too.



Puppies Assisting with Sight (PAWS) takes next step

McCain—Nearly 15 months ago, six Labrador Retriever puppies became the newest inmates at McCain Correctional Hospital. On June 11, the puppies became the first graduates of Puppies Assisting with Sight (PAWS), a

joint effort between the Department of Correction and Southeastern Guide Dogs, Inc. to train guide dogs for the blind.

Southeastern provided the dogs and training for the inmates, while the department provided inmates eager to teach basic obedience, house training and socialization to the future guide dogs. The dogs now have returned to Southeastern's home

office in Florida for six months of additional training. After training is complete, the dogs will be assigned to act as guides for the blind. Meanwhile, the inmates are busy training a new crop of puppies that arrived in mid-June.

"One of the really great things about this program is that there is such a significant return on such a small investment," said Secretary Beck. "This truly is a win-win situation for everybody involved."



TAN celebrates four years of success

GARNER—The Transition Aftercare Network (TAN) marked its fourth anniversary with a statewide celebration held at Capital Church in Garner July 15.



Solomon

The faith-based transition and re-entry program recruits and trains volunteer mentors, matching them with ex-inmates to provide assistance and support after release from prison.

TAN began in July 2000, when Chaplain James Prince gathered representatives from several faith-based prison ministries to hear a presentation about matching JobStart graduates with volunteer mentors after release. The meeting inspired Prince to believe that volunteers from existing prison ministries could be trained to serve as those mentors and the idea for TAN was born.

“Four years ago, 20 people stepped out on faith,” said Secretary Theodis Beck as he addressed the gathering. “Now nothing is impossible.”

Under the program’s current coordinator, Chaplain Melvin Solomon, TAN is moving toward its goal of having trained volunteers in every North Carolina county. Almost 1,200 volunteers already are in place in 65 counties. By the end of this year, TAN expects to have provided assistance to 450 ex-inmates and 900 by the end of 2005. Other initiatives include translating materials into Spanish and the formation of a new partnership with the Employment Security Commission in Cumberland County.

“We are very satisfied that TAN is moving in the right direction, but we need to move a little faster,” says Solomon. “I encourage churches and individuals to get involved in TAN so that we have more volunteers, assist more offenders and really make an impact on recidivism.”

If you would like more information about TAN, contact Chaplain Solomon at (919) 838-4000.

DOP welcomes 22 new chaplains

RALEIGH—The Division of Prisons affirmed 22 new prison chaplains July 27 during a ceremony at North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women. The new chaplains have completed their orientation and are serving as chaplains at prisons across the state. The newest chaplains are:

Gloria Aghogah	NCCIW
Katherine Allen	Avery-Mitchell CI
Gary Bauer	Columbus CI
Patricia Byers	Cleveland CC
Christina Condit	Mountain View CI
Charles Cottemond	Pasquotank CI
Ingrid Hackett	Forsyth CC
Joseph Johnson	Odom CI
James Joseph	Pender CI
Gary Lambert	Foothills CI
Gregory McClain	Harnett CI
Martin Menhinick	Marion CI
Louis Moore	Brown Creek CI
Harlan Moss	Pamlico CI
Bob Opdyke	Craven CI
Pearl Ray	N. Piedmont CCW
Daniel Redding	Alexander CI
Arlester Simpson	Southern CI
Berry Taylor II	Pasquotank CI
Patricia Thomas	Pender CI
Harold Timberlake	Polk YI
Blair Yager	Tyrrell PWF



Rev. Linda Harris, vice-chair of the North Carolina Advisory Committee on Religious Ministry in prisons, addresses twenty-two new prison chaplains who were affirmed July 27 in a service at the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women. The new chaplains have completed their orientation and now serve offenders at prisons across the state.

Probation officer has a little something extra

FAYETTEVILLE—Surveillance officer Jamie Brunson has a face that people recognize. Maybe they have seen him working his full-time job as a surveillance officer in Cumberland County. Or maybe—just maybe, they have seen him on the big screen.

Brunson has been an extra or a stand-in 18 times in motion pictures, television movies and the television show “Dawson’s Creek.” The Fayetteville native worked with John Travolta while filming “Domestic Disturbance” and he spent all day on a ferry boat with Bruce Willis during the filming of “The Jackal.” He has fond memories of working with Freddie Prinze Jr., Vince Vaughan and James Woods, and was especially impressed with the way Danny Glover stayed outside in the rain with all the extras during the filming of the television movie “Freedom Song.”

“I’ve enjoyed everything I’ve worked on,” said Brunson. “A majority of the actors don’t treat you any different than anybody else. Most were very nice and friendly.”

Working as an extra has had Brunson performing a variety of roles such as driving a truck in one movie scene to taking pictures of people sitting on a donkey at a carnival. He’s also been in the background as a police officer, a detective and a blood donor.

When asked if he had any pictures of himself with any of the actors, Brunson said, “I’ve saved a number of scripts and some other small trinkets from the movies, but that’s about it.” He added, “I’ve eaten meals with many of them, but I found that if you treated them like an ordinary person you got along with them a lot better than if you treated them like a star.”

Brunson says he’s been offered many opportunities to take acting more seriously, but his family and his job as an officer are his top priorities. He is taking a brief hiatus from his “extra” work to spend more time with his one-year-old daughter Jaime.

The 39-year-old also graduated *summa cum laude* with a degree in criminal justice

from Methodist College in May. With a 3.95 grade point average, he received the Outstanding Criminal Justice Scholar Award, which is presented to a criminal justice junior or senior in recognition of outstanding academic achievement and scholarly writing.

Brunson has been with Community Corrections for nine years and believes he has the best job in the department. When he’s not doing curfew checks on offenders or tracking down absconders, he serves as an in-service training instructor.

He teaches firearms, pepper spray use, search and seizure and unlawful workplace harassment.

“I work with a lot of good people and I really enjoy teaching,” said Brunson. “I may get back into the movies later when my daughter grows up and I may even encourage her to get into it, but only for fun. In the meantime, I will focus on being an officer and a dad.”

Written by Pamela Walker



Brunson

From the Archives



Many people recognized the photo in the Second Quarter 2004 edition of *Correction News*. Here is a little bit of the feedback about the photo, but if you have additional information about the photo, please e-mail us at smr22@doc.state.nc.us.

I can offer a little help on the picture. This photo is of the old D.O.C. Rescue Squad used at Caledonia Correctional Institution until the early 1990's. The persons in the photo I can identify two of them. Second from the right is Luther Whitaker (retired) and 3rd from right is Sandy Johnson (retired); both of these staff were CHA's at Caledonia.

You may wanna contact Mr. Lee, Administrator here at the facility, who can most likely identify all of them for you. Hope this helps.

*W.L. Moseley, correctional unit manager
Caledonia CI*

I do not know who the people are in the picture, but the location is Caledonia CI.

*Daniel Reagan
Engineering*

The picture was taken in front of Caledonia, maybe late 1970s early 1980s. Left to right. K. Hamm, D. Phipps, S. Johnson, L. Whitaker, the gentleman to the far right, was the P.A., can't remember his name. I think the 1st one at Caledonia. I started my career at Caledonia in 1975, transferred to Odom in 1990.

Correction--the 2nd from left is D. Fitts, and the P.A. was Palepinto, not sure about the spelling.

*Michael Norwood
Odom CI*

Think I can identify all staff in your article “The Past in Pictures.” They are as follows from left to right: Keith Hamm, correctional officer; David Fitts, correctional officer; Sandy Johnson,

CHA; Luther Whitaker, CHA; Ed Panapinto, physician extender. The picture was taken in front of Caledonia Correctional Institution. Caledonia, in those days, had self contained ambulance as well as a fire brigade with its own fire truck. This picture was probably sometime during the late 70s.

*Randy Lee, superintendent
Caledonia CI*

This photo was taken in front of Caledonia Correctional Institution after the purchase of an ambulance, probably in the late 1970's. The medical staff from left to right are CHOs Sandy Johnson and Luther Whitaker. On the far right is Ed Penepinto who was a physician's extender, which we now refer to as a PA. The correctional staff on the left are Keith Hamm who is now with Enterprise and I am not sure who the other is.

I am the assistant superintendent for programs at Odom and started my career at Caledonia. The photo is likely late 70s or early 80s. someone at Caledonia might could identify the other correctional officer. I was working at that time as a clerk in the medical department so the medical staff I am very familiar with.

*Alma Hux, assistant superintendent
Odom CI*

High Fives

I came. I saw. I conquered.
--Julius Caesar



Deborah Blount, an administrative assistant in personnel, served as a delegate at the North Carolina Democratic State Convention on June 29, 2004. At the convention, delegates elected statewide delegates for the national convention and Democratic presidential electors for the Nov. 2 general election.

Vernon Bryant, judicial district manager in district 6A representing Halifax County, coached the Halifax Electric Dream Team to a gold medal at the State Games of North Carolina June 25-27. The team is comprised of youth 16-18 that live in Halifax and Northhampton counties. Bryant has coached the team for more than 10 years and uses the team as an opportunity to mentor youth, emphasizing strong academic performance and positive life skills.

Earl Echard, a physician's assistant at Polk Youth Institution, was named the Outstanding Physician Assistant of the

Year May 31 by the American Academy of Physician Assistants. The academy recognized Echard for his dedication and years of service. He has served the Department of Correction since 1979.

Mary H. Johnson, a social research assistant with the administrative services section for the Division of Community Corrections, was recently inducted into the Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society in recognition of her academic excellence. Ms. Johnson is studying criminal justice at Wake Technical Community College.

Virginia Price, special assistant to the secretary currently serving as interim assistant secretary, has been elected to the advisory council for the National Criminal Justice Association. NCJA represents the interests of state and local government organizations regarding crime prevention and crime control.

Department mourns loss of first drug dog

RALEIGH—Arras, the Division of Prisons' first full-time narcotics detection dog, died June 22. The nine-year old Belgian Malinois had been with the department since January 1997.

As a puppy, Arras spent the first year of his life learning how to track scents before he came to the department. He first teamed with correctional officer Lee Taylor and later teamed with Sgt. Eddie Poole to help stem the flow of drugs into the state's prison. Both Taylor and Poole were impressed with the dog's abilities and say he could pick one scent out of a thousand.



Arras with his first DOC partner, Lee Taylor. Sgt. Eddie Poole handled Arras for the past few years.

Arras did more than just sniff out drugs, however, and often helped track people. In 1999, he successfully helped locate a young girl who had been missing from her home in Hoffman for about six hours. A year later, he was instrumental in locating an inmate in the Roanoke River after an escape from Odom Correctional Institution.

Arras also drew crowds to the Department of Correction booth at the State Fair in Raleigh for several years. In addition, he visited schools to drive home the message to young people to stay away from drugs and to demonstrate how the division uses dogs to sniff out drugs.

The division has no immediate plans for getting another dog to replace Arras. It now has six dogs specifically trained for narcotics detection and uses bloodhounds to track escapees and missing persons.

Retirements (30 Years or More)

Bernadette Atencio
Pamela Basinger
Johnnie Bryant
Lawrence Dunstan
Brenda Evans
Betsy Frazier

Livis Freeman
Mickey Hobson
Michael Hoyng
Clifton Livingston
Maynard Proctor
Paul Reep

Deaths

Fentress Bryant III
Harry Suddreth Jr.

Honor Students

Valorie Greene

From the Archives: The Past in Pictures



Can anyone help identify the origin of this photograph? If you think you know the people, the location, the year or anything about it, please e-mail us at smr22@doc.state.nc.us and share your memories with us!

Best in the Business

Penny Archer, Alvin Breeden, Diana Victoria Carter, Grady Collins, Virginia Cosner, Daniel Everett, Gwendolyn Gordon, Wendell Hargrave, Lt. Allison Henry, Rick Jackson, Harold Johnson, Suzanne Johnson, Deborah "Cami" Kingsbury, Donald Lofton, Nicholas Mackey, James Maher, Clyde Wilson, Morris, Denise Radford, Raymond Signal, Ernest Sutton, Randolph Thomas and Phileria Ann Washington were nominated by their peers for the American Correctional Association's Best in the Business Award. The winners are featured in the June 2004 edition of Corrections Today.

UPCOMING EVENTS

September 9-11

21st Annual SEANC Convention, Koury Convention Center/Sheraton Four Seasons, Greensboro. For more info, contact SEANC at (919) 833-6436 or 1-800-222-2758.

October 27-29, 2004

2004 North Carolina Probation/Parole Association Training Institute. Sheraton Hotel, Atlantic Beach. For more info, contact Susan Walker at (252) 946-6548.

November 17-18, 2004

North Carolina Correctional Association Annual Training Conference. Millennium Hotel, Durham. \$40-60. Call Jay Clark at (910) 281-4819 or Doris Daye at (919) 477-2314.

Correction News is an employee newsletter published by the North Carolina Department of Correction's Public Affairs Office. The newsletter is available on the Department's Web site at www.doc.state.nc.us.

If you have questions, comments or story ideas, please contact Mildred Spearman at smr22@doc.state.nc.us or call the Public Affairs Office at (919) 716-3700.

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