

Correction News

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DOC begins huge training project

Federal act calls for rape elimination

Zero tolerance. No more victims. No more predators.

Those are the lofty goals set forth in the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act (PREA) established in 2003. To respond to the act, a new section has been formed at the Secretary's office under the supervision of **Mike Evers**, senior special assistant to the secretary.

PREA involves educating Department of Correction employees and volunteers on the policies and procedures that support the zero tolerance goal.

"A major, substantial and continuing effort of PREA is to educate staff and inmates of the zero tolerance policy," Evers said. "It is not a sexual violence reduction law. The key word is elimination."



Charlotte Jordan-Williams addresses a class of trainers learning to teach the requirements of the federal Prison Rape Elimination Act.

This includes staff-inmate sexual relationships. Under this law any staff-inmate sexual contact is a felony and is considered to be sexual assault on the part of the staff member.

Sexual assault reporting is the No. 1 step in the program. Investigation is No. 2, and No. 3 is learning how to provide victim support. Investigators also need to learn

See PREA, page 5

THAT is the way to pull for someone

RALEIGH | Five big, strong correctional officers didn't pull their weight on April 21.

They pulled much, much more: a 20-ton airliner. And they did it faster than 60 other teams in a competition that raised money for North Carolina Special Olympics.

The fast five were members of the Central Region Prison Emergency Response Team (PERT), one of four PERTs that finished in the Top 10 out of 62 teams in the competition at Raleigh-Durham International Airport. With a final time of 7.72 seconds to make the jet roll 25 feet, the Central Region PERT officers landed in a lofty second place.

Other PERTs finishing in the 10 best times were: 5th – Eastern Region, 7.99 seconds; 8th – Western Region, 8.5 seconds; and 10th – South Central Region, 9.09 seconds.

First place was won by Raleigh/Durham Airport staff with a time of 7.60 seconds.

Besides the revelry of rivalry in pulling a big plane, the Department of Correction teams also ignited some excited generosity, pulling in approximately \$6,000 for the Special Olympics cause.

And speaking of excitement: the Western Region PERT stepped



Upper photo, the faces of these Eastern Region PERT members show their determination to pull the jet airliner as fast they can. From left they are **Gary King**, correctional officer, Greene CI;

Thomas Spencer, sergeant at Hyde CI; and **Jesse Coward**, correctional officer at Maury CI. Pulling with them were **John Swain**, lieutenant at Hyde CI, and **Kelvin Andrews**, correctional officer at Maury CI.

See PULL, page 5



Spotlight

Community Corrections District 23

The 23rd Judicial District is comprised of Alleghany, Ashe, Wilkes and Yadkin counties. Forty-six employees supervise over 2,100 offenders on probation and parole and 330 offenders performing community work service.

Bill Neal is the judicial district manager. The chief probation/parole officers for units A and B are **William Watkins** and **Zach Henderson**, located in Wilkes County; For Unit C, covering Alleghany and Ashe counties, **Tim Long**; and for Unit D, **Andy Crissman**, located in Yadkin County.

"District 23 is a great place to work," Neal said. "It is located in the mountains and foothills where the scenery is beautiful and the pace is a little laid back. The employees have a good work ethic, care about their job and try to do it the right way. I'm proud of the work they do to help make our communities safer."



Standing, Judicial District Manager **Bill Neal**, left, and some of his staff: **Tim Long**, chief probation/parole officer in Ashe County; seated, **Renea Adams**, office assistant IV, and **Peggy Halsey**, office assistant III.

Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics
Each of the past six years, the Wilkes County Community Corrections staff has organized the Polar Bear Plunge for Special Olympics at the Kerr Scott Lake near Wilkesboro.

See Spotlight, page 3



Upper left, **Scott Cooper**, probation/parole officer II, and **Joy Johnson** probation/parole officer III, both in Yadkin County. Lower left, **Andy Crissman**, chief probation/parole officer; **Tony Pindexter**, surveillance officer; and **Joy Johnson**, all in Yadkin County. Above, in Yadkin County, **Donnie Lambert**, probation/parole officer I; and **Mark Matthews**, and **Bryan Moxley**, each a probation/parole officer II.



In Ashe County, seated, **Trey Williams**, intern, and **Megan Stansberry**, probation/parole officer I; standing, **Ken Bumgarner**, probation/parole officer II; and **Wayne Kahl** community service coordinator in Wilkes and Ashe counties.



Nancy Roten, probation/parole officer II, Alleghany County; **Michelle Hayes**, probation/parole officer II, Ashe County; **Barry Cox**, probation/parole officer III; and **Earl Cox**, surveillance officer in Ashe County.

Staff members not available for a photo were **Teresa O'Dell**, probation/parole officer I, Yadkin County; **Melissa Seals** and **Betty Satterlee**, each a probation/parole officer I, Wilkes County; **Marty Bell**, probation/parole officer II, Wilkes County; **Jerome Clemens**, probation/parole officer III, Wilkes County; and **Staci Bowlin**, probation/parole officer II, Alleghany County.

Spotlight



Upper left, **Keith Absher** and **Sandra Rankin**, each a probation/parole officer II in Wilkes County. Upper center, **Noial Handy**, **Lisa Stokes**, **Martha Huffman** and **Carla Hume-Sears**, each a probation/parole officer I in Wilkes County. Upper right, in Wilkes County, **Gaye Dimmette** and **Sandy Day**, each an office assistant III; and **William Watkins** and **Zach Henderson** (seated), each a chief probation/parole officer. Middle left, **Nick Nixon**, **Steve Harris** and **Kevin Hincher**, all surveillance officers in Wilkes County. Middle right, **Mark Roots**, probation/parole officer III; **Joe Byrd**, probation/parole officer II; **Bill Lyons**, probation/parole officer III; and **Rick Norman**, probation/parole officer II, all in Wilkes County. Above, in Wilkes County, back row, **J.L. Chappell** and **Fletcher Reeves**, each a probation/parole officer II; front row, **Nikki Shore**, community service coordinator, Yadkin, Alleghany and Wilkes counties; and **Joe Cox**, probation/parole officer II.

Spotlight, from page 2

This community event and other fund-raising efforts by Community Corrections staff raised approximately \$40,000 for Special Olympics in 2006. These efforts make District 23 the perennial Special Olympics fund-raising leader of the 43 DCC Judicial Districts and one of the largest fundraisers for all of North Carolina law enforcement agencies.

Officer of the Officer of the Year

Barry Cox was the 2006 Officer of the Year for District 23. As an intensive officer in Ashe County, Cox works closely with local law enforcement to ensure public safety.

He also chairs the Ashe County Criminal Justice Partnership Program Board of Directors and is a member of the Blue Ridge Crime Committee. Cox has been directly responsible for detecting and stopping several meth labs in Ashe County. He is respected by his coworkers and always strives to do his job well.

District 23 collected \$1.05 million in court costs, fines, restitution and probation supervision fees in FY 2005-2006.

DOC convenes 2nd conference on threat groups

RALEIGH | The N.C. Department of Correction held its second Community/Security Threat Group Intelligence Officers Conference at Raleigh's downtown Sheraton Hotel April 23-25. This year's theme for the 290 participants was "Knowledge with Communication and Collaboration Equals Success."

"Perhaps the most effective method to minimize Security Threat Groups is having advanced knowledge of their activities," said Lt. **Johnny Hawkins**, DOP security specialist. "Intelligence gathering is the method and the cornerstone of all efforts to curb, suppress and prevent threat group activity that is both criminal and disruptive to public safety and the safety and security of correctional institutions."

In 1994, a Security Threat Groups National Trends Assessment was written, stating that prison gang violence was having a dynamic effect in many correctional systems across the United States. The N.C. Department of Correction (DOC) made a commitment in 1995 to address the issues of Security Threat Groups within the prisons.

Since the inception of the STG Program, DOC has seen a significant increase in the number of STG members, coupled with a pervasive degree of violence. In recent years, the agency has devoted resources in developing two initiatives -- the Security Threat Group Management Unit (STGMU), as well as the Community Threat Group Program. In addition, the implementation of a zero-tolerance policy for gang signs, symbols and activities has increased the emphasis of training for Department staff.



Secretary **Theodis Beck**, right in left photo and front center below, presented the 2007 James R. Moody Awards. Left, the Division of Community Corrections award was presented to **Robert Lee Guy**, division director. Below, receiving the Division of Prisons Award were staff from Foothills Correctional Institution, accompanied by regional and Raleigh officials: From left, front row, **Ricky Anderson**, Foothills administrator; **LaDonna Browning**, STG management unit manager; **Tashia Cannon**, STG information officer; **Steve Bailey**, Western Region director; **Boyd Bennett**, division director. Back row, **David Osborne** and **Bob Lewis**, division assistant directors; and **Roger Moon**, Western Region operations manager.



The responsibilities of staff begins with awareness, monitoring population trends and patterns, developing management, community and housing strategies, programming tracts and collaborative monitoring and information sharing with supervising authorities and law enforcement agencies. Basic concepts such as proper search practices, effective communication, cultural/sensitivity awareness, attention to detail, reporting suspicious activities, enhancing foreign language skills

and being a professional is essential in combating Threat Group Activities.

Hawkins said feedback from conference participants has been overwhelmingly positive. He said achievements made by this agency in the area of combating Community/Security Threat Groups could not and would not be possible without the support of each of the hard-working and dedicated professionals committed to the cause of duty.

See CONFERENCE, page 8



Robert Elliott, left, and Probation/Parole Officer **Stephen Wood** read the certificate that honors Elliott and his son, Robby, for saving Wood from a burning car last December.

Community Corrections thanks rescuers

CLAYTON | When Probation/Parole Officer **Stephen Wood** had a serious car accident last December, it was Robert Elliott and his son, Robby, who pulled Wood to safety.

On April 26, Community Corrections managers from Lee, Harnett, and Johnston counties and Town of Clayton officials met at the Clayton Town Hall to show appreciation to the Elliotts, residents of Clayton. The Elliotts were presented a framed certificate of appreciation displaying the Division of Community Corrections patch.

After freeing Wood from his burning car, the Elliotts performed first aid and kept Wood conscious until paramedics and the State Highway Patrol arrived.

Also, Community Corrections Director **Robert Lee Guy** presented Clayton officials with a framed certificate as a small token of appreciation for their team spirit, sharing of information and joint commitment of our common goal -- keeping our communities safe.

"This is true community corrections," Guy said.



The Central Region PERT plane pullers had the second fastest final time in the event. PERT members, from left, are Capt. Dennis Daniels, Odom CI; James Tuck, assistant superintendent-custody/operations, Odom CI; Theodore Walker, case manager, Wake CC; Robert Dennis, correctional officer, Nash CI; Lawrence Solomon, administrator, Caledonia CI; Chad Overby, correctional officer, Johnston CI; and Kenneth Smith, sergeant, Warren CI. The pulling team was Daniels, Tuck, Walker, Overby and Smith.

Piedmont Region PERT's winning shirt design.



PREA, from page 1

awareness of false accusations within the context of inmate/victim definitions.

Evers has a staff of four supporting his mission: Statewide PREA Coordinator **Charlotte Jordan-Williams** and regional coordinators **Annette Jones** and **Chris McLamb**, along with administrative assistant **Gary Martin**.

"The role of the staff is to ensure that our policies, practices and training are consistent with federal laws as well as state law and internal policies," Evers said.

"The staff will build on a solid foundation that was constructed by a PREA steering committee that was formidably chaired by Charlotte Price. It is the work of that committee that has resulted in a viable

Pull, from page 1

up in style, winning the most creative team shirt design. Their slogan fittingly was "Pulling So Others Can Soar."

Other correction teams that had noteworthy times in the pull were: the Piedmont Region PERT in 15th place at 8.94 seconds; and the Special Operations Response Team (SORT) in 38th place at 9.92 seconds.

plan that is being institutionalized as an ongoing program throughout DOC."

Evers said the staff is also required to keep Secretary **Theodis Beck** informed of PREA related incidents, activities and expenditures. Further, they must submit reports to designated federal agencies that potentially will go before Congress.

"Another role is seeking best practices from other states to keep our training and practices current," he said. "We also want to actually get the program fully established, where it becomes a part of our procedures."

He explained that PREA is not a prisons-only program; if a sexual assault is reported by a person previously incarcerated, that activity has to be reported also. Therefore, all employees are subject to the reporting requirement.

The Prison Rape Elimination Act of 2003 (PREA) is the first United States federal law passed dealing with assault of prisoners, requiring "the gathering of national statistics about the problem; the development of guidelines for states about how to address prisoner rape; the creation of a review panel to hold annual hearings; and the provision of grants to states to combat the problem."

Administration

Michael Easley
Governor

Theodis Beck
Secretary of Correction

Keith Acree
Director of Public Affairs

New superintendent takes over duties at Craggy Correctional

ASHEVILLE | Clifford Johnson has been named superintendent at Craggy Correctional Institution in Asheville. He succeeds the retired Douglas Mitchell.

He is in charge of a medium custody prison that houses approximately 400 inmates and has a staff of about 150.

Johnson had previously been superintendent at nearby Buncombe Correctional Center since 1995. He began his career in corrections in the U.S. Marine Corps, where he served 1976-1980.

Afterward, he worked two years in the Haywood County Sheriff's Office, before being named a correctional officer at Central Prison in 1982. Johnson advanced through the ranks at the Craggy and Buncombe facilities, being named superintendent.

The Haywood County native has an associate in applied science degree from Asheville-Buncombe Community College and has completed course credits for a bachelors degree from Western Carolina University, where he earned a 4.0 grade point average. He is active in the American Correctional Association.

Johnson and wife, Patti, have a son, age 18. He enjoys outdoor activities, especially golf, fishing, hunting and hiking.



Clifford Johnson



Blanket Project Helps Scout

The Blanket Project at Southern Correctional Institution is helping a Boy Scout earn an Eagle Award. For his community service project, Mikey Ledford of Fayetteville plans to put together 100 "packages" of items that would be useful and helpful to homeless people in his city. He asked for a donation from the Blanket Project and received 100 bookbags and 100 blankets. Ledford will also stuff the bags with toiletry items and distribute them during Thanksgiving. In the middle is Mikey's father, Michael Ledford, receiving the blankets and bookbags. He is flanked by **Ralph Coble**, left, Southern CI administrative officer, and **Tim Kimble**, assistant superintendent for custody/operations.

Yvonne King to manage District I of DACDP

Yvonne P. King is the new District I manager for the Department of Correction's Division of Alcoholism and Chemical Dependency Programs (DACDP). She succeeds the retired Helen Harriger.

The district, which covers the western half of the state, includes 66 employees and nearly 500 beds for treating inmates who have alcohol and drug addictions. King is responsible for managing and administering all of the clinical programs. She also ensures the programs, curriculum and delivery comply with DACDP and Division of Prisons standards.

A 31-year corrections program services veteran, King was previously program director for the Division of Prisons' Piedmont Region. She began her career as a program assistant in Winston-Salem at the Treatment Facility for Women and advanced through the ranks at North Piedmont Area Diagnostic Center, Sandy Ridge, Guilford, Forsyth, and Davidson correctional facilities.

"Yvonne had an early interest in substance abuse treatment, and brings a lot of enthusiasm to the job," said Virginia Price, DACDP assistant secretary. "She has a deep background that will strengthen our team."

King earned a bachelors degree from Winston-Salem State University, with a major in sociology and a minor in psychology. She is a member of her alumni association, church, the state employees association and the American Correctional Association. Her leisure interests are reading, the arts and music.

King and her husband, Gary, reside in Lewisville, and have two sons and two grandsons.



Yvonne King

Volunteer faithful to inmates for 43 years

ASHEVILLE | On April 26, Craggy Correctional Institution honored Homer Smith and about 100 other volunteers at the prison.

Smith, 91, was named volunteer of the year both for Craggy CI and statewide for the Division of Prisons. He has served at Craggy for 43 years, having begun in 1964.

The nomination for the honor stated that Smith, Craggy's oldest and longest-serving community volunteer, has been a group coordinator, a Bible teacher and a music leader.

"He has always set a great example for inmates, staff and other volunteers by demonstrating his faithfulness, his respect for authority and his love for God and his fellow man," the nomination stated. "Mr. Smith has been an extremely dedicated and dependable volunteer. He is a great inspiration to everyone."

Smith delighted the audience with several humorous comments and sang one of his favorite songs.



From left, front row, are: **Steve Bailey**, Western Region director; **Richard Elingburg**, assistant superintendent-programs; Homer Smith, the N.C. Division of Prisons 2006 Volunteer of the Year; **Mike Ball**, assistant superintendent-custody; and Terry M. Bellamy, Asheville mayor. (Picture by **Chaplain George Holley**.)

Asheville Mayor Terry M. Bellamy gave an inspiring address, challenging the volunteers not to be satisfied as "good" volunteers, but to be "great" volunteers.

Correctional officer wins \$50,000 with \$2 Powerball lottery ticket

GREENVILLE | Karl Council believes you shouldn't let money change your life but should let money change things in your life.

Council and his wife, Patricia, won \$50,000 playing powerball at the end of March. He matched four white balls, the powerball and chose to powerplay.

Council, a correctional officer at Caledonia Correctional Institution, was very surprised when he learned he had won. He bought the winning ticket for \$2 from a convenience store in Oak City, where he resides.

One who plays neither regularly nor the same numbers, Council plans to "take care of business first" by



Karl Council and his wife, Patricia.

purchasing some household items and then possibly taking a vacation.

"I will move on with life, and if I can make some improvements, I will," he said.

**High
5s**

Correctional Officer **Edwin Simpson**, Pender Correctional Institution's Law Enforcement Torch Run coordinator, took the lead in pulling off a productive fund-raiser for the NC Special Olympics in April. The cooking and selling of barbecued chicken plates brought in more than \$1,100. Assisting Simpson were Sgt. **Marty Kennedy**, Correctional Officer **Sharon Hardison**, Assistant Superintendent **R.H. Futrell** and Capt. **Cynthia Hester**.

Recent Basic Correctional Officer training students graduating with honors were **Johanna Justice**, Fountain Correctional Center for Women, and **Michael Kenneth Jr.**, Gaston Correctional Center.

In addition to those previously listed, officers helping supervise inmates during a special highway litter campaign in Charlotte were, from Gaston Correctional Center, **Raymond Gragg**, **Billy Brooks** and **Harold Brown Jr.**

'Hurricane' tests prisons C.O.O.P.

The Division of Prisons' Continuity of Operations Plan (C.O.O.P.) is in place and working well.

A mock disaster exercise was conducted April 4 with an Emergency Operations Center set up to deal with a fictitious hurricane taking aim at Polk Correctional Institution, a close custody facility in Butner housing 1,000 inmates. The division's Emergency Preparedness Coordinator Daryll Vann, in cooperation with Division State Emergency Response Team and Central Region staff, developed and planned the exercise.

The exercise was in three phases: (1) identification of the pending threat, preparatory steps and maintaining operations during the incident; (2) situation assessment and implementation of response plan in the aftermath of the emergency; and (3) reconstitution of operations.

"By and large it was an overwhelming success," said Mike Evers, C.O.O.P. manager. "As with any plan, lessons were learned and we will be applying what we learned to improve our response to any potential emergency incident or scenario."



Teaming up to gather information during the exercise are, from left, **Scott Peele**, director of security; **Joel Herron**, assistant chief of security, and **Marshall Pike**, classification and technical support manager.

The scenario had Polk CI receiving the brunt of the storm and presented flood and wind damage and an evacuation of the facility.

Other players were the Central Division SORT and PERT teams, Food Service and Butner Public Safety.

Staff works with group to construct Catawba chapel

The long-awaited chapel at Catawba Correctional Center in Newton was dedicated March 30.

The new multipurpose building on the grounds of the prison was funded in partnership between Catawba Prison Ministries, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Foundation and the N.C. Department of Correction.

Catawba Correctional Center joins several prisons throughout the state with buildings dedicated for worship services and such classes as Character Education, Nurturing Fathers, Re-entry, Bible Study, AA, NA and special workshops to help inmates improve themselves while they serve their sentences.

"This event proves that God is still in the miracle working business," said Chaplain Reggie

Longcrier. "Some said this day would never come, but all things happen in God's time, not ours."

In addition to Longcrier, speakers included **Steve Bailey**, Division of Prisons Western Region director for the Department of Correction; state legislators; and local law enforcement and government officials.

Angie Benge, Catawba Correctional program director, was cited as a key player in the realization of the chapel.

Also critical to the facility's construction was the Department of Correction's Central Engineering and the Correctional Enterprise Inmate Construction Program (ICP). The ICP provided staff supervision and oversight and used inmate labor to actually build the structure.

Overseeing the construction were



Employees helped make this chapel dream come true.

Jay Mashburn and **Tom Brandon**, who were the project supervisors; **Richard Watkins**, the project operations manager; and **David Aycock**, the on-site job superintendent.

Thirty-eight medium custody inmates assigned to ICP were transported everyday from Lincoln Correctional Center. Ensuring smooth operations and security of the project were Steve Bailey, Western Region director; **Roger Moon**, Western Region operations manager; and Superintendent **Jerry Moore**, Assistant Superintendent **Tim Kerley**, and Superintendent **John Crowe**.



Chaplains affirmed

Chaplains who were affirmed for service in North Carolina prisons during a ceremony on April 18 were, from left, front row, **Eddie Summerlin**, Caldwell CC; **Priscilla Durkin**, Southern CI; **Joseph Delorenzo**, Haywood CC; **Barbara Morton**, Durham CC; **Lynn Michie**, Black Mountain CCW; **JoAnne Barnhardt**, Duplin CC; and **Lynne Gerami**, Foothills CI. Back row, **Ernest Stilley**, Pamlico CI; **Phillip**

Wood, Eastern CI; **Timothy Martin**, Davidson CC; **Ricardo Hardison**, Tyrrell PWF; **Melvin Bullock**, Polk Correctional Institution; **William Painter**, Lincoln CC; **Jacob Willis**, Avery Mitchell CI; and **Don Stafford**, Mountain View CI. Not present were **Russell Barrett**, Avery Mitchell CI; **Joseph Lenna**, Caswell CC.

Movin' on up

Name, new title, location

Melanie D. Alderman, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 14, Durham County

Robert S. Bascoe, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 15B, Chatham County

Nancy L. Beck, office assistant IV, DCC District 26, Mecklenburg County

Eric W. Borden, sergeant, Craven CI

Robin A. Bragole, sergeant, Wayne CC

Kristi N. Burden, office assistant IV, Durham CC

Dennis R. Cain, health assistant II, Maury CI

Timothy L. Cain, lieutenant, Hoke CI

Donna L. Campbell, lead nurse, NC CIW

Robert E. Carver, chief probation/parole officer, DCC District 9A

Don G. Chavis, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 16B, Robeson County

Carolyn L. Cox, lead nurse, New Hanover CC

Jerry L. Crawford, sergeant, Prisons Administration

Sharon R. Deese, intensive case officer, DCC District 16A, Scotland County

Rubena R. Douglas, sergeant, North Piedmont CCW

Stanley W. DREWERY, training instructor II, Lumberton CI

Della L. Elberson, administrative services assistant V, Forsyth CC

Kamesha D. Falana, parole case analyst, Parole Commission

Meredith C. Ferrier, surveillance officer, DCC District 28, Buncombe County

Bernard P. Flaherty, programs director I, Davidson CC

Samuel A. Furlow, sergeant, Polk CI

Michael E. Gerhart, correctional officer, Tyrrell PWF

Justin R. Gibbs, sergeant, Bertie CI

Joseph A. Glance, sergeant, Maury CI

Sean Graham, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 16B, Robeson County

Gregory J. Groff, captain, Hoke CI

Steven W. Hartling, probation/parole officer I trainee, DCC District 28, Buncombe County

Joshua G. Henderson, programs supervisor, Gaston CC

Carolyn A. Hill, processing assistant IV, Training

Johnny R. Hussey, judicial district manager, DCC District 19D

Angela E. Johnson, food service manager I, Alcohol/Chemical Dependency Programs

Annette C. Jones, programs director II, Federal Grants

Minnie S. Kimble, programs director I, Warren CI

Ricky A. King, sergeant, Wake CC

Sharon R. Lindsay, lead nurse, Lanesboro CI

Charles R. Maness, facility maintenance supervisor IV, Albemarle CI

Beverly M. Manley, senior case analyst, Polk CI

Karen M. Martin, registered nurse, NC CIW

Wanda B. Martinez, administrative secretary II, Prisons Administration

Michelle J. McClendon, food service manager II, Odom CI

Christopher M. McLamb, programs director II, Federal Grants

Dale L. Miller, maintenance mechanic IV, Lumberton CI

Ronald D. Mitchell, sergeant, Fountain CCW

Shelia A. Mitchell, assistant superintendent-programs II, Warren CI

Roger E. Moose, training instructor II, Western Regional Office

Connie H. Morgan, food service officer, Haywood CC

Donald W. Nealy, facility maintenance manager I, Tabor CI

Phuoc H. Nguyen, HVAC mechanic, Central Prison

Henry S. Nordan, assistant unit manager, Morrison CI

Robert L. Norvell, captain, Pender CI

Barbara R. Orr, judicial district manager, DCC District 20A

Leeland M. Painter, sergeant, Franklin CC

Stephen L. Patton, sergeant, Western YI

Promotions in April 2007

Carolyn B. Peeler, lead nurse, Alexander CI

James D. Phillips, assistant unit manager, Lanesboro CI

James C. Pittman, training specialist II, Maury CI

Lukinda M. Presson, lieutenant, Lanesboro CI

Jimmy E. Richardson Jr., sergeant, Craven CI

Katherine D. Roberson, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 5, New Hanover County

Jeanette M. Robinson, captain, McCain Correctional Hospital

Terri C. Rogers, administrative secretary, DCC Division 4

Philip A. Rose, surveillance officer, DCC District 9A, Person County

Carolyn D. Smith, diagnostic service specialist, Prisons Administration

Jason E. Smith, sergeant, Columbus CC

Loris M. Sutton, probation/parole officer I trainee, DCC administration, Wake County

Charles D. Thrift Jr., assistant superintendent, Lincoln CC

Jean J. Tyson, processing assistant IV, Anson CC

Barbara H. Uzzell, accounting technician II, Maury CI

James C. Vaughan, captain, Bertie CI

William R. White, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 3A, Pitt County

Mellany A. Williams, sergeant, Pasquotank CI

NC Health Plan will help you kick the habit

Quitting smoking is often very difficult and may take a smoker several tries to succeed. But quitting can be less of a struggle with tobacco cessation support and the aid of nicotine patches. NC State Health Plan members who receive tobacco cessation counseling are eligible to have the copay waived on over-the-counter (OTC) generic nicotine replacement patches.

"Studies have shown that counseling greatly increases the likelihood that a smoker will be able to successfully stop smoking," said Dr. Nancy Henley, medical director for the State Health Plan. "This program offers continued support to members who want to improve their health through tobacco cessation."

Members may receive counseling from their health care provider or may take advantage of free tobacco cessation support services available through the NC Quitline. Copay waivers for the patches will be active at a participating network pharmacy approximately two business days after a member's certification form has been faxed by the health care provider or the NC Quitline. Benefits for OTC generic nicotine patches require a prescription and are valid for a 10-week course of therapy. An individual trying to quit smoking will typically need three to four boxes of patches over the course of a 10-week treatment.

Tobacco is the leading preventable cause of death and illness in the United States. In North Carolina, 37 percent of all preventable deaths are attributed to tobacco. However, according to the American Cancer Society, when a person quits smoking the health benefits begin within minutes. In fact, 20 minutes after a smoker quits smoking, he or she will experience decreased blood pressure and heart rate. At 12 hours, carbon monoxide and oxygen levels return to normal. One year after quitting, the excess risk of heart disease will be half that of a smoker's.

For more information about tobacco cessation, visit the State Health Plan Web site www.shpnc.org, or call pharmacy customer service at 1-800-336-5933. Contact the NC Quitline directly by calling 1-800-QUIT-NOW (1-800-784-8669).

Retirements

April 2007

Edward R. Byrd, correctional officer, Harnett CI, 28.75 years

Harry W. Coleman, correctional officer, Robeson CC, 29.5 years

Johnny C. Meeks, captain, Harnett CI, 29 years

Deaths

April 2007

Barry E. Aiken, electrician II, Western Region Maintenance Yard, 4.1 years

James Russell Rollins, lieutenant, Johnston CI, 19.5 years.

Conference, from page 4

Recipients of the 2007 James R. Moody Award were: Community Corrections – Director **Robert Lee Guy**; Division of Prisons – **Ricky Anderson** and Foothills Correctional Institution staff.

DOC presented an award to the N.C. Governor's Crime Commission for its Commitment and Leadership Efforts in the area of Gang Intervention, Prevention and Enforcement Strategies.

Numerous other local, state and federal law enforcement, planning and training agencies were also represented at the conference.