



Correction News

North Carolina Department of Correction / www.doc.nc.gov / 919.716.3700

The Governor's proposed budget and the DOC

Secretary Alvin Keller issued this message for all employees on Feb. 17 upon Gov. Bev Perdue's release of her proposed budget for 2011-2013.

For the past several months, we've been working with the Governor's budget staff to craft budget reduction options that would protect our core public safety mission. We are pleased that our options were accepted and remained largely intact.

Overall, the Governor proposes a 3.8% percent reduction in DOC's budget – a relatively small cut compared to reductions proposed for other agencies. A loss of 499 positions through various reduction options is proposed, but that is mitigated by the addition of 280 new positions to staff new housing units at four prisons.

As you may know, we have been working with the Council of State Governments for the past year on the Justice Reinvestment initiative designed to reduce the costs of corrections. The specific recommendations of the Justice Reinvestment workgroup have been introduced to the Legislature. These recommendations are reflected in the Governor's budget as reductions of \$12.4 million and 237 positions. We'll be sharing more on these proposals when they are introduced.

The Governor's proposal to merge the departments of Correction, Crime Control & Public Safety and Juvenile Justice into a Department of Public Safety would require the elimination of 60 administrative positions from the three agencies by Nov. 1.

The Governor proposes a one-time retirement incentive to eligible employees. We'll be sharing information on this retirement option as it becomes available. Employee health insurance under the State Health Plan would remain premium-free for those on the 70/30 plan. The Governor's budget proposes a monthly premium of \$21.50 for employees on the 80/20 plan. A 7.1% premium increase is proposed for dependent health insurance. The Governor proposes to increase the state's contribution to the retirement system to more than 7% by 2012.

Remember that this is only the first step in the budget process. These proposals will now be considered by the House and Senate, which will release their budget proposals in the coming weeks.

We will keep you informed as the budget progresses through the legislative process.



Ennis Oates, center, receives the Superintendent of the Year Award from **Ricky Anderson**, left, deputy of the Division of Prisons and Director **Bob Lewis**.

Ennis Oates named Superintendent of Year

RALEIGH | **Ennis Oates**, superintendent of Neuse Correctional Institution in Goldsboro since 2007, has been named Superintendent of the Year for 2011.

"Mr. Oates' experience and ability to handle one of the more complex institutions in the Division of Prisons is indicative of why he is a worthy candidate and nominee for Superintendent of the Year," said **Bob Lewis**, division director.

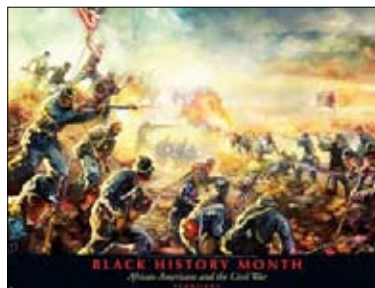
Oates began his 35-year career with DOC in 1975 as a correctional officer at Central Prison. He was promoted to sergeant in 1981 at New Hanover Correctional Center and to lieutenant in 1983 at Eastern Correctional Institution. He has

been an assistant superintendent and superintendent at the New Hanover prison and a superintendent at Wayne Correctional Center.

Neuse Correctional is an 828-bed facility that processes all of the male misdemeanor and some felon inmates that DOP receives from all 100 counties. During the 15-20 days of processing, inmates are tested, interviewed, evaluated and screened for medical and dental issues to determine the prison facility to which they will be assigned. More than 7,500 inmates are processed each year at Neuse.

The prison also houses in-

February: Time to Celebrate Black History



In proclaiming February as "Black History Month" in North Carolina, Gov. Bev Perdue has called for residents to observe and commemorate the event.

The 2011 theme "African Americans and the Civil War" honors the efforts of people of

Kevin Miller managing District 25

MORGANTON | Kevin Miller, a 21-year probation and parole veteran, is the new manager of Community Corrections District 25. He is supervising operations in Burke, Caldwell and Catawba counties.

In his new position, Miller is responsible for a staff of 70 employees, who supervise more than 3,500 offenders on probation, parole or post-release supervision in the three-county area.

Miller began his corrections career as a probation officer in Caldwell County in 1990. He became an intensive case officer in 1994. He had been chief probation/parole officer since 2008.

A Caldwell County native and a graduate of Appalachian State University, Miller has a bachelor's degree in psychology and business and a master's degree in instructional technology/information systems. He also has an associate in applied science in computer programming from Caldwell Community College.

He succeeds the retired Janet Crump.



Kevin Miller

Oates, from previous page

mates who require segregation, including those designated for maximum control status, and those who have mental health problems.

Lewis said Oates is highly respected for his professionalism and knowledge and is an effective and respected manager.

"He has demonstrated great leadership in managing a facility that has changed so much and is so complex, without a significant number of major problems," Lewis said. "Mr. Oates always displays professionalism and consistency in making managerial decisions.

"Under his leadership, Mr. Oates ensured the primary mission of Neuse was the diagnostic center and statewide processing of misdemeanor inmates."

Lewis said Oates manages with a "common sense" approach, fairness and personal concern for staff as well as inmates, which are distinctions of an effective and respected manager.

Oates actively supports youth programs. He works in a group of community volunteers consisting of business men, lawyers, judges and other who encourage male high school students toward positive endeavors rather than gang and drug related activities. He has participated in the One-on-One Program, spending time reading to middle school students.

He is a graduate of Smithfield Selma High School and served in the U.S. Army. He and his wife have two children.



Dennis Daniels

Dennis Daniels named superintendent at Maury Correctional Institution

MAURY | Dennis M. Daniels is the new administrator at Maury Correctional Institution, a close custody prison that houses approximately 960 adult male inmates and has a staff of 465 employees.

Previously assistant superintendent at Pasquotank Correctional Institution since 2008, Daniels succeeds the retired Darlyn White.

Daniels began his career as a correctional officer in 1980 at Caledonia Correctional Institution and rose through the ranks at Caledonia, and at the now-closed Halifax Correctional Center. He was also superintendent at Gates Correctional Center before it closed.

Daniels is the company commander of the Eastern Region Prison Emergency Response Team.

Attending St. Augustine's College, Daniels majored in business administration. He is a correctional pepper spray, firearms and general instructor, and has an Advanced Criminal Justice Education and Training Certificate.

Active in his fraternity, the Masons and his church, Daniels also enjoys fishing and working his yard.

William Carroll Jr. leading Odom CI

JACKSON | William B. Carroll Jr. has been promoted to superintendent at Odom Correctional Institution, a minimum custody prison that houses approximately 540 adult male inmates and has a staff of 185 employees.

Previously assistant superintendent for programs at Odom Correctional, Carroll succeeds the retired John Vaughan. He began his career as a correctional officer in 1982 at nearby Caledonia Correctional Institution, where he progressed through the ranks, rising to program director in 1995. He was promoted to assistant superintendent at Odom in 2005.

Carroll has studied business administration at Chowan College, and he is a graduate of the department's Correctional Leadership Development Program. He is also a firearms trainer and general instructor.

Carroll and his wife, Allyson, have a grown son, Bryan, and he enjoys being active in his church, playing golf and hunting.



William Carroll Jr.

Black History, from previous page

African descent to destroy slavery and inaugurate universal freedom in the United States. The theme, chosen by the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, urges all Americans to study and reflect on the value of their contribution to the state and nation.

For additional information pertaining to Black History Month, visit these Web sites:

African American Odyssey
-- *The Civil War*

"Contrabands of War"
"Fighting for Freedom"

North Carolina and the Civil War

"They Were There"

Biography Channel

"Celebrate Black History"

This message is from the Department of Correction's Equal Employment Opportunity Office, which reminds everyone that, "Diversity is the one true thing we all have in common. Celebrate it every day."



McDowell officials show appreciation for Department of Correction programs

Community leaders on Jan. 19 showed their appreciation for the contributions of the Community Work Program (CWP) and inmate labor contracts from Marion Correctional Institution and its minimum security unit. At the luncheon event, which was sponsored by Keep McDowell Beautiful and the Marion Downtown Business Association, a symbolic check represented the \$852,860 value of 85,286

hours of contract and CWP labor provided the correctional facilities. Officials pointed to specific projects performed for the McDowell County government and the county school system. Representing Marion Correctional Institution at the luncheon were, from left, Correctional Officers **Gary Rymer** and **Jamie Brown**, Unit Manager **Linda Paquin**, Administrator **Sid Harkleroad**, Sgt. **Chris Revis** and Correctional Officer **Donnie Good**.

Department of Revenue offer tips for filing taxes in North Carolina

The North Carolina Department of Revenue wants to make tax filing as easy as possible for the taxpayers of our state.

Filing error-free returns is the best way to ensure your tax return is processed quickly. Below are easy tips and recommendations for preparing your taxes this year.

Extended filing date

Individual income taxpayers will have until April 18, 2011, to file returns, extensions and payments normally due on April 15. The extension is to accommodate Emancipation Day, a legal holiday in the District of Columbia. [More information.](#)

Gather all your income and tax documents before you file

Filing before you receive all W-2s and 1099s often leads to errors that require you to file amended returns once you have the correct information. Employers are required to mail W-2s and other documents by Jan.31.

File electronically and request direct deposit for refunds

This is the most convenient, accurate and the fastest way to file your taxes. Electronic filing will identify common math errors and direct deposit to your bank account means you get your money sooner. Some taxpayers may qualify for free or low-cost electronic filing. [Find out how to e-file and if you are eligible](#) for low-cost filing go to Failure to file both returns at the same time could require taxpayers to amend North Carolina returns if the IRS detects any errors with their federal return.

Check your address

Every year, thousands of refund checks are returned to the Department of Revenue because of incorrect addresses, and the law forbids the forwarding of those checks. Carefully check the mailing address you provide on your return.

Do not file photocopies of tax forms

Use pre-printed or downloaded forms from the department's Web site. Photocopies may not scan correctly and could cause delays in processing your return. You can [request forms](#) online, [download forms](#) or call 1-877-252-3052.

Make checks payable to the N.C. Department of Revenue if you owe state taxes

Some taxpayers mistakenly send checks made out to the Internal Revenue Service for their state taxes. Payments may also be made on-line through Revenue's secure Web site at [Electronic Services for Individuals](#).

File on time regardless of ability to pay

Make sure you file on-time to avoid the automatic failure-to-file penalty of 5 percent per month, up to a maximum of 25% of what you owe in state taxes. You are better off filing your taxes by the April 18 deadline and contacting the department at 1-877-252-3052 to arrange a payment plan if you cannot pay all at once.

Check to see if you qualify for common credits, deductions or exemptions

You could qualify for popular credits such as the Earned Income Tax Credit both federally and with the state. See [EITC Home Page](#) -- *It's easier than ever to find out if you qualify for EITC* at the [IRS Tax Information for Employees](#) page. Some severance pay may also be exempt if you were laid off from your job.

Check your eligibility for free or low-cost filing

Taxpayers with low or moderate incomes may qualify for free tax preparation through the Volunteer Tax Assistance Program. To locate the nearest VITA site, call 1-800-906-9887 or see [North Carolina VITA Site](#). Others may qualify for free or low-cost electronic filing options. Check the N.C. Department of Revenue's [E-File](#) page for more information.

If you have questions, need more information or don't have access to the Internet, call the Department of Revenue's Taxpayer Assistance Center at 1-877-252-3052.

Follow DOC news
on these social
media, too.





Community Corrections District 28

District 28 is comprised of Buncombe County, which includes Asheville, one of the state's largest cities and the largest in the North Carolina mountains.

Lori Anderson is the district manager. The chief probation/parole officers are **Jim Barker**, **Greg Jarrett**, **Wayne Knight**, **Mary Marrett** and **Joan McCurry**.

The district has 63 staff members and has more than 3,000 offenders under supervision. Many of the staff members work flex and shift schedules, giving them the opportunity to combine traditional office contacts with visible and effective field requirements within the community.

The Judicial Services Unit processed approximately 1,750 new cases in FY 2009/2010. Five judicial services staff members administer the Community Service Work Program, which involved more than 52,460 community service work hours.

Having both urban and rural populations, the 28th District also focuses on community policing, with officers residing and actively carrying out their duties in their assigned geographic zones. The staff also has a good working relationship with all law enforcement agencies in the district.

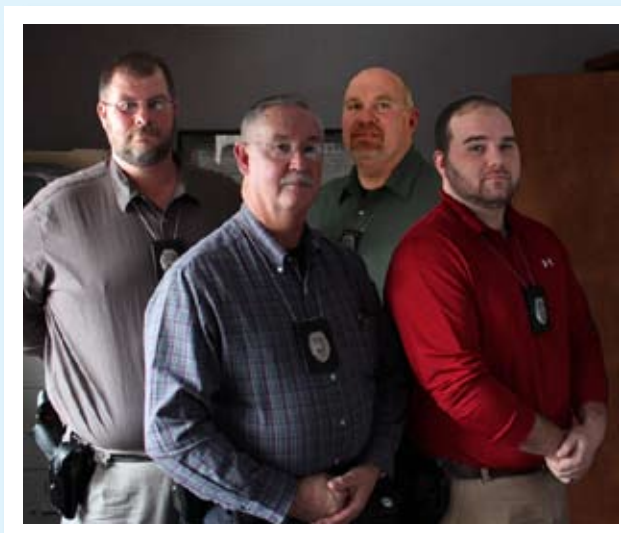
An active, daily partner in public safety with other Department of Correction agencies, staff members work with the three prisons in Buncombe County. Also, a Community Corrections staff member works full time at the Substance Abuse Center for Women in Black Mountain.

In addition to being equipped with the typical program and monitoring resources of a Community Corrections district, the 28th also has a Drug Treatment Court. Considered one of the most efficient ways for offenders who

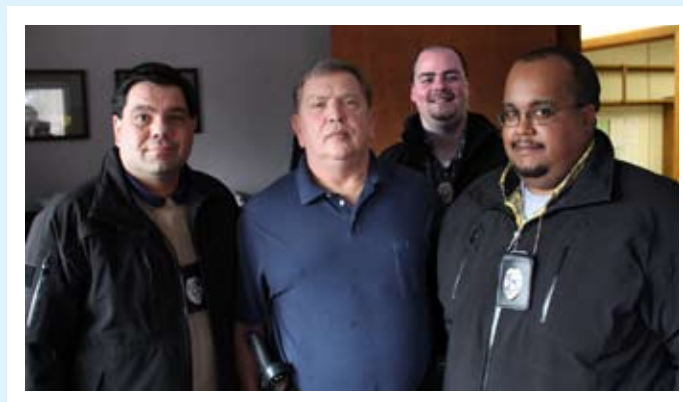
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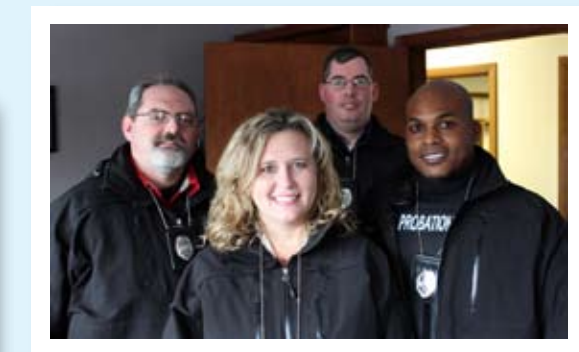
Debra Cantrell, office assistant IV; and **Lori Anderson**, Community Corrections district manager.



Above, **Tom Glenn**, **Danny Ray**, **Keith Rice** and **Joby Wiseman**, surveillance officers.



Left, **Steve Bruet**, probation/parole officer II; **Meredith Ferrier**, surveillance officer; and **Eric Abromaitis** and **Bruce Cardwell**, probation/parole officer II's.



Above, **Todd Carter**, probation/parole officer II; **Regina Ray**, chief probation/parole officer; and **Michael Gier** and **Roderick Brown**, probation/parole officer II's.

Left, **Joan McCurry**, chief probation/parole officer; **Brannon Wilson**, probation/parole officer II; and **Tammy Garrett**, judicial services coordinator.

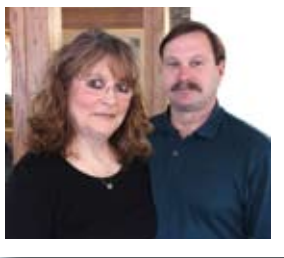
Spotlight

are substance abusers to receive treatment, the court served

60 offenders the past fiscal year.

"I consider it a privilege to work with the staff here in Asheville," said District Manager Anderson.

"The 28th District staff is comprised of individuals who are indeed criminal justice professionals, committed to protecting our community by interacting with the offender population through respect and dignity. They recognize the importance of providing high quality, cost efficient, community correction strategies that will reduce criminal behavior."



Carolyn Ross, office assistant III; and **Jim Barker**, chief probation/parole officer.



Above, **Michael Woody**, **Chris Rich** and **Chad Hensley**, probation/parole officer II's.



Left, **Sharon Cheek**, **Chris Jennings**, **Kathryn Rhodes** and **Mary Frick**, probation/parole officer II's.



Jackie Young, probation/parole officer II; **Mary Marett**, chief probation/parole officer; and **Sue Ann Roberts**, office assistant III.

Below, **Alex Garcia**, **Paige Poteat**, **Shawn Arford** and **Bruce Lankheet**, probation/parole officer II's.



Above, **Nancy Stephens** and **Melissa Brewton**, judicial services coordinators; **Amanda Dellinger**, office assistant III; and **Courtney Childers**, judicial services coordinator-courthouse staff. Right, **Donald Reeves**, judicial services coordinator; and **Brian Theise**, probation/parole officer II.



Lorri Hensley, **Rebecca Keisow**, **Dedi Hannah** and **Pam Darity**, probation/parole officer II's.

Spotlight

Right, **Melissa Hink**, office assistant III; and **Melissa Whitson** and **Clay Lowery**, probation/parole officer II's. Below, **Rebecca Harrison**, **Doug Olson** and **Terry Harrison**, probation/parole officer II's.



Right, **Felipe Foster**, probation/parole officer II; and **Wayne Knight**, chief probation/parole officer.



Michael Lawing, **Charles Welch** and **Dennis Chapman**, probation/parole officer II's; and **Greg Jarrett**, chief probation/parole officer.



Drawing attention to women's heart health

Pasquotank Correctional Institution staff members helped the American Heart Association raise awareness of women's heart disease by participating in National Wear Red Day. The observance promotes the Red Dress symbol and provides an opportunity for everyone to unite in a life-saving awareness movement by wearing a favorite red dress, shirt, tie, or Red Dress Pin. From left, front row, **Linda Chambers**, accounting technician I; and **Robert G. Jones**, administrator I. Row 2: **Regina Ferebee**, personnel assistant IV; **Patricia Roughton**, processing assistant III; **Peggy Parker**, processing assistant III; and **Linda Tilley**, accounting technician II. Row 3: **Marie Sharpe**, personnel assistant V; **Hydie Deer**, processing assistant III; **Donald Graham**, program director; **Shannon Kishbaugh**, transfer coordinator; **Selena Cooper**, processing assistant IV; **Tammy Lee**, training specialist II; and **Cindy Moore-Hoskins**, unit manager.

January 2011 promotions

Name, position, location

Margaret Allen, sergeant, Harnett CI

Aundrea Alston, professional nurse, Caledonia CI

William Applewhite, sergeant, Warren CI

Alice Barnett, chief probation and parole officer, DCC District 19A

Delreese Bragg, processing assistant IV, Correction Enterprises Pender Sewing Plant

Denise Bridges, food service officer, Rutherford CC

Matthew Carrere, sergeant, Wayne CC

Delynn Carriker, professional nurse, Lanesboro CI

Mark Casey, sergeant, Lincoln CC

John Clifton, sergeant, Franklin CI

Clyda Coor, nurse supervisor, Bertie CI

Angelena Cople, assistant unit manager, Albemarle CI

Adrian Cox, sergeant, Mountain View CI

John Crowder, chief probation and parole officer, DCC District 11

Tiffany Davis, sergeant, Lanesboro CI

William Elderdice, sergeant, Central Prison

Michael Fausnaught, sergeant, Neuse CI

Van Franklin, lieutenant, Craggy CI

Reginald Hamilton, food service manager II, Alexander CI

Sharon Haggins, processing assistant IV, Correction Enterprises Paint Plant

John Hegger, probation/parole field specialist, DCC District 26A

Malisa Heck, processing assistant IV, Correction Enterprises Warren Janitorial Products

Continue on next page



January 2011 retirements

Name, job title, location, service

Judy Adkins, licensed practical nurse, Marion CI, 14y10m
Ronald Allman, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 5y1m
James Andrews, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 4, 24y8m
Teri Andrews, administrative assistant II, DCC Division 1 Administration, 28y6m
Terry Bailey, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 12y4m
William Bass, maintenance mechanic IV, Correction Enterprises Maintenance, 16y5m
Brenda Beam, Correction Enterprises supervisor II, Marion Sewing Plant, 18y10m
William Black, sergeant, Avery-Mitchell CI, 29y5m
Theodore Blevins, professional nurse, Western YI, 16y1m
Earnestine Blue, correctional officer, Hoke CI, 11y
Selena Burden, correctional officer, Wake CC, 8y8m
Basil Byrd, grounds supervisor I, Pamlico CI, 4y11m
Linda Capps, office assistant IV, DCC District 7, 24y10m
Donald Caudle, sergeant, Lincoln CI, 22y4m
Cynthia Childress, processing assistant III, Hoke CI, 30y1m
Beverly Collett, correctional officer, Foothills CI, 16y10m
Barry Cress, correctional officer, Rowan CC, 5y1m
Jerry Daniels, correctional officer, Harnett CI, 20y7m
Cleveland Deloatch, captain, Pasquotank CI, 21y5m
Roy Denton, plant maintenance supervisor I, NC CIW, 20y1m
Karen Dillard, office assistant III, DCC District 25, 6y7m
Audrey Fields, processing assistant IV, Craven CI, 17y9m
Nancy Gainey, accounting clerk IV, Southern CI, 26y5m
Robert Gerdts, correctional officer, Avery-Mitchell CI, 5y5m
Deborah Graham, processing assistant III, Rowan CI, 26y
Samuel Grinestaff, correctional officer, Avery-Mitchell CI, 32y6m
James Hardin, correctional officer, Hoke CI, 20y2m
Joseph Harris, correctional officer, Alexander CI, 6y10m
Larry Harris, sergeant, Neuse CI, 25y1m
Leonard Hatley, captain, NC CIW, 28y3m
Jeffrey James, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 11, 28y8m
Donald Jay, probation/parole officer II, DCC District 9B, 20y2m
Barry Jenkins, parole commutation & pardon analyst, Governor's Office, 38y7m
Naomi Johnson, school educator I, Morrison CI, 17y9m
Sarah Johnson, assistant unit manager, Pasquotank CI, 27y4m
Jerome Jones, correctional officer, Caledonia CI, 13y8m
Robert Jones, correctional officer, Southern CI, 25y4m



Moving On

Glenn Lanier, food service officer, Duplin CI, 21y3m

Samuel Larue, correctional officer, Caswell CC, 7y8m

Barbara Leach, lead worker IV, Combined Records, 31y1m

Alvin Marriott, business officer, Central Prison Hospital, 17y2m

Joe Mason, substance abuse counselor-advanced, Alcoholism & Chemical Dependency Programs, 22y1m

John McNeil, correctional officer, Central Prison, 25y1m

Roy Miller, correctional officer, Eastern CI, 5y7m

Cynthia Mitchell, district manager III, DCC District 26, 29y11m

James Mizell, correctional officer, Tyrrell PWF, 7y6m

Billy Phipps, correctional officer, Sampson CI, 19y

Robert Proctor, correctional officer, Central Prison, 34y1m

John Purvis, correctional officer, Hoke CI, 20y1m

Errol Reddick, assistant superintendent - programs II, Craven CI, 28y4m

Jerry Reid, sergeant, Caldwell CI, 27y5m

Earl Rife, food service manager I, Randolph CI, 18y2m

Isaac Rouse, boiler operator II, NC CIW, 12y4m

David Savage, captain, Morrison CI, 30y7m

Peggy Scott, professional nurse, Southern CI, 18y5m

Melody Smith, licensed practical nurse, Pender CI, 16y1m

Robert Stanford, correctional officer, Davidson CC, 22y10m

Georgia Stephens, nurse consultant, DOP Health Services, 21y4m

Paula Stirewalt, processing assistant III, Piedmont CI, 19y7m

Kenneth Stuckey, correctional officer, Western YI, 20y1m

Ronald Surles, assistant superintendent - custody & operations III, Tabor CI, 28y

Roberta Symuleski, processing assistant IV, Correction Enterprises Pasquotank Sewing Plant, 7y3m

Lindsey Taylor, correctional officer, Caledonia CI, 29y2m

Gary Thompson, correctional officer, Cabarrus CC, 26y1m

Howard Tyler, correctional officer, Polk YI, 20y1m

Stephen Waits, correctional officer, Lincoln CC, 7y2m

Lawrence White, correctional officer, Tyrrell PWF, 10y1m

Joseph Widmeyer, correctional officer, Albemarle CI, 7y3m

Sherrie Wyke, food service manager III, Foothills CI, 29y4m

December 2010 retirements

previously unreported

Jean Miller Levette, professional nurse, Randolph CC, 27y5m

Fred Wall, correctional officer, Sanford CC, 27y6m

Promotions continued

Wesley Hester, sergeant, Alexander CI

Stacy Hoggard, sergeant, Bertie CI

Dale Hunt, sergeant, Western YI

Verlis Jacobs, captain, Morrison CI

Ricky Johnson, sergeant, Caledonia CI

William Johnson, sergeant, Alexander CI

Judy Lovin, nurse supervisor, Scotland CI

Dale Little, sergeant, Alexander CI

Angela Mahon, sergeant, Albemarle CI

Larry Marion, assistant superintendent, Orange CC

Thomas McMillin, food service officer, Maury CI

Donald Mobley, assistant superintendent/programs II, Warren CI

Michael Pennell, sergeant, Alexander CI

Brad Perritt, assistant superintendent/custody & operations III, Tabor CI

Mary Pittman, office assistant IV, Avery-Mitchell CI

Jamie Prichard, sergeant, Alexander CI

Sonya Pridgen, professional nurse, Tabor CI

Bertina Richardson, sergeant, Central Prison

Irvin Ryan, assistant superintendent/custody&operations II, Polk CI

Arthur Siciak, sergeant, Alexander CI

Margaret Spear, food service officer, Pasquotank CI

Sidney Smith, sergeant, Maury CI

Kimberly Spencer, processing assistant IV, Alexander CI

David Tyndall, sergeant, Wayne CC

Ben West, sergeant, Pasquotank CI

Anthony Wilde, lieutenant, Craggy CI

Bertrille Williams, chief probation parole officer, DCC District 10

Justin Williams, sergeant, Franklin CC

Mark Wilson, sergeant, Piedmont CI

December 2010 promotions

previously unreported

Kathryn Cheever, professional nurse, Craven CI

Willie Davis, sergeant, Scotland CI

Beverly Hargett, chief probation/parole officer, DCC District 3

Jessica Patterson, professional nurse, Scotland CI

Deaths

December 2010

Dena Hitchcock, correctional officer, Brown Creek CI, 5y1m

January 2011

James Vanhoy, correctional officer, Albemarle CI, 9y8m

'Phishers' using 'spears,' too

This is from SecuritySense, a service to help you protect your cyber safety, both at work and at home.



Recent reports indicate that hackers are turning their attention to spear phishing to maximize profits. With spear phishing a relatively new phenomenon, let's take time to answer some frequently asked questions.

They're phishing for you
don't bite

Q: How is spear phishing different from plain old phishing?

A: Instead of casting out thousands of e-mails randomly hoping a few victims will bite, as in regular phishing, spear phishers target select groups of people with something in common -- they work at the same company, attended the same college, etc. The e-mails are ostensibly sent from organizations or individuals the victims would normally get e-mails from, making them even more deceptive.

Q: How does it work?

A: First, the criminals need some inside information on their targets to convince them the e-mails are legitimate. They often obtain it by hacking into an organization's computer network or by combing through other Web sites, blogs, and social networking sites.

Armed with this info, they send e-mails that look like the real thing to targeted victims, offering all sorts of urgent and legitimate-sounding explanations as to why they need personal data. Finally, victims are asked to click on a link inside the e-mail that takes them to a phony but realistic-looking Web site, where they are asked to provide passwords, account numbers, and other sensitive information.

Q: Are spear phishing attacks more persuasive than typical, easy-to-spot phishing efforts?

A: Absolutely. They often include convincing touches such as your boss's actual name and e-mail address, or the name of a project you're working on.

Q: How do I protect myself?

A: Follow this sound advice:

- ▶ Know that most companies and government agencies don't request personal information via e-mail.
- ▶ Use a phishing filter; many of the latest web browsers have them built in.
- ▶ Never follow a link to a secure site from an e-mail -- always enter the URL manually.

SecuritySense is from a monthly news subscription. The intent is to provide employees with an array of articles that relate to current information security threats. With this knowledge, all employees can begin to defend themselves against the growing number of threats from hackers and information thieves seeking to compromise our computer systems. All employees are urged to review this informative material. This information is only accessible from Department of Correction internal systems.

Unsung hero honored

Correctional Officer **Edwin Simpson** of Pender Correctional Institution was recently presented a state-wide award for his "effective and unheralded" support of the N.C. Law Enforcement for Special Olympics. Nominated by Pender CI Administrator



Michael Bell, Simpson was presented with the Bill Dalton Unsung Hero Memorial Award. The

award honors Simpson for having raised almost \$159,000 for N.C. Special Olympics since 2003. Under his leadership, Pender CI has been the top fundraiser among correctional facilities in North Carolina for the last two consecutive years. Simpson is also a Torch Run Leg Leader and district coordinator. Shown with Correctional Officer Edwin Simpson is Kerry Hagner, Special Olympics (North Carolina) Athlete and Global Messenger.

Correction News

is a newsletter for and about

employees in the

N.C. Department of Correction.

If you have suggestions

or comments, please contact

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