

Secretary: Budget challenge grows



This message from Secretary Alvin Keller was sent on June 16 to all DOC e-mail addresses.

The state budget situation has worsened dramatically since Governor Perdue and the Senate introduced their budgets several weeks ago. As expected, the House budget contains record reductions across state government -- as well as a plan to raise taxes to generate additional revenue and prevent further cuts.

The House's budget proposed closing eight prisons: McCain, Gates, Haywood, Union, Guilford, Umstead, Cleveland and Wilmington RFW. This closing plan would require Lincoln and Odom to convert from medium to minimum custody and portions of Nash, Pamlico, Odom, Craven and Warren would be double-celled to accommodate the inmates displaced by prison closings. These prison closings and conversions would eliminate about 550 jobs and would save the state more than \$23 million annually.

The House plan also eliminates an additional 500 positions throughout the agency. The staff reductions are reflected in every section of the agency and all four operating divisions. The loss of these positions would eliminate much of the lapse salary money that the agency historically has relied on to pay bills in the underfunded areas

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DOP closer to tobacco-free

Two dozen more prisons, the Division of Prisons' Central Office and its five regional offices are slated to go tobacco-free on Aug. 3.

Five facilities are already operating under the Division of Prisons' tobacco use policies.

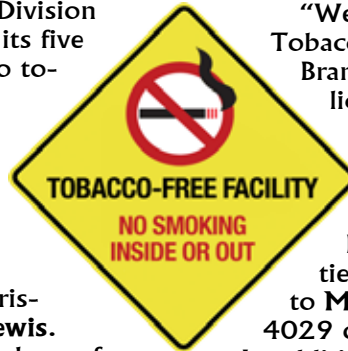
Also, in the coming weeks, a conversion schedule will be completed for the remaining prisons, said DOP Director **Bob Lewis**.

"It is important that all members of the Department of Correction are aware of this initiative as it will affect everyone who works at or visits these locations," Lewis said.

Property signs are being prepared for display at all locations. However, until the signs are available, prison staff will begin notifying all inmates, visitors and vendors of the approaching changes.

DOP has prepared notices for display at facilities, which will receive the notices as their conversion date is finalized.

Lewis said DOP is working with all facilities and offices to establish cessation training for employees and inmates.



"We have enlisted the help of the Tobacco Prevention and Control Branch with N.C. Division of Public Health to provide additional resources for our employees," he said.

DOC employees should refer to the division's policy, F.2500, on tobacco-free facilities. Questions may be directed to **Mary Beth Carroll**, 919-838-4029 or ome01@doc.state.nc.us.

In addition to the central and regional offices, the prisons to be converted on Aug. 3 are:

Albemarle	Alexander	Central
Cleveland	Craven	Eastern
Fountain	Greene	Harnett
Hoke	Johnston	Lincoln
Lumberton	Marion	Maury
Nash	Neuse	Odom
Pamlico	Pasquotank	Pender
Polk	Southern	Warren
Wayne	Western	

The prisons already converted are Duplin, McCain Hospital, North Piedmont for Women, Piedmont and Randolph.



DOC nurses get national recognition

The North Carolina Department of Correction HIV/AIDS Outreach Nurse Clinicians were awarded the "Best in Nontraditional Setting" by the ADVANCE magazine's best nursing team awards program for the Southeast. The outreach nurses were responsible for developing a workable HIV prevention and education program in each prison in the state. The team's work has resulted in a drop in AIDS-related deaths and the number of AIDS patients has decreased. The outreach nurses work independently and assist staff in many areas outside

of their job description. They assist staff with TB screening in facilities, assist medical with obtaining labs and teach lab techniques to new staff members. From left, front row: **Susan C. McNeely**, **Edwin Cutler**, **Wayne Stewart** and **Pamela Wills Gibbs**. Back row, Director of Nursing **Faye A. Duffin**, **Janice Wambough**, **Connie Bowers-Cagle**, **Elaine Chavis-Young**, **Claudia R. Pridgen**, **Gina Frazier**, **Madge Downing Rascoe**, **Ruth A. Rennenberg**, **Nichole Kiziah**, **Carol Ann Harrell**, **Teresa Stallings** and DOC Medical Director **Dr. Paula Smith**.

Information tool to help corrections, law officers

For many years, NC DOC has made offender information and photographs available to law enforcement through a special website. It's been widely used by law officers from their desks, but most could not access this information from their cars in the field.



formation Network (DCIN), so it can be displayed on a police car's data terminal or relayed via radio from a dispatcher. When officers request a driver's license check or a warrant check during a traffic stop, they will learn if the person

is a DOC offender and receive instructions on how to proceed and a number to contact for more information.

This is the first phase of a larger initiative known as NCIEN (National Corrections Image Exchange) and North Carolina is one of the first states in the country to participate. The next phase will allow North Carolina criminal justice agencies to access the DOC records of other participating states using the same process.

Thanks to work by computer programmers in DOC Management Information Systems and at the N.C. Department of Justice, law enforcement officers across the state have access to that information. When they make an arrest or a traffic stop, they will know immediately if they are dealing with a probationer, a probation absconder, an inmate on a weekend pass or an escapee.

A new query makes Correction data and photos available through the state's Division of Criminal In-

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of our budget like inmate medical care, food and utilities. It would also limit the department's ability to place employees whose jobs are eliminated into other positions. This agency remains committed to offering a position to every employee whose job is cut under reduction-in-force policies. Our human resources staff will begin preliminary RIF (reduction in force) procedures within a few weeks.

In the Division of Prisons, the House proposes to eliminate all inmate Community Work Crews and reduce funding of DOT contracts for road squads and litter pickup crews by 20 percent. It also proposes to eliminate staffing of visitation and gym posts in prisons.

The House budget proposes to reorganize Community Corrections, eliminating 14 judicial districts and their district manager positions. It also eliminates payments to counties for providing space for probation offices. Federal stimulus money would be used to establish probation intake positions in urban courthouses and to purchase more than 400 VIPER radios to improve communications for probation officers.

While these potential reductions are dramatic, they are not final yet. Your DOC senior leadership team has been and will continue to be actively engaged in discussions with legislators to ensure that the agency's mission is considered and its concerns are heard. Before the House tax increase plan passed, this agency was facing potential cuts of \$160 million. Through our discussions with legislators, we were able to have \$45 million restored to our overall budget in the House.

The budget writing process is not over yet. Next, a conference committee made up of House and Senate members from both parties must negotiate the differences in the House and Senate budget plans and reach a constitutionally required balanced budget that will go to the Governor for signature. When a final budget is approved, we'll know exactly what cuts we'll face for the next two years and we'll be communicating that information to you.

Our state does face a serious budget situation, but as corrections professionals we must maintain our focus and positive attitude and not allow these circumstances to deter us from our core mission and our individual jobs. Thank you for your service. I am proud to call you professional colleagues during these difficult times.

Joel Herron Scotland CI's new leader

LAURINBURG | Joel Nathan Herron is the new administrator for Scotland Correctional Institution, a 1,000-cell, high security prison.

As administrator, Herron is responsible for a prison that employs 403 people, including correctional officers and administrative, food service, medical, dental and maintenance staff. It has a standard operating capacity of 864 inmates, with 128 segregation cells and eight health care beds. Scotland CI has a Correction Enterprises sewing plant and vocational training.

Herron began his career at Hoke Correctional Institution in 1984 as a health assistant I and progressed through the ranks there, reaching the rank of captain. In March 2007, he was named the Division of Prisons' assistant chief of security

and South Central Region operations manager in 2008.

A Correctional Officer of the Year in 1985, Herron has completed the state's Certified Public Manager training and is a member of the Department of Correction's Correctional Leadership Development Program. He is on N.C. Society of Certified Public Managers Board of Directors.

His personal interests include art -- specializing in penciled portraits -- singing, cooking, reading and spending time with his grandson.



Joel Herron

Correction News

is a newsletter for and about employees in the N.C. Department of Correction. If you have suggestions or comments, please contact George Dudley, editor, at 919.716.3713, or at dgh02@doc.state.nc.us.

Community Corrections District 4A

Go to Autryville, on the far western edge of Sampson County, and head east on Highways 24, 41 and 58 to Pollocksville, in the far eastern portion of Jones County, and you will have passed through Duplin County and covered some 95 miles and nearly the entire breadth of Community Corrections District 4A.

Kevin Wallace is judicial district manager for the three-county region. His chief probation/parole officers are **Steve Cox** in Sampson County and **Glenda Grady**, in Sampson and Duplin counties. A chief position in Duplin and Jones counties is vacant.

Thirty-two certified officers, supported by four office assistants, supervise approximately 1,825 offenders. One probation/parole officer position is vacant, due to military leave. One surveillance officer position is vacant due to medical leave.

A sex offender officer and a community threat group officer are assigned to each county, and Sampson and Duplin counties each have a domestic violence officer. The district has three sex offenders on global positioning system (GPS) monitoring.

The district also has two community service coordinators. Offenders on community service performed work valued at almost \$135,000 last year.

Among the offenders supervised in District 4A, non-trafficking drug offenses and larceny are the most common felony convictions. Driving while impaired is the most common



Above, **June B. Sloan**, office assistant IV; and **Kevin Wallace**, judicial district manager.



Above, **Sidney Gray**, probation/parole office II, and **Lee Coble**, probation/parole officer III, both in Sampson County.



Left, **Tammy Naylor**, community service district coordinator in Sampson County. Right, **Angelia McDonald**, **Angela Cogdell** and **Vanessa Bell**, probation/parole officer II's in Sampson County.



Above, **Steve Cox**, chief probation/parole officer, Sampson County; and **Regina Van Gorder**, office assistant III. Left, **Danny Blackburn** and **Mary Crumpler**, probation/parole officer II's in Sampson County.



Right, in front, **Travis and Karen Joyer**, and **Brian Harrington**, all probation/parole officer II's in Sampson County.



Spotlight

Below, **Glenda Grady**, chief probation/parole officer in Sampson and Duplin counties; and **Patsy Houston**, office assistant III, Duplin County. Right, **Mark Quinn**, surveillance officer, in Duplin County.



misdemeanor conviction in Duplin and Sampson counties; larceny is most frequent in Jones County.

Sampson County has the district's highest caseload, followed by Duplin and then Jones.

"Each staff member within the district is committed to providing quality supervision to those placed under our charge," District Manager Wallace said. "Officers remain vigilant to promote public safety by assessing offender needs, referring to the appropriate resource agencies, and reporting violations of supervision to the Courts and Parole Commission."

"In order to be successful in this business, team work is required. I am proud to say the staff within District 4A communicates and collaborates with all our community partners to include treatment as well as law enforcement agencies."

"They are true professionals in working within the criminal justice system."



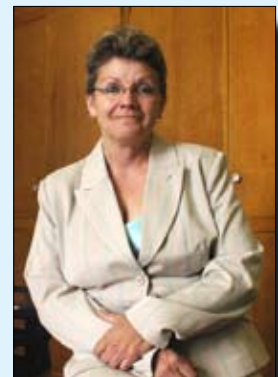
Above, **Terry Gaines** and **Truman Raines**, probation/probation officer II's, in Duplin County. Left, **Lodie Ammons**, probation/parole officer II, and **Ronnie Kelley**, probation/parole officer III, both in Duplin County.



Right, in Jones County, **Adrian Nall**, probation/parole officer II; **Danny Heath**, surveillance officer; and **Zack Koonce**, probation/parole officer III.



Above, in Duplin County, **Emmett Stroud II**, probation/parole officer III; **Regina Huffin**, probation/parole officer II; and **Mike Maready**, surveillance officer. Right, **Emmett Stroud Sr.**, surveillance officer; **Angel Hart**, office assistant III; and **April Blizzard**, probation/parole officer I, in Duplin County.



Tammy Bryant, community service district coordinator, in Duplin and Jones counties.

Wilkes CC officers rescue trapped flood victims

MORAVIAN FALLS | Two Wilkes Correctional Center officers had key roles in the rescue of several families from floodwaters in Moravian Falls on the morning of May 26.

Sgt. Chad Waddell and Correctional Officer Jerry Castle, who were working the prison's night shift, were called to help emergency personnel free people who were trapped in their homes due to rising major flooding.

"Upon arriving at the scene, we found seven houses completely surrounded by flood waters, and the vehicles of the residents were submerged under water," Waddell said. "The water contained dangerous debris, and the current was too fast for the people to come out of the houses."

The threat worsened when the motor failed on the local emergency agency's rescue boat.

"Officer Castle

went to retrieve his personal fishing boat from his house, which was a short distance from the scene," Waddell said.

"Officer Castle, along with two rescue squad personnel inside of his personal boat, retrieved people from the windows of their homes. The people were brought over to us where they were helped out of the boat."

The flood victims were taken to the local fire department, where the Red Cross gave them aid.

Wilkes CC Sgt. Kimi Hamby, who had relieved Waddell and Castle to respond to the rescue call, arrived at about noon to join the operations.

"We ended up checking several reports of vehicles upside down in the river, along with assisting the victims of the flood at our station," Waddell said.

At about 1 p.m., Waddell and Castle headed home to get some sleep.



Sgt. Chad Waddell and Correctional Officer Jerry Castle.

Prison volunteers statewide lauded

A recent Division of Prisons banquet honored 20 people from across the state for their volunteer assistance in ministering to and teaching inmates.

Four volunteers from each of the five DOP regions were cited as outstanding at the May 28 event in Raleigh. Also, the Rev. James Woods was named the statewide outstanding prisons volunteer.

Woods has ministered to Robeson Correctional Center inmates for more than 40 years. He is a dedicated member of the Community Resource Council and actively recruits volunteers.

Woods' other volunteer contributions at Robeson CC include his membership in the Full Gospel Men's Association, administering



Presenting the Volunteer of the Year Award to the Rev. James Woods, center, were J.B. French, left, deputy secretary of the Department of Correction, and Bob Lewis, director of the Division of Prisons.

the annual schedule for all ministry services held at Robeson CC, and chairing the Prisoner's Friend Fellowship Society by coordinating with various churches to conduct worship services, Bible study and gospel singing and other religious activities.



Promotions in May '09

William Albright, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 27B

Veola Anderson, food service officer, Central Prison

Vickie Bradley, community service district coordinator, DCC District 20A

Tarni Carter, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 13

Brandon Connor, sergeant, Maury CI

Theralsinna Corbin, food service officer, NC CIW

Linda Freeman, sergeant, Swannanoa CCW

Christopher Gainey, sergeant, Pender CI

Tony Harper, sergeant, Maury CI

Kimberly Harris, sergeant, Warren CI

Bruce Howard, sergeant, Pender CI

Evangelina Hunt, sergeant, Raleigh CCW

Ronald Hutchins, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 29A

Gina McCants, chief probation/parole officer, DCC District 27A

Crystal Mims, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 14B

Jason Nunn, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 23

Michele Reynolds, sergeant, Harnett CI

Terkeitha Seward, sergeant, Warren CI

Clyde Smith, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 27B

Karla Smith, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 14A

Billy Tally, sergeant, Harnett CI

David Tyndall, lead officer, Wayne CC

Terri Willard, food service officer, Randolph CC

Latisha Williams, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 21

Unpublished from April

Glenda Grady, chief probation/parole officer, DCC District 4A

William Newcomb, sergeant, Maury CI

Officers call on CPR training at Piedmont CI

On May 23, Correctional Officers **Walter Allred** and **Byron Mintz** of Piedmont Correctional Institution used their training to help save the life of an inmate stricken by a heart attack.

The inmate had collapsed in the prison yard. Tower Officer **Steve Burton** used the radio to alert Allred, who was working the yard. He immediately responded and found the inmate in cardiac arrest. After notifying master control and the infirmary, Allred began administering CPR.

Meanwhile, Mintz, who was working a nearby post, had observed the inmate collapse and rushed to the scene in order to assist Allred with CPR.

They continued to administer CPR as staff nurses arrived from the infirmary and set up an arterial electronic defibrillator (AED). Both officers continued to administer CPR until the inmate appeared responsive.

Allred and Mintz attributed their success in reviving the inmate to Officer and Staff Development Training and effective shift supervisors.



Above, **Monica Jenkins**; left, **Sherry Pilkington**; and below, **Catherine Duncan**.



DCC supports Special Olympics



The Division of Community Corrections Administration used two events to raise hundreds of dollars for the N.C. Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics.

One event was a drawing that sold nearly 1,800 tickets for five baskets of donations from local businesses. Winners were: James Toney from Wake County ABC Board won the "Date Night" basket; **Monica Jenkins** from NC Post-Release Supervision and Parole Commission, "Spa"; Mr. & Mrs. Steven Matthews owners of American Drywall, "Garden"; **Sherry Pilkington** from DCC Administration, "Dinner and a Movie"; **Catherine Duncan** from DCC Carrboro, "Stimulus". DCC-Administration also hosted a "Yard Sale" at the Yonkers Road office on May 2. Upper right, **Allison Jourdan**, chief of probation services, helps a young girl select a book. Above right, **Kim Bruske**, right, accounting clerk V, sells tickets for the gift baskets during the yard sale. Donations were collected from staff members, and the sale generated \$953.10.



N.C. officer stands guard

An N.C. Department of Correction officer was among law enforcement officers nationwide who participated in this year's Law Enforcement Officers' Candlelight Vigil and Memorial Ceremony held in Washington, D.C. Correctional Officer **Rocky McPherson**, of Columbus Correctional Institution assisted visiting families of law enforcement personnel who died in the line of duty. McPherson also stood guard twice at a wreath placed at a memorial wall for the honored officers. McPherson has participated two other times.



Lake Norman Big Sweep

Marion Correctional Institution staff and inmates joined forces with numerous community volunteers on May 16 to clean the shoreline of Lake James in McDowell County in the 14th annual Big Sweep Clean-up. Fourteen staff along with inmate volunteers from the Marion Minimum Security Unit participated in the lake clean-up. More than 4,000 pounds of debris and 25 tires were removed from the lake in the four-hour event. From left, front row, are Correctional Officer **Drenda Ray** and Assistant Unit Manager **Linda Paquin**; second row, Unit Manager **Sam Dotson**, Sgt. **Norman Paquin**, Correctional Officer **Bobby Courtney** and Unit Nurse **Sandy Despain**; third row, Correctional Officer **Rick Tidwell**, Programs Supervisor **Mark Ervin**, Lead Officer **Robert MacKinnon** and Correctional Officer **Donnie Good**; and back row, Sgt. **Chris Revis** and Correctional Officers **Jamie Brown** and **Gary Rymer**.

Recent Employee Deaths

April

Evelyn McLendon, sergeant, Southern CI, 4 years, 8 months
Lorrie Zook, food service manager I, Umstead CC, 9 years, 6 months

May

Linwood Stancill, assistant chief inmate disciplinary hearing officer, DOP Administration, 29 year, 11 months



Above left, Chaplain **Blake Bennett**, center, and Correctional Officer **Phillip Ragsdale**, both from Hoke Correctional Institution, check out information provided by the Social Security Administration. Above right, Hoke CI Correctional Officers **Corey Hepburn** and **Dekisha**



Townsend, along with **Sorrell Saunders**, McCain Correctional Hospital superintendent, gather information from the State Highway Patrol table. Lower photo, **Vann McIntosh**, of Sandhills Regional Maintenance office, gets a health screening at the Hoke CI health and benefits fair.

Hoke CI fair remains popular

The Wellness Committee of Hoke Correctional Institution sponsored another successful Health and Benefits Fair -- its fifth annual such event -- on May 6 in the facility's large visitation area.

Eighteen vendors and more than 134 DOC staff members from Hoke Correctional Institution, McCain Correctional Hospital and the South Central Region Office participated in the fair.

Various vendors provided door prizes. Winners were: **Monica Smith**, McCain CHospital, flat screen TV. **Donna Teasley**, Hoke CI, Drink Master. **Stephanie Smith**, McCain CH, three-night/two-day stay at a mountain resort. **Charlene Shaw**, Hoke CI, waffle iron. **Teresa Davis**, McCain CH, large Snoopy and dog house. **James Hall**, Hoke CI, gym bag. **Ronald Ferguson**, Hoke CI, \$25 gift card.

Commended for planning and executing the fair was the Hoke CI Wellness Committee: **Linda T. Bristow**, administrative officer II, chair; **Julia Brigman**, assistant superintendent of programs, assistant chair; **Helen Ross**, office assistant III; **Teresa Stewart**, programs supervisor; **Sgt. Jacqueline Burkes**; Correctional Officer **Ramona Fairley**; Food Service Officer **Christopher Johnson**. Also cited for their assistance were the maintenance, administration, and programs staff.

Retirements in May

Carol Atkinson, administrative assistant I, Duplin CI, 14 years, 11 months

Charles Avery, assistant superintendent for programs II, Western VI, 30 years, 9 months

Charles Brunson, correctional officer, McCain CH, 4 years, 11 months

John Collier, correctional officer, Odom CI, 30 years, 8 months

Michael Cox, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 29A, 27 years, 2 months

William Crews, correctional officer, Umstead CC, 28 years, 3 months

Phillip Harris, correctional officer, New Hanover CC, 7 years, 11 months

Alvin Martin, sergeant, Odom CI, 29 years, 9 months

Thomas Miller, lieutenant, Tillery CI, 31 years, 1 month

Carolyn Peeler, professional nurse, Alexander CI, 5 years

Louten Rising, correctional officer, Lumberton CI, 18 years, 3 months

Horace Ross, correctional food service manager I, Morrison CI, 15 years, 3 months

Shirley Taylor, correctional officer, Fountain CCW, 16 years, 1 month

Albert Thomas, assistant superintendent-custody & operations III, Scotland CI, 26 years, 3 months

Thomas Wagner, food service manager I, Warren CI, 12 years, 6 months

Helen White, food service officer, Foothills CI, 25 years

Retirements not previously published

January

Jasper Howard, correctional captain, Nash CI; 29 years, 6 months

April

William Allen, sergeant, NC CIW, 22 years, 9 months

Nicky Jordan, correctional officer, Union CC, 15 years

Mary Styers, case manager, Hoke CI, 29 years, 4 months

Bessie Williams, technology support technician, DOP Administration, 24 years, 4 months

Honor student

Wayne Stell of Alexander Correctional Institution

recently was named an

honor student in his

correctional officer basic

training class.

Church group shows appreciation to law officers

The Johnston Baptist Association and 17 of its sister churches fed 210 active and retired Johnston County law enforcement employees with a steak supper on April 28.

Lt. **Charles Crumpler** from Johnston Correctional Institution was named first runner-up for Johnston County Law Enforcement Employee of the Year. Assisting with the supper were

Chris Batten, Johnston CI programs director; Lt. **Crumpler** and Sgt. **Jacintia Langston**, both from Johnston CI; and **Marshall Pike**, Division of Prisons classification manager.

Spouses of Highway Patrol and municipal police officers who were killed in the line of duty were given plaques in appreciation of the officers' sacrifice.