



Secretary urges nominations for excellence

It is my pleasure to announce that the 2009 Governor's Awards for Excellence Program is once again open for nominations. This award was created to acknowledge and express appreciation for the outstanding accomplishments made by employees of the state, and is the highest honor that a state employee may receive.

Our department is allotted seven entries for submission to the awards selection committee. The statewide winners will be announced in December. DOC will again have its own ceremony recognizing all DOC nominees at a later date.

A nomination form and the rules were provided in an earlier e-mail for all employees. The form can also be found at the Office of State Personnel's Web site.

It is important that you remember to properly complete the form and that it is in compliance with the rules. Otherwise, the committee will not consider it.

Your nominations should be submitted no later than Wednesday, Sept. 30, 2009, to Elaine Word, DOC Administration, 214 W. Jones Street, MSC 4201, Raleigh, NC 27699-4201. The department's committee will then select and submit seven nominations to the Governor's Awards for Excellence.

Please contact Elaine Word at 919-716-3712 or by email if you have any questions.



Secretary **Alvin Keller**, left, was among those flanking Gov. Bev Perdue, right, during a press conference when she announced the members her StreetSafe Task Force. Keller co-chairs the panel with Attorney General Roy Cooper. Other task force members shown are Linda Hayes, secretary of the Department of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and Jose Lopez, Durham chief of police.

StreetSafe Task Force gets DOC staff support

RALEIGH | Three Department of Correction managers are among the 34 people that Gov. Bev Perdue has named to the StreetSafe Task Force, a multilateral panel created to develop a plan to combat recidivism and reintegrate offenders safely into the community.

StreetSafe, first announced in May, is co-chaired by DOC Secretary Alvin Keller and Attorney General Roy Cooper.

Joining them on the task force are **Larry Dail**, administrator at Craven Correctional Institution; **James Langston**, the superintendent of Wake Correctional Center; and **Tracy Royster**, district manager for Community Corrections in Cleveland and Lincoln counties.

See **STREETS SAFE**, next page

Woodwork plant resurrects pallets

Perhaps the best way to make something out of nothing would be to give your throw-away items to the Correction Enterprises' Woodworking Plant at Alexander Correctional Institution.

Inmates at the plant are making beautiful, one-of-a-kind wood products from wood waste – discarded pallets.

The pallet program is a green initiative of Correction Enterprises, because landfills can no longer accept the



Tass Jansen, plant manager, gives a rest test to an And-iron-dack chair crafted from pallets.

See **PALLETS**, next page

Divisions name deputy directors

RALEIGH | The two largest divisions of the Department of Correction have named deputy directors.

The Division of Community Corrections chose **Diane Isaacs**, a 27-year corrections veteran. The Division of Prisons selected **Ricky Anderson**, a 30-year veteran.

As deputy director, Isaacs oversees DCC's field operations in the state, involving 2,000 probation/parole officers and 114,000 offenders under community supervision.

Since February, Isaacs had been acting administrator of Community Corrections Division 2, which covers 21 central and southeastern North Carolina counties with 680 employees and more than 31,000 offenders. Isaacs was named Division 2 assistant administrator in September 2008. She advanced in her community corrections career, beginning as a probation/parole officer in 1982 in Cumberland County.

Isaacs graduated in 1982 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice from East Carolina University. Additionally, she has completed



Diane Isaacs



Ricky Anderson

See **ANDERSON**, next page

Deputies, from page 1

the department's Correctional Leadership Development Program.

The Robeson County native resides in Fayetteville. Her husband, Terry, is retired from the N.C. Highway Patrol and works for the Cumberland County Sheriff's Office.

Anderson

Prior to his appointment as DOP deputy director, Anderson had served as superintendent at Pasquotank Correctional Institution in Elizabeth City since August 2007.

He began his career as a correctional officer at Wayne Correctional Center in 1979, becoming a program assistant and program supervisor in Greene County in 1982 and 1983. Anderson was promoted in 1990 to program supervisor at Caledonia Correctional Institution, where he rose to assistant superintendent for custody and operations in 1992. He was named assistant superintendent for custody and operations at Marion Correctional Institution in 1994 before being named administrator at Foothills Correctional Institution in 2001.

Anderson was named Warden of the Year in 2008.

He attended East Carolina University and has completed the Correctional Leadership Development Program.

Anderson is married and has two daughters and two grandchildren. He enjoys hunting, fishing and sports.

StreetSafe, from page 1

StreetSafe will bring together faith-based organizations, non-profits, local and state government agencies, business leaders and members of the community.

"By uniting the efforts of government, business and civic organizations, this task force will work to stop ex-offenders from committing new crimes," Perdue said. "StreetSafe will give ex-offenders the support they need to successfully reenter society, which will make North Carolina safer for everyone."

The governor made the announcement at StepUp Ministries, a faith-based organization in Raleigh that has helped former inmates successfully return to society



Discarded pallets are stacked up, ready to be recycled into handcrafted wooden products.

some of the products.

"Most of these guys are pretty creative," said **Mike Baldwin**, a director with Correction Enterprises. "It's a great bang for the buck for us because of the side benefit of the training the inmates receive."

Inmates are allowed to use state-of-the-art woodworking machinery at the plant. Finished products are sent to Correction Enterprises in Raleigh for sale, mostly to state employees.

"We get multiple benefits of giving inmates in-depth training and giving them more real-world training," Baldwin said. "They give us a good product, and, green-wise, it reduces the number of pallets we have to dispose of."

Nicole Sullivan, director of Research and Planning, said, "Our inmates in this program go back to work quicker and make more money than some."

State agencies and state employees interested in purchasing these products can view samples at the Correction Enterprises showroom on Yonkers Road or they can contact Correction Enterprises customer service at 919-716-3600.

for more than 20 years.

"With more than 28,000 offenders being released from our prisons each year, we need to do everything possible to help those people succeed and to keep them from coming back," Keller said. "StreetSafe will be a key part of that effort."

Two other Perdue administration cabinet members will also serve on StreetSafe: Linda Hayes, secretary of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention; and Lanier Cansler, secretary of Health and Human Services. Also, Al Delia, the governor's policy director, is a panel member.

Pallets, from page 1

wooden pallets. The pallets, which mainly come from the tag plant in Raleigh and from the sign plant in Bunn, are being recycled to save money by not having to pay for discarding the materials.

Sixty inmates, many taught by Catawba Community College instructors, are involved in the Alexander woodworking programs.

"They use their own creativity about 95 percent of the time in making the furniture and other wood items," said **Tass Jansen**, woodworking plant manager.

He said the inmates have been making Adirondak chairs, tables, stools, hope chests, birdhouses, rocking chairs, jewelry boxes and workbenches, to name



Above, like Tass Jansen, **Rick Hobbs**, left, and **Tony Whisnant**, both Correction Enterprises supervisors, test a couple of chairs for their restfulness. Below, slivers of wood fly as an inmate sculpts a wooden bowl on a lathe. All of the wood products were once scrap pallet wood.





Above, Officer **William Ellegor**, pulls cards off a cell wall to check for hidden contraband. Right, a squad of PERT officers, after having the inmates vacate their cells, prepares to enter to search for possible contraband. Below, Officer **Jason Holliday**, handles scent dog Rudy in the searches.



PERT pops in at Pasquotank CI

With sunrise still to come on the morning of August 25, a special team of some 160 correctional officers from across half the state poured into Pasquotank Correctional Institution.

The inmates soon heard the sounds of an unwelcome, unannounced and unexpected weapons and contraband search, as the Prison Emergency Response Team (PERT) members swarmed the

prison. The members scoured every nook and cranny of cells, day rooms, common areas and prisoners themselves, helped by seven dogs -- six trained to detect narcotics, and one trained to detect cell phones.

The PERT members came from the Division of Prisons' Central, South Central and Eastern regions. Well-trained and well-equipped, they stood out in their distinctive logo and uniforms, and were assisted by Pasquotank CI administrative and custody staff.

"PERT members conducted themselves professionally and capably at all times, setting the tone for their important task," said **Scott Peele**, director of DOP security.

The search yielded numerous items of contraband: shanks, razor blades, lighters, tobacco, drug paraphernalia, tattooing supplies, gang literature and three cell phones.

"At the end of the day, PERT left PCI a safer place for both staff and inmates by ridding it of weapons and other contraband," Peele said. "The search also reminded everyone that DOP has considerable resources it can bring to bear in any situation."

PERT is a critical component of ensuring safety and

security in and out of our state's correctional facilities. In addition to conducting searches like the one at Pasquotank CI, PERT also responds to prison emergencies where order needs to be restored.

"What stands out in my mind on this particular facility search was hearing a staff member from Pasquotank CI make the comment as 160 PERT members were entering the facility, 'These are the people who could save our lives one day,'" Peele said.

The teams also search for escapees and assist local law enforcement with tracking fugitives and missing persons.

"The leadership of this agency has made it a top priority to maintain a strong PERT available to respond to any situation, anywhere in the state," Peele said.

PERT members are always ready to respond and assist the agency, whether a threat group issue or a missing person, he said. "They make me proud to be a part of this team," Peele said.

PERT is recruiting officers who want to become part of "a strong and effective team of the motivated men and women who step up and say 'yes' to challenges, excitement and career development." Certified officers with at least one year of service are being sought from all regions.

Interested officers should talk to a PERT member for more information, and submit an application to their facility head.



Even in-cell toiletry items are subject to search during the early morning security sweep, as demonstrated by Officer **Linda Anderson**.



Terry Gootee

Community Corrections Division 2 has new leader

SMITHFIELD | Terry Gootee, a 30-year corrections veteran, has been named Division 2 administrator in the Division of Community Corrections.

He is responsible for the probation and parole operations of an area that covers 21 central and southeastern North Caroli-

na counties and has 680 employees and more than 31,000 offenders under community supervision.

Gootee was previously assistant administrator for Division 1, which covers 32 eastern counties.

His career began as a probation/parole officer in Charlotte, advancing through the ranks in New Hanover and Pender counties. Gootee was named Division 1 assistant administrator in 2006.

He has a master's and a bachelor of science degree in criminal justice management from UNC-Charlotte. Gootee is also a graduate of the Department of Correction's Correctional Leadership Development Program and the state's Certified Public Managers school.

Gootee is married and has three sons. He enjoys surf fishing and gardening.

Kimble at helm of Southern CI

TROY | Timothy L. Kimble has been named the new superintendent for Southern Correctional Institution.

Kimble, who has been acting superintendent at Southern CI, has been assistant superintendent for custody and operations at the facility since 2005.

As the new Southern superintendent, Kimble is in charge of a facility that houses approximately 550 female inmates in medium custody and 210 male inmates in a separate minimum custody unit, with a total staff of 325.

He also has served as assistant superintendent for programs and program director for activities and classifications at Southern CI in 1982-1988. Kimble was a program supervisor at Piedmont Correctional Center.

Kimble's career began in 1980 as a state correctional officer in the Fla. Department of Offender Rehabilitation. He earned a master of science degree in criminology from Florida State University in 1977 and a bachelor of arts degree in psychology and sociology from Appalachian State University in 1974.

Kimble also completed the Correctional Leadership Development Program in 2000.



Tim Kimble



Renoice Stancil

Stancil new leader at Bertie CI

WINDSOR | Renoice Stancil has been named the new administrator for Bertie Correctional Institution.

Stancil, who has been superintendent at Greene Correctional Institution near Maury, takes a wealth of experience and training to the job. He has served as superintendent at Tyrell Prison Work Farm and as assistant superintendent for programs at Eastern Correctional Institution.

As the new Bertie CI administrator, Stancil is in charge of a close custody facility for 1,000 adult males, with a staff of 403.

After graduating with a bachelor of science degree in psychology in 1981 from Fayetteville State University, the Bertie County native was hired the same year as a correctional officer at Caledonia Correctional Institution.

In 1985, Stancil transferred to Eastern Correctional Institution, where he advanced through the ranks to become assistant superintendent in August 2000.

The Greenville resident is married and has one daughter. Stancil is a member of Beautiful Zion Baptist Church in Lewiston and enjoys chess and golf.

Employee retirements

June

Larry Tart, correctional officer, Central Prison, 20y4m

July

Larry Ballentine, case manager, Gaston CC, 13y
Wallace Banks, correctional officer, Craven CI, 6y2m
Eugene Benthall, captain, Tiller CI, 30y6m
Ander Brown, correctional officer, Harnett CI, 27y1m
Arthur Clark, extension education & training specialist III, DOP Educational Services, 19y3m
Annette Dees, office assistant III, DCC District 11, 31y10m
Sandra Depew, medical records assistant IV, Avery-Mitchell CI, 17y2m
Susan Dunker, nurse director, Prisons Administration, 26y6m
James Faulk, correctional officer, Lumberton CI, 14y10m
Lucy Fisher, lieutenant, Neuse CI, 21y
Earl Fobbs, correctional officer, Tillery CI, 30y1m
Lawrence Frawley, correctional officer, Harnett CI, 6y1m
George Freeman, engineering director, Central Engineering, 14y11m

Moving On

Warren Guinn, sergeant, Avery-Mitchell CI, 20y2m
Penny Harper Sugg, administrative assistant II, Maury CI, 19y9m
Rachel Hill, correctional officer, Albemarle CI, 29y9m
Cathy Hinton, nurse director, McCain CH, 33y8m
Phyllis Koonce, personnel technician II, Eastern Region Employment Office, 29y11m
Charlie Martin, correction enterprise manager IV, Pender Sewing Plant, 16y2m
Cutine Matthews, nurse, Alexander CI, 5y1m
Frank Moretz, correctional officer, Caldwell CC, 22y9m
Glenda Parker Frost, school educator I, Foothills CI, 1y6m
Kenneth Roberson, correctional officer, Warren CI, 5y3m
Nellie Roberts, licensed practical nurse, Eastern CI, 8y6m
Anthony Robinson, correctional officer, Odom CI, 27y3m
Catherine Smith, administrative officer I, DCC Administration, 19y9m
Wesley Underwood, correctional officer, Dan River PWF, 7y9m
Donald Wray, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 27B, 22y11m

August

Loretta Ballard, accounting clerk IV, Craggy CI, 8y10m
Richard Bowden, lieutenant, Central Prison, 30y7m
Eldridge Bridgeford, licensed practical nurse, Lumberton CI, 23y1m

Continued on next page



Promotions July

Clyda Coor, nurse, Bertie CI
Allen Davis, sergeant, Tabor CI
Lynetta Fort, supervisor, Central Prison
Wanda Godfrey, sergeant, Sanford CI
Tyrell Griggs, sergeant, Eastern CI
Michael Heath, sergeant, Tabor CI
Juanita Jones, nurse, Central Prison
Samuel Joyce, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 18
Kim Kinston, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 12
Bennett Knower, sergeant, Pamlico CI
Deborah Lester, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 11
Windy Lewis, sergeant, Tabor CI
Michelle Moody, sergeant, Lumberton CI
Audie Strickland, sergeant, Tabor CI

Retirements, continued from previous page

Frank Brown, lieutenant, Central Prison, 28y4m
Gale Burns, correctional officer, Durham CC, 19y7m
Rotha Byrd, correctional officer, Avery-Mitchell CI, 31y2m
Lonnie Cook, clinical chaplain II, Greene CI, 12y4m
Jimmie Davis, captain, Southern CI, 20y1m
Haynes Deese, sergeant, Lumberton CI, 15y3m
Arthur Dunn, school educator II, Western YI, 29y10m
Rickey Freeman, correctional officer, Southern CI, 26y9m
James Hawfield, chief probation/parole officer, DCC District 20B, 26y3m
Nancy Hinshaw, licensed practical nurse, Avery-Mitchell CI, 14y6m
Ted Jones, lead officer, Craven CI, 13y
Robert Joyner, correctional officer, Odom CI, 23y1m
Lonnie Manns, correctional officer, Forsyth CC, 25y10m
Gene Martin, maintenance mechanic IV, Odom CI, 21y9m
Jeffery Matthews, correctional officer, Harnett CI, 20y
Thurman Moore, sergeant, Franklin CC, 14y5m
Moss Joel, correctional officer, Johnston CI, 30y1m

Brian Tally, food service manager I, Harnett CI
Patricia Walls, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 27A
Jeffrey Williams, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 20A

August

Robin Barber, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 12
Kristie Bennett, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 11
Larry Blackwelder, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 20A
Deirdre Bryant, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 12
Deborah Creech, correctional officer, Johnston CI
David Dawson, food service officer, Foothills CI
Jacqueline Foster, community service district coordinator, DCC District 18A
Samuel Houston, sergeant, Pamlico CI
Willie McBryde, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 16B
James Plescher, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 10B
Craven Smith, sergeant, Bertie CI
Valerie Thompson, office assistant IV, DCC District 26

James Mowbray, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 9y2m
Barbara Parsley, correctional officer, Marion CI, 8y5m
Anthony Powell, correctional officer, Albemarle CI, 26y11m
Richard Powell, correctional officer, Odom CI, 29y11m
Garry Price, lead officer, Wayne CC, 20y3m
Wayne Sankey, correctional officer, Davidson CC, 5y2m
Anthony Singletary, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 16B, 24y9m
Romuel Strickland, grounds supervisor I, DOP Sandhills Maintenance Yard, 14y4m
James Taylor, correctional officer, Wake CC, 12y10m
Ernest Vaughan, lead officer, Odom CI, 28y
Harold Walker, correctional officer, Sampson CI, 5y8m
Willard White, correctional officer, Western YI, 6y5m
Mack Wilkins, sergeant, Hoke CI, 32y
Martie Wilson, training specialist II, Piedmont CI, 29y1m
Norwell Wilson, captain, Warren CI, 28y11m
Judith Womack, accounting technician, Nash CI, 22y7m
Betty Wright, health assistant, McCain CH, 14y2m

Governor appeals on YouTube for employees' cost-saving ideas

Gov. Bev Perdue is calling on employees to share their creativity and ingenuity in helping the state government trim ongoing costs, especially during the current recession.

The governor has produced a video that can be seen online at YouTube to get her message across.

"Families and businesses across North Carolina continue to feel the effects of this national recession, and our state government is not immune," she said. "This video is a direct message to you, North Carolina's state employees, to thank you for your dedication to our state."

"But it is also a call for all of us to pitch in with ideas for how to do more with the resources we have. As state employees, you know what works and what doesn't, and I want to learn from you as we help North Carolina get through these tough times."

All of the videos can be seen at: www.youtube.com/governorbevperdue.

Recent Employee Deaths

June

Mildred Cook, surveillance officer, DCC District 27A, 28y6m
Suzanne Gould, licensed practical nurse, Johnston CI, 7y1m
James Osborne, security guard, Southern CI, 18y3m

July

Martin Burns, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 10y4m
Timmy Fulmore, correctional officer, Tabor CI, 1y4m
Gregory Peele, correctional officer, Caledonia CI, 6y6m
Wanda Woolard, medical records assistant IV, Craven CI, 19y11m

August

Wanda Bolling, case analyst, N.C. CIW, 18y1m
Earl Clayton, food service manager I, Polk CI, 16y9m
Wanda Denton, accounting technician, Nash CI, 6y3m
Larry Kornegay, plumber II, Eastern CI, 1y8m

Community Corrections District 25B

The staff of District 25B of the Division of Community Corrections (DCC) is constantly striving to provide quality supervision of offenders in Catawba County to reduce recidivism and improve public safety.

The district is led by Judicial District Manager **Janet Crump** and three chief probation/parole officers: **Bob Shoemaker**, **Kent Spears** and **Brent Whitener**. The staff is also comprised of 22 probation/parole officers and surveillance officers, two community service coordinators and three office assistants and is currently responsible for the supervision of 1,550 offenders in Catawba County.

Officers work to effectively utilize programs and collaborate with other agencies to identify offender risks and needs and match offenders with appropriate services, thereby placing them on the road to leading successful, law-abiding lives in the communities.

Programs and Collaborations

Community Service Program

District 25B has two community service coordinators. Annually the Catawba County office monitors more than 1,300 offenders performing community service hours. In any given month, an average of 303 offenders perform general labor, litter pick-up, and skilled, clerical and professional labor hours for various governmental and non profit agencies throughout the county. In addition to the daily monitoring of the community service work program, the community service coordinators in District 25B also assist with judicial services and District Court responsibilities.

Criminal Justice Partnership

This program provides grants to support community based

Continued on next page



Above, **Renee Hendrix**, office assistant IV, and **Janet M. Crump**, district manager.



Left, standing, **Kent L. Spears**, chief probation/parole officer; and **Jan Carpenter**, office assistant III.



Above, **Brent Whitener**, chief probation/parole officer; and **Julie Ingle**, probation/parole officer I.



Seated, **Lisa Dumire**, probation/parole officer I; and **Karen Dillard** office assistant III. Standing, **Les Bell Jr.**, probation/parole officer I; and **Bob Shoemaker**, chief probation/parole officer.

Below, **Tasha Mayes**, **Hannah Rowley** and **Brooke Heafner**, probation/parole officer II's.



Andy Byrd, probation/parole officer II; **Hal Craig**, surveillance officer; and **Eddie Berry**, probation/parole officer II.



Spotlight

programs aimed at reducing recidivism and the costs of incarceration and providing substance abuse treatment within the community.

The program received \$122,800 to support a Satellite Substance Abuse Program which served a population of 101 offenders this past year.

DCC probation officers provide assistance to treatment staff with drug screening, attendance, and responses to noncompliant behavior. Catawba County's 60% successful completion rate was well above the state average of 42%.

Drug Treatment Court

A designated probation officer and a chief probation/parole officer serve as a team working in conjunction with judges, attorneys, treatment providers, law enforcement, district attorneys and the drug treatment court coordinator to monitor the offenders assigned to this intensive one- to two-year program. Sixty-two offenders were referred to the program in fiscal year 2008-2009.

Domestic Violence Court

This specialized court addresses the increasing number of domestic related assault cases in Catawba County. Three probation officers are assigned to the cases and court, providing increased levels of supervision. Victims are kept informed of the case status of the offender.

Sex Offender Management/Control

The program involves a team approach to supervision administered by two specialized officers and supported by sex offender specific treatment providers. These offenders may be monitored by active Satellite Based Monitoring. Some are monitored as to victim contact, possession of pornography, types of employment, travel and presence in certain areas certain locations, required polygraphs and warrantless searches of computers.

Electronic House Arrest (EHA)

DCC employs global positioning system technology (GPS) to monitor offenders who are confined to their residences and subject to 24-hour monitoring. Probation/Parole Officers provide immediate response to violations.



From left, **Fred O. Little** and **Aimee Falder**, probation/parole officer II's; **Richard Thompson**, probation/parole officer III; **Amanda Trivett**, probation/parole officer II; and **Joel Eckard**, surveillance officer.



Seated, **Julia Smith**, probation/parole officer II; and standing, **Kathryn Propst**, probation/parole officer II; **Josh Benfield**, probation/parole officer I; and **Kim Burns**, community service work program officer.



Curtis Hawks, surveillance officer; and **Pete Ross** and **Roxanne Ferguson**, probation/parole officer II's; and **Rusty Huffman**, probation/parole officer III.

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Public Affairs Office. If you have questions, comments or story ideas,

please contact George Dudley at dgh02@doc.state.nc.us or 919.716.3713.

Employees can find mortgage help at credit union

To help its members maintain payments on their primary residence, SECU has developed a Mortgage Assistance Program, designed to provide options for members to stay in their homes.

The Mortgage Assistance Program offers a number of options to help employees who are having trouble meeting their mortgages, including refinancing, deferring payments, making partial payments and more. SECU encourages employees to talk with them about options that will meet their individual needs. As a guarantee, SECU will grant at least a 30-day loan extension to members who meet with an SECU representative.

State employees must be a member of the Credit Union to take advantage of these resources, but they may join SECU at any time.

Sanford CC boosts Torch Run funds

The Sanford Correctional Center Law Enforcement Torch Run for Special Olympics raised \$1,769 with the help of the Walmart Foundation (a \$1,500 donation), the Lee County Sheriffs' Office and the Sanford Police Department.



Chapel construction under way

Orange Correctional Center observed a groundbreaking on Sept. 9 for the beginning of construction of a long-awaited chapel. More than 500 individuals, businesses and 37 churches raised \$100,000 toward the project. Inmates generated donations by performing songs at local churches and by making individual donations. Several local businesses and organizations donated building supplies and other materials. No state funds are being spent on the chapel project. Shown breaking ground are, from left, **Armstead Hodges**, acting superintendent; the Rev. Richard Edens of United Church of Chapel Hill; and Orange CC Chaplain **Ken Barker**.

National Night Out 2009

Onslow County Surveillance Officer **Jim Riley** answers questions about probation absconders at the 12th annual National Night Out on Aug. 4. Approximately 10,000 people attended the event.



Pasquotank Correctional Institution participated in National Night Out on Aug. 4. **Pat Baggett** and the regional K-9 Units, PERT team members **Victor Locklear** and Sgt. **Ahnhito Riddick**, Nurses **Phyllis Patterson** and **Linda Swain**, and DOP Operations Manager **Johnny Hawkins** represented the DOC with a booth for the event. Hawkins was also a guest speaker.



Staff wishes Jake well

The entire staff at Central Engineering wishes Jake Freeman a fond farewell, as he enters retirement on July 1st, 2009. Having served the Department of Correction for the last fifteen years, Jake leaves a huge void in his wake. He has been our director and he will be sorely missed. We wish him a wonderful retirement.

Secretary urges employees to support Combined Campaign

Calling on Department of Correction employees to continue their generosity with the State Employees Combined Campaign, Secretary Alvin Keller noted that the organization has raised nearly \$74 million for hundreds of charitable organizations since 1984.

"As we launch our 25th campaign, I hope each of you will keep in mind those around you who are in need. Each year, DOC has stood beside its neighbors in need, and last year alone raised over \$600,000."

This year, the DOC campaign kicked off on Sept. 15, and will end on October 30. Each office named a campaign coordinator who is responsible for the campaign in their particular locations.

"When you receive your 2009 SECC Giving Guide, please take a moment to scan the listing of charities," Keller said. "The campaign has carefully screened each of these charities to assure they meet all requirements for admission, and you will likely find one or more charities listed that you may wish to support with your gift this year."

The Web page at www.ncsecc.org lists the services they provide and the counties in which they serve.

"By investing in one of the many charities listed, you are helping someone who cannot easily meet the challenges life has put before them," Keller said.

He also highlighted the work of the volunteers who conduct the campaign.

"For several years, our SECC Department Executive team has worked many hours to plan and organize the campaign in their respective areas," Keller said.

The 2009 Department Executive Team is: **Janice King**, DOC Administration; **Nancy Crites**, Division of Prisons; **Allison Jourdan**, Division of Community Corrections; and **Susan Rogers**, Correction Enterprises.

"I thank them for their hard work to assure our campaign's success, and I commend each of you for taking time to consider a gift to the SECC."



Foothills employees group supports local hygiene ministry

The Foothills Correctional Employee Activity Committee recently sponsored a Community Service Project, asking employees to donate hygiene items to make kits for Burke United Christian Ministries. Enough items were donated to make 55 hygiene kits that included 15 items such as lotion, soap, washcloths, deodorant, hairbrushes and more. Also, enough was available to make 11 small bath kits of soap, deodorant and a wash cloth. The committee co-chairs are Correctional Officer **Lowell Summey**, left, and Sgt. **Stan Giese**, middle. Other members are Correctional Officers **Shelia Stines**, right, **Pam Buchanan** and **Crystal Ward**. Together, they delivered the kits on July 30 to Burke United Christian Ministries, which distributes the kits to needy people in Burke County. The Foothills EAC hopes to make this type of project an annual event.

DOC employees appreciate educators



Department of Correction employees supported two Johnston County Teachers Appreciation Luncheons in August. Sponsored by Johnston County businesses and Baptist churches, more than 1,200 education workers were fed for free. Among the DOC employees helping out were, above, **Annie Reid**, program supervisor at Johnston Correctional Institution; and **Janet Olive**, office assistant III, Community Corrections District 11.

Securitysense 10 worst passwords ever

It's always fun to see a "worst" list, and we've got some doozies here.

Keep in mind, though, that security is no joke — so we also present strategies on how you can create strong computer passwords.

The 10 worst passwords:

1. Password
2. 123456
3. Qwerty
4. abc123
5. letmein
6. monkey
7. myspace1
8. password1
9. blink182
10. (your first name)

How to create a good one

Now some tips on creating strong passwords:

- ▶ Absolutely do not use single words that can be found in the dictionary, no matter how obscure. One of the most basic hacker tactics is the "dictionary attack," where an automated program simply runs through the dictionary seeking to match passwords.
- ▶ Take advantage of the shift key, and use all available characters in addition to numbers and capital letters. The ideal password should have at least one capital letter, one numeral and one special character (such as ! or &).
- ▶ Avoid personal details such as your home address, your birthday, or your children's names. This information is surprisingly easy to get hold of, and hackers targeting you specifically will likely attempt it.
- ▶ Experts say you should try to skip double letters or numerals, because any serious hack attempt will try all possible combinations of these.
- ▶ Make your password as long as allowed. As the length of a password increases, its strength increases exponentially.
- ▶ Use a short phrase you can remember, substituting special characters and numerals as noted above. Your password easier to remember.
- ▶ Don't use the same password for all your accounts.

Securitysense is a news service intended to provide to you easy-to-read articles that relate to current information security threats. Armed with this knowledge, you can begin to defend yourself against the growing number of threats from hackers and information thieves seeking to compromise our computer systems.