
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

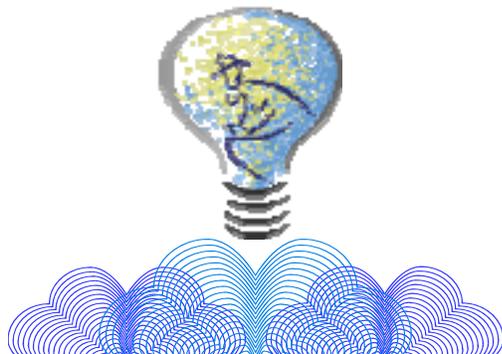
DIVISION OF PRISONS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

Theodis Beck, Secretary of Correction
Bonnie Boyette, Chief of Program Services
Volume 8, Issue 6

Robert Lewis, Deputy Director for Support Services

Boyd Bennett, Director Division of Prisons
Gloria M. Upperman, Director of Educational Services
April, 2008

**Education's purpose is to
replace an empty mind with an
open one...**
Malcolm Forbes



Lincoln Correctional Center

The Lincoln Correctional Center held its first Apprenticeship Graduation Ceremony on March 24, 2008. The honorable Theodis Beck, Secretary of Correction was the guest speaker. Secretary Beck urged the eighteen graduates to; "Not just serve the time, but let their time serve them!"

"The Apprenticeship Program for the Journeyman Certification provides an opportunity for the inmates to learn a professional trade while they are incarcerated," said Scott Carpenter, Apprentice Program Supervisor for the Lincoln Correctional Center. Inmates can learn several trades including carpentry, masonry, painting, plumbing and pipe fitting while they are in prison. Any offender who has knowledge of a particular trade or expresses an interest in one, must have a high school diploma or a General Education Development Certificate to be eligible to participate in this program. In order to complete the program, an offender needs 480 classroom hours and 6,000 on-the-job training hours. Currently, there are 59 apprentices working across the state."

"The Journeyman Certification can qualify the inmate for high-paying construction jobs and better choices in life," Carpenter said. "They can either serve their time working at the prison or they can make their time serve them through an education."



Theodis Beck, Secretary of the North Carolina Department of Correction (left), along with North Carolina Commissioner of Labor Cherie Berry, presented Robert B. Rice his Journeyman's Certificate in carpentry.
Ron McCann / LTN Photo



Apprenticeship Graduation Class

Carpentry

Michael Lester, Jr.
Robert B. Rice
Darin Lee Carter

Electrical

James L. Maskell
Bernard N. Hadder

HVAC

Joseph Kickery
Jack D. Deatherage
Don A. Mayo
Wayne C. Worley

Masonry

Santiago Torres
Charles Howie

Painting

Willie Johnson

Plumbing

Raeford A. Winchester
James M. Lockey
James Earl Harris

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Brown Creek's Education Update

The year 2007 was full of changes for the Education Department at Brown Creek Correctional Institution. New courses of study were added to include Horticulture and Advertising/Graphic Design. Additionally, the degree programs were converted to certificate programs providing the opportunity for the students to recognize more immediate gratification and success. After working closely with South Piedmont Community College staff to install new computers, software, supplies, and updated texts, the following courses of study are now provided at BCCI:

- Business Administration (2certificates/curriculum)
- Mechanical Engineering (3 certificates/curriculum)
- Advertising and Graphic Design (2 certificates/curriculum)
- CE Masonry (1certificate plus 12sub-cert. /con-Ed)
- CE Electrical (1 certificate/con-ed)
- CE-Horticulture (1 certificate/con-ed)
- GED (1 diploma/academic)
- ABE (promoted to GED)
- ESL (eligible for transfer)

The Literacy Program was first developed when staff at Brown Creek Correctional Institution and staff from the Literacy Council of Union County agreed on a solution for addressing illiterate inmates at Brown Creek CI. The program is designed for those inmates who read at a fourth grade or below level; the objective is to raise their reading scores to a level that would prepare them for entry into the ABE/GED Program.

Two years after its inception, the program is still effective and serves as a valuable tool in the fight against illiteracy. Plans for this year's Commencement Exercises are being made!

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## Foothills Correctional Institution

Foothills concluded the Youth Wellness committee quarterly meetings in November and began a new year with the first quarter meeting in February 2008. The Youth Wellness Committee will also participate in the Transition Fair April 17, 2008. FMCU also held a P.A.W.S graduation in November. Education honored 85 inmates for the November grading period at its Incentive party. Programs staff received an excellent rating with the Programs Audit which includes the components of Education and Library Services.

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In December, all FCI inmates were served meals from Subway for the holiday season. Inmate incentives included a luncheon by Kentucky Fried Chicken served by the education staff. Also, December consisted of vocational placement testing for future programs.

January started with incentive pictures for the grading period. We recognized 89 inmates. We have been busy preparing for ACA accreditation. Education staff is cross training committees on CEA standards and have started the process of standard updates. Ruth-Anne Beaver and Ron Hicks attended the WRESA Teacher Mentor Training. Once complete the training will provide them with mentor certification.

Finally, in February we celebrated the retirement of a veteran math teacher, Ms. Wanda Willis. She has served the state for 30 years and will truly be missed.



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## McCain Hospital

McCain's Education Coordinator, Thomas Lewin coordinated with Sandhills Community College the testing of seven inmates with the TABE Test. These inmates had earned a GED and requested to participate in the Self Paced Studies Program. However, they did not meet the requirement of having prior college level academic credits, a GED score of 250 or higher, or a WRAT reading score of 10.0 or higher. Mr. Lewin contacted Educational Services in Raleigh and was given permission to coordinate TABE testing with Sandhills Community College as a substitute to the WRAT test that is given at the Diagnostic Center. The inmates did extremely well...six scored 12.9 and the 7th one scored 11.1.



Hats off to McCain for Going the Extra Mile!

Two volunteers with the Moore County Literacy Program have been tutoring ABE inmates on Monday nights; McCain is in the process of orientating a third volunteer. Program Supervisor Charles Bryant recognized the need for tutoring services; he contacted Moore County Literacy Program and was successful in recruiting volunteers. As a result of this, the Fatheread Program will begin March 19, 2008, and will be facilitated by a volunteer.



## Mountain View CI

This year, the education and vocation departments at Mountain View have seen many changes and accomplishments. Both the Program Supervisor and the education case manager left to pursue other opportunities, bringing new staff to this area. Last August, a graduation was held to recognize the educational accomplishments of approximately 240 inmates. In fact, we had so many graduates last year; the graduation had to be broken into two separate ceremonies! In October, 2007, we added

an ABE class in order to allow more opportunities for the lower scoring inmates to work toward their GED, thus reducing inmate idleness. We have offered some educational activities for GED/ABE students in the form of a jeopardy tournament in April; and last November, we had our first annual Spelling Bee.

Throughout 2007, the vocational department has helped with many projects that offered improvements to the facility. As part of their training, the commercial cleaning class has worked on many areas of the building in order to add to cleanliness, learn more about the trade, and how to operate the various pieces of equipment and tools involved in professional cleaning.

The Masonry classes have added rock work to the building and constructed a fountain, while horticulture added landscaping to this project that added greatly to the appearance of the facility.

Last year, the Horticulture class held a plant sale raising approximately \$1,200.00 for replenishment of soil and seeds for the class; carpentry held a similar sale, raising approximately \$400.00 toward supplies for their class.

As you can see, this has been a very productive year for the education and vocation departments at Mountain View. Photos of some of the events for this year are attached.



2007 Graduation



2007 Spelling Bee Team



**2007 Masonry/Tile Class and rock work they added to the building**



**Another angle of the fountain constructed by the masonry/tile class**



**Masonry/Tile Class  
The fountain they constructed.**



**2007 Commercial Cleaning class working with equipment in the gym**



**Fountain constructed by masonry/tile class**

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North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women

In honor of Black history Month, on February 20, 2008, at 10:00 AM, the North Carolina Correctional Institution for Women, (NCCIW) held its annual Multicultural History Program. The theme for this year's program was, "For Every Mountain You've Brought Me Over", and it highlighted how Black History is an integral part of the rich legacies of all America.

Mrs. Simpney-Mensah, chairperson of the Multicultural History Program, presided over the activities. She was spirit-lifting, informative, and thought provoking. With each presentation, the program seemed to reach a higher level.



Wells-Barnett



Carver

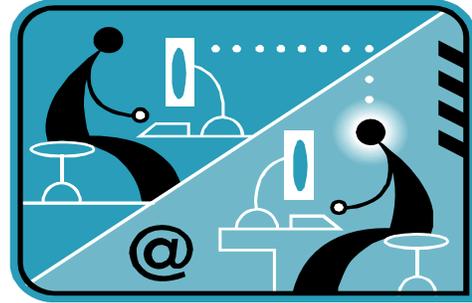
The program began with a welcome by Ms. Whyms, Social Work Supervisor, then a prayer by Chaplain Aghogah, and the unanimous singing "Lift Every Voice and Sing", written by James Weldon Johnson, and lead by the NCCIW Choir.

The high points of the program were a spontaneous, audience response, pop quiz of Black History facts, the NCCIW staff and inmates' choir selections, and a restaurant skit which depicted and illustrated the pertinence of the Civil Rights Movement. However, the show stoppers were the Mime and Praise Dance renditions which brought standing ovations.

Deputy Warden Bobbitt in his closing remarks, thanked all for their participation in the program. He further expressed that the talent exhibited by all was so wonderful and the spirit behind the program was outstanding. Comments from our honored guests included a representative from the Community Resource Council, Ms. Elizabeth Dobbins, who was impressed by the quality of the program, and thanked the Warden for inviting her to such an exceptional program. Rev. Herring, pastor of Juniper Level Missionary Baptist Church, expressed his overwhelming joy and amazement at the talent and spirit housed here at NCCIW.

Final remarks were made by Warden Harvey. In her closing, she impeccably incorporated all the elements of the program and provided an eloquent explanation as to why NCCIW celebrates Multicultural History. She drew from her plethora of knowledge to explain how all races and nationalities, which exist here in America, are inter-linked in their history and in their day to day lives. She elaborated on how Black History is not just the isolated history of Black Americans or just the history of Africa as it pertains to African-Americans, but is the combined history of all the people we, as Black Americans, have touched and who have touched us.

Submitted by: Gretchen Harvey, Language Arts Instructor



On December 6, 2007, the graduating class of the Computer Information Technology Program presented their business plans in the form of a portfolio presentation to NCCIW's administrators and staff, Educational Services administrators, Wake Tech administrators, visitors and their fellow inmates. The speaker for the occasion was Rev. Jane Wolfe.

Computer Information Technology is a curriculum education program offered by Wake Tech Community College. The program is a year long hands-on computer integration experience. Completers from this program take 14 courses and earn 43 college credits. These courses and hands-on experience culminate into an end of the year Senior Portfolio Presentation, where each student consolidates all acquired knowledge and cultivated skill into a business plan that they present in front of guest. Graduates of the program should qualify for a wide variety of computer-related entry level positions where executive administration assistants and office management employment duties may include: systems maintenance and troubleshooting, support and training, and business applications design and implementation.

During the program there were various types of business proposals presented. Several of the plans included topics on: pet grooming services, hair design, book store, greenhouse, and gospel music studios. Each presentation included a detailed business model.

Submitted by: Natalie Mann



Come on, ya know ya wanna smile!!

Polk Correctional Institution



Graduation at PCI

December 13, 2007 at Polk Correctional Institution was no ordinary day. It was a day of achievement; it was a day of accomplishments; it was our semi-annual Graduation Day. Here at PCI we have semi-annual graduations, one in June and the other in December. On that December morning at 9:00 a.m., 20 young men of the 37 eligible graduates adorned in graduation regalia processed into the George E. Currie Visitation Hall to a welcoming entourage of administrators, guests, staff, family, friends, and their peers. Working with the theme "Lift As We Climb", the room had been beautifully decorated by Ms. L. Johnson, ESP teacher, and a cadre of her students. The morning was filled with poetic presentations and musical selections, all rendered by the students. The valedictorian and salutatorian respectively were Jesse Smith and Jorge Espinola, and they presented speeches that were very inspirational and touching. The actual graduation of the students was the highlight of the morning, but the person of the hour was our guest speaker, the Honorable Judge Denise S. Hartsfield, District Court Judge out of Winston-Salem, North Carolina. She spoke to a graduation class of 20, but more importantly there were about 120 additional students who were fortunate enough to benefit from her message.

She had the students totally captivated by her words. They seemed to be in awe of her presentation. She spoke to them as if they were her own sons. She left inspirational words of wisdom with them on the importance of being a man, being respected as a man, accepting responsibilities, giving back to the community, and upholding the man's position in the household. At the culmination of her speech she was acclaimed with a standing ovation. After the speech, certificates of completion were conferred, administrators gave remarks, and the graduates spent a little quality time with their families.

We, the staff at Polk Correctional Institution, would like to extend a hearty congratulation to the 17 students who met graduation requirements but could not participate in our graduation because they had transferred out from Polk. We also extend congratulations to the 133 students who were recognized for completion of various vocational courses during this semi-annual period.



The December 2007 Graduation Committee consisted of Mr. J. Watkins, chairman, Mrs. G. Shepard, Ms. P. Williams, Mrs. B. Oakley, Ms. V. Gill, and Ms. L. Johnson.

Polk Correctional School

Black History Program

On February 21, 2008 our staff and students held the school's annual Black History Month program. The theme for our program was, "Moments of Change, Yielding Life Lasting Differences."

Our students, staff, visitors, and administrators received an inspirational message from our guest speaker, Reverend Dr. Maurice Wallace, a professor of African American Studies, Duke University, Durham, North Carolina. Dr. Wallace shared with our students how to use the mind through educational opportunities in order to escape the past and rise above their current circumstances.

All of our students participated in this program. Each homeroom chose a moment on the Black History Time Line and created a visual scene with documented black historical scripts. The projects were placed on exhibit for public and staff viewing. Each of our homerooms had a student to ethically speak, as well as professionally stand and share pertinent historical moments on African American Leaders.

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All teachers worked with their homeroom students through guided practice, modeling, instructing, researching information, and retrieving materials in order to make our program a success. With the leadership of our Principal, Mr. J. McKoy, the Black History program was a masterpiece.

The Academic/Vocational School expresses sincere appreciation to the Administrators of Polk Correctional Institution who made it possible for us to provide motivational programs for our students.

Black History Committee:
Chair – Ms. Foster
Co-Chair - Mr. Glenn
Co-Chair – Ms. Barnett

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Ms. Carolyn Faison, Age 60
Oldest inmate to get GED at FCCW



FCCW Spring 2008 GED Graduation Class

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## Fountain Correctional Center for Women

Fountain’s Educational Department has graduated 100 inmates during the 2007-2008 school year through Edgecombe Community College. In December 2007, Inmate Carolyn Faison, age 60, received the best Christmas gift ever the week before the holidays by obtaining her GED. This is the oldest inmate to obtain her GED while at FCCW. During the spring 2008 graduation, Carolyn Faison, along with 14 other graduates, was presented with her GED Certificate by Edgecombe Community College Assoc. VP, Lynn Cale.

In addition, certificates were presented to other inmates who had completed several trade classes. The enthusiastic graduates expressed their gratitude to the facility staff and their instructors from ECC.

The Horticulture Program sponsored twelve plant sales in 2007 with a whopping profit of \$1229.00 back into the program. Mrs. Anne Pierre, the instructor, had 48 inmates to complete the curriculum.

The Home Companion Aide class graduated a total of 340 students for the year. Under the instruction of Cynthia Cobb, there were 58 participants in the Work Force Development classes who graduated. In addition, Fountain had 550 inmates to complete a number of transition courses which included Stop the Offending Program (STOP), Cognitive Behavior Intervention (CBI), Character Education, and Pre-Employment.

In the fall of 2007, a second part-time night GED instructor was added to accommodate the enrollment demand. A total of thirty-five (35) inmates are now attending GED classes in addition to their full time assignments.

Fountain CI will be holding its annual Transition Expo Friday, April 25, 2008. Various organizations from the surrounding counties are invited to come out and provide information on educational opportunities, halfway houses, shelters, vocational rehabilitation, and employment for ex-offenders.



Sheila Shaw, instructor from Edgecombe Community College was promoted to Assistant Coordinator of Basic Skills and will be the liaison between ECC and Fountain Correctional Center for Women

## Harnett Correctional Institution

### GED Graduation – 2008

On February 22, 2008, Central Carolina Community College held its annual GED Graduation for all 2007 GED graduates at HCI. Sixteen graduates participated in the ceremony.

Graduation opened with the invocation given by Mr. Monte Kirk, Chaplain, HCI. Welcome and Introductions were made by Mr. Daniel Thomas, Director, Correctional Education. Special remarks were made by Mr. Bill Tyson (CCCC Harnett County Campus Provost), Mr. Joe Hall (Superintendent, HCI), and Ms. Tresa Brown-Tomlinson (Assistant Superintendent - Programs, HCI). Mrs. Alice Gilchrist, Dean, Continuing Education and Mr. Thomas presented Certificates to each graduate. CCCC's Foodservice Technology class provided the refreshments for a small reception. Approximately 35 guests and graduates attended the event.



Edgecombe Community College Staff at FCCW



Harnett CI Photo Gallery

Experience is what you get when  
You don't get what you want!

*Author Unknown*



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## Bertie Correctional Institution

BCI is proud to announce that since Martin Community College has come on board in January 2007, we have had the following accomplishments:

Twenty six (26) students received their GED certificates. One (1) ABE student received his GED in June 2007. This student entered the program not concerned with getting his GED, but with the idea that he would get gain time and qualify for early release. While in class he became very interested in the subject (science). After taking the first test and passing; he then set his goal to finish the other four tests. He finished the five test requirement in 2-1/2 months.

Ten (10) students received their certificates from Commercial Cleaning Class. This class start-up date was July 9, 2007.

Other completions include the following:

Stress Management start-up date (August 22, 2007)  
Seventy-nine (79) inmates received their Certificates.

Anger Management start-up date (June 4, 2007)  
One Hundred (100) inmates received their Certificates.

**Our Motto at BCI is "CHANGING LIVES THROUGH QUALITY AND INTEGRITY".**

Submitted by: Delores Ruffin, Program Director I

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Morrison Correctional Institution

MORRISON CI GED GRADUATIONS

Morrison Correctional Institution was honored to have retiring Richmond Community College President Dr. Diane Honeycutt as the guest speaker at both of their recent GED graduation ceremonies. Dr. Honeycutt first spoke at the Fall 2007 medium custody school GED graduation on 11/19/07. MCI recognized 18 GED graduates from the summer and fall of 2007. Dr. Honeycutt then addressed the Winter 2007 minimum custody GED graduation on 12/13/07 when MCI recognized 40 GED graduates from the July-December 2007 period. Dr. Honeycutt, on both occasions, offered uplifting words to the graduates with many practical tips and an emphasis on being prepared vocationally for the outside world.

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Dr. Honeycutt retired effective January 31, 2008 and will be missed as a great educational partner; MCI wishes her well in retirement. Morrison CI is looking forward to working with Dr. Sharon Morrissey the newly installed President of Richmond Community College.

VOCATIONAL RECOGNITION CEREMONIES

Minimum custody vocational recognition ceremony was held 1/17/08 with 15 Office Practices completions recognized. Medium custody school vocational recognition ceremony was held 1/25/08 with 24 completions in Brick Masonry and 22 completions in Office Practices.

RETIREMENT

A retirement luncheon was held 12/14/07 for Judith Winston at the Mid-Pines Resort in Southern Pines. Judy was recognized with a framed certificate from the State of North Carolina for over 26 years of service to our state in the field of education. MCI was lucky to have had Judy for her last year and a half of service. Judy was an excellent teacher and an even better person and she will surely be missed here at Morrison CI. Happy Trails Judy and enjoy retirement!



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## Pender Correctional Institution

Pender held its annual graduation ceremony in January 2008 with 147 inmates being recognized for completion of academic and vocational programs. The inmates were also honored by the presence of their family and friends as well as staff from Pender CI and Cape Fear Community College.

In the Spring, Pender will enhance the vocational opportunities for the inmates by offering a Facility Maintenance Certificate program. This is a three-part program consisting of electrical wiring, plumbing and HVAC. These are new part-time programs which have been approved and added to Pender's program structure.

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The students will receive certificates upon completion of each course after completing the series of three; they will receive an additional Facility Maintenance Certificate from Cape Fear Community College.

**Facility Maintenance Certificate Program**

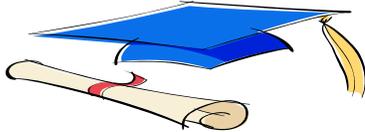
***Continuing Education Certificates***

- HVAC Refrigeration Basics (60 hours)**
- Commercial and Residential Wiring Basics (90 hours)**
- Plumbing Basics (60 hours)**

Approval has been received for the purchase of a new modular classroom to replace the existing Industrial Sewing classroom. The delivery and set-up is imminent, much anticipated and needed. This new modular classroom will provide more space as well as a more conducive learning environment to meet the needs of this program.

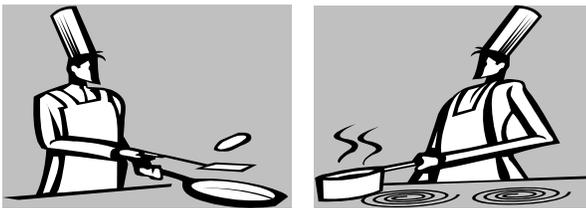


**Anson Correctional Center**

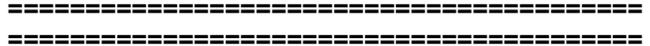


Anson CC had fourteen (14) inmates to earn their GED's so far in 2008. A graduation ceremony and party were held on 2/27/08 with the staff from Anson CC and South Piedmont Community College in attendance.

The carpentry and masonry vocational classes continue to teach needed skills to inmates which will allow them to find skilled employment when released from DOC. In addition, these two classes hope to use their OTJ skills in building for Habitat for Humanity homes in the very near future.



The food serve tech class has had guest appearances by culinary chefs from the Culinary Arts Institute of America and Central Piedmont CC. The class was honored to have the chefs demonstrate some of their cooking techniques and the inmates welcomed the visiting chefs' words of encouragement and help in continuing this profession after release.



*"Anson CC Gourmet Restaurant"*

A luncheon held on January 19, 2008 was attended by more than 70 South Piedmont Community College employees and Anson CC. They were served by the inmates enrolled in the Food Service Technology Program at Anson CC. The luncheon is one of several held this year for the inmates enrolled in the program to build the skills essential for landing a job in a restaurant.

Upon arrival, guests were seated by a maitre d'. Waiters promptly took their orders and served them meals prepared by the student chefs. After the guests completed their dining experience, they donated money to cover the costs of their meal, which would allow the students to continue serving meals in the classroom.

John Dabbs, SPCC food service technology instructor, said the mock restaurant allows his students to practice and gain confidence in their food service skills. Many of the inmates are transferred to fill open positions in other correctional food service operations at the request of the facilities, while others qualify for the work release program using their skills to get food service positions.



***HAPPY SPRING!***



**Editor's Note:**  
*Please submit your articles, news, or quotes by June 10, 2008.*  
*Thanks, Ruth Duncan*