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# NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY EDUCATIONAL SERVICES BULLETIN

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## ***SPRING INTO EDUCATION WITH NEW PROGRAMS, NEW STAFF, & NEW STUDENTS***

**Fountain Correctional Center for Women** faculty and staff are proud to announce two of their up and new



classes, commercial cleaning class (instructor is Neva Blackwell), and cosmetology class. The students at FCCW are participating in the cosmetology classes at Edgecombe Community College. These classes were implemented the first of the year and FCCW is eager to see the accomplishments the students continue to achieve by their many talents. The cosmetology curriculum is designed to provide-competency-based knowledge, scientific/artistic principles and hands-on fundamentals associated with the cosmetology industry. The commercial cleaning course will teach the students proper procedures of building care. Topics addressed will include: tools, cleaning techniques and chemical agents, basic mechanical information, and basic building repair techniques.

The Horticulture class had their first Spring Plant sale on March 22, 2012, and now is in the process of having another BIG SALE scheduled in April with all of their favorite flowering, annuals, and perennials as well as vegetable plants.



**Pamlico Correctional Institution** proudly reports that on January 5, 2012 the spring semester began. Eleven students enrolled in the Horticulture program, 15 for the Plumbing program, nine for the Electrical program, sixteen for the Re-upholstery program and seven for the Human Resource Development Program. Pamlico Correctional offers full time GED on Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. and offers part-time evening class for students who are assigned to full time assignments. The evening classes meet Monday through Wednesday from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Nine students successfully met all requirements to receive GED certificates this quarter.



On February 16, 2012, Pamlico Correctional held its annual Black History Program. The guest speaker was Dr. Wanda Dawson. Dr. Dawson is the Superintendent of the Pamlico County Schools. She gave an inspiring message of hope for the future. Dr. Dawson emphasized to the students that through hard work, determination, and education they could make it to the place called success.

**Dr. Wanda Dawson**

The carpentry and re-upholstery classes continue to apply the skills that they have learned on special projects.

Tiki Hut created by Carpentry and Re-upholstery



Pamlico Correctional and Pamlico Community College work together to achieve one common goal and that is to encourage education to create skilled law-abiding productive citizens.

**Harnett Correctional Institution** celebrated Black History Month with a multifaceted program: *Honoring Our Past, Building Our Future*. Beginning with a Swahili celebration song and drum solo, the event included a mock TV news set and moderator interviewing various sets of African American historical figures. A group of student actors, collectively known as “The Voices,” represented the views of Booker T. Washington vs. Frederick Douglass, Marcus Garvey vs. W. E. B. DuBois, Bill Cosby vs. Michael Dyson, 50 Cent vs. Lupe Fiasco and Barack Obama vs. Cornell West in a professionally done oratorical performance.



Swahili celebration song and drum solo



The guest speaker, Keijuane Hester, owner of Favor Desserts in Durham, gained a love for culinary arts while incarcerated. He inspired his listeners with his life story of how armed with a carrot cake recipe and a purpose driven sixth sense, he built a very successful business that now sells cakes to area restaurants.

Mr. Keijuane Hester poses for a picture after his motivational speech.



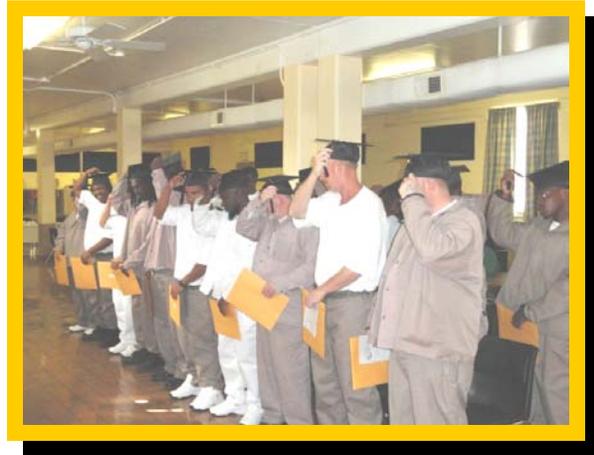
Mrs. Claudia Jones, Program Director II, moderates the debate between Booker T. Washington and Frederick Douglass

2012 was a year of new beginnings for a group of Harnett Correctional Institution students. As each of the 33 men moved the tassel on his mortar board from right to left, the many hundreds of hours of classroom instruction by Central Carolina Community College instructors culminated in the achievement of an important milestone. On February 17, a graduation ceremony was conducted and 33 students were awarded their GED. In doing so, each student had increased his opportunities for success upon his return to society.

The ceremony was attended by CCCC President Bud Marchant; VP, Dr. Lisa Chapman; Dean, Dawn Tucker; and Provost of Harnett County Operations William R. Tyson. Correctional Administrator, Carlton Joyner and program staff joined in recognizing the graduates.



Dean Dawn Tucker addresses the graduates.



The tassel ceremony

Additionally, in collaboration with Assistant Superintendent for Programs Tresa Brown-Tomlinson, the following was accomplished:

- A HRD course, Building Actions for Successful Employment, was implemented to assist inmates in their preparation to return to the community.
- Two park benches were completed by the Welding class under the direction of Welding Instructor, Mr. Charles Bell. In March, the benches were donated to Horses for Hope, a non-profit organization that provides therapeutic riding to persons with disabilities, improving balance and coordination, providing a sense of accomplishment and self-confidence.
- A representative from Shindaiwa, a leader in the high quality outdoor power equipment industry, gave a small engine demonstration to the Small Engine students on March 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Food Service Technology students made snacks for the CCCC Career Fair held in Sanford NC on March 13<sup>th</sup>.

***Morrison Correctional Institution*** welcomes Ms. Maria Fernandez via Richmond Community College to teach ESL in the medium custody school. She replaces her predecessor, Ms. Kristy Bonk. Also welcomed aboard was Mr. David Prather as the new GED instructor for the minimum custody school. He replaces Ms. Elizabeth Carey who retired in December.



**Completion Numbers** - MCI's minimum custody school saw a total of 35 students successfully complete a GED in the first quarter of the year. The medium custody school saw a total of four GED completers and three ESL completers. Forty-six students in medium custody and 23 students in minimum custody completed Office Practices. Thirteen students completed Food Services Technology.

**GED Ceremony** – On March 16, 2012, Morrison minimum custody held a graduation ceremony where 20 of the GED graduates were recognized. Matthew Davis, the valedictorian, spoke about the influence of education for his peers and encouraged them to use this opportunity to pursue productive lives. The guest speaker, Mr. B. Collins, a

former GED student at Morrison, encouraged students to take hold of their lives, to reflect, and to make positive changes for sustained growth.

**Downward Trend** – The minimum and medium custody vocational programs combined for 82 completers in contrast to 110 in the previous quarter, demonstrating a 25% decline. The decline may be partially attributed to the cyclical pattern of vocational courses beginning and ending at regular intervals. An anticipated 34% increase should be seen in the upcoming quarter, if upcoming completion rates reflect past trends and patterns.

**Upward Trend** – In ESL, during the last quarter of 2011, the medium custody school averaged 45 ESL students for a teacher student ratio of 15:1. From January through March, the school averaged 41.3 ESL students for a teacher ratio of 13.7:1. In the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter of 2011, 4% of ESL students completed ESL. In the 1<sup>st</sup> quarter of 2012, 7.25% of ESL students enrolled completed ESL.

**Catawba Correctional Center** was approved funding for the Commercial Cleaning Vocational Program in 2011. Since that time, the facility has worked with Catawba Valley Community College and the Commercial Cleaning Program is now in the second session and doing well. It is both a benefit for the students to receive a valuable job skill as well as the facility is benefiting from the practical applications of the class.



Catawba CC also has a part-time ABE/GED program for students working towards obtaining their GED. This is facilitated through Catawba Valley Community College.

**Wake Correctional Center** resumed the HRD: Get It Right Employment Class in March 2012 with a total of thirteen students. The class is offered through Wake Technical Community College. Other classes continued to be offered regularly through the college include Certified Telecommunications, Horticulture, Electrical Wiring, Blue Print Reading and HVAC.



**North Piedmont Correctional Center for Women** is very enthused about their educational programs offerings. The facility staff continues to motivate the residents to enhance their vocational and educational needs and skills through participation in the various programs.



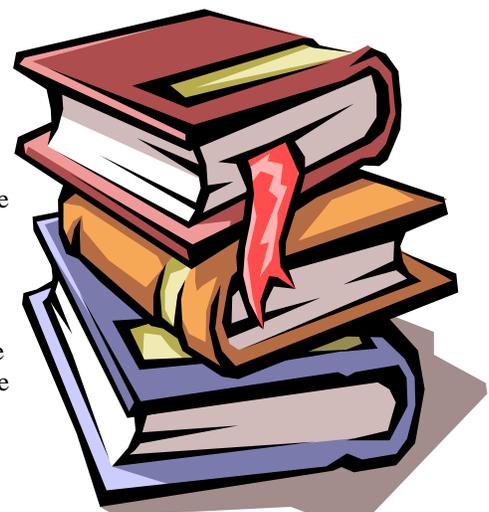
The first quarter news for NPCCW includes the following: On January 30th, a New Year's Resolution Writing Contest was held. The ladies demonstrated their artistic abilities through their excellent penmanship.

The Annual Black History Month Skit was presented on February 24th with each of the participants illustrating what Black History meant to them.

In March 2012, a Biggest Loser Contest was initiated. Journal writing was incorporated in this exercise to keep track of daily exercise and eating habits of the participants.

**Columbus Correctional Institution** proudly announces that 11 students obtained their General Education Development Certificate for the first quarter of 2012. CCI is in the transition of moving the Computer Lab and Human Resource Development classes to another building. These classes will be located in the same building as the Computer Repair class. The Masonry and Commercial Cleaning classes will relocate to another building as well. This transition will take place without the loss of any class room time.

CCI has three new instructors. Mr. Darrick Vereen began his career with Southeastern Community College in January 2012 as an instructor for The Human Resource Development class. This program is designed to provide students with the knowledge to fill out employment applications prepare resumes and conduct job interviews. Mr. Horace Hammonds began in February 2012 as an instructor for the Commercial Cleaning class. This



program is designed to train students in the use of industrial cleaning equipment (ex: buffers, power washers, and commercial vacuums). Mr. Larry Blue will begin the Computer Repair class in April. This class gives students knowledge and hands on experience in repairing personal computers.

CCI is excited to have the new instructors. The relocation of the vocational classes will benefit the facility as well as the inmate population.

**Brown Creek Correctional Institution** report for the **Minimum Unit-January, February, March**

The Minimum Unit upgraded three programs with new instructors for the 2012 school year. Mr. Joe Howard was hired by South Piedmont Community College as the new Basic Carpentry instructor; Mr. David Davis filled the new Masonry instructor position and Mrs. Belinda Bruce is now the new GED instructor for the minimum unit. The Human Resource Development program is in its second year and is proving to be a positive asset to the Education Department. This is a needed program for minimum custody students close to being released back into the community. The minimum library has received 198 new and used books from book orders and from the medium unit library. As a highlight, it was good to have Mr. Antoine Ingram, Correctional Program Supervisor, added to the BCCI staff. He supervises the Education Department.



**Medium Unit-January, February, March** - The Medium Custody Unit welcomed a new cabinetmaking instructor provided by South Piedmont Community College this year, Mr. Terry Comer, as well as a new part-time GED instructor, Ms. Thomasina Montgomery. Also new to BCCI is the HRD (Human Resource Development) program. This program is instructed by our former Mechanical Engineering instructor, Mr. Gaius McLendon. His Mechanical Engineering Program was the last curriculum program to be cut last year. The vocational programs consist of Horticulture, Masonry, Electrical, Cabinetmaking and Veterinary Assistant. Full-time GED, ABE and ESL are all continuing to function. As in the past, Brown Creek Correctional Institution and South Piedmont Community College continue to facilitate the educational needs of the facility. Mr. C. Crowder, CCM, was responsible for ordering books for both units and keeping the medium unit library up to speed.

**Marion Correctional Institution** reports that in an effort to promote safety in Close Custody, they are

developing recreational activities that offer alternatives to some of the more traditional games such as horseshoes and softball. One example is the game “Cornhole”, which is a substitute for horseshoes. The Cornhole game has a rich history going back to Germany in the 14<sup>th</sup> century. Rediscovered in Kentucky over 100 years ago, it has flourished in Kentucky and Ohio. The ACA (American Cornhole Association) has standardized the rules and endeavors to spread the joy of Cornholing throughout all 50 states. The game is played



in a manner very similar to horseshoes, with the exception that the bags are filled with corn. Two wooden boxes are set at regulation distance apart. There are innings, pitchers boxes and, foul lines to keep folk honest. The goal is to toss your corn bag into the hole. Points are also awarded for bags that land on the box.



Marion CI’s current challenge is building a regulation size Cornhole box that will collapse for easy storage, but is strong enough to withstand the rigors of daily use in a prison setting. They are also working to eliminate any metal parts from the design that may be removed for unsavory purposes. As more games/activities are developed, details will be provided.

**Johnston Correctional Institution’s** mission continues to be to provide an opportunity to participate in educational based programs that will assist inmates in developing social adjustment and life skills. Educational programs must affect behavioral change that relates not only to the academic domain, but also vocational/continued, work ethic, civil, and personal dimensions.

Johnston CI had their GED Commencement Ceremony on January 27, 2012 for the December 2011 Quarter with 14 graduating students; out of the 14, four were honors students.

Academic:

Ed Hoy / GED Instructor / 13 students  
Mike Weiner / ABE II / 13 students  
Allen Gruver / ABE II / 11 students  
Larry Walker / ABE I / 14 students

Some of the students that graduated from the GED program has requested and submitted an application for the UNC Adult Outreach Program. Currently Johnston CI has 13 students enrolled in this program.

On January 9, 2012, the new semester resumed for Vocational/Continued Ed. Electrical Wiring / 14 students completed the program on April 3, 2012 (Instructor Mr. Jarmon). Food Service Technology / 18 students enrolled (Instructor Mr. Melvin).

As of January 11, 2012, Mr. Dennis Grice is a new recruit/instructor for the Masonry program. Mr. Grice is adjusting well to his new environment; 16 students enrolled in this program. .

As of February 21, 2012, Mr. Mike Stephenson was a new recruit/instructor and orientated for the Plumbing program. Mr. Stephenson also is adjusting well to his new environment. On March 12, 2012, the Plumbing class resumed with 20 students enrolled in this program.

Mr. Andrews remains as the HRD instructor.

**Maury Correctional Institution** reports that from January thru March 2012, there were a total 35 graduates from the Human Resources Development Program and four students earned their General Education Development Diploma.

The Commercial Cleaning Program, which is the latest added program, began January 3, 2012. The graduates from the program will get first choice at janitor/specialized janitor jobs. Maury CI has future educational program goals. The staff has been discussing additional programs with Lenoir Community College and will continue to work diligently providing programs to meet the needs/interests of the population.

Maury CI staff is currently exploring a Barber Program and has planned to tour Harnett CI's Barber Program with LCC to see if such a program would be feasible.

The population of the facility has been increased by 504 residents in the medium custody unit. The staff will be working closely with LCC & NCDPS to implement programs that could enhance student skills. These programs should assist in giving the students more opportunities to compete in the work force and make the transition back into communities easier.

Mr. Bennie Coats, HRD instructor, gave a power point presentation in April on the development of positive attitudes. The Administrator and Assistant Superintendent for Programs also viewed the presentation. The HRD programs have been very popular with the students.

The annual graduation ceremony for the 2011-2012 graduates is scheduled for Wednesday, May 9, 2012, at 9:30 am in the gymnasium. A total of 58 students expected to participate in graduation.

The current enrollment for each program is as follows:

ABE I 5  
ABE II 6  
GED 5  
ESL 15  
HRD 9  
HRD 7  
GED (pt) 15  
HRD:Construction (pt) 12  
HRD:Computers (pt) 13



## ***QUOTES WORTH REMEMBERING . . .***

*"Don't let the fear of the time it will take to accomplish something stand in the way of your doing it. The time will pass anyway; we might just as well put that passing time to the best possible use." **Earl Nightingale***

*"Success seems to be largely a matter of hanging on after others have let go." **William Feather***



*Note: News items for the next issue of this bulletin must be received by July 6, 2012. Items may be sent via email to Emma L. Brooks at [Emma.Brooks@ncdps.gov](mailto:Emma.Brooks@ncdps.gov) and Shenita Wilder at [Shenita.Wilder@ncdps.gov](mailto:Shenita.Wilder@ncdps.gov) or faxed to (919) 838-4764.*