
NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTION

DIVISION OF PRISONS EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

Theodis Beck, Correction Secretary
Boyd Bennett, Prisons Director
Keith Hester, Program Services Chief

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Anne Tew, Acting Education Director

UNC RE-ENTRY PROGRAM GRADUATES FIRST CLASS AT DURHAM CORRECTIONAL CENTER

The first offering of the "Education & Re-Entry" training program developed and conducted by Dr. James Johnson and Dr. Walter Farrell of the UNC-CH Kenan-Flagler Business School's Urban Investment Strategies Center was concluded February 7 at Durham Correctional Center with an impressive graduation ceremony and buffet dinner. Fourteen graduates were presented with certificates and recognized by their instructors for the progress they had made in completing the program, which is designed to prepare inmates for returning to the community and the workplace. Secretary Theodis Beck delivered the keynote address while DCC Superintendent David Cates gave special remarks. The program will be conducted next at Orange Correctional Center starting within the month.

INMATE EDUCATION BY MAYLAND COMMUNITY COLLEGE NOTED IN NATIONAL PUBLICATION

The education programs conducted by Mayland Community College at Avery Mitchell Correctional Institution, Blue Ridge Youth Center, Buncombe Correctional Center, and Mt. View Correctional Institution are highlighted in an article appearing in the current issue of The Community College Times, along with a correctional facility on the west coast. The article describes the programs conducted by Mayland CC and in Oregon by Portland Community College to illustrate the involvement of community colleges in inmate education across the nation. In North Carolina, 45 community colleges provide on-site instruction at 72 prisons, which represents over 90 percent of all education programming conducted throughout Division of Prisons. Rick Garrett, vice president of instructional services at Mayland CC, is quoted in the article as saying, "We offer educational programs to prepare prisoners with skills so that upon release they become employable and contributing members of society."

HOW TO OBTAIN GED INFORMATION FROM NCCCS

Inmates who received their GED certificate of high school equivalency may obtain their GED test scores by sending a written request to Joy Matthews North Carolina Community College System, 5024, Mail Service Center, Raleigh, NC 27699-5024. The written request should include the following information: name, date of birth, social security number, year GED was received, and the name of the community college awarding the certificate.

IMPORTANT STAFF CHANGE IN CENTRAL OFFICE

Debra Lester, staff member in Educational Services, has been appointed office assistant in the reception area at DOP administration. Inquiries concerning student records should now be directed to Nancy Boykin, bnf02@doc.state.nc.us, fax: 919-715-5785, or tel: 919-733-3226, ext. 104.

YOUTH OFFENDER PROGRAM SUCCESS STORY

An 18-year old graduate of the Youth Offender Program at Western Youth Institution was recently recognized during a workshop on "Stories of Inmates and Their Families Before and After Prison" held at NC State University. The young man, who is employed as an assistant manager at a food service business, said that the federally funded Youth Offender Program had helped to build his confidence in applying for work and in preparing him to answer questions about his past in the interview process. He said that the program had also given him the courage and know-how for continuing his education in the computer field. He was accompanied in making his presentation by the members of his family, who have been very supportive of him.

JOHNSTON CI STUDENTS PASS STATE EXAM FOR REFRIGERATION CERTIFICATION

Fran Minshew, Program Director at Johnston Correctional Institution, reports that two students in the Heating/Ventilation/Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) program at JCI recently received their technician certification after passing the State Board of Refrigeration/EPA Technical Certification examination. One student was awarded Type I&II certification while the other earned Universal certification. Throughout the past year, ten HVACR students at JCI have successfully taken the state exam as administered by the program instructor from Johnson Community College, A. J. Kay. JCI is one of many units throughout DOP that prepares its students to earn various forms of job-related credentials that enhance their chances for employment.

ROSE TRUE APPOINTED ESP COORDINATOR

The new coordinator of the Exceptional Students Program in Educational Services is Rose True, who had been serving as ESP compliance specialist since joining the central office staff last summer. In her new role, Ms. True will oversee the delivery of services to ESP students at the six youth facilities and will also continue to serve as compliance officer until that position is filled.

TRAINING PAYS OFF FOR EX-OFFENDER FROM HCI

That education and training lead to employment for ex-offenders was recently demonstrated by an inmate released from Harnett Correction Institution where he completed the welding program and earned certification from the American Welding Society. He is now working for an RTP-area firm.

ANNUAL REPORT TO BE DISTRIBUTED SOON

The 2000 Educational Services annual report, documenting accomplishments throughout Division of Prisons in the past year, will be distributed on or about April 1. Highlights of the report are found on the following page. The report will also be posted in its entirety on the DOC web site following its distribution.

2000 ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

The following photographs and captions from the 2000 Educational Services annual report illustrate the scope and variety of educational accomplishments that occurred throughout the NC Division of Prisons in the past year.



Three students in Harnett Correctional Institution’s welding program designed and built the playground car shown above under the guidance of Central Carolina Community College instructor Charles Bell. The project was a Silver Award winner in the Lincoln ARC Welding national competition.



Graduates of the first cognitive behavioral intervention (CBI) class at Balden Youth Center proudly gather with their course instructors, Marian Moss, on left, and Charla Suggs, and with Superintendent Bennie Brigman, far right.

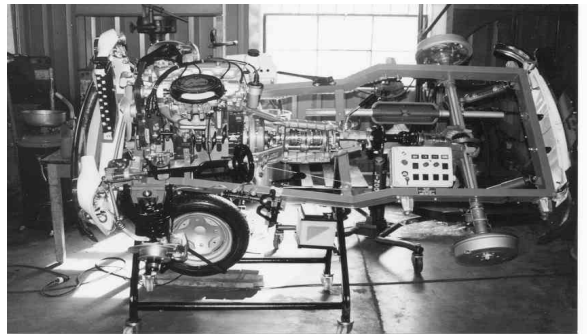


Masonry students from Buncombe Correctional Center constructed the main entrance sign to Avery Mitchell Correctional Institution as a hands-on class project in July 2000.

DEADLINE NOTICE: News items for the next issue of this bulletin should be submitted to cal15@doc.state.nc.us or faxed to A. Clark, 919-715-5785, by April 30.



Jerry Pittman, right, horticulture instructor from Carteret Community College, examines a plant with one of his students in the greenhouse at Carteret Correctional Center.



Shown above is the automobile cut-away used by students in the Automotive Technology Program conducted by James Sprunt Community College at Duplin Correctional Center.



George L. Shade, one of the original Tuskegee Airman of World War II fame, addresses students at Foothills Correctional Institution during Black History month 2000.



Graduation Day 2000 at Pasquotank Correctional Institution.

ADDRESS CHANGES should be sent to Nancy Boykin at bnf02@doc.state.nc.us or faxed to her attention at 919-715-5785 in DOP Educational Services.

